



**THARAKA**  
UNIVERSITY



**INAUGURATION CEREMONY**  
*of* **PROFESSOR EMERITUS RATEMO W. MICHIEKA,**  
*Ph.D., EBS, SS, FKNAS,*  
*Distinguished Prof. Rutgers University, USA.*

**AS 1<sup>st</sup> CHANCELLOR**

**FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

 **Tharaka University**

*Congratulations*



# FUNDAMENTAL STATEMENTS

## Motto

Education for Freedom/Elimu ni Uhuru

## Slogan

Empowering Society for Better Life

## Vision

A Centre of excellence in teaching, research, innovation and outreach for societal transformation

## Mission

To create a strong knowledge base through teaching, research and innovation and to disseminate this knowledge for positive societal transformation.

## Core Values

**Sustainability:** Utilizing resources without wastage and misappropriation by ensuring maximum value for the current and future generation and complying with various planned arrangements and maintaining good corporate governance.

**Excellence:** Being outstanding in all services, activities and programs undertaken by the University.

**Teamwork:** Working together to share ideas, resources, and skills to achieve common goals and objectives.

**Integrity:** Upholding honesty, transparency, accountability and strong moral principles and values in all decisions and actions taken.

**Timeliness:** Being punctual and meeting deadlines, respecting others' time and being responsible for meeting one's commitments.

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## CHANCELLOR



Professor Emeritus Ratemo W. Michieka, Ph.D., EBS, SS, FKNAS,  
Distinguished Prof. Rutgers University, USA.

## MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL



**Dr. Jemimah Onsare**  
Rep. PS, State Department for  
Higher Education and Research



**Prof. Timothy M. Kiruhi, Ph.D.**  
Council Chair



**Ms. Isabel Joy Ochieng**  
Rep. CS, National Treasury &  
Economic Planning



**Mr. Elias Noor**  
Council Member



**Prof. Peter K. Muriungi, Ph.D**  
Vice-Chancellor/CEO  
Council Secretary



**Mr. Joshua Mungania**  
Council Member



**Ms. Grace Kamasara**  
Council Member



**Ms. Esther N. Michieka**  
Council Member



**Dr. Solomon Muntet, Ph.D.**  
Council Member

# MANAGEMENT BOARD



**Prof. Veronica Nyaga, Ph.D.**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
(Academic, Research and Student Affairs)



**Prof. Peter Kinyua Muriungi, Ph.D.**  
**Vice-Chancellor/CEO**



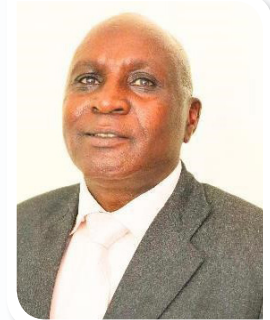
**Prof. Levi Musalia, Ph.D.**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
(Administration, Finance, Planning & Development)



