

# Chinese Government delegation discusses construction of the Confucius Institute

A delegation from the Chinese Government visited the University of Nairobi Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter M. F. Mbithi and they discussed the construction of the Confucius Institute. The meeting was held at the Vice-Chancellors Committee Room on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

Mrs. Ai Yuiyang, from Chinese Ministry of Commerce, who is in charge of China Aid Projects construction and monitoring, noted that Confucius Institute will be first of its kind in Africa and it is truly a demonstration of the true partnership with the Chinese government. They have selected the best known design company to work on the project and a delegation of 10 experts will be arriving soon.

Going forward, a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed to help the two countries and the two institutions work together on the iconic project.

Speaking during the meeting, the Vice-Chancellor noted that the University of Nairobi and the Chinese people have had good working relations, some of them being the establishment of the Confucius Institute, award of scholarships, staff and students exchange programs, among others.

Other development projects being done in collaboration with the Chinese include the construction of the iconic tower of The University of Nairobi Towers which is being constructed by China Wu Yi, a Chinese Construction company.

Prof. Mbithi assured the guests that the government will be very cooperative in handling the finance issues at the Treasury and immigration issues at the Immigration Department should such cases arise.

It was also agreed that before the construction work can commence, the main utilities like water and power supply will be available to the construction site. These will be facilitated by the Estates Manager and Construction Manager.

Development of infrastructure is one of the transformation agenda of the Vice-Chancellor and it will help the University achieve its mandate of teaching, learning and research.