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SPEECH BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

PROF. SHAUKAT ABDULRAZAK

The Chief Guest, His Excellency the Deputy President, Hon. William Ruto, EGH, MBS

Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology,

Other Cabinet Secretaries,

Senators,

Governors,

Ambassadors,

MPs,

The Chairman Board of Trustees Umma University, Prof. Abdulghafur El-Busaidy,

The Chairman of Umma University Council, Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Muhailan,

Other Vice Chancellors,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalaam Aleykum/Good morning,

Umma University is the university to watch in Kenya and the region, since it's the first one of its kind among the several private universities established in Kenya.

Umma's vision is to be a centre of excellence and a seat of knowledge in the region and beyond, and contribute to the improvement of human life and civilization.

It has a mission of contributing to the provision of quality university education that is effective and accessible to all, whose end product is a holistic, upright, competent and techno-savvy scholars and graduates.

Umma University will serve as a source and a reference point on Islamic issues related to banking, insurance and Islamic economics besides other specialties and a springboard

of Arabic language and research, in line with the demand of our society, the region and the world at large.

Currently Umma University offers approved degree programmes, viz; Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Shari'ah,

Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Studies, Bachelor of Business Management and Bachelor of Science in Computer

Science. We also offer Diploma and Certificate courses under these degree programmes, so that students can

begin from lower levels and go up the ladder. Through the collaboration, the institution had with the International

University of Africa in Khartoum, Sudan, we have been offering degree programmes in Shari'ah and Islamic

studies. We have produced graduates in these fields of knowledge who have been absorbed in various sectors of

the national economy including banking, insurance, education, judiciary and other public services. The university

will soon rollout new, competitive, unique and market oriented programmes. Some of the already ear-marked

programmes for development are: Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Law and Shari'ah, Bachelor of Sociology,

Bachelors of Science Nursing, Medicine, journalism, Oil and Gas, Mining and Engineering, among others. These

programmes are in line with the objective of the education subsector under the social pillar in the national

blueprint, Vision 2030, which encourages expansion with emphasis on science and technology.

Plans are underway to review our strategic and master plans to accommodate modification of existing programmes to meet the local and international needs of our clients, as well as expanding the current programmes to post-graduate levels. I therefore, pledge Umma University will come up with programmes that are innovative and address actual realities of our society. I promise as a university, Umma will endeavor to produce graduates who are competent and able to meet the dynamics of the fluid labour market.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As players in the higher education sector, Umma University has re-aligned itself to the emerging paradigm shifts so as to be in tandem with the global opportunities and challenges. In order to do this, Umma University is planning to forge sustainable partnerships with industry and other like-minded institutions. I believe this will create more synergy in generating programmes that are linked to industry and in line with expectations of Vision 2030.

We would like to remember the late Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait - the renowned medical doctor and founder of Direct Aid for his huge contributions to education and humanitarian projects in Africa.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Deputy President Hon. William Ruto, for honoring our invitation to preside over this important occasion. I also appreciate the commendable role of the Commission for University Education in guiding Umma University in the process of conforming to their standards and guidelines. I wish to also commend the remarkable efforts of members of the Board of Trustees, the University Council and the Staff of Umma University for their commitment and sacrifice in the journey to this day.

May Almighty Allah bless you all.

PROF. SHAUKAT ABDULRAZAK
VICE CHANCELLOR