



Newsletter

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ODPC's Awareness Campaign Drive:

Fostering a Culture of Data Privacy in Kenya



Awareness creation is a key pillar under our Strategic Plan, and this newsletter presents some of the key forums the Office engaged in as part of our initiatives to enhance data protection in Kenya.

Editorial Note...



In a rapidly growing world that constantly urges us to watch over our privacy, it's essential to remember that each one of us walks a different path of open vulnerability. The topic of DATA PROTECTION has become a focus area globally, and as an Office, we are dedicated in ensuring our people :- Kenyans, are made aware of their privacy rights and the need to protect their personal data. Our journey as ODPC, in accordance with the outlined mandate in the DPA, is uniquely ours, shaped by our experiences, passions, and dreams of ensuring all Kenyans are well aware of these rights.

In this edition, we outlined the numerous stakeholder engagements in the spirit educating all on DATA PROTECTION. We have delved into highlights of the quarter to compete not with others, but with the fast-paced technological advancements. Especially in the age of DATA, we may wonder why there's a need for regulating how data is collected, stored, used or even shared, and by extension why ODPC was established. Such concerns only inspired the robust engagements to give value to our journey of enlightening all. Our cover girl, the charismatic Ms Rahab Juma, exemplifies the power of knowledge - knowledge is essential. It is in every work of art. When someone walks on stage for knowledge-sharing and has charisma, everyone is well sure she has real content. She shares how she sees data protection, best practices and the journey ODPC has walked with the public during the countrywide awareness campaign.

We hope you enjoy this issue as much as we enjoyed creating it for you and here's to embracing our data protection journey and celebrating the extraordinary efforts within each one of us!

Mr. Dalton Mbondo

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FOREWORD

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) is delighted to present its latest newsletter, covering the second quarter of 2023.

This edition highlights our countrywide awareness campaign drive to sensitize Kenyans on data protection laws and how to protect personal data. Awareness creation is a key pillar under our Strategic Plan, and this newsletter presents some of the key forums the Office engaged in as part of our initiatives to enhance data protection in Kenya.

Our staff participated in several key events during the quarter, such as the AI, Data Protection and Privacy Symposium, UN joint conference on Data workshop, Kenya Internet Governance Forum, Cybersecurity Innovation and Cooperation at Cyber Week 2023, Africa Asia AI Policymaker Network Meeting, Pan-African Metaverse Summit, ID4Africa Conference, and Kenya Youth Safety Engagements, among others.

These events were instrumental in promoting awareness of data protection and highlighting the need for collaboration among stakeholders to enhance compliance with data protection regulations.

During the quarter, we were honored to be selected to host the next Network of African Data Protection Authorities (NADPA/RAPDP) General Assembly in 2024. This is a testament to our commitment to promoting data protection in Africa and our readiness to plan and host the NADPA General Assembly.

We were also pleased to host delegations from the Nigerian Data Protection Bureau (NDPB) and Tanzanian Data Protection Authority for study tours. These initiatives aim to enhance knowledge sharing on data protection concerns for both countries, and we look forward to further collaboration with our African counterparts.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and useful. As always, we welcome your feedback as we continue to serve the public by protecting their privacy, as contemplated in the Act.

Immaculate Kassait MBS
DATA COMMISSIONER



ODPC's Countrywide Awareness Campaign

FOSTERING A CULTURE OF DATA PRIVACY IN KENYA

***** Above:** The Data Commissioner leads the launch of a countrywide awareness campaign in Machakos County

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) kicked off a countrywide awareness campaign drive in May 2023 through county visits and interactions with Data Controllers and Data Processors.

Awareness creation is one of the key pillars in ODPC strategic plan 2022/23-2024/25 and is aimed at ensuring that members of the public are aware of how the law supports them to exercise their data protection rights as a means of fostering a culture of data privacy.

The campaign commenced with a pilot phase, covering Machakos, Tana River, and Garissa Counties that was officially launched by the Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, MBS in Machakos County.

In her remarks, the Data Commissioner noted that the office was committed to reaching out to the grassroots level to sensitize Kenyans on data protection laws and how to protect personal data.

