

## **Stakeholder Meeting – Next Generation of African Academics**

**Crown Plaza Hotel, Nairobi – November 15-17, 2011**

The meeting was opened by Dr. Vertan Gregorian, President of Carnegie Corporation. The president gave a background of the Carnegie support to African Universities. The support to higher Education in Africa started way back in 2000. The corporation decided to invest in Africa to keep democracy and excellence. This journey has led to USD \$ 415 invested in African education.

Carnegie Corporation of New York are partners and not a donor agency, and the the project is for Africans. 'As a foundation if we fail, that is ok as long as we learn from that failure. In sciences, failure is a learning process while in social sciences it is not so', reiterated the president.

The president acknowledged that knowledge has no frontiers, is universal and is liberation. He quoted Martin Luther 'We came in different shapes and now are in the same boat' . If someone is hungry, give fish and a line, not fish alone – Carnegie

Prof. Omotade, the Program Officer for Higher Education and Libraries in Africa gave an overview of the project on building, nurturing and retention of the next generation of academics. The theme for this particular meeting was 'Excellence, Retention and sustainability in addition to Next generation of academics'

The Vice President, Dr. Deane gave the expectations of the meeting. The meeting brought together leadership and program staff, experts on Higher Education in Africa to focus on excellence, retention and sustainability. She highlighted the achievement by the Corporation so far.