REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

Office of the Prime Minister

Remarks by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

Dr. Edouard Ngirente

At the 5th Graduation Ceremony of the University of Rwanda

Huye Stadium, 2nd November 2018

- **Honorable Ministers,**
- **Professor Paul Davenport, Chairman of the Board of Directors the University of Rwanda,**
- **Members of the Board of Governors of the University of Rwanda,**
- **Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellors,**
- **Academic and Administrative staff of the University of Rwanda,**
- **Graduates, Parents,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good morning!

1. On this important occasion on the University of Rwanda's calendar, I would like to thank first the leadership of the University of Rwanda and the staff, for today's graduation of the new 7,050 graduates. It is through your joint efforts that you were able to provide necessary support, guidance, mentorship and training to our students.

2. I would also like to strongly recognize friends and partners of UR for their partnership and collaboration.

3. I wish to congratulate the new graduates of the University of Rwanda. I commend you for your efforts and sacrifice that culminated to this great day in your lives.

4. The University of Rwanda plays a key role in the country's development through advancing knowledge and skills needed for the labor market. The Government of Rwanda is therefore committed to always supporting UR to excel in teaching and improving research programs. This will make UR a research-led university, that contributes to finding solutions to local, national, regional and global development challenges.

5. According to our National Strategy for Transformation, 2017-2024, the Government of Rwanda has committed to quality of education aiming at building a knowledge-based economy.

6. To achieve this, the Government decided to review the education policies to ensure that students are given skills directly linked to the market needs.

7. Likewise, the Government of Rwanda has attracted foreign universities in Rwanda to join local universities to strengthen the relevance of education and trainings to meet labour market demands.

8. Five years ago, in concerted efforts to improve the quality of education, the Government of Rwanda decided to merge the 7 public higher learning institutions into the current UR. Since then, UR registered some achievements, but it also faced a number of challenges.

9. Last year, the Government of Rwanda set up a special task force to deeply assess all issues that UR was facing and provided recommendations.

10. From these recommendations the following key actions that were taken:

- The Government approved a new funding model that aims at ensuring the UR financial stability, by addressing weaknesses observed in the previous models.
- The Government of Rwanda took measures to ensure that the University academic and administrative staff are paid on time.
- The Government of Rwanda took measures to guarantee scholarship for staff postgraduate trainings, particular PhD's.
- In order to improve the welfare of UR students, the allowance given to students were increased (from 25,000 FRW to 35,000 FRW). This amount will continue to be increased depending on the available government resources.

- Modalities of granting students' loans were reviewed to increase the number of Rwandans accessing quality of higher education.
- Appropriate mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that internship and industrial attachment are enhances in order to impart students and graduates with skills and practical experiences.
- UR campuses were reallocated. In this regard, a number of students will be transferred to different campuses located in secondary cities in the country, including Huye.

11. In light of the recent achievements of UR, together with the commitment of the Government to support UR in collaboration with our partners in education, we are very optimistic that UR will achieve its core mission of supporting the development of Rwanda by discovering and advancing knowledge, committed to the highest standards of academic excellence.

- **Distinguished Guests,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

12. I would like to commend UR outreach programs which include a variety of activities which engage students and lecturers in meeting community needs in different areas such as agriculture, health, and justice.

13. I would like to urge UR academic staff and students to take advantage of the recently established Research and Innovation Fund. This Fund aims at leveraging technology and innovation, towards national growth and competitiveness. Priority research sector include but not limited to Agriculture, Industry, Water Management, Energy, Health, Transport, and ICT just to name a few.

14. The Gouvernement of Rwanda has already allocated a seed capital of 500 million Rwandan Francs to the Fund. This amount will progresively increase in order to invest in peoples' talents and skills, especially the youth, so as to achieve Rwanda;s target of a knowledge based-economy.

15. To conclude, I once again want thank the University of Rwanda leadership and staff for their dedication to the advancement of this institution. I once again congratulate our graduates and thank all people who have contributed to their successful journey.

Thank you.

- **Banyakubahwa Bayobozi b'Inzego zitandukanye muri hano,**
- **Banyakubahwa mugize Inama y'Ubutegetsi ya Kaminuza y'u Rwanda,**
- **Bayobozi bakuru ba Kaminuza y'u Rwanda,**
- **Barimu n'Abakozi ba Kaminuza y'u Rwanda,**
- **Banyeshuri mwarangije amasomo yanyu n'abaje mubaherekeje,**
- **Batumirwa mwese,**

Mbanje kubaramutsa!