The ODPC received support from several multi-agency stakeholders including the respective County Governments, the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Administration, the Ministry of Information, Communication and the Digital Economy, Kenya News Agency (KNA), Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC), Amnesty International, and the Open Institute.

The collective efforts of these stakeholders played a crucial role in ensuring the success of the sensitization campaign.

Throughout the campaign, ODPC mobilized and sensitized a diverse range of participants, totaling 3100 representatives including Data Controllers/Processors and opinion leaders from various sectors such as National Government departments, County Government departments, private sector entities, Civil Society organizations, professional associations, Community-Based Organizations, youth leaders, and women leaders.

The primary objectives of the forums were to educate participants about the ODPC's mandate as the regulatory authority responsible for implementing the Data Protection Act. The sessions specifically addressed the compliance obligations of Data Controllers and Processors, as well as the rights of Data Subjects.

To facilitate effective engagement, the participants were given the opportunity to interact with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner during open plenary sessions, enabling them to ask questions and seek clarification on pertinent matters.

The sensitization forums were graced by esteemed leaders, including County Governors/representatives and County Commissioners.

Their presence and active participation in these events served to emphasize the significance of data protection at both the local and regional levels. The support of various stakeholders, coupled with the active involvement of high-profile leaders, has been instrumental in raising awareness about the Data Protection Act, compliance obligations, and the rights of Data Subjects.

The ODPC remains committed to completing the sensitization campaign across all remaining counties in the coming months, further reinforcing its mission to protect personal data and ensure a privacy-centric environment for all.



Ms. Rahab Juma representing ODPC in Kitale during the countrywide awareness campaign



ODPC team in an awareness engagement forum in Bomet County



ODPC Team led by Ms. Rose Mosero HSC, FIP posing for a photo with wananchi after an awareness campaign forum in Kirinyaga County



Mr. Edmond Wandera explaining the need for privacy during awareness campaign program in Narok County



Ms. Sumaiyah Omar (ODPC) addressing participants in Homabay County



Mr. Anthony Ndwiga (ODPC) explaining the rights of a Data Subject in Kilifi County



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS participating in a plenary session during the World Press Freedom Day

ODPC Emphasizes the Significance of Data Protection in the Media Industry

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) joined the Media Council of Kenya in celebrating the 31st annual World Press Freedom Day on May 3rd.

As part of the Annual Media Summit, Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, MBS, participated in a plenary session on "Media and Content: Emerging Models" where she highlighted the importance of data protection in the media industry.

She emphasized that a data protection regime is crucial in promoting order and preventing discrimination and misinformation.

She challenged journalists to reflect on their

practices and ensure they follow data protection principles when handling personal data.

The Data Commissioner also urged media practitioners to use data ethically to enhance their credibility and trustworthiness.

"While media need access to tons of data to do their jobs, they have a responsibility to ensure the information is used in an ethical manner. There is need for media practitioners to embrace data protection principles to enhance their credibility and trustworthiness," she remarked.

May 3rd marks the 31st annual World Press Freedom Day, a day to reflect on the importance of free expression.

ODPC Shares Insights on Data Protection in Finance Sector...

...During a visit by Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) welcomed a benchmarking visit from the Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority (UMRA) on May 4th, 2023, to discuss data protection issues in the finance sector.

UMRA is a government agency responsible for the licensing, supervision, and regulation of Tier-4 microfinance institutions, money lenders, savings cooperatives, and any money-lending institution.

The ODPC team, led by Rose Mosero,

HSC, FIP – Deputy Data Commissioner, Compliance and Inspection provided valuable insights and information on key issues of general compliance journey in the sector, complaint handling mechanisms, collaboration with other regulators, and public awareness programs.

The Deputy Data Commissioner reiterated ODPC's commitment to promoting data protection in the finance sector and lauded the benchmarking visit as a crucial aspect in promoting collaboration and

knowledge-sharing among regulators in different countries.

The UMRA team appreciated the ODPC team for the knowledge shared and the achievements made so far in data protection in the finance sector. The

The benchmarking visit also highlighted the importance of compliance with data protection regulations and the need for effective complaint handling mechanisms to enhance consumer trust and confidence in financial institutions.



