# databulletin WEEK 35-39 | 2025 ODPC'S E-BULLETIN

NAIROBI | 19, AUGUST

# **ODPC Conducts Two-Day Sensitization Session with Commission on Administrative Justice Staff**



Commissioner (ODPC) held a two-day sensitization session on data protection for the staff of the Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ).

The engagement sought to deepen understanding of the Data Protection Act, 2019, and strengthen compliance with data protection requirements within the Commission's operations.

Through the sessions, the Office provided insights into the principles of data protection, lawful processing of personal data, data subject rights, and institutional obligations as enshrined in the law.

The Office of the Data Protection The Office emphasized the importance of continuous awareness among public institutions, noting that compliance with data protection standards not only safeguards personal information but also enhances public trust in governance institutions.

> The collaboration between ODPC and CAJ underlines a shared commitment to upholding accountability, transparency, and respect for the right to privacy. The sensitization will go a long way in equipping CAJ staff with practical knowledge on integrating data protection measures into their daily work, particularly in handling complaints, investigations, and administrative processes.

NAIROBI | 21, AUGUST

# **Digital Lenders Urged to Comply with Data Protection Amidst Rapid Growth of Digital Credit Solutions**



In light of the rapid expansion of digital credit solutions across the country, Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS has emphasized the need for digital lenders to align their operations with Kenya's Data Protection Act, 2019, and other emerging regulatory frameworks that safeguard consumer rights in the digital financial space.

During a high-level workshop focused on the evolving compliance landscape for digital lenders, convened by the Digital Financial Services Association of Kenya (DFSAK), she underscored the importance of responsible data handling, fair lending practices, and enhanced consumer protection measures.

"Digital lenders should reaffirm that protecting data is not just a legal obligation but a duty to citizens and customers," she emphasized.

Her presentation also explored areas around strengthening compliance & best practices, enhancing customer protection & transparency, and embracing Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms in resolving disputes.

"As digital lending expands, responsibility must expand with it. By embedding transparency, accountability, and strong safeguards today, the industry can build a financial ecosystem that is not only inclusive but also sustainable and rights-respecting," she said.

The workshop brought together representatives from digital lending firms, regulators, consumer groups, and other stakeholders to deliberate on compliance trends, challenges, and opportunities in the sector. It provided a platform for dialogue on balancing innovation with accountability, ensuring that digital financial services contribute positively to Kenya's socio-economic development.

MOMBASA | 22, AUGUST

# **Annual Judges Colloquium 2025: Balancing Technological Advancements with Data Protection**



During the Annual Judges Colloquium 2025, held from August 18th to 22nd, Data Commissioner Immaculate Kassait, MBS, delivered a keynote presentation titled "Digital Transformation, Technology, and the Law – Tech Justice

In her address, she emphasized the judiciary's essential role in navigating the complex intersection of technology, innovation, and legal standards, advocating for a careful balance between embracing technological advancements and protecting fundamental rights in the digital age.

She further noted that the rapid pace of digital transformation demands continuous judicial preparedness to uphold rights, ensure justice, and promote trust in digital ecosystems. She called for collaborative efforts among regulators, the judiciary, and other stakeholders to safeguard citizens' data while enabling innovation and economic growth.

The Annual Judges Colloquium brought together members of the judiciary, policymakers, and legal practitioners to deliberate on pressing legal questions shaping Kenya's digital future.



# **Cyber Shujaa Graduates to Champion Data Protection as Key Drivers of Kenya's Digital Economy**

The Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, representing the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Information, Communications and Digital Economy, delivered a keynote address during the Cyber Shujaa 5th Graduation Ceremony.

In her remarks, she lauded the graduates for their commitment to advancing cybersecurity skills and urged them to champion data protection in their daily activities, emphasizing their vital role in safeguarding Kenya's digital economy. She noted that, with the rapid growth of digital services, both data protection and cybersecurity are essential cornerstones for building public trust in technology.

"Cybersecurity professionals are at the frontline of protecting personal data, ensuring compliance, and promoting a safe digital ecosystem," she said. "As you step into this space, remember that your

skills are not just technical—they are a shield for citizens' rights to privacy and data protection."

The Cyber Shujaa program, a joint initiative between USIU-Africa, Serianu Limited, and the Kenya Bankers Association, has continued to bridge the talent gap in cybersecurity by equipping young professionals with practical and policyoriented skills.

This year's graduation comes at a time when Kenya is witnessing increased demand for data security experts amid rising cases of cyber threats and the evolving regulatory landscape.

The Data Commissioner reiterated ODPC's commitment to working with stakeholders in education, industry, and government to promote capacity building, awareness, and compliance with the Data Protection Act.

# **ODPC Engages Machakos Private Schools on Data Protection**



In a bid to on raise awareness and building the capacity of private schools to comply with the Data Protection, the ODPC Machakos Regional Office led by Principal Data Protection Officer Alphas Kakuko held a consultative meeting with the Kenya Private Schools Coordinator for Machakos County, Gladys Mutuku.

