REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

PRIME MINISTER

Remarks by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
Dr. Ngirente Edouard

At the 6th Graduation Ceremony of the University of Rwanda

Huye Stadium, 8th November 2019

- **Honorable Ministers,**
- **Members of Parliament, here present,**
- **Members of Diplomatic Corps,**
- **Chancellor of the University of Rwanda,**
- **Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of Rwanda,**
- **Members of the Board of Governors,**
- **Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellors,**
- **Academic Staff,**
- **Administrative Staff,**
- **Graduands, family and friends,**
- **Distinguished guests,**

Good morning,

1. I am pleased to be with you today at the celebration of the 6th graduation ceremony of the University of Rwanda. I would like to first congratulate the University leadership, academic and support staff as well as partners who have continued to provide a conducive learning environment to our students.

2. I also congratulate the graduands and their parents, for this important milestone.

3. I particularly take this opportunity to thank Prof. Paul Davenport, Chairman of the University of Rwanda Board of Governors, for his dedication, partnership, and good leadership in advancing the University of Rwanda agenda.

Few months ago, we welcomed Prof. Patricia L. Campbell, as Chancellor of the University of Rwanda. Thank you, Prof. Patricia, for accepting to be part of UR journey.

4. This year, we are celebrating more than 9,000 students graduating at the University of Rwanda. As a country, we have set education as key to our development. One of the key pillars of our National Strategy for Transformation 2017-2024, is the acceleration of economic growth and development founded on the country's human capital.

5. This invites us to work on the quality of education at all levels of our education system, in order to develop Rwandans into a capable and skilled labor force.

6. In this regard, the Government of Rwanda appreciates the innovations UR has introduced in teaching, learning, and research. We encourage the University of Rwanda to continue and invest in that direction.

Distinguished guests,

7. Last year, Government of Rwanda adopted and communicated a number of strategies to boost and support quality teaching, learning and research at the University of Rwanda. Today, we have delivered as Government on most of these commitments. For instance:

- The Government has implemented a sustainable financing model for the University of Rwanda that has ensured financial sustainability.
- Salaries and benefits for the University academic and administrative staff are now paid on time since the commitment was made and we promise to continue.
- Students' allowance was increased from FRW 25,000 to FRW 35,000 to improve their wellbeing. This allowance will be increased as it was decided in the Cabinet resolutions of 14th February 2018.
- As planned, students were reallocated in different UR campuses in secondary cities. This is to enable Rwandan citizens to access UR outreach services as this is one of the mission of our University.

Distinguished guests,

8. There is no doubt that the University of Rwanda is dedicated to move the country towards the knowledge-based economy. For instance, UR is hosting a number of Centers of Excellence in different fields. These centers of Excellence have attracted both national and foreign students in large numbers for Masters and PhD programs.

Dear graduands,

9. I am confident that you have been well prepared for the life ahead. Go and be role models in your communities. Aim to impact and transform lives in the society. Be agents of positive change. Serve the society with commitment.

10. As I conclude, I once again thank the administration of the University of Rwanda and partners for their dedication to the advancement of this institution. I also congratulate once more our students and thank all those who have contributed to their successful academic journey. I wish a joyful celebration to all graduands and their respective families and friends.

11. With these few remarks, allow me to continue in Kinyarwanda.

Batumirwa mwese muteraniye hano,
Babyeyi, bayobozi ba Kaminuza y'u Rwanda,
Banyeshuri, abiga n'abasoje amasomo yabo,

12. Nejejwe cyane no kwifatanya na Kaminuza y'u Rwanda, muri ibi birori byo gutanga impamyabumenyi ku nshuro ya gatandatu.

Turashima cyane ko abanyeshuri basaga 9,000 barangije neza amasomo yabo, mu byiciro bitandukanye, muri uyu mwaka wa 2019. Akaba ari yo mpamvu turi hano twese kuri uyu munsi.

13. Umunsi nk'uyu, ni n'umwanya mwiza wo gushimira ababyeyi, abarezi n'abandi bose bafite aho bahuriye n'igikorwa cy'uburezi muri Kaminuza y'u Rwanda ndetse no bindi byiciro by'amashuri. Urugendo rwo kwinjira muri kaminuza rutangirira mu mashuri abanza, rugakomereza mu mashuri yisumbuye kugeza igihe umunyeshuri yinjiriye muri kaminuza ariko ibyo bisaba kuba yarateguwe kandi abari hano n'abandi banyarwanda benshi batari hano bagize uruhare mu kubategura, none tukaba tubona uyu munsi abarangije, ariko hari n'abandi bazarangiza mu myaka iri imbere.

