

# PRESS RELEASE

## KAMUZU UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (KUHeS)

The leadership of Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS) would like to inform the general public and all relevant stakeholders that College of Medicine (COM) and Kamuzu College of Nursing (KCN) have now been delinked from University of Malawi (UNIMA) to form Kamuzu University of Health of Sciences. This follows the commencement of the KUHeS Act on 4th May 2021.

### **Vision and Set up of KUHeS**

Kamuzu University of Health Sciences is a comprehensive health and allied sciences University with a unique academic model. It has a programme qualification mix that takes cognizant of the local, national and international health care and training contexts. The University intends to train more health professionals that are globally competent but locally relevant. As a key government partner, the University will continue to serve the Malawi nation through provision of quality education and innovation through research as key to the health welfare of Malawi, the region and beyond. Through research the University will generate evidence that will inform government policies and practice in the health sector.

KUHeS has its main campus in Blantyre and other campuses in Lilongwe and Mangochi.

### **Advantages and benefits**

The joining together of the two Colleges provides more opportunities and enhances educational growth including high standards of academic leadership, financial independence and sustainability, world-class research and academia. This enables the training of health workers under one roof for efficiency, thus promoting team building and team work amongst health workers from early days of their training. The University will scale up enrolment of undergraduate and postgraduate students including international students. It will embark on robust Open Distance

and e-Learning (ODEL) program, increase investment in infrastructure and enhance income generating activities.

### **Preparation and Readiness**

A joint taskforce consisting of members from both Colleges, coordinated by their leadership, was set up to work out issues of Governance, Strategy, Structure, Schools, Finance, Legal, Corporate identity, among other things and made recommendations. These will be approved by the KUHeS Council, which will be the supreme governing and decision-making body of the new University.

### **Transition and Implementation**

The Government has set up a Transition Unit to guide transition of the new universities. The transition period allows the new University to manage the change process smoothly and to build up the new institution step by step, always guided by the KUHeS Strategic Plan and a well-designed roadmap of implementation.

A functional review will bring structure in line with proposed strategy and functions of the new University. As clearly stated by government, all current staff from both Colleges are guaranteed a job as there will be no loss of employment.

Students currently registered under UNIMA will graduate as UNIMA students while those to be registered after the commencement of the University will graduate as Kamuzu University of Health Sciences students.

Next important steps include appointment of new corporate positions (administration and academic), establishment of new schools and education programs as well as launch of new University brand.

Kamuzu University of Health Sciences will continue to update all relevant stakeholders of the progress being made.