

**REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR IN APPRECIATION OF SUPPORT  
[IN FORM OF EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE] FROM THE  
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN**

**TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015, COUNCIL ROOM**

- **Mr. Hashimoto Jin, 3<sup>rd</sup> Secretary and Head of Culture and Communication, Embassy of Japan in Uganda**
- **Mr. Nakai, 2<sup>nd</sup> Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Uganda**
- **Mr. Iwama, Visiting Engineer from Japan**
- **All Our Guests from the Government of Japan in your Distinguished Capacities**
- **My Colleagues in University Management**
- **The Secretariat, Makerere University Holdings Company Ltd**
- **Management and Staff of Makerere University Printery**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen:** Good morning.

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I am privileged to welcome our visitors from the Government of Japan to Makerere University. We are indeed honoured to receive you this morning and thank you for reserving time to visit our great University, which is currently ranked in first position in Sub Saharan Africa according to the *Times Higher Education* rankings.

Our continued success is the outcome of combined efforts including the generous support we receive from our Development Partners. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous support that the Government and People of Japan have extended to Makerere University over the years towards institutional development and capacity building programmes. This support includes the construction of the JICA building, which houses a large part of the College of Natural Sciences.

In 2007, the Makerere University Printery received assistance from the Government of Japan worth UGX 722,759,076/=, in form of Equipment, that raised the production capacity by 100%. We are now receiving another generous contribution from the Government of Japan worth 2,480,700 Japanese Yen [UGX 72 m], in form of equipment and technical support to the Makerere University Printery.

As an academic institution, Makerere University's mandate is three fold; i) *Teaching and Learning*, ii) *Research and Innovations*, iii) *Partnerships and Networking*. The Makerere University Printery plays a very crucial role as a conduit of information dissemination. The success of our activities can be witnessed through, among others, publishing our outputs. The Makerere University Printery has been providing this service to staff and students of the University for many years. The Printery also serves the general public as one of the leading centers in Uganda that provides printing and publishing services.

I therefore wish to once again thank the Government of Japan for extending very critical support to this important unit of the University, which will address both short and long term needs. This support will keep the machinery of the Printery in good shape to ensure its smooth running and facilitation of University Programmes. University Management is confident that going forward, the University Printery will have minimal challenges in fulfilling the growing expectations of the University and the community at large.

On the other hand, the needs of the University continue to evolve as a result of increased student numbers. The impact across all units of the University is great. For the Printery, there is need for a permanent home and upgrading of the technology from 1 color to 4 color printing equipment to ensure that the facility attains world-class standards to suit the dynamic needs of a leading University.

I am happy to note that Makerere University Printery has done us proud as a University, by engaging with and creating critical partnerships as the one with the Government of Japan. It is through such initiatives that different units in the University can evolve. University Management therefore extends its appreciation to the Management and Staff of the Printery for working hard and attaining results that are beneficial to the entire University. We applaud the Manager, Mr. Joseph Edmond Kirabo, for providing visionary and innovative leadership for the Printery.

I am further delighted to note that a few weeks ago, Makerere University Printery received equipment worth over UGX 150M from a good friend of Makerere University, Mr. Hasan Mumtaz. These are indeed healthy signs of progress, considering that we are rolling out the Makerere University Holdings Company Limited, that will over see the smooth running of all Business Units.

Again, University Management greatly appreciates the efforts of all staff of the Printery. Special thanks go to the Manager Mr. Joseph Kirabo, The Accountant, Mr. David Tukasingura and The Production Manager, Mr. Peter Waswa for a job well done. University Management is committed to supporting commercial units as viable options for financial sustainability of the University.

We thank the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports, for creating an enabling environment that fosters Higher Education. We further thank the Government for providing an enabling environment that facilitates Public-Private partnerships, which can help the universities develop.

Once again, we sincerely thank the Government of Japan for the continued generous contribution to Makerere University. We strongly value our partnership and look forward to continued cooperation.

I thank you.

