



Newsletter

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The Launch of ODPC's 1st Regional Office in Mombasa



The Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication, and Digital Economy, Hon. Eliud Owalo launches the first regional office of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) in Mombasa

Editorial Note...

Hi,

Welcome to this 4th edition of our publication, where we strive to bring you insightful analyses, compelling stories, and the latest developments in ODPC. In an ever-evolving Data Protection landscape, staying informed and engaged is more critical than ever. Our team of dedicated writers, researchers, and editors works tirelessly to ensure that each piece not only informs but also inspires.

In this edition, you will find a diverse array of articles that reflect the breadth and depth of our commitment to Data privacy. From in-depth features on going regional to thought-provoking opinion pieces and the latest news updates, we aim to provide content that resonates with a wide data subjects, controllers and processors.

As always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to share your thoughts with us. Your insights are invaluable as we continue to evolve and improve. Thank you for being a part of us and for your continued support.

Happy reading,

Mr. Dalton Mbondo

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FORERWORD



As we navigate the evolving landscape of data protection and privacy, ODPC remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a culture of responsible data handling, compliance with regulations, and promoting awareness among stakeholders.

Welcome to the fourth issue of the newsletter from the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, where we bring you the latest updates and stories of data protection in Kenya. In this edition, we delve into a myriad of developments that underscore the commitment of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) to safeguarding data privacy rights and promoting responsible data practices across various sectors.

One of the highlights featured in this newsletter is the inauguration of the ODPC's first regional office in Mombasa by the Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication, and Digital Economy, Hon. Eluid Owalo. This milestone marks a significant step towards decentralizing data protection services and empowering organizations and individuals in the coastal region to comply with data protection laws.

Furthermore, the operationalization of regional offices in Nakuru, Kisumu, Nyeri, Garissa, and Eldoret underscores ODPC's efforts to expand its reach and provide accessible data protection services to Kenyans nationwide. These strategic initiatives aim to enhance engagement with stakeholders and promote compliance with data protection regulations in diverse sectors.

Additionally, the ODPC's active participation in various events and engagements, such as knowledge-sharing sessions with industry players like Safaricom, training courses for Data Protection Officers in the Fintech sector, and collaborative efforts with international partners like ICRC and Maastricht University, reflect a comprehensive approach towards enhancing data governance and compliance.

The recognition received by the ODPC in the form of an excellence award for Data Protection Education and Awareness also underscores the office's dedication to raising awareness and promoting best practices in data protection. This accolade serves as a testament to the tireless efforts of the ODPC in advancing data protection education and awareness initiatives in Kenya.

As we navigate the evolving landscape of data protection and privacy, the ODPC remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a culture of responsible data handling, compliance with regulations, and promoting awareness among stakeholders. The stories shared in this newsletter exemplify the collaborative efforts and strides made by the ODPC towards building a robust data protection ecosystem in Kenya.

We invite you to explore the stories presented in this newsletter, which shed light on the transformative journey of data protection in Kenya.

Together, let us continue to champion data privacy rights, foster innovation, and uphold ethical standards in the digital age.

Immaculate Kassait, MBS
DATA COMMISSIONER, KENYA



CS Owalo Launches ODPC's First Regional Office in Mombasa

The Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication, and Digital Economy, Hon. Eliud Owalo on August 7th launched the first regional office of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) in Mombasa. This is in part of ODPC's effort to scale its operations across the country.

Operationalized a month ago alongside two other regional offices in Kisumu and Nakuru, the Mombasa office will serve as a focal point for data protection services in the coastal region, providing guidance and support to organizations and individuals in understanding and complying with data protection Act and its related laws.

Speaking at the launch, CS Owalo noted that the ODPC regional offices will play a pivotal role in ensuring that organizations and businesses adhere to data protection laws while empowering citizens to exercise their privacy rights.

"The establishment of the ODPC regional office and its launch in Mombasa marks a significant step forward, bringing the functions of the Office close to the people in our efforts to decentralize and strengthen data protection institutional framework to handle data security and privacy concerns in a more efficient and effective manner," the CS said.

CS Owalo noted that expanding ODPC services is a significant step forward in Kenya's efforts to strengthen data protection mechanisms and build a robust ecosystem that fosters trust, innovation, and responsible data practices.

"I commend the efforts of the ODPC in establishing this regional office. I encourage organisations to interact with the Office to learn more about their compliance obligations and requirements so that together, we can build a robust data protection ecosystem," he added.