**Dr. Daniel Mwangi, Ph.D.,**  
Registrar,  
Academic Affairs



**Mr. Antony Mutegi Njiru**  
Finance Officer



**Mr. Edward Kathuni**  
Registrar,  
Administration and Planning

# DEANS



**Dr. Joseph Kirugua, Ph.D.**  
Dean, Faculty of Education



**Prof. Mary Karuri Ph.D.**  
Dean, Faculty of Humanities and  
Social Sciences



**Mr. Justo Simiyu,**  
Dean, Faculty of Business  
Studies



**Dr. Marciano Mutiga, Ph.D.**  
Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences and  
Natural Resources



**Dr. Fidelis Ngugi, Ph.D.**  
Dean, Faculty of Physical Sciences,  
Engineering and Technology



**Dr. Shadrack Munanu Kithela,**  
**Ph.D.**  
Dean of Students



# DIRECTORS



**Dr. Alex Muthengi, Ph.D.**  
Director,  
Directorate of Research, Publica-  
tions & Extension



**Dr. David Kipkorir Kiptui, Ph.D.**  
Director,  
Board of Undergraduate Studies, Field  
Attachment and Practicum



**Dr. James Ndwiga, Ph.D**  
Director,  
Marketing and Admissions



**Dr. Ambrose Vengi, Ph.D.**  
Director,  
Board of Postgraduate Studies



**Mr. Faustine Muchui Ndumpa**  
Director,  
Quality Assurance



**Ms. Wendy Micheni**  
Director,  
Performance Contracting



**Mr. Alex Rwanda**  
Director,  
Examinations & Timetabling



**Mr. Kevin Kirui Tuei,**  
Director,  
Open, Distance & eLearning and  
Computer Academy



**Dr. Urbanus Ndolo, PhD,**  
Director,  
University Advancement and  
Resource Mobilization



**Mr. John Kiplangat**  
Director,  
Centre for Climate Change



**Ms. Maureen Mwiti,**  
Director,  
Career Services



**Mr. Collins Sitienei**  
Director,  
Partnerships and Linkages

## CHAIRPERSONS OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS



**Mr. John Majira**  
Department of Computer Science



**Mr. Dickson Moywaywa**  
Department of Business Administration



**Ms. Ruth Ndung'u**  
Department of Basic Sciences



**Ms. Miriam Wepukhulu**  
Department of Dryland Agriculture and Natural Resources



**Dr. Kimathi Muembu, Ph.D.**  
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences



**Mr. Laichena Mutabari**  
Department of Education

## PROGRAMME

TIME	ACTIVITY
7.30 am	Staff and Students take their seats at the Sports Ground <b>Prelude entertainment commences at the Sports Ground</b>
7.35 am	Council members arrive and are received by members of University Management Board
7.40 am	Arrival of invited guests
7.45 am	The Chancellor arrives and is introduced by the Council Chair to the University Council Members and thereafter by the Vice-Chancellor to the Management Board members. The Chancellor is escorted to plant a commemorative tree.
8.05 am	The Chancellor, Chairperson of the Council, Council Members, Vice-Chancellor and University Management Board members proceed to the courtesy room for refreshment and robing.
8.25 am	The Chancellor's procession assembles at the parking next to the Media House and proceeds to the sports ground led by the AP Band in the following order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mace Bearer</li><li>• Student leaders</li><li>• Alumni Representatives</li><li>• Academic staff</li><li>• Chairpersons of Departments</li><li>• Deans and Directors</li><li>• University Registrars</li><li>• Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Principals of other Universities</li><li>• Deputy Vice-Chancellors of Tharaka University</li><li>• Vice-Chancellors of other Universities</li><li>• Vice-Chancellor of Tharaka University</li><li>• Council Members, Tharaka University</li><li>• Chairman of Council, Tharaka University</li><li>• Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education &amp; Research</li><li>• Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education</li><li>• Chancellor of Tharaka University</li></ul>
8.55 am	National Anthem - <i>AP Band</i> East Africa Community Anthem - <i>AP Band</i>

**9.00 am** The Vice-Chancellor constitutes the Inauguration Assembly

**9.10 am** Entertainment

### Installation and Robing of the 1<sup>st</sup> Chancellor of Tharaka University

**9.40 am** The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Academic, Research & Student Affairs) invites the Vice-Chancellor to read Chancellor's Citation

The Vice-Chancellor reads the Citation of the Chancellor

The Chancellor rises in readiness for Installation and Robing

The Chairman of the Council is assisted by the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic, Research & Student Affairs) to robe the Chancellor  
*{Sounds of fanfare from the AP Band}*

The Chairman of Council is assisted by the Vice-Chancellor to present instruments of power to the Chancellor  
*{Sounds of fanfare from the AP Band}*

The Chancellor delivers acceptance speech  
*{Sounds of fanfare from the AP Band}*

The Chancellor takes commemorative photographs with: The Council, Management Board, Family, Partners and Friends  
*{Sounds of fanfare from the AP Band}*

**10.30 am** **Speeches**

- Vice-Chancellor, Tharaka University  
*Goodwill/Congratulatory Messages*
- Chairman of the Council
- Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education & Research
- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education
- Chancellor

**12.30 pm** Closing Prayers

**12.35 pm** The Vice-Chancellor dissolves the congregation

- 12.45pm** The Procession leaves the Dais in reverse order:
- Mace Bearer
  - Chancellor of Tharaka University
  - Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education
  - Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education & Research
  - Chairman of Council, Tharaka University
  - Council Members, Tharaka University
  - Vice-Chancellor of Tharaka University
  - Vice-Chancellors of other Universities
  - Deputy Vice-Chancellors of Tharaka University
  - Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Principals of other Universities
  - University Registrars
  - Deans and Directors
  - Chairpersons of Departments
  - Academic staff
  - Alumni Representatives
  - Student leaders

