

attacks, indicating that two vehicles of al-Shabaab entered one of the three bases.

The force said it also recovered an assortment of weapons, including five PK machine guns, two rocket-

Commended

On Monday, the special representative of the chairperson of the African Union

weapons recovered.

Unfortunately, AMISOM lost four gallant soldiers during the fighting. Six

10-year-old AU-led mission. Currently, there are more than 6,000 Ugandan peacekeepers in Somalia.

By Cecilia Okoth

Postgraduate students at Makerere University will effective this academic year 2018/19 be required to pay a minimum of sh5m in tuition fees for any given programme they apply for, every year.

The programmes include Post-graduate diploma (PGDs), master's and doctoral degree Programmes (PHDs).

The postgraduate students at Makerere University have been paying between sh1.7m (for a postgraduate diploma in education) and sh5.7m.

Revised structure

However, under the revised tuition structure, it has been made uniform for the postgraduate diploma and the master's students. They will pay about sh5m. Doctoral students will be required to pay between sh7m and sh8m.

Currently, the postgraduate diploma in education students have been paying sh1.7m which students of master's of science in power systems engineering and masters of science in telecommunications engineering paying sh5.7m.

However, under the new

Makerere sets sh5m as minimum tuition for graduate programmes

structure postgraduate diploma and master's students will pay more or less the same tuition.

International students

International students tuition has also been increased.

Tuition will range from sh8m to sh15m per annum. But the majority will pay between sh7m and sh8m per annum.

However, like their counterparts from East Africa, the tuition payable by the international students has been made more uniform for most of the programmes. The same will also apply to international students undertaking doctoral programmes.

Recommendations

According to Ritah Namisango, the university spokesperson, the tuition increase was based on recommendations by several education experts.

The move was further in line



Makerere University students celebrated during a recent graduation ceremony

with findings of the Jamwa report, Prof. Omaswa report and the Rwendeire visitation committee report.

She explained that university authorities had consultations with the National Council for Higher Education, the university's planning and

development department and quality assurance directorate.

Visitation committee

The Makerere University (MAK) visitation committee report submitted to President Yoweri Museveni in January recommended increasing

students' tuition fees.

Under the funding model for higher education, the committee noted that MAK's funding problems are partly caused by the low tuition paid by students and thus the need to establish the unit cost of training of each student.

An earlier report by the Auditor General (AG) on *The Unit Cost Study of Education at Public Universities in Uganda* dated May 2010, established that the actual student unit cost per year ranged between sh10.2m (Faculty of Medicine) and sh3.8m (Institute of Adult and Continuing Education).

However the AG's report in addition to other reports by the National Council of Higher Education and MAK were not implemented and as of August 2016, the tuition charged per student from East Africa per year at MAK ranged between sh3.1m (Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences) and sh1.3m (Bachelor of Education).

In contrast, a student of the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Nairobi pays the equivalent of sh15.9m per year.

