

**A WORD OF WELCOME TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE AFRICAN
UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM IN
TALI FROM 28 – 30 DECEMBER 2008 BY H.E. ENOW TANJONG,
CHAIRMAN OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION –
CAMEROON.**

The chairman of Symposium
Excellencies
Their Royal Highnesses, the Traditional Rulers
Distinguished Invitees
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is our great pleasure to welcome you all to the International Symposium on the Role of African Higher Education in the promotion of Sustainable Community Development: the case for African University, Tali – Cameroon. The fact that this symposium is holding here today is proof that the noble idea of having an African University in Tali is taking deep roots and becoming a reality. Thanks to the sacrifices of our selfless sons and daughters abroad and within the country and also and especially to their friends overseas who give assistance, sympathize and identify with our aspirations.

But why African University? The simple answer is that the African University we look forward to should fulfill our vision of the quality of life that should be ours through the development efforts of products of the University. African University should be able in our view to train our youths to be immediately useful to society by being instruments of the development of the community. It is our hope that the present symposium will help to define clearly the role of the African University in the development of our community as distinct from the role played by traditional Universities in this matter.

In this respect, we would like to express our gratitude to the African University Foundation for initiating and bringing to fruition the idea of this symposium which is destined to promote its mission of the establishment of an African University in Tali – Cameroon. We will be contributing immensely to the realization of this mission by attending attentively to the work of the symposium.

It will not be fair to end this brief welcome address without expressing our appreciation to the Tali community for their massive presence at this symposium. We thank them immensely and encourage them to persevere in their support. But to ensure that this word of thanks and encouragement remains indelible in their minds, I would like to say it in the local language best understood by them.

Bo eta ne bo ma, ba tuo eh !.
Bakaga tanto.
Ba nkem ka ah!.

Chairman of the symposium
Excellences
Ladies and Gentlemen

You are all welcome to this epoch making event

Longlive Higher Education
Longlive Community Development
Long live International Solidarity
Long live Cameroon

Tali 28 December 2008.