



PRESS RELEASE

ODPC receives 1,660 applications in ongoing registration of Data Controllers and Processors

NAIROBI, Kenya September 2- The Office of the Data Protection Commission (ODPC) has received 1,660 applications from Data Processors and Controllers in the ongoing registration process which kicked off on July 14.

All entities handling personal information of individuals residing in Kenya are required to register as Data Controllers or Processors, actualizing the provisions of the Data Protection Act, 2019.

The applications received so far are from wide range of entities including government agencies, non-profit entities, private organizations, religious institutions among others.

The registration requirements are subject to the annual turnover and number of employees of an entity with an exemption of certain entities which must register regardless of these requirements.

Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, MBS while commenting on the status of the registration process, commended data processors and data controllers for making great strides to meet their registration obligations.

“I urge all data controllers and processors to get registered in compliance with the regulations which seek to protect the right of individuals and facilitate the realization of a thriving digital economy which relies on data for innovation and growth”.

As of September 2, 2022, the office had issued 332 entities with certificates of registration while 805 others were yet to make payment in order to proceed with the application process.

Another 459 entities are still in the registration stage while the registration of 64 other entities are under review.

Registration is an important element of compliance with the data protection legislation as organisations cannot act as Data Controller or Processor in Kenya unless they have registered with the ODPC.

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About the Office of the Data Protection (ODPC)

Office of the Data Protection Commission (ODPC) is a State corporation under Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs whose key mandate is to regulate the processing of personal data, protect the privacy of individuals and to provide data subjects with rights and remedies to protect their personal data.

ODPC was established in November 2020 pursuant to the Data Protection Act, 2019 giving to effect Article 31 (c) and (d) of the Kenyan Constitution.

In order to actualize the provisions of the act and see its practical implementation, the Government through the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs gazetted a taskforce which developed Data Protection Regulations including the Data Protection (Registration of Data Controllers and Processors) Regulations, 2021 and The Data Protection (Complaints Handling and Enforcement Procedures) regulations, 2021

The registration of data controllers and processors is ongoing and entities can submit their registration application through an online portal - <http://odpc.go.ke>