

**REMARKS BY THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR  
RESEARCH PRODUCTION & EXTENSION,  
UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

**The Director, Pyrethrum and Other Industrial Crops  
Directorate (P&OICD)**

**The Principal, CBPS**

**The Dean, School of Physical Sciences**

**The Director, School of Biological Sciences**

**The Chairman, Department of Chemistry**

**The Chairman, Department of Plant Science & Crop  
Protection**

**Participants**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the University of Nairobi, to welcome all our guests to this function of the official launch of the MoU that was signed between the University of Nairobi and Pyrethrum & Other Industrial Crops Directorate.

The University of Nairobi through my office encourages collaboration with industry and it is through this that theory can be transformed into tangible products. This will enhance faster realization of the country's goals as envisaged in vision 2030.

The pyrethrum industry in Kenya has in the recent years been faced with a myriad of challenges leading to very low yields due to among others, low investment in research.

It is therefore gratifying to see an initiative between our university and P & OICD, come together to enhance pyrethrum science and technology. This is a multidisciplinary research project that has brought together scientists from diverse backgrounds.

Pyrethrum products have been proven to be better than their synthetic analogs due to their bio-degradability which does not destroy the environment. With value addition, it has the potential of creating mass employment.

Therefore, this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) opens up our research resources and expertise not only to the Directorate but also to the public and specifically to the pyrethrum small-scale farmers. It will allow the

development of pyrethrum varieties, their agronomy and biotechnology.

The collaboration envisages rolling out high quality, high yielding pyrethrum clones that will have an improved financial return to the farmers. This will be a continuous exercise so as to eventually support over 20,000 acres of renewed pyrethrum crop in the country.

The University of Nairobi, being a leading institution of higher learning in the region will use its facilities to advance the pyrethrum industry by training personnel throughout the pyrethrum value chain so as to regain the coveted position as a pyrethrum giant, Kenya has all along been known for.

I urge the implementing team of this collaboration to take this rare opportunity to bring back the glory and improve on the welfare of Kenyan people as a whole.

Thank you