

HUBERT KAIRUKI MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

PRESS RELEASE ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF HKMU

1 AUGUST 2023

Today, 1 August 2023, the Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU) is commemorating its 26th anniversary since its inception, a journey of knowledge, excellence, and positive impact in and outside Tanzania. We are grateful to the visionaries (the Late Prof. Hubert C.M. Kairuki and his wife Mrs. Kokushubila Kairuki) who in 1997 laid the foundation for establishment of the Hubert Kairuki Memorial University with a vision “*To become a model university in Tanzania, and in Africa that provides highest quality education, conducts cutting-edge research and provides excellent services to society*”.

The health sector in the country is challenged with inadequacy of human capital against fast growing population. Sixty years after independence, Tanzania is still according to WHO, 2021 Report, far from attaining the WHO recommended ratio. The doctor to population ratio in Tanzania is 1:21,000 compared to the WHO recommended ratio of 1:4,000 population. To achieve that goal, higher education institutions offering health sciences in the country should expand capacity to produce many competent and skilled professionals for the sector. HKMU therefore, has continued to join hands with other higher education institutions in the country in contributing towards attainment of that goal by training and producing more skilled and competent healthcare professionals for the sector. Since its inception, HKMU has produced 5,118 professionals during twenty-six years of its existence (an average of 197 graduates annually) in all programmes. The University has produced a total of 3,475 doctors (Bachelor and Masters degrees), 1,367 Nurses (Diploma and Bachelor); 51 Social Work (Diploma and Masters); 25 Public Health specialists at master’s degree; and 200 graduates at Certificate in Wholistic Therapeutic Counseling. Our graduates have played a pivotal role in serving lives of many people in and outside Tanzania, in advancing the frontiers of knowledge through research, improved people’s welfare through offering counselling services, community engagement and consultancy services in national and international organizations.

It is established that education is a catalyst for sustainable development. The University as a higher learning institution, through its outputs, has continued to support the Government’s efforts towards

the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (2030) adopted by the United Nations in 2015. Specifically, the contribution of the University's output has had impacts on several SDG adopted by the United Nations in 2015. To mention a few, the quality of academic programmes offered at HKMU is high and has produced skilled and competent professionals who have played critical roles to escape chronic poverty by enabling those in paid formal employment to earn higher wages, to offer better livelihoods for those in the non-formal sector; and prevented the transmission of poverty between generations (SDG 1). Our quality academic programmes have also empowered graduates to acquire skills and competencies that have enhanced provision of messages that aim at ending hunger, improve nutrition, and raise awareness of communities to apply appropriate health and hygiene practices; helped to ensure a varied diet that include vital micronutrients (SDG 2). Similarly, our graduates acquire relevant knowledge and skills that have promoted healthy lives and well-being for all at all ages; saved millions of children's lives; trained skilled birth attendants, enhanced vaccination campaigns and have promoted HIV and AIDS and non-communicable diseases initiatives which have consequently improved the health of communities and improved productivity and economic growth (SDG 3).

Future plans

The University plans to address the growing demand for higher education in the country by constructing a new campus located at Boko, Kinondoni Municipal about 20 kms from the current main University Campus and about 30 kms from Dar es Salaam city centre. Completion of the construction of the new campus will expand infrastructure capacity to accommodate over 5,000 students and introduce new academic programmes by 2025/2026.

Vice Chancellor

Hubert Kairuki Memorial University