



Remarks

By

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Vice Chancellor, JKUAT

During

Passing out Parade, Marine Engineering Cadet Training

Tuesday, July 9th, 2013

At NYS, Gilgil

The Director General of the National Youth Service, Mr. J.K. Rugutt, EBS
Commandant, National Youth Service College, Mr. Edward Oso, EBS
Other Senior Officers of NYS

Representative of the Secretary General, Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA)

Principal, College of Engineering and Technology

Dean and Chairman from the School of Engineering

Marine Engineering Students (completing the course today)

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It gives me great pleasure to join you this morning at the formal passing out parade for our Marine Engineering students. I am happy to note that this is the third such event since the onset of this programme, whose primacy in training our Marine Engineering students cannot be gainsaid. This celebration marks the successful mounting and conclusion of a rigorous one-month training for Marine engineering cadets. Above this programme, the curriculum further requires the students to complete a six-month training internship aboard a ship in line with Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping. The programme recently benefitted from an audit by a team of consultants dispatched by International Maritime Organization, whose recommendations will further enrich the curriculum.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Kenya is already on a path to renewed industrial growth, characterized by increased mineral prospecting and subsequent exploration. Through the Lamu Port-Southern Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSET) project linking South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia to Lamu Port for example, maritime transport and operations is set to expand to new levels. This will further create trade opportunities and an increased demand for human resource capacity in maritime sector locally and abroad.

It is in this regard that JKUAT has benchmarked on best international practices for the Marine Engineering programme. We are closely working

with Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) to ensure that the programme is recognized and accredited internationally.

Ladies and gentlemen, to further strengthen the programme, we have embarked on an intensive training for our lecturers in reputable maritime institutions such as Shanghai Maritime University (SMU) as part of our staff capacity building. In addition, we have employed personnel who have marine engineering training and relevant exposure as adjunct lecturers.

Ladies and gentlemen,

On May 3rd, 2013, JKUAT and the National Youth Service formalized our collaboration on various thematic fronts by signing a memorandum of understanding. This development sets the ground for cooperation on student and staff exchange programmes, joint research and training initiatives relevant to quality training in Marine engineering, Navigation and related studies.

I wish to thank the Management of NYS through the office of the Director General for their continued support and resources that has seen the successful implementation of this part of our curriculum. The impressive display of skills during the parade today is a testimony of great dedication from the staff of NYS. There is no doubt that the students have received requisite skills, competencies and attitudes envisaged by the programme.

Finally, let me commend and extend warm congratulations to the graduands for successfully completing the programme.

Thank you.

