



Statement on the Massacre of Students at Garissa University College, Kenya

The Council on Higher Education (CHE), South Africa, expresses horror and sadness at the death of 147 students as a result of a terrorist attack at Garissa University College, Kenya, on 2 April 2015. It conveys its heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased, the Garissa University College community, and the entire higher education sector in Kenya for this tragic loss of innocent lives. It stands in solidarity with the free world in condemning acts of violence at institutions of learning which, throughout the annals of history, have played a critical role of promoting peace by inculcating and nurturing the ethos of understanding and tolerance among the world's diverse cultures, values and beliefs. There can be no justification for the butchering of innocent bright young men and women whose only reason to be at the place where they met their brutal death, was to pursue higher education as a key to unlocking a brighter future for themselves, their families, their communities, their country, their continent and the world. Higher education on the African continent is indeed poorer in the aftermath of the massacre.