

**WELCOME REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AT THE PUBLIC
LECTURE BY DR. THORAYA AHMED OBAID, UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL
OF UN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNFPA, MAKERERE MAIN HALL,
27TH JULY 2010**

Under Secretary General of UN and Executive Director, UNFPA Dr. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid

Officials from the United Nations

Members of Management, Deans and Directors

Makerere University Community

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the first ever Public Lecture by an Under Secretary General of the UN at Makerere University, specifically on the topic “Reproductive Health and Rights – Perspectives of Further Development in Africa.”

As the world’s largest multilateral source of population assistance, the United Nations Population Fund-UNFPA has under the insightful leadership of Dr. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, cooperated with governments to establish programmes to empower women and develop their capacities as citizens with rights and responsibilities. In particular Dr. Obaid has introduced a special focus on culture and religion in the Fund’s development work, thereby linking universal values of human rights to values of the human worth promoted by all religions and found in all cultures.

With more than fifty percent of Uganda’s population under the age of eighteen, it is vital that deliberate efforts are made to educate them about Reproductive Health and Rights, so as to insure the wellbeing of Uganda and indeed Africa’s youth. For we all know that a healthy population is a productive population.

Thank you for according me your attention. I now have the honor and pleasure to invite Dr. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid to deliver today’s public lecture.

We build for the future.

Sincerely: Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba, Acting Vice-Chancellor, MAK.