

University admissions face a snag

By IRUNGU NDIRANGU

A major crisis is brewing between the Ministry of Higher Education and the University of Nairobi.

It is over admission and accommodation of some 1982 Form VI graduates who are to be offered places at the university with those of 1981. The university is scheduled to open in October.

Reliable sources told the *Nation* that a solution has not been found after long meetings between senior officials of the Ministry and the university.

The sources said the crisis involves financing of the students' stay at the institution.

The university is said to have just enough money to finance boarding and lodging of about 2,300 students from the 1981 Form VI graduates who have been offered places.

The sources said the intake for the 1981 group was now complete and that those admitted would soon get letters to that effect.

Intake for the 1982 Form VI graduates was expected to be completed yesterday.

But the university authorities expect the Ministry to finance the operations, the source said. However, the Ministry is said to have declined to put up the students in hotels at its cost.

On July 28, President Moi directed that all students who qualified for university entrance in 1981 be offered places in October.

He added that those who sat for "A" level in 1982 would go through a selection process for university entry and those not admitted would be employed as unqualified teachers awaiting admission.

The President said this while addressing a fund-raising meeting at State House Road Girls' High School, Nairobi.