*Chancellor's Luncheon*

## CITATION

### **Professor Emeritus Ratemo W. Michieka, Ph.D., EBS, SS, FKNAS, Distinguished Prof. Rutgers University, USA.**

Prof. Ratemo W. Michieka is a distinguished academic and researcher in Weed Science and Environmental Studies. He is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the National Research Fund (NRF) and the President of Kenya National Academy of Sciences (KNAS). He has held numerous prominent positions both nationally and internationally, contributing significantly to research, science, education and environmental management. Prof. Michieka has held various high-level positions in academia; research and development organizations in Kenya, Africa and globally. They include the following:

- Founding Vice Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)
- Chairman of the Kenyatta University Council
- Director General of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
- Member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Chairman of the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA)
- Member of University Science, Humanities and Engineering Partnerships in Africa (USHEPIA)
- Member of The International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA)
- Chairman, Kenya Education Network (KENET)
- Founding Chairman of the African Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC-AU)
- Chairman of the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI, now KALRO)
- Founder and Chairman of the African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD)
- Chair of the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)

- Council Member of the Kenya Institute of Management (KIM)
- Board Member of the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KEMFRI)
- Commissioner of the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) *current Commission for University Education (CUE)*
- Member, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Weed Specialist Committee
- Member, Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC
- Council member of National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) *current National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI)*
- Patron of Japan Ex-Participants of Kenya (JEPAK)
- Patron of Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) Students, Upper Kabete Campus, University of Nairobi.

Prof. Michieka made major contributions in the growth and advancement of the various institutions that he served. Some of the key contributions include; **serving as the Deputy Principal, Principal, and later appointed as the Founding Vice-Chancellor (VC)** of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.

Other notable achievements include producing the first State of the Environment (SOE) publication for NEMA and addressing environmental pollution and degradation in Kenya. He has conducted extensive research in weed science, focusing on chemical weed control and trained numerous master's and PhD students who are now contributing to local and international organizations. He has also served on various committees, including the Commission for University Education and the Environmental Institute of Kenya (EIK).

At the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, Prof. Michieka served as an advisor and consultant, contributing to various environmental programs and initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development globally specifically in drafting the Montreal Protocol on Access to Benefit Sharing of Resources (ABS). As the former Director-General, Ratemo oversaw the implementation of environmental policies and regulations,

contributing to national environmental governance. Prof. Michieka served as the Director-General of NEMA, where he played a crucial role in shaping environmental policies and regulations in Kenya. He worked under the **Nobel Laureate late Prof. Wangari Maathai**, the then Assistant Minister of Environment.

### **Projects and Partnerships:**

Prof. Michieka has been involved in various projects under the ASRIC-EU framework, enhancing research and innovation in agriculture and environmental sciences and promoting the STI Africa Agenda 2063.

Former Chair, **Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI)** currently, **Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)**: He is credited for instituting changes in the management of Agricultural research in Kenya. He was also involved in research projects aimed at improving agricultural sustainability and addressing environmental challenges and staff welfare.

He spent 13 years at JKUAT heading the University without an incidence of any riots, an issue that plagued other universities then. Almost 90 per cent of JKUAT graduates at the time got absorbed in industries, government, international organizations and self-employment. Ratemo adheres to strict time management and deadlines.

### **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC):**

**Climate Change Advocacy:** Prof. Michieka has actively participated in UNFCCC meetings and initiatives, advocating for policies and actions to mitigate climate change impacts globally. He attended and contributed during *'Meetings of Parties'* (MoPS) and *'Conference of Parties'* (CoPS).

### **Academic Leadership Highlights:**

Prof. Michieka's career at the University of Nairobi spans over four decades, marked by significant contributions to teaching, research and institutional development. Joining the Department of Plant Science and Crop Protection at the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences (CAVS) in 1980, he quickly rose through the academic ranks due to his dedication in teaching, research and community services.



As a lecturer and later as a professor, Ratemo not only imparted knowledge to countless students but also played a pivotal role in shaping agricultural curriculum and research agendas at the University. His expertise in weed science and environmental sciences brought innovative perspectives to the academic community, influencing generations of scholars and practitioners in Kenya and East Africa and the continent. His actions were later manifested when he took over NEMA.

### **Founding Vice-Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)**

In 1994, Prof. Michieka's visionary leadership led to his appointment as the founding Vice Chancellor of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). Under his stewardship, JKUAT evolved from a University College into a prestigious institution renowned for its emphasis on science, technology, agriculture and innovation.

