



Kenya Medical Association

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

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The **Kenya Medical Association (KMA)** was established in 1968 with the twin mandate of championing for the welfare of doctors and advocating for quality health care for all people in Kenya.

We appreciate the importance local music has in celebrating advancements in society, rebuking its ills and the general entertainment value it brings us. We recognize that our artists and musicians create this content sometimes under difficult circumstances and we support all and any efforts to protect them in securing their income. KMA even has a choir that may in future be a part of the music fraternity.

To this end we are in receipt of disturbing complaints from some of our members, of **harassment from persons purporting to be acting on behalf of Music Copyright Society of Kenya (MCSK), Performers Rights Society of Kenya (PRISK) and Kenya Association of Music Producers (KAMP)**. Our members across the country have reported receiving invoices of varied amounts from this Kamp/PRISK/MCSK entity. The invoices are also followed up with threats from persons demanding illegal fees and purporting to represent these organizations.

The worst case reported thus far is of a group of men purporting to be from MCSK/PRISK/KAMP, who stormed into the clinic of a doctor and vandalized the clinic, taking away a television set in the full glare of patients, while the doctors were attending to clients. It took the intervention of a County Commander to locate the television set after several hours. The OCS also reported that he had not authorized any of his officers to raid the clinic.

The unfortunate events witnessed by persons purporting to act for the three organizations mentioned are not consistent with the objects, vision, and mission of the said organizations. **The three organizations face reputational risk because of the behavior of the said persons.**

More importantly, whereas KMA is very supportive of musicians receiving royalties for their work, **MCSK/PRISK/KAMP should not purport to collect monies from doctors' clinics.** These are private entities whose object is not public

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entertainment. Additional levies will on medical practitioners will lead to increased cost of health care that is not collectively beneficial to us a country, and not in line with the UHC agenda.

Ownership of a television is not equivalent to public entertainment. **The KMA legal team has confirmed that a doctor's clinic is not subject to MCSK/PRISK/KAMP fees.**

This is thus to advice members of KMA as follows:

1. Members should call the police and / or other security on persons harassing them in their clinics, claiming to be MCSK/PRISK/KAMP officials.
2. Clinic owners should advise the management of buildings housing their clinics, to stop persons purporting to be from MCSK/PRISK/KAMP from accessing doctors' clinics as these are private entities, without knowledge of management and security.
3. Members should send to KMA headquarters any invoices and threatening texts from persons purporting to act for MCSK/PRISK/KAMP and harassing them, for our action.
4. Members are urged to update their subscriptions to aid the association carry out the mandate of protecting them.

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KMA will reach out to the legitimate MCSK/PRISK/KAMP officials to see how the two organizations can work for the mutual interest of the two organizations and to the benefit of the society.

Signed:



Dr Simon Kigundu

President