14. Nk'uko rero mubizi, Gahunda y'Igihugu yo kwihutisha Iterambere 2017-2024, ishyira imbaraga nyinshi ku iterambere ry'ubushobozi bw'abanyarwanda ndetse no kubaka ubukungu bushingiye ku bumenyi (*Knowledge based economy*).

Imwe mu nzira yo kugera kuri iyi ntego ni ukugira umubare uhagije w'abanyarwanda bafite ubumenyi n'ubumenyingiro mu nzego zinyuranye z'imibereho n'ubukungu bw'Igihugu cyacu.

15. Leta y'u Rwanda yiyemeje kubaka ubukungu bushingiye ku bumenyi, ibi bisobanuye ko umunyeshuri urangije Kaminuza nk'aba baduteranyirije hano, yagombye kuba afite ubushobozi bwo gukora akazi kajyanye n'ibyo yize. Kandi ibyo tubibizeyeho, turabizi mwagize abarezi beza babafashije kugera kuri iyo ntego, tukaba rero twizeye ko muzafasha abandi banyarwanda guteza imbere Igihugu cyacu.

16. Umwaka ushize, Guverinoma y'u Rwanda yemeje kandi inatangaza ingamba zo gushyigikira Kaminuza y'u Rwanda mu buryo bwihuse kandi burambye kugira ngo Kaminuza ikomeze kwiteza imbere no guteza imbere uburezi bwacu.

17. Leta y'u Rwanda muri gahunda zayo zitandukanye zigamije guteza imbere kaminuza no kuzamura ireme ry'uburezi, yakoze byinshi muri urwo rwego. Bimwe mu bimaze gukorwa byari byemejwe mu ntangiriro z'umwaka ushize, ndagira ngo twongere tubyibukiranye nababwira kandi ko Guverinoma izakomeza gushyira imbaraga zayo mu burezi no guteza imbere Kaminuza y'u Rwanda. Ibyakozwe rero ni ibi bikurikira:

- Guverinoma yashyizeho uburyo bushya bwo kunganira umutungo wa Kaminuza y'u Rwanda, butuma habaho imicungire myiza y'umutungo wa Kaminuza kandi ku buryo burambye.
- Ubwo buryo bukaba bwaratumye imishahara n'ibindi bigenerwa abakozi n'abarimu ba Kaminuza byishyurirwa ku gihe. Kandi turabizeza ko bizakomeza.
- Amafaranga agenerwa umunyeshuri amufasha mu mibereho ye ya buri munsi yarongerewe ava ku 25,000 FRW agera ku 35,000 FRW. Kandi aya mafaranga azongerwa agere kuri 40,000 FRW nk'uko byemejwe n'Inama y'Abaminisitiri yo ku wa 14 Gashyantare 2018.
- Nk'uko byari biteganyijwe, abanyeshuri boherejwe mu mashami ya Kaminuza y'u Rwanda mu migi yunganira Kigali. Ibyo byakozwe hagamijwe kwegereza abaturage bimwe mu bikorwa bya Kaminuza y'u Rwanda bituma Kaminuza ibagezaho zimwe muri serivisi ifite.

18. Banyeshuri mugiye guhabwa impamyabumenyi uyu munsi, mutegerejweho byinshi bishingiye ku bumenyi n'ubuhanga mukuye muri iyi Kaminuza. Murasabwa kuba intangarugero mu byo mukora byose, muharanira kuba umusemburo w'impinduka nziza, muteza imbere Igihugu cyacu, mu iterambere ry'ubukungu n'imibereho myiza y'abaturage ndetse na Afurika muri rusange.

19. Mu gusoza, ndagira ngo nongere nshime uruhare Kaminuza y'u Rwanda n'abafatanyabikorwa bagira mu iterambere ry'uburezi. Ndagira ngo kandi nshimire ubuyobozi bwa Kaminuza y'u Rwanda bukomeje kuyiha umurongo. Ndashaka kandi gushimira byimazeyo abarimu n'abashakashatsi ba Kaminuza y'u Rwanda, nimwe mugize Kaminuza mudahari ntabwo yaba ihari.

Ndashima rero ubwitange mugira mu kunoza amasomo ahabwa abanyeshuri n'uruhare mugira mu kubakurikirana.Nongeye kubizeza ko Guverinoma y'u Rwanda, izakomeza kubashyigikira.

Murakoze, mugire ibirori byiza.