The Principal Secretary, State Department of ICT and Digital Economy- Engineer John Tanui, who was also in attendance exuded confidence that cascading ODPC services to the regional levels will ensure no business will be left behind in the journey of data protection

"This Office will play a key role in enabling local businesses comply with data protection laws which will subsequently enable them access global opportunities with ease," he remarked.

Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS on her part noted

that the launch of the event is a significant milestone for the Office and a testament to the government's commitment to regulating the processing of personal data and protecting the privacy rights of citizens.

She expressed her appreciation to the team at the ODPC and all partners who have supported the Office since its operationalization in 2020.

"With our presence in the coastal region, our team will conduct workshops, training programs, and awareness campaigns to empower citizens with knowledge about their privacy rights and responsible data handling," she said. "Our aim is to create a more inclusive and accessible data protection regime."

The launch event was also attended by Chairperson of ICT Authority- Hon. Sylvanus Maritim, KONZA Technopolis Ag. CEO John Paul Okwiri, KONZA Technopolis Director Philip Olero, the Chair, ICT Senate Committee - Allan Chesang and his Vice Chair Senator Miraj Abdillahi Abdulrahman.

Also present was the Representative of Regional County Commissioner, Mboga Mathioya, Mombasa County CEC Education & Digital Transformation Mwarage Kame and the Chief Executive Officer of Open Institute, Al Kags.

The Office plans to establish its presence across thirteen additional regions across the country.



The Data Commissioner speaking at the Mombasa Regional Office launch



Nakuru Regional office reception

ODPC Operationalizes Offices in Nakuru and Kisumu

In a move to expand its reach and provide greater accessibility to data protection services, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) has officially operationalized three regional offices in Nakuru, Kisumu, and Mombasa.

The offices were opened in July 2023 and are strategically located to ensure convenient access for individuals and organizations seeking data protection guidance.

The Mombasa office is situated in Jubilee Arcade, 2nd floor, Moi Avenue, Machakos Street. Meanwhile, the Nakuru office can be found in the Jennifer Riria Hub Building, 4th floor, Kipchoge Avenue, Tom Mboya Street. Lastly, the Kisumu office is located in Mega Plaza, Block B, 2nd floor, Oginga Odinga Street/Apindi Street.

This expansion is part of ODPC's ongoing efforts to reach more Kenyans and educate them about their rights and obligations under data protection laws.

By establishing regional offices, ODPC aims to facilitate engagement and interaction with individuals and entities seeking

data protection services. The new offices will serve as accessible hubs for inquiries, consultations, and support related to data protection.

Festus Musyoki, the Data Commissioner of Corporate Services, expressed optimism about the impact of the new offices.

He highlighted the importance of providing easy access to data protection services for Kenyans and emphasized that the regional offices will play a crucial role in achieving this goal.

"With the operationalization of these regional offices, ODPC aims to strengthen its engagement with individuals and organizations throughout Kenya. By extending its presence beyond the capital city, ODPC is committed to ensuring that more Kenyans are aware of their data protection rights and obligations while encouraging greater compliance with data protection laws," he remarked.

Furthermore, Musyoki revealed that ODPC has plans for further expansion by establishing a presence in Huduma Centres and other towns across the country.

ODPC Expands Services in Nyeri, Garissa and Eldoret



Huduma Center hosting the Eldoret regional Office of the Data Commissioner

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) has expanded its services to Nyeri, Garissa, and Eldoret by establishing its presence in Huduma Centres in the respective towns.

In order to operationalize these offices, the ODPC, in partnership with the Huduma Secretariat, conducted a Customer Service Excellence (CSE) training for staff before their deployment to three Huduma Centres. The CSE training aimed to provide the staff with key insights on the Huduma Secretariat guidelines and customer service best practices.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Huduma Secretariat, Ben Kai Chilimo, graced the event and emphasized the importance of providing quality customer service to citizens. "This is especially important given the increasing reliance on digital technologies and the need to protect personal data from unauthorized access or misuse," he remarked.

Deputy Data Commissioner, Complaints, Investigation and Enforcement, Oscar Otieno who was also present during the training noted that ODPC's presence in these towns will enable citizens to access data protection services more easily.

Overall, the CSE training demonstrates the organization's commitment to providing quality customer service and ensuring that data protection services are accessible to all Kenyans.

Data Commissioner Champions Compliance in Knowledge-sharing Session with Safaricom

The Data Commissioner of Kenya, Immaculate Kassait, MBS, led a team from the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) in a knowledge-sharing session with Safaricom, one of the largest telecommunications companies in Kenya.

