

## **Impressive innovations on display at the Nairobi Innovation Week**

At the fourth edition of the Nairobi Innovation Week, innovators drawn from different parts of the world are exhibiting inventions that are not only impressive but are also offering solutions to the society. Indeed, as stated by the University of Nairobi's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi, innovation is the key driver of the global evolution towards a sustainable development.

This was echoed by the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Amb. Amina Mohamed who congratulated the University of Nairobi for convening the Nairobi Innovation Week 2018 saying that it is providing an opportune platform for showcasing and encouraging innovation.

“The Government is glad that the themes and sub-themes of the Nairobi Innovation Week are valuable towards advancing the Government's big 4 agenda that comprises manufacturing, universal healthcare, affordable housing and food security,” said the Cabinet Secretary. “As a country, this is the way to go.”

She was accompanied by the Cabinet Secretaries for Industry, Trade and Cooperatives, Hon. Adan Mohamed and that of Information, Communication and Technology, and Hon. Joe Mucheru.

“This is the third year the Ministry of Industrialization is participating in the Nairobi Innovation Week,” said Hon. Mohamed. “Once again, the Ministry is here to identify innovations and commercialize some of them.”

In his remarks, Prof. Mbithi emphasized that the University of Nairobi has created an atmosphere fit for growing student creativity and innovation and consequently entrenching a culture of innovation among students.

“We have many success stories and one notable one is that of our student named Cynthia Allela who is a product of the Nairobi Innovation Week 2016. She was crowned the winner of the Bata Apprentice competition after displaying her creative expertise by creating an adaptable design that can be adjusted to assume different

forms. Her designs will now be sold in select Bata outlets countrywide,” he revealed. “Our School of Engineering has also recently put Kenya on a global map by developing a satellite that is due to be launched into space in May this year. Ladies and gentlemen, our resolve as a university is to continue to be a leader in innovations for a better tomorrow.”

On her part, the Chancellor, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, thanked the Government for consistently supporting the Innovation Week.

“I also thank all our partners and sponsors for the immense support they have put. These not only include ideas, but also financial input and time to ensure that we create an enabling environment for innovation culture,” she said. “My gratitude goes to the University community, including the management, senate and students for hosting, coordinating and providing leadership to this programme.”

The Nairobi Innovation Week runs until March 9, 2018.

See link for the programme