

REMARKS BY R. LUGWE, DURING OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF FINANCE FOR NON FINANCE MANAGERS WORKSHOP AT CCU

Let me welcome you to this workshop and thank all of you for taking time out to be here this morning.

As you are aware, we are concluding our training programmes today and reflecting back to my opening addresses over the period to the earlier groups, am convinced that I did not give kind words.

Let us take a minute to reflect at what I told your Managers yesterday;

- That we should harness individual and collective commitment so as to support SWA operations.
- That alone, we can do so little but together we can do so much and always to remember that the freedom to ones own thing ends when he or she has obligations and responsibilities.
- That the best option was to compliment each other's efforts to allow the university to benefit from the synergy that will be the result of that cooperation.

At Chiromo, when we had the accountant undergoing the financial management system, I challenged the group on the essence of survival.

That in the jungle, "every morning a gazelle wakes up, it knows it must run faster than the fastest lion, or it will be killed.

That every morning, a lion wakes up, it knows it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve to death.

That out there, it doesn't matter whether you are a lion or a gazelle, when the sun comes up, you had better be running".

I am however convinced that for lack of a better phrase, SWA has been running whenever the sun comes up.

This morning therefore, I will not go back to those words as this launch for Finance for Non-Finance Manager's programme from the view point that financial gurus and what they prepare in terms of reports normally is sophisticated and not easy to be understood.

Yet in our work environment, we are required to use that information to make informed and intelligent decisions.

How then shall we justify our requests? How shall we quantify our contributions? How shall we spot profit drains to help us improve our operations?

I will not give you answers to these concerns because the experts are with us this morning.

Let me therefore thank Mr. Mandala and his team for acceding to our request to come and run this programme at very short notice.

Let me urge you participants to take advantage of this training we are launching.

It is therefore my pleasure to declare the workshop officially open.