

**OPENING REMARKS**  
**THE KENYA NATIONAL SYSTEM OF INNOVATION**  
**FINAL REPORT HANDOVER MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 26, 2014**

**BY**

**Prof. Lucy W. Irungu**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
**(Research, Production and Extension)**

- The Principal Secretary, Science and Technology, MoEST, Prof. Colleta Suda
- The former Permanent Secretary, MoHEST, Prof. Crispus Kiamba
- UNIDO Country Representative, Ms. Jacqueline Kedoge
- Director of Research Management and Development, MoEST, Dr. George Ombakho
- Distinguished Delegates
- Ladies and Genglemen

I take this opportunity on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor to welcome you to the University of Nairobi and to this meeting of the Kenya National System of Innovation (KNSI). It is an honor for us to host this meeting which is the final handover meeting of the Kenya National System of Innovation Survey Project.

The University of Nairobi collaborated with UNIDO and the Ministry of Education Science and Technology from the genesis of this KNSI project, which has provided us with an invaluable platform with which to present our skills and expertise in assisting evidence-based policy making.

The University of Nairobi as a core actor of the National System of Innovation (NSI), understands its role and responsibility towards facilitating effectively the functioning of the National System of Innovation (NSI).

We also understand the crucial need for the creation of skilled human capital and the need for the utilization of our research capacity to move away from an

economy that mainly relies on factors of production (natural resources), towards a knowledge-based economy (with a focus on skills and technology).

In this regard, Science, Technology and Innovation are critical components of national development, and Kenya is no exception. As such, knowledge based institutions such as our university has an important role to play in this invaluable policy making process.

As has been indicated, the complex adaptive nature of the NSI requires timely and longitudinal mapping and measuring for effective policy implementation. With this in mind, I wish to emphasize that the University of Nairobi is available to the Government of Kenya as a resource to this end.

The Kenya National System of Innovation has provided us with the opportunity to develop linkages with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The project has also provided us with the opportunity to demonstrate how the critical role and capacity at the University can be utilized to enhance effective evidence based policy making for national

development. It is my sincere hope that this opportunity will lead to strengthened linkages with UNIDO as well as help us chart similar linkages with other like-minded development agencies in the quest for national development.

Ladies and gentlemen, I once again welcome you to the University of Nairobi for this important exchange, and hope that the discussions we shall have here today will help us appreciate the value of the Kenya National System Innovation and know how to adopt some of the key policy recommendations laid out in the Kenya National System of Innovation survey report.

Thank you all for taking the time to attend this meeting. I look forward to your valuable contributions.

Thank you.