The session aimed to enhance compliance with Data Protection Laws, as part of the advocacy and partnership initiatives aimed at understanding the data processing activities of entities.

The team from ODPC comprised Compliance, Legal and Complaints, Investigation and Enforcement (CIE) departments. The meeting was part of engagements with Data Controllers and Data Processors, as well as part of advocacy and partnerships initiatives aimed at understanding the data processing activities of entities.

During the session, the Data Commissioner highlighted the importance of compliance with Data Protection Laws and called for increased sensitization of data processors that fall under the ambit of Safaricom on the importance of registration as stipulated under the law.

The Data Commissioner urged Safaricom to ensure that M-Pesa agents comply with the law since they control massive data from the public.

The team was taken through a Data Protection programs, which included Privacy Policy, Data Subject Rights, Data Protection Impact Assessments, and access to customer information Data Protection controls, monitoring, and incident handling.

During the plenary session, some of the key concerns raised were the need to remove phone numbers in M-Pesa messages that a recipient receives upon being sent money. This is because the phone numbers could be used to identify the recipient, which could lead to privacy concerns.

By engaging with Data Controllers and Data Processors such as Safaricom, ODPC can ensure that entities are aware of their responsibilities under the law and can take steps to protect the privacy rights of their customers.

Representing Safaricom in the session were Sharon Holi, Head of Customer Service Privacy, Fiona Makaka, the Data Protection Officer, and Daniel Ndaba from the legal department.

Ms. Holi expressed gratitude to ODPC for the opportunity and pledged to raise awareness among customers and data processors, particularly M-Pesa agents, about data protection laws.



The Data Commissioner of Kenya, leads a team from ODPC in a knowledge-sharing session with Safaricom



ODPC Kisumu Regional Principal Officer hosts a delegation to understand Data Protection and the role of the office

ODPC Regional Offices Receive Courtesy Calls as Data Protection Awareness Grows at County Level

The ODPC regional offices in Nakuru, Kisumu, and Mombasa have been receiving courtesy calls from various stakeholders, reflecting the increased awareness of data protection at the county level.

One notable visit was from the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties, with representatives from Nyanza & Western Region and Mombasa paying visits to the Kisumu and Mombasa regional offices respectively.

These visits led by Ms Lucy Kemunto and Ezekiel Obonyo provided an opportunity to discuss the importance of adhering to data protection laws, especially in relation to the registration of individuals with political parties.

The conversations held during these courtesy calls have proven to be helpful in ensuring compliance with data protection laws.

In another visit, a team from the Media Council of Kenya, led by Mombasa Regional Coordinator Ms. Maureen Mudi, paid a courtesy call at the Mombasa Regional Office. This visit aimed to foster collaboration and exchange knowledge on data protection practices in the media industry.

Additionally, the Kisumu Regional Office received a courtesy call from representatives of data security technologies, Trinexia Africa and Thales Group. The purpose of this visit was to seek guidance on their organization's compliance journey regarding data protection.

These courtesy calls highlight the growing recognition of the importance of data protection in various sectors. The ODPC regional offices play a crucial role in providing guidance and support to stakeholders, ensuring that they understand and comply with data protection laws in their respective industries.



The Data Commissioner of Kenya, giving her opening remarks at the Fintech Sector training

ODPC Conducts Week-long Training Course for Data Protection Officers in Fintech Sector

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) in July 2023 conducted a week-long training course for Data Protection Officers (DPOs) in collaboration with German Cooperation and Maastricht University.

The course aimed to enhance the capacity of DPOs to implement measures prioritizing data governance and compliance with data protection laws.

The course was opened by Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait and covered key topics such as personal data transfer, data security management, and cross-border transfer practices.

In her remarks, the Data Commissioner praised the increasing number of organizations taking steps to protect personal data and expressed optimism that the training course would build the capacity of DPOs to implement measures prioritizing data governance and compliance with data protection laws.

"This training course is a significant step towards building capacity among DPOs in Kenya and promoting compliance with data protection laws. By equipping DPOs with the necessary knowledge and skills, ODPC hopes to create a culture of data protection in organizations across the country," she remarked.

During the training, Deputy Data Commissioners- Complaint, Investigation, and Enforcement Oscar Otieno made a presentation on Case Law and ODPC Decisions, Guidelines, and Cooperation.