16. Nshimishijwe no kwifatanya namwe mwese by'umwihariko abagize umuryango mugari wa Kaminuza y'u Rwanda, muri ibi birori byo guha impamyabumenyi abanyeshuri **7,050** barangije neza amasomo yabo, mu byiciro bitandukanye by'ubumenyi, muri uyu mwaka wa 2018.

17. Mboneyeho umwanya wo kubashimira mwe abanyeshuri musoje amasomo yanyu. By'umwihariko ndashimira abahize abandi bakabona amanota ya mbere.

18. Umunsi nk'uyu kandi ni n'umwanya mwiza wo gushimira ababyeyi, abarezi n'abandi bose bafashije aba banyeshuri muri uru rugendo rw'amasomo ya Kaminuza. Uruhare rwa buri wese ni rwo rutumye twizihiza uyu munsi.

19. Kuri uyu munsi kandi ni n'umwanya wo gushimira Kaminuza y'u Rwanda kubera uruhare igira mu gutanga ubumenyi rwo ku rwego rwo hejuru bufasha Igihugu kubona abakozi bafite ubushobozi.

20. Kaminuza y'u Rwanda ikomeje kugira uruhare rukomeye mu iterambere ry'Igihugu cyacu. Ibikorwa bitandukanye bya Kaminuza birimo ubushakashatsi, no kwegereza abaturage ibindi bikorwa bya Kaminuza bigira uruhare gukemura ibibazo by'abaturage. Urugero rw'ibikorwa ni ibikorwa byo gutanga ubufasha n'inama mu by'amategeko ku baturage baje babagana, gutanga inama mu by'ubuhinzi n'ubworozi ndetse no mu byo kwita ku buzima bw'abantu.

- **Ba Nyakubahwa mwese muri hano,**
- **Batumirwa bahire,**

21. Nk'uko bikubiye muri Gahunda ya Guverinoma y'Imyaka irindwi 2017-2024, Guverinoma y'u Rwanda yiyemeje gutanga uburezi bufite ireme kandi bugera kuri bose no kurushaho kwihutisha iterambere ry'ubukungu bushingiye ku bumenyi. Kugira ngo ibi bizagerweho, Guverinoma yiyemeje gushyira imbaraga mu guhuza no kunoza politiki z'uburezi n'ibikenewe ku isoko ry'umurimo.

22. Guverinoma y'u Rwanda kandi yashishikarije za Kaminuza mpuzamahanga kuza gufungura amashami yazo mu Rwanda, kugira ngo zunganire kaminuza n'amashuri makuru byacu gutanga

ubumenyi bufite ireme kandi busubiza ibibazo biri ku isoko ry'umurimo.

23. By'umwihariko, Kaminuza y'u Rwanda ifite umwanya w'ibanze mu gutuma Igihugu cyacu kigera kuri icyo cyerekezo. Guverinoma y'u Rwanda ikaba yarakomeje kuba hafi no gushyigikira Kaminuza y'u Rwanda muri gahunda zayo zitandukanye zigamije kuyiteza imbere no kuzamura ireme ry'uburezi.

24. Muri urwo rwego, hagamijwe kuzamura ireme ry'uburezi no guhuriza hamwe imbaraga n'ubushobozi, mu myaka itanu ishize, Guverinoma yafashe umwanzuro wo guhuriza hamwe amashuri makuru ya Leta 7 muri Kaminuza y'u Rwanda.

25. Kuva icyo gihe, Kaminuza y'u Rwanda yatangiye urugendo rukomeye rwo kwiyubuka, rwageze kuri byinshi ari nako yahuye n'imbogamizi zinyuranye. Kuva mu kwezi k'Ugushyingo 2017, Guverinoma yashyizeho Itsinda ryihariye ryasesenguye ibibazo byose byatumaga Kaminuza y'u Rwanda idashobora gusohoza inshingano zayo uko bikwiye ikaba yarafashe ingamba zo kuzikemura.

26. Turishimira ko ishyirwa mu bikorwa ry'izo ngamba Guverinoma yafashe rimaze gutanga umusaruro ushimishije. Urugero ni uburyo bushya bwo kunganira umutungo wa Kaminuza y'u Rwanda bwemejwe n'Inama y'Abaminisitiri yo ku wa 14/02/2018 (New Funding Model).

