

**CLINICAL STUDIES WELFARE GROUP, 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
ON MONDAY MAY 27, 2013: CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS**

The Clinical Studies Welfare Group was formed 9 years ago with the two objectives;

- To promote the welfare of the members of the group and
- To strengthen relationships between the members of the group

I take this opportunity to thank God for keeping well during the past 12 months since the last Annual General Meeting. This indeed is evidence that our Welfare Group remains as a model for other Departments within the University of Nairobi. Indeed, the Chairman was the Chief Guest during the AGM and Farewell Party for a Member of the Welfare Group in the Department of Veterinary Pathology, Microbiology and Parasitology.

Some members of the Welfare Group were appointed as highlighted below:

**Prof. Japheth Chesire Kiptoon:** Karatina University Chancellor

**Prof. Charles M. Mulei:** Elected Dean of Faculty; Board Member Kenya Veterinary Board

**Dr. John D. Mande:** Chairman, Department of Clinical Studies; Kenya Veterinary Board

**Dr. Jafred Kitaa:** – Hon Treasurer; Dr. Gilbert Kirui- Committee Member, KVA Executive

I am also aware that a number of families were blessed with bundles of joy, and we take this opportunity to celebrate with them. The Welfare group also witnessed a number of challenges either directly involving them or the family members. Without naming each one of them, I pray that each one of them will continue to receive God's comfort and grace to handle all challenges and blessings.

The financial prospects for the group are reportedly good and I am informed that there are funds that are idle in the bank. The AGM therefore needs to review a number of options for additional investment and how to increase the uptake of loan facilities within limited risks. Such options will, however, require bold steps such as amendment of the constitution to increase the limit of loan amount, monthly contributions and investment options. This will be the subject for presentation and further discussion in the agenda.

I am pleased to report that all the executive committee members functioned very well, despite their busy schedules. As we retire from office today, we are available for re-election, as provided for in the constitution, which allows for an officer to serve in one office for a maximum of 3 consecutive years and a maximum of 6 consecutive years in other offices. However, in order to promote competitive leadership, members should exercise their democratic rights to freely and fairly appoint good leaders to manage the resources and affairs of the welfare group.

I wish to appreciate Dr Victor Tsuma, Dr. John Muthee, Dr. Daniel Gakuya, Ms Rachel Gitau and Mrs. Jane Onsongo for the diligent work of service. I also appreciate the support from all the members of the welfare group. As we approach the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the existence of welfare group, I wish the incoming executive committee a fruitful year of service, prosperity, good health and long life.

**DR. DEMESI MANDE**

**CHAIRMAN, CLINICAL STUDIES WELFARE GROUP**