



**SPEECH BY PROF. NDIRANGU KIONI, THE VICE CHANCELLOR, DEDAN  
KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AT THE GROUND BREAKING  
CEREMONY OF MATHIRA TECHNICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE ON  
SUNDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2014**

**Deputy President, H.E. Hon. William Samoei Ruto,  
Nyeri County Governor, Hon. Nderitu Gachagua  
Mathira Member of Parliament, Hon. Peter Weru  
All Government Representatives and Officials  
PCEA Moderator, Rev. Hiram  
PCEA church elders and members  
Local Community  
Distinguished guests  
Ladies and gentlemen.**

Good afternoon!

Often times, gatherings of this kind are either for marking the beginning of a long journey or for celebrating some accomplishments. Today, we

are among the lucky few who meet to combine these two occasions into one.

The first being the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Tumutumu Girls, an adventure that began in 1954. The second is the ground breaking ceremony of the future Mathira Technical Training Institute, an initiative whose opportuneness couldn't have come at a better time.

The Mathira Technical Training Institute, which is sponsored by the Government of Kenya is under the mentorship of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology. This day is also quite apt for us to have the ground breaking ceremony as it comes only a few weeks after we received the wonderful news of mentoring the upcoming institute in Nyeri County.

The purpose and the mission of the Institute is to reach out and empower youth and micro- entrepreneurs in Mathira sub-county and the Nyeri County at large. This would be fulfilled through the courses of ICT, Business and various technical subjects that are offered to the youth. As a result, many are the young people who will find some

useful employment after their stint at the Institute. Many are the businesses that will be started or expanded after class training at the Mathira Institute.

Ladies and gentlemen, a lot more can be said about what has transpired in the last fifty years, but then the past will be stealing the show from what is before us today. It is because of the milestones covered to date that we have this dream to reach to even greater heights. We want to start the Mathira Technical Training Institute, or if you may, to break the ground today and construct a whole new Institute from scratch. A Technical Institute that will provide quality education and will always be relevant to the industry because of the dual training system that will be adopted. In this system, the Technical Training Institute will work hand in hand with the Industry in developing various syllabi and offer apprenticeship positions to our students even as they continue with their studies. We want to multiply many - fold, the young people, micro entrepreneurs, school going children and their parents that we can reach to. We want to walk this uncharted path and through our beneficiaries and partners change the face of Mathira and provide our county with responsible and productive citizens.

This institute will aspire to make the youth stars in the industry. Since this marks the birth of Mathira Technical Training Institute, the event today is a good punctuation to a story that is far from over.

But thanks to the prayers of many well –wishers and the PCEA church, to the cooperation of all stakeholders and to the resilience of those who have been battling it out for this dream at the front line, we have a reason to celebrate!

Ladies and gentlemen, my last aspiration today will be to call upon all of us to think how we can assist, in our own little or big way, to make the Mathira Technical Training Institute a reality.

Thank you!