



**CLOSING REMARKS BY MR. KENNETH MATIBA,
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DURING THE PROCUREMENT FOR WORLD
BANK-FINANCED PROJECTS, HELD FROM 21ST
SEPTEMBER TO 2ND OCTOBER, 2026**

**Distinguished Representatives of the World Bank,
Our Esteemed Facilitators,
Dear Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good afternoon.

It gives me great pleasure to join you today as we formally bring to a close this Advanced Course on Procurement for World Bank-Financed Projects.

Over the past two weeks, we have undertaken an intensive learning journey. We have moved beyond the fundamentals of procurement and engaged with the more complex dimensions of procurement strategy, value for money and related aspects.

But as we close this programme, I would like to emphasise that **the true measure of this training will not be the certificates we issue today, but what happens when you return to your respective projects and institutions.**

The knowledge acquired here must translate into better procurement decisions, stronger procurement strategies, better-managed contracts, improved risk anticipation and, ultimately, better development outcomes.

At the opening of this programme, I challenged you to participate not as passive learners, but as practitioners and problem-solvers. I am confident that the discussions, case studies, simulations, procurement clinics, peer learning and practical exercises have provided an opportunity to do exactly that.

I hope that you are leaving this programme not only with greater technical knowledge, but also with a renewed appreciation of the responsibility that comes with managing public and development resources.

I am particularly encouraged by the diversity of participants in this programme, including our colleagues from Malawi. Your participation has demonstrated that professional learning becomes even more valuable when we bring together different institutional and country experiences.

I encourage you to maintain these professional relationships beyond this classroom. Continue sharing experiences, challenges and solutions. The professional networks established through programmes such as this one are an important part of strengthening procurement practice across the region.

To the World Bank

Allow me to express our sincere appreciation to the World Bank for the continued partnership with KISM in strengthening the capacity of procurement and supply chain professionals.

Since 2018, this partnership has supported a structured journey from foundational learning to intermediate and now advanced professional development. This programme is a strong demonstration of what can be achieved when institutions combine technical expertise, professional regulation and practical capacity building.

We value this partnership and look forward to deepening it further for the benefit of procurement professionals and the development programmes they support.

To Our Facilitators

To our facilitators, I extend our sincere appreciation. You have brought not only technical expertise, but also practical experience to this programme. Your willingness to engage participants, respond to difficult questions and share practical lessons has greatly enriched the learning experience.

Thank you for your time, commitment and professionalism.

To the Participants

To all the participants, congratulations.

You have invested two weeks of your time, energy and professional attention in strengthening your competencies. I encourage you not to allow the learning to end here.

When you return to your institutions, ask yourselves:

Which procurement challenge can I now approach differently?

Which risk can I identify earlier?

Which procurement decision can I improve?

And most importantly:

How can my professional decisions contribute to better project outcomes and greater public value?

As KISM, we remain committed to strengthening the professional capacity of the supply chain fraternity and to working with strategic partners such as the World Bank to ensure that our professionals remain relevant, competent and responsive to the increasingly complex demands of modern procurement.

The world of procurement is changing rapidly. Technology, sustainability, climate considerations, complex markets, evolving financing models and heightened expectations for accountability are reshaping our profession.

We must therefore remain lifelong learners.

The certificate you receive today should not be viewed as the end of a learning journey. It should be a reminder of your continuing responsibility to learn, improve and lead.

Let the knowledge gained here travel with you beyond this room. Let it influence your decisions, strengthen your institutions, improve your projects and, ultimately, contribute to better outcomes for the communities we serve.

To my colleagues from KISM, I thank you for your commitment, resilience and commitment to service.

It is now my honour and pleasure to officially declare the Advanced Course on Procurement for World Bank-Financed Projects closed.

Thank you very much.

God bless you.

Kenneth Matiba, MBS
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