

## REPUBLIC OF KENYA



### MINISTRY OF ICT, INNOVATION AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

#### PRESS RELEASE

#### OFFICE OF THE DATA PROTECTION COMMISSIONER RECEIVES APPROVAL FROM PARLIAMENT ON DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS 2021

I am excited to announce that the Data Protection Regulations, 2021 developed by the Taskforce on Development of The Data Protection (General) Regulations chaired by the Data Commissioner have been passed by the Parliamentary Committee on Delegated Legislation. The Committee was satisfied that the Regulations were in accord with the Constitution, the Statutory Instruments Act (23 of 2013), the Interpretation and General Provisions Act (Cap 2) and the Data Protection Act, 2019. This follows the Publication of the Regulations on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in the Kenya Gazette. The approved three sets of Regulations include, the **Data Protection (General) Regulations, 2021**, **The Data Protection (Complaints Handling and Enforcement Procedures) Regulations, 2021** and **The Data Protection (Registration of Data Controllers and Data Processors) Regulations, 2021**.

The Data Protection (General) Regulations, 2021 and the Data Protection (Complaints Handling and Enforcement Procedures) Regulations, 2021, take effect immediately while the Data Protection Regulations on Registration of Data Controllers and Processors will take effect on the **14<sup>th</sup> July 2022**.

The approval of the Regulations by Parliament marks a huge milestone in the Government's efforts to safeguard personal data of the people of Kenya. It is a testament of the great work done by the Taskforce members and the ODPC team in collaboration with other stakeholders, to lay a solid foundation as we drive our agenda of promoting personal data privacy. The passing of the regulations empowers the ODPC to deliver fully on its mandate, with the continued support from the Ministry of ICT and our stakeholders. I take this opportunity to thank the Parliamentary Committee on Delegated Legislation for their diligent work and collaboration in reviewing the regulations within the given timelines.

In compliance with the Data Protection Laws, all Data Controllers and Data Processors will be required to register with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Mucheru', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Joe Mucheru, EGH**

Cabinet Secretary Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs

14<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

NAIROBI, KENYA