

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY IN AFRICA

SPEECH BY

CHANCELLOR

DR INONGE MBIKUSITA – LEWANIKA

AT THE

**INAUGURATION OF THE CHANCELLOR AND 6th
GRADUATION CEREMONY**

VENUE: CELEBRATION CENTRE

DATE: FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2010

SALUTATIONS

- Deputy Prime Minister, Professor Arthur Mutambara
- Honorable Ministers present
- The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Dr Fay Chung
- The Vice Chancellor Women's University in Africa
- The Chairperson of Council, Mrs Grace Chella
- Women's University in Africa Board of Trustees
- Women's University in Africa Council Members

- Women's University in Africa Farm Board Members
- Vice Chancellors here present
- WUA Management and Staff
- The Graduands
- Invited guests, Ladies and gentleman

It is an honour and privilege, ladies and gentleman to be bestowed with such an accolade by the Women's University in Africa. Allow me to thank the Women's University in Africa Chairperson of the Board

Trustees, Board of Trustees, Council Chairperson and the Council, the Vice Chancellor Professor Hope Sadza and the University Management for inviting me to join the WUA family.

The Women's University in Africa is not an ordinary University but one which has a clear mandate of empowering the African Women. I would like at this juncture to applaud the co- visionaries and

co-founders of the Women's University in Africa, Professor Hope Sadza and Dr Fay Chung for dreaming and bringing their dreams to life. I am humbled to be a part of a family of great visionaries.

Women Empowerment is a topical issue in Africa and the world over, several facets of the economy has taken this principle aboard. It is important to note that all other

efforts to empower women and the girl child will not succeed without the cornerstone of education. Professor Emeritus Tan Sri Dato of Limkomkwing University rightly pointed out that “Education is a very powerful tool because it builds a nation’s hope for the future”. By educating women, WUA will facilitate and give hope to the future; Africa’s future is indeed bright, as they say educate

a Women and you educate the whole nation.

The Women's University in Africa has the broader vision of being the best University in Africa in the promotion of gender and tertiary education. The University was founded with a mandate of empowering women through tertiary education. The University to date churns out professional African women who take key

positions in industry and commerce. In view of the above, I am proud ladies and gentleman to be associated with Women's University in Africa leadership.

The University has contributed significantly to the training of women in the region. The University's output today stands at 1289. I want to applaud the work of the University through its Faculties of ; Management and

Entrepreneurial Development and Information Technology, Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Social Sciences and Gender Studies. The University has not stopped training at the undergraduate level. It offers a Masters' in Business Administration as well as a Masters' in Development Studies.

Let me hasten to add that these programmes are indeed the oil of the African economy engine if it is

to meet its developmental and management requirements.

WUA is a University with a regional outlook; it has managed to cut across defined borders and has made a name for itself in the region. The University has its enrolment drawn from seven African Countries which include Zambia, South Africa, Angola, Mali, Swaziland, Kenya and Namibia to mention but a few. A

student exchange programme has been facilitated with Zambian Universities and I am glad to inform you that the interests of Zambian Women are represented at WUA. May all the graduating students carry the message of Women Empowerment to their respective countries.

In the long run the University envisages to adopt a dual mode of lecture delivery which are

conventional classes where students are taught one on one by lecturers and Open Distance Learning in order to adequately cover the whole continent. This move will hopefully spread the wings of the University wider to reach to all African Countries.

Lastly I would like to congratulate all the graduands and their families who are here today, I wish you all the best in your careers.

**May you all be good ambassadors
of the Women's University in
Africa**

I Thank You.