Prof. Michieka's tenure at JKUAT was characterized by transformative initiatives aimed at enhancing academic excellence, research productivity and community engagement. He spearheaded the development of new academic programs, expanded research infrastructure and fostered strategic partnerships with industry and international organizations. His leadership laid the groundwork for JKUAT to become a leading centre of excellence in higher education and research in Africa. His mentorship to students and staff created a team of competent work force some of whom are currently great leaders in institutions of higher learning that are re-known globally.

### **A Fellow of Kenya National Academy of Science (KNAS)**

Prof. Michieka was elected as a Fellow of the Kenya National Academy of Sciences in 2005, a prestigious honor that acknowledges his leadership and innovations in the academic and research spheres. Throughout his distinguished career, Ratemo has consistently demonstrated a profound commitment to education, research and the advancement of sustainable agricultural practices in Kenya and the wider East African region. His visionary leadership, scholarly achievements and unwavering dedication to empowering the next generation of scholars have cemented his legacy as a transformative figure in the realm of Kenyan and East African agriculture academic sphere.

## Contributions to Environmental Management

Appointed as the Director General of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Prof. Michieka assumed a pivotal role in advocating for environmental conservation and sustainable development in Kenya. His tenure at NEMA was marked by bold initiatives to address environmental challenges such as pollution, deforestation and climate change.

Prof. Michieka's leadership at NEMA focused on implementing stringent environmental regulations, promoting public awareness campaigns and forging partnerships with governmental agencies, NGOs and communities. His efforts resulted in significant strides towards safeguarding Kenya's natural resources and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship among citizens and industries alike. He made equal numbers of friends and enemies.

## Research and Publications

Throughout his career, Prof. Michieka has made substantial contributions to weed science and environmental conservation through pioneering research and scholarly publications. His research interests encompassed integrated pest management systems, sustainable agriculture practices and the ecological impact of herbicides in tropical ecosystems.

Prof. Michieka's publications in local and international journals have advanced scientific knowledge and informed policy decisions on agricultural practices and environmental sustainability. His seminal works, including books on "*East African Weeds*" and his autobiography, have become authoritative sources in the field, inspiring future generations of researchers and practitioners. His latest autobiography '*Walking the Promise*' in 2021 is a must read book on character formation and integrity for Kenyans and any other scholars.

## Administration, Leadership and Governance

Beyond academia and environmental management, Ratemo has held numerous leadership roles in national and international organizations, demonstrating his commitment to governance and institutional development. He served as Chairman of the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), Kenya Education Network (KENET) and Inter-University Council for East

Africa (IUCEA), among others. He revitalized the IUCEA one of the surviving organizations after the breakup of the Community in 1977.

His tenure in these leadership positions was characterized by strategic decision-making, advocacy for policy reforms and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Prof. Michieka's contributions to governance have left a lasting impact on organizational effectiveness, transparency and accountability in the sectors of education, agriculture and environmental management.

### **Ethical Leadership and Institutional Transformation**

Throughout his career, Ratemo has exemplified ethical leadership principles, navigating complex socio-political landscapes with integrity and resilience. His approach to institutional transformation has been guided by a commitment to excellence, inclusivity and sustainable development goals. He has authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings and several impactful books, making significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge.

As a trailblazer in higher education governance, Prof. Michieka advocated for merit-based appointments, gender equity and academic freedom within university settings. His leadership philosophy emphasizes transparency, stakeholder engagement and the promotion of ethical standards in leadership practices across public and private sectors.

### **International Collaborations and Impact**

Prof. Michieka's global engagements have positioned him as a respected figure in international agricultural research and environmental policy circles. He has collaborated with leading institutions and researchers worldwide, contributing to joint research projects, knowledge exchange programs and capacity-building initiatives in Africa and beyond.

Prof. Michieka has contributed to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by providing his expertise in environment, especially in the reduction of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) by developed nations. His work involved participating in discussions and initiatives that address the challenges of climate change and GHG. Prof. Michieka's role includes offering insights into how climate change affects ecosystems and

helping to develop strategies for mitigation and adaptation.

His early involvement with the UNFCCC reflects his broader commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable development, leveraging his extensive academic and research background to support global efforts in combating greenhouse gases emissions.

As the first Bureau Chairperson of the African Scientific, Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC-AU), Ratemo played a pivotal role in steering the Council towards significant achievements and initiatives aimed at boosting scientific research and innovation across African science academies. His tenure as ASRIC Chairperson was marked by efforts to enhance Africa's scientific capacity, foster innovation and ensure sustainable development through strategic research and collaboration across the continent.