A team from ODPC and a delegation from Uganda Microfinance Regulatory Authority pose for a photo during a benchmarking visit to ODPC

Kenya to host the 2024 Network of Data Protection Authorities General Assembly

Kenya has been selected to host the next Network of African Data Protection Authorities (NADPA/RAPDP) General Assembly in 2024, following the 6th Annual General Meeting held in Burkina Faso on May 11th, 2023.

NADPA comprises several African privacy and data protection authorities and its main aim is to provide a platform for exchanges and co-operation between its members. During the AGM attended by Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS. Kenya was also voted to the position of 1st vice chair to the board of

the NADPA.

The newly elected board, led by Madam Samody Tchimoud-en Hadatam of Niger Data Protection Authority as Chair and Angola's Data Commissioner Maria Das Does Pinto as 2nd Vice Chair, will serve for three years. Ms Kassait expressed excitement in Kenya's elections assuring that the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner was upto task to plan and host the NAPDA General Assembly and to assume the position of the 1st Vice Chair.



Data Commissioner issuing remarks during the NAPDA AGM in Burkina Faso

"We are elated that members of NADPA had confident in us and voted to host the next NADPA AGM and to assume the position of the 1st Chair, The ODPC has been in operational for slightly more than two years and has made significant progress in data protection. To be granted such an opportunity is great honor and we want to reaffirms our stance to create a platform for collaboration among members of NADPA," she remarked.

"The Kenyan Government is strongly geared towards the Digital Superhighway Economy and data protection forms a key component in technology advancement, we remain committed to promote data protection practices as part of our obligations to promote international co-operation in matters relating to data protection and ensure country's compliance on data protection obligations under international conventions and agreements," Ms. Kassait noted.

During the International Data Privacy Day 2023, H.E. President, Dr William Samoei Ruto affirmed Kenya's commitment to the signing, ratification & accession of the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection (Malabo Convention) which sets out essential rules for establishing a credible digital environment.

During her visit to Burkina Faso, the Data Commissioner also attended the International Conference on data protection where she delivered a presentation on protection of personal identifiable information.

She highlighted among others, some of the key mechanisms such as anonymization, encryption, pseudonymization that institutions can use to safeguard unique identifiers.

NADPA was established in Ouagadougou in September 2016, at a side event to the African forum on personal data protection.

The previous Annual general meeting of Data Protection Authorities was held on Morocco from 10th – 11th May 2022 and was also attended by Ms. Kassait.

ODPC Takes Part in META's Kenya Youth Safety Engagements

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner participated in the Kenya Safety Youth Week Conference and the Kenya Youth Summit hosted by META on May 17th and 19th, 2023, respectively.

The engagements saw representations from various government ministries and state departments working on online safety for children and the youth.

During the closed-door roundtable discussion, ODPC engaged with META on its products, policies, and tools developed to protect the safety of children and youth online.

The discussion also focused on issues related to child safety and wellbeing, parental supervision, and policies and programs developed by META to address them.

On May 19th, META held a Kenya Youth Summit featuring panel discussions with leading experts working on youth safety in Kenya.

Deputy Data Commissioner, Rose Mosero sensitizes SMEs, Startups and Small CSOs on Data Protection

As part of collaboration efforts aimed at enhancing sensitization on the Data Protection Act, Deputy Data Commissioner, Compliance took part in a podcast aimed at sensitizing startups, SMEs, and small civil society organizations on data protection.

The podcast which was produced by KICTANet, giz_gmbh, and Digital for Development (D4D) Hub focused on guiding these organizations on how to comply with the Data Protection Act, 2019. The act provides guidelines on how personal data should be collected, processed, and stored by organizations to protect the privacy of individuals.

PODCAST ▶ Episode 5

ENGAGING WITH DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITIES

Tamar Kaldani
Former Data Commissioner of Georgia

Rose Mosero
Deputy Data Commissioner of Kenya

Moderator: Catherine Muya
Program Officer, Digital Policy at ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa

Ms. Mosero shared her insights on the importance of data protection and the need for compliance with the Data Protection Act. She emphasized the need for organizations to handle personal data ethically and abide by the principles of data protection. The podcast is part of a broader initiative by KICTANet, giz_gmbh, and D4D Hub to promote data protection and privacy in Kenya and sensitize organizations on the importance of data protection.

