

**OPENING REMARKS BY THE AG. VICE-CHANCELLOR PROF. VENANSIUS
BARYAMUREEBA AT THE LAUNCH OF THE MEDIA QUALITY ASSURANCE
WORKSHOP – 13TH MAY 2010, SENATE BUILDING, MAKERERE**

On behalf of the Management and Staff of Makerere University, I welcome you all to the Makerere University Quality Assurance Workshop. I would like to welcome in a special way all the journalists and editors from various media houses, who have heeded the call to partner with Makerere University in upholding its image as the largest premier public university in Uganda.

Makerere University considers the media is one its most strategic partners because, without them, we face an uphill task of shinning and standing out from the crowd. The media has on many occasions helped the university publicize her achievements and groundbreaking research, which has indeed reinforced its position as the ‘Harvard of Africa.’ And as shown by the recent Webometric rankings, Makerere is now the best university in Africa outside South Africa and Egypt, and we believe that we can scale even higher!

Last week, we celebrated world press freedom day. I hereby extend my sincere gratitude and congratulations to you the media. The Ugandan media, unlike their counterparts in Somalia for example, enjoys media freedom to a great extent.

However, I urge the media to use their freedom proficiently and endeavour to uphold the truth daily! As we practice our professions, we should strive to cover all the varying opinions, compile equitably and disseminate accurately.

It is such sincere endeavours that will bring forth outpouring wellsprings of information, which will enable our country to develop, as people can make informed decisions. At Makerere, we endorse the media as an important and significant part of our endeavours as we build for the future, and we believe that this workshop can only serve to reinforce this synergy.

I pray that from our deliberations here today, you as media will not only go out with the true image of the university, but also as Makerere's worthy ambassadors to the world. Additionally, I hope that this will be a stepping stone for fruitful interpersonal communication, so as to see the Makerere's star shining even brighter.

Thank you for honouring our invitations and may your minds feast on the knowledge that awaits you in this workshop.

..... We build for the future.....