REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AT THE HANDOVER OF THE PHARMACY BUILDING, CASSIA HILL ROAD, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY 23rd NOVEMBER 2010

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Your Excellency the Ambassador of the Royal Danish Embassy

The Honourable Minister of Health

The Chairperson Makerere University Council

Members of Management

Principals and Deputy Principals

Deans, Directors and Heads of Department

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

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I am very pleased to be here this morning to bear witness to the handover of this magnificent Pharmacy Building. This represents yet another initiative by the College of Health Sciences to harness its role of training students on issues of public health policy and practice. I am confident that this will be a solid foundation for the provision of a new era of service.

Honourable Minister, allow me to thank you for taking time off your busy schedule to attend this event. It is substantial evidence of the high policy commitment that your ministry and you personally attach to health education in this country.

In 2005, we obtained funding from DANIDA- Government of Denmark under the funding frame-work of the Ministry of Health and the Government of Uganda Health Sector Programme Support Phase III.

Part of the support, valued at DKK 15million was earmarked to support the Pharmaceutical Human Resource Management for the Health Sector. It is this support that has brought the Pharmacy building to life, as a foundation for

improving the capacity to train pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in the country.

As the Department of Pharmacy has been steadily growing, it is without a doubt that this initiative will boost the department even further in increasing the supply of pharmaceutical Human Resource, which will support other universities that have set up pharmacy departments such as Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Kampala International University in Bushenyi and Gulu University which is yet to set up a pharmacy department.

Allow me therefore, to take this opportunity to thank the Government and people - of Denmark, through Her Excellency the Ambassador, for the great support your government has shared with the Government of Uganda and Makerere University and for its tremendous contribution to developing the health education sector of this country.

We at Makerere University take pride in the College of Health Sciences for it is the University's health education ambassador nationally and internationally. It is the center for academic and health service excellence and is dedicated to promoting health equity by providing quality education, research and health services. You will be amazed at the amount of cutting-edge research being carried out at the College, alongside a wide range of stakeholders. Therefore, I'm therefore greatly encouraged by the construction of this building as it will be an additional centre to perpetuate these innovations.

The Principal College of Health Sciences, Dean, School of Health Sciences, Head, Department of Pharmacy and the entire pharmacy student body, congratulations on acquiring this breathtaking asset, that will play a fundamental role in realizing the objective of becoming a School of Pharmacy in the future. I am confident that you will effectively utilize it to build for the future!

It is now my honour and pleasure to invite the Chairperson of the Makerere University Council to address us. **WE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE.**