Startups, SMEs, and small civil society organizations play a crucial role in Kenya's economy, and their compliance with data protection regulations is crucial in enhancing consumer trust and confidence.

Unlocking the Full Potential of Data Convergence in Africa Requires Regional Collaboration



Data Commissioner speaking during a data protection conference organised by Comforte

Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS has underscored the need of regional collaboration in promoting data protection and realizing the full potential of data convergence in Africa.

Speaking at a data protection conference organized by Comforte, a data security platform, and Sovereign payment solutions, she noted that the potential of data convergence in Africa is immense, but is mainly hindered by lack of harmony and a common regional framework,

The Data Commissioner emphasized the need to strengthen discussions on data convergence at a regional level rather than as a

wishlist at a continental level.

She noted that this was one of the key discussions being held at the Network of Data Protection Authorities where Kenya sits as a Vice Chair to the Board.

“Unlocking the full potential of data convergence in Africa requires regional collaboration,” says Data Commissioner

Data convergence refers to the integration of various types of data from different sources into a single platform in a bid to enhance better analysis and decision-making, leading to improved efficiency and productivity.

ODPC Sensitizes Journalists on Data Protection Framework at Inaugural Media Engagement Forum



Data Commissioner graced the inaugural ODPC Media engagement for forum

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) held its inaugural media engagement forum on May 16th, aimed at sensitizing journalists on the Data Protection framework in Kenya and charting a way forward on future collaborations with the Fourth Estate.

The event was graced by Immaculate Kassait, MBS alongside the Media Council of Kenya (MCK) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) David Omwoyo, MBS, Deputy Data Commissioner, Compliance Rose Mosero, and Henry Maina, the complaints commissioner at MCK.

In her remarks, the Data Commissioner Kassait reaffirmed the ODPC's commitment to working with the Fourth Estate to promote data protection in Kenya.

"Media is a crucial stakeholder in the sensitization drive and shaping discussions of data protection in Kenya," she said.

The Data Commissioner noted of the growing interest of data protection from the members of the public whose concerns, she noted cannot be underscored especially in such an era where technological growth necessitates increased use of data in day-to-day activities",

"Data is 'the new oil' as companies across the globe leverage such information to tailor their products according to their consumer's needs. It is important for organizations to appreciate the data protection laws, she said.

David Omwoyo, MBS pledged to collaborate with the ODPC to train journalists on the Act to enhance their understanding of data protection laws. The engagement forum also provided a platform for conversations on the nexus between data protection law and the media.

"There is need for a comprehensive training on data protection for journalists to address shortfalls arising from data reporting to enhance accuracy. We have witnessed cases where media houses report differently while interpreting figures", he said.

The Media Complaints Commissioner, Henry Maina, spoke about the relationship between the Data Protection Act and the Media Council Act 2013, emphasizing that both laws complement journalists' work.

Commissioner Maina cautioned journalists against intruding into people's privacy without justification and urged them to practice accuracy, balance, and fairness while reporting on stories.

ODPC Presents Critical Insights on Cross-Border Data Privacy at Annual ISMS Conference

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner attended the 3rd Annual Information Security Management System (ISMS) Conference in Mombasa, Kenya.

The conference was themed building trust and resilience in the Digital Economy and targeted Directors, Head of Departments, Chief Information Security Officers or their equivalents, Quality Assurance & Compliance Managers, ICT Directors/Managers, Risk Audit Directors/Managers, Management Reps, ISMS Lead Auditors/Implementers among others.

The ODPC compliance department made a presentation on Cross border and transnational data privacy management, which is critical for Information Security Management systems. The presentation emphasized the importance of ensuring that cross-border data transfers comply with relevant data protection laws and regulations to avoid data breaches and protect individuals' privacy rights.

ODPC Hosts Nigerian and Tanzanian Data Protection Bureau Delegation for Benchmarking Tour

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) hosted delegations from Tanzania and Nigeria Data Protection Authorities on a five-day benchmarking study tour.

