



*H.E Chan-Woo Kim Addressing the audience during launch of Korean programme*

The University of Nairobi has officially launched a Korean studies programme.

Presiding over the launch, His Excellency, Chan-Woo Kim, the Korean Ambassador to Kenya termed the event as one of the best projects that he has ever launched in his time as a diplomat in Kenya. Mr. Kim said that the launch of the Korean studies programme was a clear demonstration of the good relationship between Kenya and South Korea. “We are celebrating 50 years of mutual cooperation between Kenya and Korea and this is because of the desire of the Korean people to share their experiences and the willingness to learn by the Kenyan people.” Said the Korean Ambassador.

Mr. Kim graciously thanked the university management for their passionate support in making sure that the Korean programme is officially launched. He further stated that Korea was in need of a pool of talented young Kenyans who want to explore their careers in Korea. At the same time, the diplomat added that many Koreans are also eager to come and set up businesses in Kenya thus the launch of the programme was a win-win situation for both countries.

Representing the Vice Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha and the Principal College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), Prof. Peter K’Obonyo expressed gratitude to the support of the Korean High commission in Kenya and the entire Korean community for having made the programme a reality. He noted that such initiatives are geared towards helping Kenya achieve its vision 2030 flagship project. Other notable university managers present included

Prof. Preston Chitere, Dean Faculty of Arts and Dr. Jane Oduor from the department of Linguistics and Languages.

The culmination of the event saw the presentation of awards to the top ten 2013 essay competition winners out of the 162 entries. The first winner got 40,000 shillings; the second winner got 30,000 shillings while the third got 20,000 shillings. Those who were in position four to ten were each given 5000 shillings. The participants were also issued with a certificate of recognition for having participated in the essay competition. While congratulating the participants for their achievements the Chief Guest, His Excellency Chan-Woo Kim noted that this a positive sign of interest in Korean language and culture. Mr. Kim also presented a personal award to the top ten winners.