

REMARKS BY

H.E. EDWARD KIWANUKA SEKANDI, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
INSTALLATION OF PROFESSOR GEORGE MONDO  
KAGONYERA AS CHANCELLOR OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY,  
MAIN HALL, MAIN BUILDING,  
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

ON

THURSDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012

- Your Excellencies, The Ambassadors
- Hon. Jessica Alupo, Minister for Education and Sports
- Honourable Ministers and Representatives of Government present
- The Chancellor of Makerere University
- The Chairperson of the Makerere University Council
- The Vice Chancellor Makerere University
- Makerere University Staff and Students
- Distinguished Alumni
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

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I am indeed honoured to be here today to represent the Visitor, His Excellency Dr. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on this auspicious occasion to install Professor George Mondo Kagonyera as the Chancellor of Makerere University.

I would like to congratulate Professor Kagonyera upon his reinstatement and wish him a prosperous term of office. Well done Professor! Your reinstatement today is indeed a reaffirmation of the trust the Management and Staff of Makerere University have in you as the Titular Head of this great institution.

Makerere University by virtue of being the oldest University in the region is of unique national interest. The Government of Uganda values the contributions of the Staff and Students of Makerere University to the development of our nation, and as such we are keen to support innovation so as to strengthen our goal of industrializing Uganda.

Through the Presidential Initiative Project, the Government of Uganda has been able to allocate 25 billion Uganda Shillings over a period of 5 years starting 2010. This funding will be boosted with an additional funding (8 billion Uganda Shillings) to complete the Food Technology and Business Incubation Centre in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and even more (15 billion Uganda Shillings) over the next five years for the Biosciences Laboratory in the College of Natural Sciences to support the development of natural remedies for all kinds of ailments in the form of herbal medicine.

During His Excellency the President's last visit to Makerere University on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011, he noted with great pleasure the excellent work being done by the staff and students of Makerere University. He particularly appreciated the advances made by the Vehicle Design Project in coming up with the Kiira Electric Vehicle. The Government of Uganda has therefore agreed to allocate at least 50 acres of land to house the Centre for Research in Transportation Technologies (CRTT) and provide additional funding directly through the Ministry of Finance (up to the tune of 154 billion Uganda Shillings) over the next five years. The Centre's welfare will be overseen by a Board of Trustees.

The Government of Uganda values the welfare of Makerere University Staff. I am therefore pleased to note that by April 2012, the last installment of the Deposit Administration Plan (DAP) money (6.7 billion Uganda Shillings) owed will be released to Makerere University. Furthermore, The Government is making budgetary preparations for salary increments to Public Servants in the next financial years, so as to enable our valued Human Resource enjoy better livelihoods.

As I conclude my remarks, I wish to reassure the Chancellor of the Government's full support to Makerere University. Do not be in any way limited if we can help. The President noted your request during his visit, requesting the President's Office to take up the task of handling Small and Medium Scale Enterprises, so that brilliant projects from students are not frustrated at the implementation phase. We are considering this request and at an opportune moment, we will revert to you.

I congratulate you once again and ask God to guide your path.

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**