The Tanzanian delegation was led by Emmanuel Lameck Mkilia, Acting Director General of the Personal Data Protection Commission of Tanzania while the Nigerian delegation was led by Dr. Vincent Olatunji. The data protection authorities had a chance to learn about Kenya's data protection framework and had discussions on standard practices and current trends in the implementation of data protection law.

The Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait emphasized the importance of benchmarking to strengthen functionalities in Africa's data protection regulatory framework. She also underscored the need for increased collaboration among Data Protection Authorities in Africa to ensure that every conversation on data protection strongly features the African agenda.

"This visit emphasizes the need for benchmarking among Data Protection Authorities to strengthen functionalities in Africa's data protection regulatory framework," she added.

During the visits, the teams had a candid discussion on standard practice and current trends in the implementation of data protection law and compared operational procedures of data protection authorities. Both delegations emphasized the importance of cross-border collaboration in promoting data protection and

enhancing compliance with data protection regulations.

As a culmination of the week-long study tour by the NDPB delegation, the Nigerian Data Protection Bureau National Commissioner, Dr. Vincent Olatunji, paid a courtesy call to ODPC. Dr. Olatunji thanked ODPC for hosting its Nigerian counterpart and underscored the importance of sharing experience and varying operating environments to find best practices that will enhance regulation in Africa.

"The visit by the NDPB delegation highlights the importance of collaboration among African countries in promoting data protection and enhancing compliance with data protection regulations," he said.

The two teams exchanged ideas on various operating environments of the Data Protection Authorities (DPAs), which are currently under initial stages of implementation. The ongoing initiative aims to enhance knowledge sharing on data protection concerns for both countries.

In his remarks, the Deputy Data Commissioner noted that the visit highlights the importance of cross-border collaboration in promoting data protection and enhancing compliance with data protection regulations.

"This visit provides an opportunity for both countries to learn from each other and strengthen their data protection regulatory



Nigerian Data Protection Bureau National Commissioner, Dr. Vincent Olatunji, at a benchmarking tour at ODPC



Tanzanian Delegation led by Emmanuel Lameck Mkilia, during a benchmarking visit in Kenya



ODPC Leads Workshop on Privacy and Data Protection in Identification Systems



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) led by Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, chaired a workshop on Privacy and Data Protection in Identification Systems during the ID4Africa Augmented General Meeting that took place from 23rd to 25th May 2023.

The workshop was attended by data protection authorities from Niger, Uganda, and Burkina Faso who shared their experiences in implementing data protection law and reiterated the need to implement data protection by design and default in digital identity systems to ensure data privacy is strengthened.

The workshop also highlighted the importance of collaboration among African countries to enhance compliance with data protection regulations.

The Data Commissioner emphasized the need for African Data Protection Authorities to adopt a collaborative approach and ensure they are not left behind in the space of data protection, especially in the implementation of digital identity systems.

She noted that digital identity systems collect massive information, and if they land in the wrong hands, the repercussions will be huge.

The workshop also discussed the nexus between technology and law and the importance of agility in data protection law to keep abreast with emerging technologies such as AI and machine learning.

Data Protection is Critical in Building Trust in Digital Systems; PS Tanui

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) was honored to receive a courtesy call from Eng. John Tanui, MBS, the Principal Secretary of the State Department of the Digital Economy.

The PS visited the ODPC to familiarize himself with the office and was received by Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS. During the visit, the Data Commissioner appraised the PS of the progress made at the ODPC and the future outlook. She highlighted the importance of data protection in the digital age and the need for collaboration among stakeholders to enhance compliance with data protection regulations.

In his remarks, PS Tanui urged for the training of Public Officers on data protection. He advised that every state department should have a person in charge of data protection.

"With the government bringing 25,000 Wi-Fi hotspots to Kenyans, ODPC needs to deal with potential data vulnerabilities," said PS Tanui.

The PS was impressed with the progress made at the ODPC and emphasized the importance of data protection in promoting digital transformation. He noted that data protection is critical in building trust in digital systems and ensuring that personal data is protected.



