

**MAKERERE**



**UNIVERSITY**

**REMARKS BY THE ACTING VICE CHANCELLOR,  
DR. OKELLO OGWANG**

**AT THE STAKEHOLDERS' LAUNCH OF THE SOLAR  
POWERED STREET LIGHTS AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2014, 10:00 AM,**

**MAIN HALL, MAIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

- **The Inspector General of Police, Gen. Kale Kayihura**
- **The Chairperson of Council, Makerere University**
- **Representatives from the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) and the Public Procurement Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA)**
- **Chaplains of St. Francis Chapel, St. Augustine Chapel, and Imam of the University Mosque, Makerere University**
- **Representatives of the Manufacturers and SHARP Electronics Technology Limited**
- **The Chairpersons and Executives of Staff Associations**
- **H.E. The Guild President and Cabinet Members Present**
- **The entire Makerere University community**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen:**

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 I welcome you all to Makerere University and to this occasion when we unveil the long-awaited project on solar lighting at Makerere University. I extend a warm and special welcome to our Chief Guest, Gen. Kale Kayihura, the Inspector General of Police. The Makerere University community sincerely appreciates your continued support.

Ladies and Gentlemen, on April 17, 2014, Makerere University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Sharp Electronics Technology Limited, for initiation of a project that embraces solar as a reliable source of energy to address lighting within Makerere University. The project will involve supply, installation and management of solar powered streetlights and LED signage screens.

We are gathered here today to witness Phase 1 of the installation process. We expect that by the end of October 2014, Makerere University main campus will be fully lit by 120 solar powered streetlights and 10 LED signage screens. The project will provide a reliable and environmentally friendly source of lighting for the University campus, which will reduce incidents of insecurity especially at night. The LED signage screens will carry vital information on a wide range of issues for effective communication within Makerere University and with our various stakeholders.

Aware that energy is one of the largest contributors to the University's expenses, we are happy that through this strategic partnership with SHARP Electronics Technology Limited and the US Manufacturer, we have taken the first of many steps in our long walk to the freedom that comes with totally embracing renewable energy. I therefore take this opportunity to thank all the parties that have carefully negotiated this partnership. I thank the Deputy Vice Chancellor [Finance and Administration], the University Secretary, the Estates and Works Department, the Procurement and Disposal Unit, and the Public Relations Office for supporting the implementation of this project.

In a special way, I would like to thank the regulatory agencies, particularly the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) and Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) for according us all the necessary support. Indeed, today marks the beginning of many such partnerships and we look forward to your continued support. Makerere

University as an institution is endowed with a wealth of resources and it is only through such strategic partnerships that we can sustainably develop them.

I wish to appreciate the timeliness of this initiative, considering that the world today faces a number of forces seeking to disrupt our peace. Makerere University has had her share of similar disruptions. I would like, in this regard, to thank the Inspector General of Police, Gen. Kale Kayihura and all members of our Security Forces for working around the clock to ensure our security. By ensuring that our large Campus is well lit, we are not only creating an atmosphere conducive to intellectual growth and development; we are also aiding the work of our resident security personnel.

I am sincerely grateful to SHARP electronics for persevering to see to the launch of this project. I know that you have pursued it for some time but I ask of you not to stop at Makerere University Main Campus. As you are aware, we have sister campuses in Jinja and Fort Portal. We call upon you to extend solar lighting to these campuses under similar arrangements. I also call upon the Staff and Student community of Makerere University to support this initiative for the safety of our campus.

***As “We Build for the Future”.***