



# KENYA COPYRIGHT BOARD



## **ADVISORY ON PIRACY OF COPYRIGHT CONTENT ONLINE AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

The Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO) has received complaints from several entities concerning the infringement of their works through social media platforms. Though there are signs of similar activities in other social media platforms including Telegram, it is most rampant on Facebook and WhatsApp platforms.

Information available indicates that several Facebook and WhatsApp groups have been formed for the sole purpose of sharing popular TV content, movies and pirate subscription codes. There are also persons offering pirate PDF or soft copies of books. There also exist websites offering illegal pirate streams affecting football content as well.

This is to inform the public that these acts constitute an infringement under the Copyright Act more particularly the exclusive making available right and offering for sale and rental infringing Copyright works.

**BE WARNED** that under the Copyright Act, any person found committing the above offences shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 500,000 or to imprisonment to a term not exceeding four years or both.

KECOBO, in conjunction with the Communication Authority of Kenya and working closely with the social media platforms has commenced investigations on the incidences with a view to close down and pursue legal actions against owners of those social media accounts. Infringement of Copyright (piracy) attracts both criminal and civil liability for the owners of those pirate social media accounts.

This is, therefore, to alert the public of the ongoing pirate activities and warn them against participation as those activities undermine respect for Intellectual Property and rights of artists to make a decent living from their creative works. It exposes one to theft of personal information and supports illegal causes.

Meanwhile, KECOBO welcomes any information that may lead to the arrest of the perpetrators on the addresses indicated on this advisory. You can get us on our **hotline number 0703885033** or **info@copyright.go.ke**

Issued by: **Edward Sigei**

**Executive Director**

**Kenya Copyright Board (KECOBO)**

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