

REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

**DONATION OF EQUIPMENT FROM TIKA TO MAKERERE UNIVERSITY PEACE AND
CONFLICT STUDIES CENTRE, Monday 14th September 2015, starting at 9:00am**

Your Excellency, The Ambassador of Turkey to Uganda, Mrs. Sedef Yavuzalp

The delegation from TIKA (Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency)

The delegation and partners from Sabanci University, Turkey

The Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,

The Head of Department, Religious and Peace Studies

The Coordinator, Peace and Conflict Studies Programme

Invited guests, ladies and gentlemen,

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I welcome you all to Makerere University. This is a very special day in the Makerere University-Government and People of Turkey relations. We are here today, to receive and witness the handover of equipment from TIKA (Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency) to Makerere University Peace and Conflict Studies Centre under the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Your Excellency, The Ambassador, I thank you for initiating the collaboration between Makerere University and TIKA (Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency) as well as Makerere University and Sabanci University. Your Excellency, through your championship, you have contributed to the realization of Makerere University's core functions of teaching and learning, research, as well as knowledge transfer partnerships and networking. Thank you very much indeed!

Your Excellency, in the spirit of strengthening the Makerere University-Turkey collaboration, we equally thank you for hosting the Vice Chancellor, the team from Makerere University comprising the Principal, College of Humanities and

Social Sciences, Deputy Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Dean-School of Liberal and Performing Arts, Haji Katende-Member of staff in the Peace and Conflict Studies Centre and Dr. Helen Nambalirwa Nkabala, Coordinator of the Peace and Conflict Studies Programme to a sumptuous dinner at your residence on Saturday 12th September 2015. Your Excellency, we did not only enjoy the dinner, but also networked and came up with ideas aimed at making strengthening the collaboration.

We applaud TIKA (Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency) for donating equipment worth UGX.100million to the Makerere University Peace and Conflict Studies Centre in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The partnership between Makerere University and TIKA is aligned to the Makerere University Strategic Plan, which highlights the core function of ***Knowledge transfer partnerships and networking***. We value partnership, and we thank you for choosing to partner with Makerere University, as we continue to reflect on the University Vision, ***To be the leading institution for academic excellence and innovations in Africa***. In the spirit of partnership, I am confident to mention that the equipment we have received today, Monday 14th September 2015, will greatly advance teaching and learning as well as the research capacity for students and staff.

Internationalisation:

We operate in a globalised world hence the need for the implementation of the Makerere University internationalisation agenda aimed at ensuring that Makerere remains relevant and visible in the global arena. In the pursuit of this agenda, we enter into partnership with reputable universities; we offer joint degree programmes; undertake staff and student exchanges; participate in capacity building opportunities in form of scholarships and seminars among other initiatives.

Your Excellency, The Ambassador, together with the TIKA team, and the delegation from Sabanci University, we once again, invite you to be key partners in the implementation of the Makerere University internationalisation agenda. We would like you to participate in the internationalisation of our academic

programs and curriculum; undertake and/or support staff/student exchanges between Makerere University and Universities in Turkey; undertake joint research and joint degree programmes; and for the Governments of Uganda and Turkey, to work together with the experts in peace in universities to contribute to peace in the world.

Collegiate University and Centres of excellence in the respective disciplines:

Your Excellency, the Ambassador, the TIKA Partners, and Sabanci University, Makerere University transformed into a collegiate university with ten (10) Colleges. The beauty with the collegiate system is that it expedites the formation of centres of excellence in various academic disciplines. The College of Humanities and Social Sciences is therefore the mother of the Makerere University Peace and Conflict Studies Centre. With your support, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences shall be in position to expedite the process of forming a centre of excellence in peace and conflict studies, research and peace development work.

Appeal for support for the Peace Centre:

As we implement this partnership, I appeal to the leadership in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to engage our Turkish partners, to ensure that we mobilize funds to renovate the building that houses the Peace and Conflict Studies Centre, and/or to attract partners to construct a new building for the Peace Centre.

Thanking the Team:

Once again, I thank the leadership in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences for their commitment and interpersonal relations that have climaxed with the receiving of a generous donation from TIKA, and for the ongoing collaboration between Makerere University and Sabanci University, Turkey. Thank you very much.

Comment on the Seminar:

Once again, I am grateful for the equipment and support that we have received. I have tasked the leadership in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and

the Peace Centre will put the equipment to good use for the benefit of students and staff. I am aware that the Peace and Conflict Studies Centre organized a Seminar under the theme *“Turkey’s Engagement in Africa’s Development”*, which will start shortly after this event. I wish you fruitful academic interactions and peer deliberations during this Seminar.

WE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE: FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY