



Welcoming Address

by

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During the

ITROMID Scientific Conference,

Thursday, May 19, 2011,

At 10.00 AM at AICAD.

Our Chief Guest, Dr Solomon Mpoke, Director KEMRI,
DVC's,
Conference participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am delighted to be with you this morning during the occasion of the start of the third ITROMID Scientific conference, whose theme is “Health Research for Sustainable Development.” The conference has distinguished itself as a key annual conference on the University calendar. It has indeed established itself as an important regular avenue for dissemination of research findings in the health/medical sciences. Taking into account that ITROMID produces a high number of graduands among MSc and PhD students at the University, the conference is a valuable opportunity for the dissemination of the research work carried out by these students.

Within the next two days, over 50 presentations will be made in this conference. I note that the sub-themes comprehensively cover all the key areas of medical and health sciences, including both the communicable and non-communicable diseases, and primary health care. Participants will indeed leave this conference well enriched with new knowledge in health education.

The choice of the theme of this year's conference "Health Research for Sustainable Development" is notably pertinent. The burden of disease, including both communicable and non communicable diseases, emerging and resistant strains of old diseases continue to place a heavy burden on the country's health delivery system, and adversely affects the country's development. Medical research and innovation has a big role to play in addressing the challenges posed by this disease burden. The conference is a welcome opportunity to listen to some of the important efforts in medical research in this direction.

I take this opportunity to also recognize the fruitful collaboration between JKUAT and KEMRI, not only in the organization of this conference, but also in the running of the post-graduate MSc and PhD programmes. Indeed, it is a great honour that the Director of KEMRI, Dr Mpoke, a long time coordinator of the ITROMID programme at KEMRI, graciously accepted to officially open this conference. We equally appreciate the very committed performance of the current coordinator of the ITROMID programme at KEMRI, Dr Michael Kiptoo.

For those who are visitors to JKUAT, you are all invited to feel free and find time to visit the various sections of the University and familiarize yourselves with the various Departments. We are pleased to be your hosts.

I also recognize the tireless efforts of the organizing committee and the various sub-committees of this conference. It is largely due to their efforts that we are here today.

With these few remarks, I have the pleasure to welcome our guest of honour to give his remarks and officially open this conference.

Thank You.