Rose Mosero, the Deputy Data Commissioner for Compliance, also took the DPOs through the ODPC compliance journey, highlighting the progress made within the department.

The presentation focused on the importance of compliance with data protection laws and highlighted the role of DPOs in ensuring that organizations comply with these laws.

The training was part of ODPC's commitment to enhancing compliance by ensuring that DPOs have an in-depth understanding of the laws so that they can champion them well in their respective organizations.

Witnesses MOU Signing Between Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy and UNDP for Digital Transformation of Kenya

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) was honored to witness the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) aimed at advancing the digital transformation of Kenya.

As an agency under the Ministry, ODPC is committed to supporting the Ministry in executing the MOU and ensuring that data protection regulations are adhered to throughout the country.

Present during the event were Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy, Eliud Owalo, Principal Secretary for the State Department of ICT and Digital Economy, John Tanui, representatives from Konza Technopolis, ICT Authority CEO Stanley Kamanguya, among others.

CS Eliud Owalo noted that MOU signing marks a significant step towards accelerating Kenya's digital transformation agenda, with a focus on leveraging technology to drive economic growth and development.

As part of its commitment to ensuring data protection compliance in Kenya's digital transformation journey, Data Commissioner said that ODPC will work closely with the Ministry to ensure that data protection regulations are integrated into all relevant initiatives.

This will include providing guidance and support to stakeholders involved in the digital transformation process, as well as monitoring compliance with data protection laws.

ODPC Joins Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy in the Release of Ministry One-year Scorecard



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner joined the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy in a breakfast forum with media editors to appraise them of the Ministry's achievements over the one-year period they've been in office under the Kenya Kwanza Government.

Data Commissioner joined other CEOs of parastatals under the Ministry during the forum which shed light on some of the key achievements of the Ministry.

With regards to the progress made in data protection space, CS Owalo highlighted that the Country has embarked on the ratification of the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection (the Malabo Convention) which envisages Africa as a single entity for purposes of data protection and privacy.

"This convention calls for a harmonized, independent and robust continental legal framework which will protect all the peoples of Africa, and people in Africa from rogue data controlling and

processing activities," he remarked.

CS assured Kenyans that with the operationalization of the office, adequate levels of data privacy and data security have been put in place to ensure the Government's digitization agenda runs smoothly and the data protection space is heightened.

Other achievements made include the set-up of 421 free public hotspots as July 31st, which have been established in partnership with County Governments in markets and county headquarters.

The Ministry has also established and operationalized 174 digital hubs in various wards across the country.

The CS also noted that the 5,0854 Government services had been digitized as of 31st July 2023 surpassing the 5,000 target that had been set for June 30th.

ODPC is glad to have digitized its services since inception and having met the digitization of Government Services.



The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy in a breakfast forum with media editors

Data Commissioner Participates in Inaugural EALS In-House Counsel Convention on Future of Cross-Border Co-operation for Legal Professionals



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait recently participated in the inaugural East Africa Law Society (EALS) In-House Counsel Convention, which took place from 27th-28th July 2023.

The convention was themed "The future of In-House Counsel in Cross-Border Co-operation" and brought together legal professionals from across the region to discuss emerging trends and issues in the field.

During the event, Ms. Kassait delivered a presentation on "Regional and International Commitments to Data Security and Privacy: Recent Developments in Kenya, East Africa, and Africa."

Her presentation focused on the importance of data protection in an increasingly interconnected world, highlighting recent developments in Kenya and the wider East African region.

Ms. Kassait also participated in a panel session on "Emerging Data Privacy Laws in East Africa and the World." The session brought together experts from across the legal profession to discuss the latest trends and developments in data privacy laws, both in East Africa and globally.

In addition to Ms. Kassait's participation, Deputy Data Commissioner Rose Mosero, HSC, FIP also took part in the convention.

She joined other panelists in a session on "Ethical Traps for In-House Counsel: How Should In-House Counsel Conduct

Themselves." The session focused on the ethical considerations that in-house counsel must navigate as they provide legal advice and support to their organizations.

The EALS In-House Counsel Convention provided a valuable platform for legal professionals to engage with emerging trends and issues in the field. By participating in the event, Ms. Kassait and Ms. Mosero demonstrated ODPC's commitment to promoting data protection and privacy in Kenya and beyond.



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS at the inaugural East Africa Law Society In-House Counsel Convention

ODPC Urges Pension Industry to Prioritize Data Protection at Annual Technology and Innovation Conference

Deputy Data Commissioner Oscar Otieno represented the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) at the 2nd Annual Pension Technology and Innovation Conference which took place on July 26th.

