PROTECTING KENYAN CHILDREN ONLINE:

KEY INDUSTRY GUIDELINES
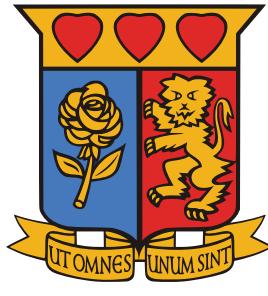
The "Why":
Child Online Protection (COP) - What is it?

Definition: Ensuring children are safe from violence, exploitation, and abuse on the internet and when using ICT products and services.

Who is a Child?
   -An individual under 18 years.

The "Threats":
Common Online Risks

➤ **Child Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (e.g. Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM), sextortion)**

➤ **Online Harassment (e.g., cyberbullying, hate speech)**

➤ **Cybercrimes (e.g., phishing, identity theft)**

➤ **Other Risks (e.g., radicalization, online addiction)**

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The "Approach": Core Principles Guiding COP

➦ **Child's Best Interest:** Primary consideration in all actions concerning children.

➦ **Shared Responsibility:** Everyone in the internet ecosystem is responsible.

➦ **Data Protection & Safety by Design:** Crucial for a safer online experience.

➦ **Multi-stakeholder Approach:** Collaboration is key.

➦ **Empowered Consumer:** Central to protection and safety.

➦ **Online Children's rights and responsibilities:** Exercise rights and use ICT products/services responsibly

➦ **Commitment to online safety:** Develop mechanisms for safer online experience for children.

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The "Who":
Who Must Comply?

- All licensees under the Kenya Information and Communications Act, 1998.
- All ICT product and service providers in the value chain.
- All ICT products and services specifically targeting children.

The "How":
Key Industry Actions

a) Organisational

↪ **Develop & publish a Child Online Protection Policy.**

↪ **Promote child-friendly products & services.**

↪ **Educate children, parents, and guardians.**

↪ **Designate a COP focal point.**

↪ **Comply with child marketing laws**

The "How":
Key Industry Actions

b) Technical

➤ **Combat Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).**

➤ **Implement Age-Verification mechanisms.**

➤ **Provide clear Reporting Structures for inappropriate content.**

➤ **Apply Data Protection & Safety by Design principles.**

➤ **Activate heightened default privacy settings.**

The "Action": Reporting & Compliance

➤ **Report Complaints:** Use service provider's process, then escalate to Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) if needed.

➤ **Compliance:** Licensees must implement guidelines within six months. CA monitors compliance.

COMPLIANCE

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