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS receives PS Eng. John Tanui who paid a courtesy call to the Office

Data Protection: Shaping a Common Regional Data Policy

During the second quarter of 2023, the Office participated in the 12th edition of the Connected Summit, held from the 2nd to the 5th of April 2023 in Diani, Kwale County.

The event was organized by the Information Communication and Technology Authority, and it brought together scholars, business leaders, industry experts, and government decision makers to discuss key trends in the digital future.

As part of its efforts to create awareness on matters of data protection, the ODPC sponsored a session on "Data Protection: Shaping a Common Regional Data Policy" panel discussion.

The event was attended by over 150 participants, and the Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait issued a keynote address and

participated in the panel.

In addition to the panel discussion, the ODPC set up an exhibition booth on the sidelines of the summit to sensitize participants on the Data Protection Act. The team also tested the functionalities of an AI chatbot that is being developed in collaboration with GIZ to enhance customer engagement and create awareness.

The Connected Summit aims to nurture innovative ideas and partnerships that leverage technology to advance Kenya's development agenda. It also seeks to establish a platform for collaboration, capacity building, and knowledge sharing between government and the ICT sector.



ODPC Participates in 4th Engineering Partnerships Convention on Digital Transformation

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) participated in the 4th Engineering Partnerships Convention, with Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, featuring in the panel discussion on "Digital Transformation and Opportunities for Engineering Services."

During the discussion, the Data Commissioner emphasized the importance of data protection principles for engineers, particularly when processing data on the Engineering Board of Kenya (EBK) portal.

She urged engineers to embrace data protection principles and ensure compliance with data protection regulations while utilizing the EBK portal.

"As data controllers and processors, engineers have a responsibility to protect the personal data they handle and ensure its secure processing," she said.

Furthermore, the Data Commissioner highlighted the need for collaboration to create awareness on data protection compliance.

"By working together, we can educate engineers about their obligations and promote a culture of data protection within the engineering sector. It is crucial to balance technological advancements with the protection of personal data. Data breaches and privacy violations can have severe consequences," she remarked.



AI, Data Protection and Privacy Symposium

"Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a rapidly growing field that relies on sensitive and personal data, usually in large volumes, to function effectively. As such, the regulation of AI is necessary to mitigate the risks associated with its use." These were the remarks of Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, during the AI, Data Protection, Privacy and Surveillance Symposium hosted by Lawyers Hub.

The symposium was attended by a delegation of AI Ethics Masters students from Cambridge University who visited Kenya in June.

The Data Commissioner emphasized the need for AI developers to take into consideration principles of data protection when processing personal data using AI systems. This means ensuring that personal data is collected, processed, and stored in compliance with data protection regulations to safeguard individuals' privacy rights.

Despite its potential, AI presents ethical hurdles for governments and developers, particularly in cases where systems are developed using complicated algorithms that jeopardize explainability, trust, and transparency.

She emphasized the importance of creating ethical AI frameworks to promote accountability among developers and governments who are the major stakeholders of policy formulation.

Other key issues that were discussed at the symposium included the ethical implications of AI, data protection, privacy, and surveillance. Topics such as data privacy, transparency, accountability, and the responsible use of AI technologies were also addressed.

ODPC Collaborates with GIZ DTC-MICDE to Foster Digital Economy in Kenya

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner attended a GIZ DTC- MICDE joint planning workshop was held on 20th June 2023 as part of the cooperation project through which GIZDTC aims at supporting the Government of Kenya to create an enabling environment for the digital economy.

Specifically, the joint planning workshop aimed to entrench collaboration between the DTC and the Government of Kenya regarding the implementation of the Digital Master plan with a technical focus on Policy Development and Digital Government.

The workshop provided a platform for the ODPC to engage with stakeholders in the digital economy and contribute to discussions on policy development and digital government.

ODPC Registers and Enforces Compliance with Data Controllers and Processors

As part of its mandate to regulate data protection in Kenya, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) has been actively registering Data Controllers and Data Processors. The Compliance and Inspection Directorate has issued registration certificates to 2,746 entities, demonstrating their compliance with data protection regulations.