During his speech, he emphasized the importance of data protection in the pension industry and clarified the role of Pension Schemes and Fund Administrators as Data Controllers and Data Processors.

Mr. Otieno urged pension schemes and fund administrators to register with the ODPC as required by the law. He also advised them to ensure that they abide by the principles of data protection while innovating new technologies to serve their clients better.

"As data controllers and processors, pension schemes and fund administrators have a responsibility to protect personal data in accordance with the principles of data protection," Mr. Otieno said. "It is critical that they register with the ODPC and take appropriate measures to safeguard personal data."

Mr. Otieno emphasized the importance of data protection in the pension industry, highlighting the sensitive nature of personal data processed by pension schemes and fund administrators. He urged them to ensure that they abide by the principles of data protec-



Deputy Data Commissioner Oscar Otieno speaking at the 2nd Annual Pension Technology and Innovation Conference

tion while innovating new technologies to serve clients better.

"Data protection is a critical issue in the pension industry, and it is important for pension schemes and fund administrators to register with the ODPC as required by the law," Mr. Otieno remarked. "As data controllers and processors, they have a responsibility to ensure that personal data is processed in accordance with the principles of data protection."

ODPC Seeks Feedback from Stakeholders on Sector-Specific Data Protection Guidelines

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) conducted a week-long stakeholder engagement forum on sector-specific guidance notes in order to incorporate stakeholder feedback ahead of their official launch.

The forum was presided over by the Deputy Data Commissioner for Compliance, Rose Mosero, and covered education, communication, and digital credit providers sectors. The stakeholders were drawn from diverse sub-sectors, including the GIZ Digital Transformation Centre.

During the forum, the Deputy Data Commissioner explained that the guidance notes would cover key aspects of applying the Data Protection Act. This includes how data protection principles should be applied, clarifying the lawful grounds for processing personal data, outlining the obligations of sector regulators and service providers as data controllers or processors, and detailing the rights of data subjects.

"The aim is to provide clarity and ensure compliance with data protection regulations in specific sectors," she said.

Ms. Mosero highlighted significant privacy concerns within each sector. Specifically, in the communication sector, she emphasized issues like unauthorized data sharing with third parties, potential encryption vulnerabilities, and the misuse of technology for surveillance without consent.

She also pointed out the risk of personal data being shared with advertisers without consent and the susceptibility of these entities to cybersecurity breaches. To address these concerns, stronger data protection measures, clearer guidelines, and user education are needed to safeguard privacy rights.

Ms. Mosero stressed vital data protection principles, including the lawful basis for processing personal data. She explained that entities must seek informed consent from the data subject for a specific purpose and should be free from any conditions.

With regards to the Education sector, she noted that providers should seek consent for vulnerable groups such as children from their parents or guardians.

"Given the extensive use of personal data by sector players such as HELB, TSC, KNEC, NEMIS, KUCCPS, especially among

vulnerable groups like children in educational institutions and systems, ensuring fairness and transparency in data handling is paramount. As the education landscape evolves with digital advancements, it's essential to prioritize data protection," she said.

The ODPC also introduced important guidance notes on how digital credit providers should process personal data while providing loan services to Kenyans.

"With increased growth in mobile money use and the rising demand for quick, easy to access, unsecured loans, it is critical to adhere to these guidance notes, she added.

The forum concluded with the Deputy Data Commissioner asking stakeholders to provide feedback on the guidance notes through a feedback form or memorandum within 7 days. This feedback will be incorporated before the official launch of the guidance notes.



Deputy Data Commissioner for Compliance, Rose Mosero at an engagement forum on data protection guidelines

ODPC Receives Excellence Award in Data Protection Education and Awareness



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) received an excellence award in Data Protection Education and Awareness during the 4th Africa Public Sector Confidence Awards 2023.

This award recognizes individuals and institutions in the public service that have made outstanding contributions in the field of Public Administration.

At the event, which was attended by distinguished guests including Second Lady Dorcas Gachagua, Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Solpan Tuya, and her counterpart from the Ministry of EAC, Arid and Semi-Arid Lands and Regional Development, Peninah Malonza,

The Principal Data Protection Officer- Advocacy and Collaboration- Abdullahi Ali and Principal Corporate Communications Officer- Carolyne Chepkorir received the award on behalf of ODPC.

This recognition highlights the ODPC's commitment to raising awareness about data protection and privacy issues in Kenya.

