



THE ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION
REMARKS BY THE COMMISSION'S
CHAIRMAN
HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP (RTD.) ELIUD WABUKALA
DURING THE LEADERS GUILD CONFERENCE HELD AT TANGAZA
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ON 14TH JULY, 2017.

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. I am delighted to join you all this morning in this second (2nd) Leaders Guild Conference. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, I wish to thank Tangaza University College and other stakeholders for convening this important forum which resonates very well with the vision and mission of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission.

2. We at the Commission are tasked with the responsibility of investigating corruption and Economic crimes, recovery of assets obtained through corrupt processes, corruption prevention through systems reviews and advisories, public awareness and most importantly, promotion of ethics and integrity in our nation.

3. It is our belief that the most effective method of achieving our mandate is by changing the narrative that it is the sole responsibility of the EACC, particularly the Chairman to fight corruption in this Country. From a more realistic perspective, every

person has full responsibility to guard his moral behaviour and promote ethical values. It is against this backdrop that we appeal to the hearts and minds of every individual to join hands with us and together we restore the glory of this our beloved nation. So far, we have sought and obtained partnerships with various stakeholders including the Faith Based Organizations, the Civil Society and the private sector. We are encouraged by initiatives such as this which seek to impact people at various leadership levels in our society, and we look forward to collaborate in future.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles or moral uprightness. It is a firm adherence to a code of moral values. The absence of integrity creates a conducive environment for dishonesty and corruption to thrive.
5. It is sad and unfortunate to note that Corruption is deeply entrenched in our society. It has gained credibility to the point that those who engage in corrupt deals are now famous and accorded high status in society instead of being condemned and castigated. Some are elected to various political posts in the country and

others are appointed to high offices in government. Others are even celebrated leaders in our places of worship. Worse still, is the fact that those who engage in this vice may not even be aware that it is wrong.

6. Corruption has painful and unbearable repercussions. It represses people, communities and nations. It weakens education and health systems, undermines electoral processes and reinforces injustices by perverting criminal justice systems and the rule of law. By diverting domestic and foreign funds, corruption wrecks economic

and social development and increases poverty. It harms everyone, but the poor and vulnerable suffer most.

7. This unfortunate situation poses a great challenge to the few of us who still uphold integrity and high moral standards. How then can those few individuals positively influence a society that venerates dishonesty and corruption? I compare this with the time the children of Israel were asked by their tormentors to sing songs of Zion, in Psalms 137:3-4., and they asked, "*how can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?*" In the same breath, how do we sing songs of

integrity in a society that rejects the same? This is the challenge.

Ladies and gentlemen,

8. The society yearns for real change in all domains particularly in the moral and ethical spheres. The word change has become a common term especially during this campaign season with each political aspirant wanting the voters to believe that he can bring the change that is so desired in our

society today. Change is dreaded by many people because it brings with it the fear of the unknown.

9. I challenge every one of you that you are the remnant who must bring change in our society. You must overcome the fear of the unknown by constantly keeping in mind the great benefits of integrity to our society. This is a burden that must be borne with patience and tenacity, with your major focus being the ultimate liberation of our society from the shackles of corruption and dishonesty. You are the people who must sing the integrity song in your various places of work and

business dealings. You must teach integrity values to the younger generations. You are the remnant that must pay the price.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. I encourage you that this is possible. I am reminded of the Mau Mau freedom fighters who liberated our beautiful nation from the colonists; they looked beyond tribal divisions and personal gains and saw the ultimate achievements and bright future of Kenya for all. They were selfless. Similarly, the Martyrs of Uganda died for what they strongly and

undoubtedly believed in. As you purpose to stand for integrity, you must be aware of the hostility that will certainly meet you but Your resolve must surpass all obstacles.

11. Finally, I would like to challenge you to be ambassadors of peace during this period of campaign in the run up to the August 2017 General elections to ensure that Kenyans hold peaceful and ethical elections and also elect leaders of integrity.

12. With those few remarks, it is my humble honor to declare the Leaders Guild Conference officially opened.

Thank you and God bless you all.