27. Gushyira mu bikorwa uyu mwanzuro bigenda byongerera Kaminuza y'u Rwanda amikoro ayifasha gukemura bimwe mu bibazo yari ifite mu mikorere ya buri munsi. Bimwe muri byo ni ibijyanye no kwishyura imishahara y'abakozi ku gihe, gusana no kuvugurura bimwe mu bikorwa remezo byayo aho biri hirya no hino. Ubu harimo kwigwa uburyo bwo gufasha Kaminuza y'u Rwanda kwishyura ibirarane ifitiye bamwe mu bakorana nayo.

28. Indi ngamba imaze gutanga umusaruro twishimira, ni uko hanogejwe uburyo bwo gutanga inguzanyo zihabwa abanyeshuri

biga mu mashuri makuru ya Leta. Ikigamijwe ni ugukora ku buryo nta mwana w'Umunyarwanda ufite amanota amwemerera kwinjira muri Kaminuza y'u Rwanda wazabura amahirwe yo kuyijyamo kubera ko adafite amikoro.

29. Ikindi twakwishimira ni uko amafaranga agenerwa umunyeshuri amufasha mu mibereho ye ya buri munsi yongerewe akava ku 25,000 FRW akajya ku 35,000 FRW kandi nayo akazajya yiyongera uko ubushobozi bw'Igihugu buzagenda bwiyongera.

30. Guverinoma y'u Rwanda kandi yakomeje gahunda yo gufasha mu buryo buhoraho Kaminuza y'u Rwanda kugira abarimu bafite ubushobozi; boroherezwa gukomeza amasomo kugira ngo babashe kubona impamyabumenyi z'ikirenga.

31. Undi mwanzuro wagize akamaro cyane ni gahunda yo gukoresha neza inyubako za kaminuza aho ziri hirya no hino mu Gihugu ku buryo abanyeshuri barushaho kwiga neza.

32. Ni muri urwo rwego, muri uyu mwaka w'amashuri wa 2018/2019 utangira muri uku kwezi, umubare w'abanyeshuri biga mu ishami rya Kaminuza riri hano i Huye wongerewe ukazagera ku banyeshuri basaga gato 10,000 (10,197) bavuye ku 5,788 bo mu mwaka ushize wa 2017/2018.

33. Uyu mubare munini w'abanyeshuri ugiye kuza kwigira mu mugi wa Huye ni amahirwe yo kurushaho guteza imbere uyu mugi. Abikorera barasabwa kwitegura neza kwakira uyu mubare munini banoza serivisi bazaba bakeneye.

- **Banyakubahwa mwese muri hano,**
- **Banyeshuri murangije amasomo yanyu,**
- **Batumirwa bahire,**

34. Mu guteza imbere imishinga y'ikoranabuhanga no guhanga ibishya Guverinoma yashyizeho Ikigega kigamije kuyiteza imbere

(*Innovation Fund*). Ku ikubitiro, Guverinoma yashyizemo miliyoni 500 FRW zo gushyigikira abafite imishinga myiza y'ubushakashatsi no guhanga ibishya. Aya ni amahirwe ku rubyiruko rwiga n'ururangije Kaminuza ndetse n'abarimu babo.

35. Dushingiye kuri ibi bimaze gukorwa muri Kaminuza y'u Rwanda n'imbaraga Guverinoma ikomeje gushyiramo ku bufatanye n'abafatanyabikorwa bayo mu by'uburezi, turizera ko Kaminuza y'u Rwanda izarushaho kugera ku ntego nyamukuru yayo yo guteza imbere uburezi bufite ireme.

36. Mboneyeho kandi gushyigikira igitekerezo Kaminuza y'u Rwanda yagize cyo guhuriza hamwe abayizemo kugira ngo bayunganire muri gahunda zayo zitandukanye z'iterambere.

37. Ndagira ngo nongere nshimire abayobozi, abarimu n'abakozi ba Kaminuza y'u Rwanda kubera uruhare rwabo rugaragara mu gufasha Kaminuza kugera ku nshingano zabo. Nongeye kubizeza ko Guverinoma y'u Rwanda, mu bushobozi bwayo, izakomeza kubashyigikira.