During the fourth quarter of FY 2022/23, The ODPC conducted a countrywide awareness campaign targeting individuals and institutions on data protection laws and best practices, and this award serves as a testament to their efforts.

Speaking on the award, the Assistant Data Commissioner, Research and Strategy noted that it is a significant achievement and demonstrates the Office' dedication to promoting data protection education and awareness in Kenya.

2024 Global Conference.

The 2024 conference will be themed "Demographics, entrepreneurship and technology defining the frontiers of future economies"

"Winning the bid to host the 2024 World Conference is not just a momentous occasion for us; it is a testament to the progress, innovation, and unending commitment to the advancement of science, technology, and innovation in Kenya,

The event provided a valuable opportunity for the ODPC to interact with key stakeholders in the tech industry and learn best practices on data protection. It also served as a benchmarking visit for international conferencing as Kenya prepares to host the Network for Data Protection Authorities in 2024.

The Advocacy and Corporate Communications team at ODPC learned more about event management, handling international delegations, and expressed confidence in their readiness to host future global conferences.

Overall, the ODPC's participation in the 40th IASP 2024 Conference was a success, providing valuable insights and opportunities to promote data protection and privacy in Kenya's tech industry.

The upcoming IASP Conference in 2024 presents an exciting opportunity for Kenya to showcase its tech industry and promote best practices in data protection and privacy.

ODPC Attends and Exhibits During the International Association of Science Park Conference

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner participated in the 40th International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP) 2024 Conference, which took place in Luxembourg from September 12th to 16th.

The 2023 event primarily focused on the nexus between megatrends and potent role of science parks in enabling innovation and economic Development.

Along with Konza Technopolis, KICC, and other partners, the ODPC set up a booth on the sidelines of the event, which attracted key global stakeholders in the tech industry.

Kenya is set to host the 41st IASP Conference in 2024, which will be hosted by the Konza Technopolis Development Authority. This presents an excellent opportunity to showcase Kenya's tech industry and promote data protection and privacy best practices.



During the conference, the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Information, Communications, and Digital Economy, Eliud Owalo, led Kenya's delegation in receiving the IASP flag during the closing ceremony of IASPLuxembourg, signifying the official transition to Kenya as the host of the

Data Commissioner launches Data Protection Humanitarian Action Course

Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, recently opened the Data Protection Officer (DPO) Humanitarian Action Certification Course in partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Maastricht University.

The five-day training, held in Naivasha, brings together participants from Kenya, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, and Luxembourg.

The course aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure that data protection is integrated into humanitarian action. With the increasing reliance on digital technologies in humanitarian settings, it is becoming increasingly important to ensure that personal data is protected and used ethically and responsibly.

By partnering with ICRC and Maastricht University, the Data Commissioner is working to promote best practices in data protection in humanitarian action across the region. The course brings together participants from a diverse range of countries, highlighting the importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing in promoting data protection and privacy in humanitarian settings.

The Data Protection Officer Humanitarian Action Certification Course represents an important step forward in promoting data protection and privacy in humanitarian action. The Data Commissioner's partnership with ICRC and Maastricht University demonstrates her commitment to promoting best practices in data protection and privacy across Kenya and beyond.



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, launches the Data Protection Officer (DPO) Humanitarian Action Certification Course

Head of Legal participates in a panel discussion on Agile Governments at Smart Government Summit



The Head of Legal at the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, Susan Waweru on September 28 participated in a panel discussion on Agile Governments at the Smart Government Summit.

The conference, which was hosted by Konza Technopolis, brought together private sector and government stakeholders in the technology sector to drive digital transformation in government.

The panel discussion on Agile Governments focused on the importance of agility in government operations and how technology can be used to improve government services. As part of the panel, Susan Waweru shared her insights on how data protection and privacy can be integrated into agile government

practices.

With the increasing use of digital technologies in government operations, it is becoming increasingly important to ensure that personal data is protected and used ethically and responsibly.

By participating in the panel discussion on Agile Governments, the Head of Legal noted that the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner is working to promote best practices in data protection and privacy in government operations.

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner's participation in the panel discussion on Agile Governments highlights their commitment to promoting data protection and privacy in Kenya's government operations.

ODPC Officers Trained in Mediation Process and Procedure to Resolve Data-Related Complaints

A team from the Complaints, Investigation and Enforcement Directorate attended a training and sensitization program on mediation process and procedure, in collaboration with the Nairobi Centre of International Arbitration (NCIA).