In addition, the Complaints, Investigation, and Enforcement department has received a total of 3,169 complaints since the enactment of the Act.

The ODPC has taken swift action on these complaints, issuing thirteen (13) determinations, nine (9) enforcement notices, and three (3) penalty notices to ensure that data controllers and processors comply with data protection regulations.

These efforts demonstrate the ODPC's commitment to enforcing data protection regulations and ensuring that individuals' personal data is protected.

All the determinations issued can be found at our website:

www.odpc.go.ke



Deputy Data Commissioner Represents ODPC at the Kenya Internet Governance Forum



Deputy Data Commissioner, Rose Mosero, issuing remarks during the Kenya Internet Governance Forum

The Deputy Data Commissioner, Compliance Rose Mosero, HSC, FIP represented the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner during the Kenya Internet Governance Forum (KIGF) on June 22nd, 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. She participated in a plenary session on promoting data governance and trust.

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder forum where public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, such as the Internet's sustainability, robustness, security, stability, and development are discussed

During her opening remarks, the Deputy Data Protection Commissioner emphasized the importance of collectively respecting privacy, promoting equity, and ensuring safety in order to achieve the vision of an internet that we want.

"Achieving this vision requires collaboration, education, and an environment that fosters innovation," she indicated.

The session aimed to explore emerging issues on data governance, including progress and challenges in legal frameworks and promote best practices to promote trust in the digital ecosystem.

The purpose of the IGF is to maximize the opportunity for open and inclusive dialogue and the exchange of ideas on Internet Governance (IG) related issues; create opportunities to share best practices and experiences; identify emerging issues and bring them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public; and contribute to capacity building for Internet governance.

HIGHLIGHTS

Cybersecurity Innovation and Co-operation at Cyber Week 2023

The Office of Data Protection Commissioner was represented by Ms MaryAnne Serem at the Cyber Week 2023 - an annual international cybersecurity conference and expo which was held at Tel Aviv University from 26th June to 29th June 2023.

The event which brought together cybersecurity experts, industry leaders, start-ups, investors, academics, diplomats and government officials provided a platform for cyber security businesses and professional to network and engage on the latest technology trends, innovations and challenges in the cyber eco system.



Africa Asia AI Policymaker Network Meeting

The Office, represented by Ms Sherleen Wawera, had a team attending the Africa Asia AI Policymaker Network Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda from 12th to 15th June 2023 which aimed to equip participants with practical tools to identify the root cause of real-world challenges and act as effective problem solvers in the public sector. During the sessions, the officers received training on how to use tools like problem trees and decision-making canvas to gain a deep understanding of user perspectives and lived experiences of the problem. This provided them with the necessary skills to develop effective policies that address the



Transform Africa Summit 2023

Mr Anthony Ndwiga of ODPIC participated in the Smart Africa – Transform Africa Summit under the theme Connect-Innovate-Transform, on virtue of being a member of the Network of African Data Protection Authorities (NADPA).

The summit was held from 26th – 28th April 2023 at Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. It brought together global and regional leaders from government, business, and international organizations to collaborate on shaping, accelerating, and sustaining Africa's digital revolution.

PICTORIALS



Ministry of ICT and the Digital Economy CS Eliud Owalo, PS Eng. John Tanui and Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS at the ID4Africa Annual General Meeting.



Courtesy call from Uganda's National Personal Data Protection DG Stella Alibateese, Burkina Faso's President of the Commission for Data Protection and Liberties (CIL) Marguerite Ouedraogo Bonane



ODPC accompanied a delegation from the Tanzania Personal Data Protection Commission on a tour to Konza Technopolis Data Centre



ODPC accompanied the Nigerian delegation on a visit to the Konza Technopolis Development Authority Data Centre.



A delegation of Estonian IT and Chamber of commerce led by Estonian Ambassador at large for Africa Daniel Schaer during a courtesy call to the ODPC as part of its fact-finding mission to learn more about Kenya's digital transformation landscape



ODPC received a courtesy call from key representatives from Google led by Agnes Gathaiya- the Country Director for Google East Africa.



ODPC team in Meru providing a sensitization session at the Huduma Center targeting members of the public and Huduma Centre staff.



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