



PRESS RELEASE

Appointment of HON. MIZENGO KAYANZA PETER PINDA as the Chancellor of The Open University of Tanzania



HON. MIZENGO KAYANZA PETER PINDA

This is to inform the University community and the general public that the President of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT), **His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Magufuli**, has appointed **Hon. Mizengo Kayanza Peter Pinda** as a new Chancellor of The Open University of Tanzania (OUT) for a period of five (5) years with effect from 25th May, 2016.

Hon. Mr. Mizengo Pinda is an immediate former Prime Minister of the URT who proudly served our country from 2008 to 2015. He was born on 12th August, 1948 in Katavi Region which he still calls his main home after retirement. He was elected a Member of Parliament for Mpanda East constituency in the 2000 general election, and he was thereafter appointed by the former President Benjamin William Mkapa to be the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office overseeing Regional Administration and Local Governments. He was promoted to the rank of a full Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, while remaining in charge of Regional Administration and Local Governments, in the Cabinet named on January 4, 2006 by the fourth phase President, His Excellency Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete.

In recognition of his devotion and high capacity to work for the people, integrity, vision for community development and his strategic political leadership potentials, President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete nominated him as Prime Minister on February 8, 2008 and was confirmed almost unanimously by the Tanzanian parliament on the same day. He was sworn on at Chamwino-Dodoma state grounds in a colourful celebration on the following day.

Before joining elective politics, Honorable Mizengo Pinda worked as a public servant rising through the ranks in the highly respected corridors of the URT. He was the Assistant Private Secretary to the President from 1982 to 1992 and Clerk to the Cabinet from 1996 to 2000 making him very conversant with the Government decision making machinery in the highest level.

The OUT community stands to benefit more from him in terms of advice and guidance knowing that, as a former Prime Minister, he is a man of wisdom, exposure, long vision and boasts of vast experiences. We thank the President

of Tanzania for this appointment, which is viewed as a move that aims at transforming our University to the next level on the academic landscape of Tanzania and the world at large.

The Governing Council of The OUT, staff and students warmly welcome his appointment to this highest post in the University. His appointment is a living testimony by the President of Tanzania of his immense contribution to the higher education sector and more so to his enormous great service he has offered to our Nation as Prime Minister. Hon. Mizengo Pinda is not a new figure at The OUT; we have engaged him several times as a Guest of Honor in the graduations or Academic Convocations Meetings, and other ceremonial events.

Hon. Mizengo Pinda takes over from Hon. Ambassador Dr. Asha-Rose Mtengeti Migiro who was recently appointed by H.E. President John Pombe Magufuli to the post of Tanzania High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. As we warmly welcome Hon. Mizengo Pinda to our community, we wish to once again extend many thanks with deep humility to his predecessor Hon. Ambassador Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro for the good job she did for OUT during her short tenure as the Chancellor. We deeply appreciate her great efforts and wish her all the best in the new endeavour she will assume soon as the Country Representative to the United Kingdom.

We humbly ask the general public to join The OUT Governing Council, Management, staff and students on welcoming Hon. Mizengo Pinda as the new Chancellor and wish him many happy returns as he assumes his new duties.

Hon. Mizengo Pinda is a highly respected lawyer who worked professionally in the highest level of his career. He is married and blessed with children and grandchildren. We promise to accord him maximum cooperation throughout his term as the Chancellor, working diligently under his close guidance to take OUT to the next level as a dynamic academic institution. On behalf of The Open University of Tanzania, we congratulate Hon. Mizengo Pinda and wish him good health and success during his tenure as the highest strategic leader serving The OUT community.