

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY MINI STAKEHOLDERS MEETING, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, KAMPALA, UGANDA, 03 AUGUST 2012, BY TADE AKIN AINA, DIRECTOR, HIGHER EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES IN AFRICA, THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTION;

The Right Honorable Prime Minister, Amama Mbabazi, the Honorable Minister of Education, the Chancellor, Chair of Council, Vice Chancellor, Deputy Vice Chancellors, the Management of Makerere University, Ladies and Gentlemen, all protocols observed.

I bring warm greetings from the entire leadership of Carnegie Corporation of New York and in particular our President, Dr. Vartan Gregorian for whom universities are a significant constituency as he himself was once a president of a top university. I also bring sincere greetings from our Vice President, Ms. Deana Arsenian who was here not too long ago and from my colleagues Andrea Johnson and Claudia Fritelli who both also work with Makerere University.

We celebrate with you your 90th anniversary as one sister institution to another. Our Corporation is still celebrating its centennial that started from 2011. We wish Makerere University many more years of glory as you enter the young adulthood of your life as a university. As you all know, given the age of Alhazar University Cairo, a hundred years is young for universities.

As some of you may know, Carnegie Corporation's support to Makerere University dates back to several decades in to the Colonial and early post-independence era and the Corporation supported and continued to support Makerere University even through the difficult periods of Ugandan history. Over the past five years, the Corporation has made grants close to US\$100 million in advancing its strategy for the African program. Makerere University has been a key player in all the dimensions of our strategy which is "Developing and Retaining the Next Generation of African Academics, University Leaders and Librarians."

Your university is one of the four anchor universities we support across three regions of Africa. Makerere is home and participant in two of the networks that advance Corporation work in excellence and retention in postgraduate studies and research in Africa. The competitive fellowships programs in humanities and the social sciences supported by the corporation

also find strong beneficiaries from Makerere University. Corporation's novel and innovation work with university libraries through investment in the Research Commons approach also finds a willing and active home in Makerere University. Currently we have invested in 8 Research Commons across Africa with six in South African universities and the other two in University of Ghana, Legon and Makerere. Your university also participates in the training of librarians that we support and the research and policy program on higher education research and advocacy network covering eight countries and led by the Centre for Higher Education Transformation (CHET) who will be presenting here later on this afternoon. Indeed Makerere University has benefited to the tune of just fewer than 10 percent of Corporation's investments in Africa since 2007.

As a private foundation, we have no conditionalities. We believe in strong and enduring partnerships built on mutual respect, goodwill, transparency and a sense of commitment to contractual obligations. We also believe that partnerships are most effective when they are with strong and self –confident institutions and individuals. That is why beyond monetary support, we often offer robust and frank inputs into conversations and discussions. It is our hope and desire that these contribute to making our collaborations more productive. In our pursuit of the impulse towards strong partnerships, I would like to point out a few areas in which Makerere University working with the Government and peoples of Uganda and other stakeholders can continue to be the flagship university it is not only in Africa but globally. The areas are as follows:

- Continuing investment and advancement of academic excellence and innovation
- Attention to strong community engagement and the building of a democratic citizenry and polity in Uganda
- Robust engagement in public service
- Acquisition and enhancement of strong financial and academic management capacities and infrastructure
- Effective linkages within Uganda, the region and the international community through strong outreach efforts and greater connectivity.
- Finally appropriate governance structures and processes that is effective, transparent, equitable, inclusive and socially accountable. These assume ongoing work that optimizes institutional autonomy, rigor and flexibility in such areas as executive appointments, decision making and leadership.

We are here today to celebrate with you, to listen, learn and engage and walk the road of the years ahead as you continue to grow as an excellent institution and a strong and self-confident partner.

Thank you.