

Women challenged on constitutionalism



Women were challenged on constitutionalism and leadership.

Messages on women empowerment prevailed during the official opening ceremony of a two-day Colloquium on Women and the Constitution of Kenya (2010) at the University of Nairobi.

During the event, women were challenged by different speakers and the University of Nairobi Free Travelling Theatre to stop dancing from the side but operate from the centre by taking up a leadership role in not only deciding their destinies but also Kenya's destiny.

The two-day event dubbed 'Women and the Kenya Constitution (2010): Opportunities and Challenges' is a celebration of the journey Kenyan women have made in the struggle for a new constitution, the opportunities and promises as well as the challenges that they face in benefiting from the various constitutional provisions.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students Affairs, said that the role of women in the realization of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 is as great as that of the implementation of the same. He noted that the academic community has a special role to play in the implementation of the constitution and ensuring that these rights and privileges provided for women are indeed actualized.

While representing the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Devolution and Planning, Hon. Anne Waiguru, Planning Principal Secretary, Eng. Peter Mangiti, challenged women to take a lead role in the implementation of the Constitution. He highlighted various initiatives by the Government in empowering women including the recently launched Uwezo Fund.

The Colloquium which has been organized by the African Women Studies Centre and the School of Law is part of the key series of activities of the Rapid Results Initiative (RRI) Sensitization Programme on the Role of the University in the Implementation of the Constitution of Kenya and Sensitization of the University Staff, Students, Alumni and the Public.