### **Key Highlights of Prof. Ratemo Michieka's Tenure as ASRIC Chairperson:**

- i. Development of Flagship Projects:** Under Prof. Michieka's leadership, ASRIC launched several flagship projects, including the Moringa Sand Filter Hybrid Technology for water purification, which is already benefiting communities in Cameroon. These projects were designed to address critical needs in Africa by leveraging local expertise and resources.
- ii. Establishment of ASRIC Scientific Journals:** Recognizing the need for greater visibility and advocacy in African scientific research, ASRIC launched five thematic scientific journals during Michieka's tenure. The journals cover health, agriculture, nature, engineering, social sciences and humanities, providing a platform for African scientists to publish their work
- iii. Promotion of Research Collaboration:** Prof. Michieka emphasized the importance of coordination among national research councils and academies of sciences to ensure high-quality and impactful research projects. This strategy aimed at clustering similar projects to maximize their scale, impact and sustainability. The AU gave full support to the efforts.
- iv. Financial Mobilization and Sustainability:** The operationalization of the ASRIC STI Fund (ASTIF) was a significant focus during Prof. Michieka's leadership. The fund was intended to secure predictable financing for

flagship projects and enhance the council's financial health. Efforts were also made to secure additional financial support and to register ASRIC with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for better access to international funding. The AU provided a bulky of funding.

- v. **Support for Academic Scholarships:** ASRIC, under Prof. Michieka's guidance, secured funding for doctoral scholarships, to tune of US \$500,000 from the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez for 30 African doctoral students. This initiative aligns with the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024), which aims at building technical and professional competencies in science, technology and innovation within the continent.

Prof. Michieka's role in local and international organizations had been instrumental in shaping regional policies and fostering South-South cooperation in academic exchanges.

### **Mentorship and Collaboration:**

Mentored by renowned scientists during his studies at Rutgers University, Michieka developed his research interests and approach to problem-solving in the agricultural sector.

He collaborated with researchers at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan, Nigeria during his postdoctoral fellowship, fostering international research networks and partnerships.

He also maintained close working relationships with faculty members at the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, University of Nairobi, where he served as a professor prior to his appointment at JKUAT.

### **Institutional Partnerships:**

Prof. Michieka established strategic partnerships between JKUAT and various international organizations such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and universities across countries. These partnerships facilitated collaborative research projects, student and faculty exchange programmes and human resource development.

## Science Advocacy and Contributions:

As he continues to contribute actively to academia, Prof. Michieka remains committed to advancing scientific research, fostering international collaborations and advocating for policies that promote environmental sustainability and food security. His leadership in professional organizations and advisory roles ensures that his expertise continues to shape regional and global agenda for sustainable development.

Prof. Michieka's dedication to mentoring the next generation of scholars and practitioners underscores his commitment to nurturing talent and promoting excellence in higher education and scientific research. His ongoing initiatives aim to address emerging challenges in agriculture, environmental conservation and climate resilience, paving the way for a more sustainable future for Africa and the global community.

## Engagement with Policymakers and Industry:

Prof. Michieka maintained close working relationships with policymakers, government officials and industry leaders in the Kenya and East Africa. He actively participated in national and regional policy dialogues, providing expert advice on issues related to food security.

These significant relationships and collaborations have allowed Ratemo to leverage his expertise, influence and networks to drive meaningful change and advancements in the education sector of Kenya and the broader East African region.

## Role as the Chairman, Board of Trustees, National Research Fund:

In 2022, Professor Michieka was appointed as the Chair of the National Research Fund (NRF) in Kenya. The NRF is a state corporation established by the Kenyan government to promote and facilitate the funding of research and innovation activities in the country.

As the Chairman of NRF, Ratemo plays a critical role in shaping the strategic direction and priorities of research funding in Kenya. He is instrumental in spearheading the development of the NRF's comprehensive research agenda, which focuses on addressing the country's pressing challenges in areas such as agriculture, healthcare, climate change and sustainable

development.

Under Prof. Michieka's leadership, the NRF has significantly expanded its research grant programs, providing key financial support to researchers, scientists and innovators across various disciplines. He works tirelessly to ensure that the funding mechanisms are transparent, equitable, and responsive to the evolving needs of the Kenyan research community.

One of Ratemo's key achievements as the NRF Chair is his emphasis on fostering multidisciplinary and collaborative research projects. He encourages researchers to engage in interdisciplinary collaborations, both within Kenya and through international partnerships, to tackle complex, real-world problems holistically.