Discussions highlighted the importance of safeguarding learners' and staff data, strengthening compliance frameworks, and ensuring responsible handling of sensitive personal information within educational institutions.

Mutuku welcomed the collaboration and emphasized the need for continuous sensitization of schools across the county to foster a culture of data protection and accountability in the education sector.

The ODPC reaffirmed its commitment to supporting private schools in Machakos and beyond through targeted outreach, capacity building, and compliance guidance to ensure the protection of children's data remains a top priority.

MOMBASAS | 28, AUGUST

# **ODPC Showcases ODPC Chatbot at Africa Premier Al Conference 2025**



At the 2025 Africa Premier Al Conference, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) showcased its Linda Data Chatbot, underscoring its dedication to utilizing artificial intelligence to enhance data protection efforts and improve public interaction.

The presentation highlighted the agency's proactive approach to adopting innovative technologies in fulfilling its regulatory and service delivery roles.

The chatbot has significantly contributed to the ODPC's operations by raising public awareness about data protection, decreasing the volume of support calls, and fostering greater trust among citizens.

Additionally, its implementation has led to notable cost savings, making it a valuable tool in both enhancing efficiency and strengthening the office's engagement with the public.

ZAMBIA | 02, SEPTEMBER

# **ODPC** in Zambia for **Knowledge Exchange Program**



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) participated in a knowledge exchange program with the Zambia Data Protection Commission.

The engagement which was part of the twinning program supported by GIZ, provided an important platform to share experiences, strengthen collaboration, and build capacity with Zambia.

The engagement focused on sharing best practices, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and enhancing crossborder collaboration on data protection and privacy. This partnership underscores the commitment of both Kenya and Zambia to uphold citizens' data rights while fostering safe digital economies.

Through the program, ODPC and Zambia DPC explored areas such as compliance mechanisms, enforcement approaches, emerging technologies, and regional cooperation in data governance.

# **ODPC Showcases Commitment to Data Protection at the Mombasa International Show 2025**



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) took part in the Mombasa International Show, 2025, engaging with the public and key stakeholders on matters of data protection and compliance.

The annual event, organized by the Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK), provided a platform for institutions to interact with members of the public, promote awareness, and share knowledge.

ODPC's participation was guided by its mandate to educate Kenyans about their rights under the Data Protection Act and to encourage organizations to embrace responsible data handling practices.

During the exhibition, ODPC officers engaged visitors on issues such as registration of data controllers and processors, handling personal data responsibly, and the importance of safeguarding privacy in a digital economy. The forum also gave individuals and organizations an opportunity to seek clarification on compliance requirements, as well as share their concerns and experiences in navigating the evolving data protection landscape.

NAIROBI | 03, SEPTEMBER

### **Empowering the Next Generation** of Data Protection Professionals



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) hosted IT students from Kabete Polytechnic, Zetech University, and Murang'a University for an interactive learning session.

The students were taken through the mandate of ODPC, including the role in promoting compliance with the Data Protection Act, safeguarding individuals' personal data, and creating awareness on responsible data handling in the digital age.

Through engaging discussions and Q&A sessions, the future innovators gained practical insights on data rights, obligations of data controllers and processors, and the importance of privacy in building trust in technology.

ODPC remains committed to nurturing young minds and equipping them with the knowledge and skills to champion data protection and privacy in their careers.

ELDORET | 06, SEPTEMBER

### **ODPC at Eldoret Business Expo** 2025



The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) joined stakeholders, innovators, and entrepreneurs at the Eldoret Business Expo 2025, creating awareness on the importance of data protection and privacy in business growth.

Throughout the expo, ODPC engaged exhibitors and visitors on compliance requirements, the Data Protection Act, and the role of safeguarding personal data in building trust with customers.

The expo provided a great platform for interaction with business owners, answer questions on registration, compliance, and consumer rights, while also emphasizing how responsible data handling supports sustainable business practices.

ODPC remains committed to supporting enterprises in the North Rift and across Kenya to thrive in a data-driven economy while ensuring personal data is always protected.

KISUMU | 11, SEPTEMBER

# **Strengthening Data Protection Compliance in Kisumu**

the ODPC Kisumu Office, led by Deputy Data compliance with the Act through registration as Commissioner-Compliance, John Walubengo, data controllers and data processors conducted a registration drive and compliance clinic during the Kenya Private Schools Association (KPSA) Directors' Workshop.

In his address, the Deputy Data Commissioner - Compliance underscored the need for institutions to register with the Office and to have all the required data protection governance documents in place to ensure compliance with all the provisions of the Act.

He further reiterated the Office's commitment staff data.

In order to foster compliance on data protection, to supporting private schools in achieving

The initiative provided school directors with practical guidance on data controller and processor registration, compliance requirements, and the importance of safeguarding personal data within educational institutions.

Through this engagement, ODPC continues to build a culture of accountability and trust by ensuring that schools understand their obligations in protecting learners', parents', and



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