The five-day training aimed to familiarize officers with how mediation works and how it can be applied in resolving complaints lodged to the office.

This training is in line with Article 159 of the Constitution, the Data Protection Act, and the Data Protection (Complaints Handling Procedure and Enforcement) Regulations 2021, which provide for the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the resolution of complaints.

Regulation 15 of the Data Protection (Complaints Handling Procedure and Enforcement) Regulations 2021 specifies that negotiation, mediation, and conciliation are applicable alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the resolution of data-related complaints lodged as per the Act.

With this training, ODPC officers will be better equipped to apply mediation in resolving complaints lodged to the office, ensuring that data-related disputes are resolved efficiently and effectively.

ODPC hosts H.E President William Samoei Ruto at exhibition booth during the Nairobi International Trade Fair



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner had the honor of hosting H.E. the President, Dr. William Samoei Ruto at their stand during the Nairobi International Trade Fair as he went around the exhibition booths.

The President graced the event and officially opened the show, which was themed "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth."

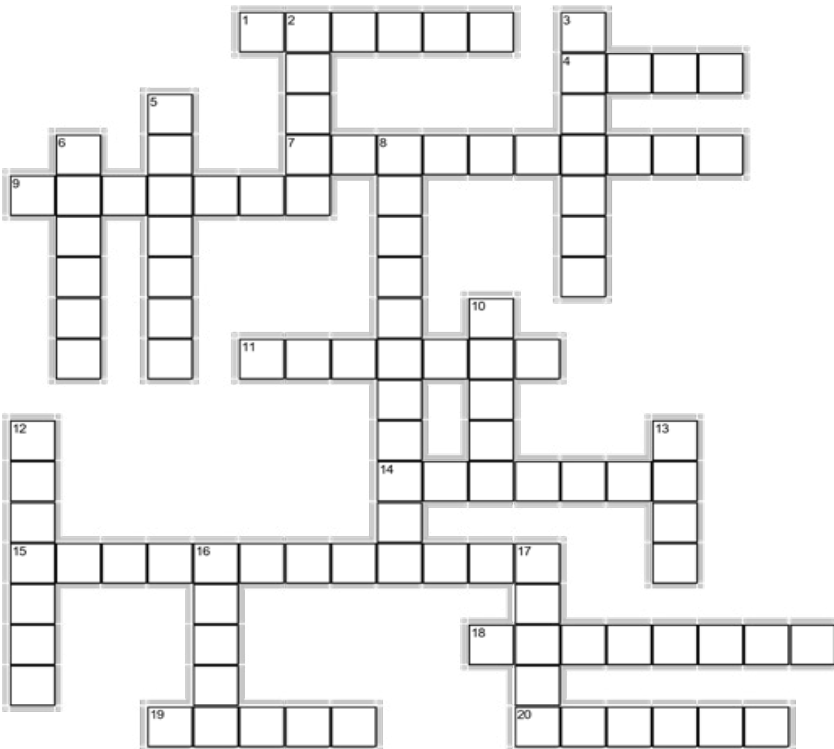
During his visit, The President lauded the ODPC for its creation awareness activities and assured the Office of his support to ensure that data protection is adhered to in the country.

This recognition from the President highlights the importance of data protection in Kenya's economic growth and development demonstrates the Government dedication to promoting data protection and privacy in Kenya.

By supporting the ODPC's efforts to promote data protection and privacy, the President is working to ensure that Kenya's digital economy is developed in a way that protects individuals' privacy rights.

The President's support for their efforts is an important step forward in ensuring that data protection is integrated into Kenya's economic growth and development.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

- 1.** someone whose job it is to advise people about laws or represent people in court
- 4.** to receive money for the work you do
- 7.** room or place in which a scientist carries out experiments
- 9.** building where goods are produced in large numbers
- 11.** man, whose job it is to stop fires
- 14.** spoken or written piece of information that you send to another person
- 15.** someone whose job it is to welcome people when they arrive at a hotel or office
- 18.** if you only work a few days of a week and not the whole week (2 words)
- 19.** all the people who work for a company or organisation
- 20.** to pay someone to work for you

Down

- 2.** to ask for a job with a written letter or email
- 3.** someone whose job it is to treat people's teeth
- 5.** someone who owns a shop that sells meat
- 6.** a job that you have for a longer time and where you can move up different levels
- 8.** a man who works in business or has a company
- 10.** money you earn based on the hours you work every week (plural)
- 12.** woman who performs in a play or a film
- 13.** piece of furniture like a table that you sit at to write and work
- 16.** someone who operates or controls an airplane
- 17.** activity of buying from and selling goods to other countries

HIGHLIGHTED STORIES

Inauguration of the Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy Sector Working Group on Policy and Legislative Reform

ODPC led by Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, attended the inauguration of the Information, Communications and the Digital Economy Sector Working Group on Policy and Legislative Reform.