Prof. Michieka also plays a crucial role in strengthening the linkages between research, policy and industry. He actively engages with policymakers, government officials and private sector stakeholders to ensure that the research funded by the NRF is aligned with national development priorities and has a tangible impact on the lives of Kenyan citizens.

Under his leadership, the NRF has made significant investments in research infrastructure, including the establishment of state-of-the-art research facilities and the enhancement of existing research centres across the country. These initiatives are aimed to create a conducive environment for cutting-edge research and innovation to thrive.

Prof. Michieka's tenure as the NRF Chairman is marked by his unwavering commitment to fostering a vibrant and globally competitive research ecosystem in Kenya. His visionary leadership, extensive experience and deep understanding of the challenges facing the Kenyan research landscape enable him to drive transformative changes and position the NRF as a key driver of national development and economic growth. External funding has tremendously increased.

## **Prof Michieka's Background**

Born in 1950 in Nyamagesa village, Masimba Ward, Kisii County. Prof. Michieka demonstrated a keen interest in agriculture and the natural sciences from a young age. After completing his primary education at

Ibacho Primary and secondary education at Kisii School, he was awarded a scholarship to pursue his studies at Rutgers University in New Jersey, United States, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree, a Master of Science degree and a Doctor of Philosophy.

Following the completion of his doctoral studies, Prof. Michieka got a postdoctoral research position at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) Ibadan, Nigeria. He collaborated with an international team of scientists on projects aimed at improving crop yields in smallholder farming systems in the humid and sub-humid tropics.

Prof. Michieka's contributions to the advancement and promotion of knowledge has been widely recognized. In recognition of his exceptional achievements, he was awarded the prestigious Shining Star (SS), Elder of Burning Spear (EBS), Fellow of the Kenya National Academy of Sciences and later a Distinguished Alumni of Rutgers University. Finally, the University of Nairobi recognized him as a Professor Emeritus.

Throughout his distinguished career, Ratemo has consistently demonstrated a profound commitment to education, research and the empowerment of the next generation of leaders. His visionary leadership, scholarly achievements and unwavering dedication have cemented his legacy as a transformative figure in the realm of Kenyan and East African STI.

### **Family Life:**

Prof. Michieka believes in strong family values. He is married to Esther Nyabonyi Michieka and blessed with four children Nyakundi, Ameyia, Kemunto and Michieka and grandfather to several grandchildren. Despite his busy schedule, Prof. Michieka enjoys writing, reading and occasionally playing golf in his club – Kabete VET Lab.



## KENYA NATIONAL ANTHEM

Ee Mungu nguvu yetu  
Ilete baraka kwetu  
Haki iwe ngao na mlinzi  
Natukae na undugu  
Amani na uhuru  
Raha tupate na ustawi.

O God of all creation  
Bless this our land and nation  
Justice be our shield and defender  
May we dwell in unity  
Peace and liberty  
Plenty be found within our borders.

Amkeni ndugu zetu  
Tufanye sote bidii  
Nasi tujitoe kwa nguvu  
Nchi yetu ya Kenya  
Tunayoipenda  
Tuwe tayari kuilinda

Let one and all arise  
With hearts both strong and true  
Service be our earnest endeavour  
And our homeland of Kenya  
Heritage and splendour  
Firm may we stand to defend.

Natujenge taifa letu  
Ee, ndio wajibu wetu  
Kenya istahili heshima  
Tuungane mikono  
Pamoja kazini  
Kila siku tuwe na shukrani

Let all with one accord  
In common bond united  
Build this our nation together  
And the glory of Kenya  
The fruit of our labour  
Fill every heart with thanksgiving.

## EAST AFRICA COMMUNITY ANTHEM

1. Ee Mungu twaomba ulinde  
Jumuiya Afrika Mashariki  
Tuwezeshe kuishi kwa amani  
Tutimize na malengo yetu.

### **Chorus**

***Jumuiya Yetu sote tuilinde  
Tuwajibike tuimarike  
Umoja wetu ni nguzo yetu  
Idumu Jumuiya yetu.***

2. Uzalendo pia mshikamano  
Viwe msingi wa Umoja wetu  
Natulinde Uhuru na Amani  
Mila zetu na desturi zetu.
3. Viwandani na hata mashambani  
Tufanye kazi sote kwa makini  
Tujitoe kwa hali na mali  
Tuijenge Jumuiya bora.

# NOTES







Tharaka University is ISO 9001:2015 Certified...



Education for Freedom/Elimu ni Uhuru