



# Press Release

## KEPSA APPLAUDS THE PRESIDENT ON THE COMMITMENT TO COMBATING CORRUPTION AND URGES ITS MEMBERS TO CONTINUE UPHOLDING ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES

**NAIROBI, Kenya Monday, May 22, 2023:** The Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) has reaffirmed its commitment to the promotion of ethical business practices and to combating corruption and bribery in Kenya.

As in the past, the companies and organizations mentioned in all the mega corruption in government are not known KEPSA members unless any is using other names. We continue to emphasize to our members to uphold high standards of fidelity to the Business Code of Ethics they signed with us under the UN Global Compact and to continuously promote self-regulation in their sectors and work with us to weed out those who are doing unethical business.

KEPSA has been at the front of fighting corruption in Kenya including initiating the development of the Bribery Bill and sponsoring it through Parliament for passing into law. We also joined efforts with the government under the multi-agency initiative in the fight against illicit trade involving counterfeits and substandard goods and services between 2018 and 2020.

We would like, therefore, to applaud the president and the steps he has taken on the two heinous economic and health crimes against the people of Kenya involving corruption in the procurement of mosquito nets meant to safeguard millions of Kenyan households against the deadly malarial disease as well as the irregular release of 500 metric tons of imported industrial sugar that was already condemned by the Kenya Bureau of Standards to have been contaminated with harmful bacteria. These cases must be audited diligently and urgently and all those found to be culpable should be prosecuted.

The sugar industry in Kenya possesses huge investment and job creation opportunities given the huge deficit between local production of 660 thousand metric tons against a projected shelf demand of 1.2 million metric tons that has encouraged annual importation to plug the deficit. In the short term, it is prudent that we streamline the importation process of sugar to ensure the final consumers enjoy sustainable prices even as we implement measures to bolster local production of the commodity.

We thank the government and the Ministry of Trade Investments and Industry for their dedication towards addressing the value chains inefficiencies in the sector in order to ensure we become self-sufficient and net exporters of the basic commodity.

Finally, KEPSA states emphatically that it remains proud of its involvement in creating conducive business environment and implementation of programs that have continually supported investments and jobs and will continue through its public-private dialogues (PPDs) to engage the government and other stakeholders in increasing Kenya's global competitiveness to support jobs creation, economic growth and inclusive prosperity.

**ENDS.../**

**Signed:**

**Carole Kariuki, E.B.S, M.B.S, H.S.C**

**Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Private Sector Alliance**

## ABOUT KEPSA

The Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) is the apex body of the private sector in Kenya. KEPSA brings together business associations, trade associations, corporates, multinational companies, SMEs and start-ups from all sectors of the economy under one umbrella to enable them to speak with one voice when engaging Government and other stakeholders on cross-cutting policy issues affecting private sector development, supporting businesses on training, opportunities to network for business, financial linkages, mentoring, access to markets, value chains and access to investment opportunities. The membership categories have been developed to meet the size of all businesses.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.kepsa.or.ke>



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