The Working Group will undertake a policy & legislative review within the ICT sector, and make recommendations to ensure that there is a well-coordinated approach to the administration of national ICT priorities and align them with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).



Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait conducts comprehensive DPA training for KCB Board

The Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, MBS on 8th September conducted a comprehensive training session on the Data Protection Act for the KCB Board. The training aimed to raise awareness and educate board members on the importance of data protection and privacy compliance.

Key issues discussed during the training included safeguarding customer data, ensuring privacy compliance, and enhancing data protection measures. The training session provided a valuable opportunity for the KCB Board to learn about the Data Protection Act and how it applies to their organization.

By educating board members on data protection and privacy compliance, the training session helps to ensure that KCB is taking the necessary steps to protect customer data and maintain privacy compliance. This is especially important in today's digital age, where data breaches and privacy violations are becoming increasingly common.

ODPC Promotes Data Protection on International Day for Universal Access to Information

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner recently joined stakeholders in the ICT sector to commemorate the International Day for Universal Access to Information, which took place on September 28th, 2023.

The International Day for Universal Access to Information is an important event that highlights the importance of access to information in promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance.

Deputy Data Commissioner for Complaints, Investigation, and Enforcement, Oscar Otieno, participated in a plenary on "The Right to Access Information as an Enabler for Kenya's Digital Economic Transformation."

During the plenary session, Deputy Data Commissioner Otieno discussed how access to information can be used as an enabler for Kenya's digital economic transformation.

"As we exercise the right to information, consider minimized and purposeful access to such information. Unintended information would otherwise cause harm to an individual or entity," he said.

Mr Otieno highlighted the Office' commitment to promoting data protection and privacy as important components of access to information.



PICTORIALS



Data Commissioner led a team from ODPC during a courtesy call with Open Institute



ODPC Exhibition at the Annual LSK conference



Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy Cabinet Secretary is joined by PS, State Department of Digital Economy, John Tanui, Data Commissioner- Immaculate Kassait and Nominated MP for a photo during the launch of ODPC Mombasa Regional Office



Commissioners from Advocates Complaints Commission pays courtesy call to ODPC



ODPC Exhibition at the Kenya Investment Authority's exhibition and trade conference



ODPC participated in the 2023 Mombasa International Show themed "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives."

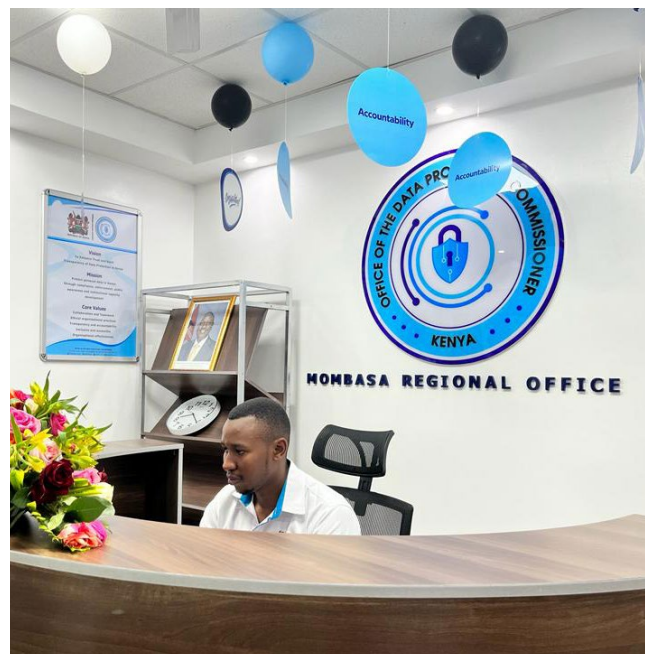


Nairobi International Trade Fair



A visit by representatives of the European Commission @EU Commission at our office to enhance the existing collaboration with ODPC.

Cabinet Secretary, Information, Communications and Digital Economy pays courtesy call to ODPC



ODPC's Mombasa Roadshow Promotes Awareness Ahead of Office Launch



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