



OFFICE OF THE DATA PROTECTION COMMISSIONER

NAIROBI Friday, June 25, 2021

STATEMENT ON ALLEGED USE OF PERSONAL DATA IN REGISTRATION TO POLITICAL PARTIES WITHOUT CONSENT

The attention of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner has been drawn to reports of alleged processing (including the collection and use) of personal data belonging to members of the public for registration to various political parties without their consent.

As of 24th of June 2021, the Office of the Data Commissioner had received over 200 complaints from aggrieved individuals who had been registered to various political parties without their consent. The Office has since held a meeting with the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties to establish the status and resolved that the names of the complainants are to be deregistered by political parties.

My Office will continue to engage with the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties, Political Parties and other Data Controllers and Processors to ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act, 2019.

This Office notes that the effective implementation of the Data Protection laws is a key step towards ensuring that Kenya has a robust, thriving and secure digital economy. To this end, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner will embark on awareness creation and development of sector specific guidelines in consultation with Data Controllers and Data Processors.

The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner acknowledges those who have already taken action to exercise their rights under the Act, by filing a complaint form. The Office calls for patience from those aggrieved and assures the public that the Office is taking steps to ensure that the rights of data subjects pursuant to the Act are respected and protected.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Immaculate Kassait', written in a cursive style.

**IMMACULATE KASSAIT, MBS
DATA PROTECTION COMMISSIONER**