



# KENYA COPYRIGHT BOARD



## PRESS STATEMENT

8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### STATEMENT ON THE STATUS OF COLLECTIVE MANAGEMENT ORGANISATIONS LICENSES

The Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO) is a State Corporation established under Section 3 of the Copyright Act. The Board's mandate includes licensing and supervising the activities of Collective Management Organizations.

The Kenya Copyright Board issued a six-month provisional license to three CMOs namely the Music Copyright Society of Kenya (MCSK), Kenya Association of Music Producers (KAMP) and Performers Rights Society of Kenya (PRISK) on November 8, 2023.

On April 10, 2024, The KECOBO Board of Directors, after reviewing the performances of the three CMOs, decided to issue a call for new license applications in a bid to involve all the stakeholders. The new licenses were intended to be effective from May 9, 2024.

As at April 24 2024, The Board had received applications from five organizations namely Music Copyright Society of Kenya (MCSK), Kenya Association of Music Producers (KAMP), Collective Management Services (CMS) Ltd, Performing and Audiovisual Rights Society of Kenya (PAVRISK) – (formerly PRISK) Ltd and Film Maker Rights Achievers of Kenya (FRAK) Ltd.

On March 28, 2024, an interested party filed a petition at the High Court of Kenya at Nairobi, Petition No. E167 of 2023. The High Court issued orders restraining KECOBO from issuing operating licenses to the CMOs pending the hearing and determination of the petition. On April 30, 2024, the court extended those orders to May 30, 2024.

As such, we wish to notify the public that the provisionnal licenses issued in November 2023 have lapsed as of today. Consequently, **the CMOs have been informed to cease operations until their licenses or new licenses are issued** once the High Court issues its decision on May 30, 2024.

Meanwhile, KECOBO has received written submissions in response to its advertisement from stakeholder on the suitability of the five CMOs which applied for license. The KECOBO secretariat is preparing a report based on the applications and written submissions of stakeholders in preparation for a physical public participation forum to be held in Nairobi later this month.

This is therefore to request stakeholders and artists for patience until the process is concluded.

Issued by

Hon. Joshua Kutuny  
Chairman

KECOBO Board of Directors