

Policy Milestones

Issue 13, 2019

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Stakeholders engage Water CS on effluent management



Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation CS, Mr Simon Chelugui speaking during the National Stakeholder Forum on Industrial Effluent Management

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, in collaboration with KAM hosted the National Stakeholder Forum on Industrial Effluent Management on 6th September 2019.

The forum brought together industry players and relevant stakeholders from government, private sector and civil society, to collectively develop policy solutions to address effluent management compliance in the country.

Water CS, Mr Simon Chelugui noted that the government is exploring global best practices on once polluted water body systems such as Thames River to domesticate the same approaches to mitigate Nairobi River Basin Pollution. *"The government is also creating awareness among citizens on the value of safe water resources for social, economic and environmental health,"* he added.

Industries cited that unclear environmental compliance guidelines and dilapidated state of infrastructure are among the impediments towards effective effluent management compliance. Manufacturers stated that there is a duplication of roles among government institutions mandated to regulate environmental issues, lack of clarity on permits needed for effluent management and lack of feedback/ advice on annual Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) by relevant authorities.

KAM Head of Policy, Research and Advocacy, Mr Job Wanjohi noted, "Industrial demand for water has been increasing depicting growing economic activities in the country. However, its management remains critical, especially the wastewater arising from economic activities. On the other hand, we are aware of the challenges that industries and businesses face on wastewater management."

As part of this initiative, industry players also engaged NEMA, on 30th August 2019, to discuss the challenges they face in the management of effluent.

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KAM MEETS THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

KAM met the State Department of Industry to discuss sector-specific postbudget proposals following the outcome of the 2019 National and the East African Community Budget Proposals.

Speaking during the meeting, KAM Research and Fiscal Policy Manager, Dr. Simon Githuku noted that the budget-making process is a key step towards enabling industry to drive global competitiveness and increase the sector's contribution to the GDP to 15% by 2022 as outlined in the President's the Big 4 Agenda.

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KAM Chair, Mr. Sachen Gudka and CEO, Ms. Phyllis Wakiaga participate in the Kenya Business Forum held during TICAD 7 in Tokyo, Japan.



KAM engages Nairobi County Executives during the County Dialogue Forum.

KAM, E-Commerce players partner to spur growth of Manufacturing SMEs





KAM Board Director and SME Hub Chair, Ms. Ciiru Waithaka engages Jumia Kenya Managing Director, Mr. Sam Chappatte during the E-Commerce Forum, dubbed E-Power Forum.

Participants follow proceedings during the E-Power Forum.

Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) has partnered with e-commerce players in the country to boost the access of manufacturing SMEs to local and international markets through e-commerce.

E-commerce uptake in Kenya still remains low despite its immense benefits. The partnership, therefore, seeks to promote the uptake of e-commerce by SMEs to enable them to gain access to global markets and new international customers and reinventing their business models to align with changing technologies.

Speaking at the inaugural event, KAM Board Member and SME Hub Chair, Ms Ciiru Waithaka noted that the increased attention on SME growth, both at a national and global scale, points to a reckoning that the future of business hinges on their success.

"The unique and dynamic nature of SMEs in the manufacturing sector calls for an adaptive approach in developing policies and interventions that most importantly centres their needs and proposed solutions in the process. Our partnership will enable us to develop locally rooted, user-driven e-commerce solutions for manufacturing SMEs to drive their global competitiveness. It is through partnerships such as these that we can grow small and medium industries to be substantial players in our country's vision for sustainable economic growth," she added.

Jumia Kenya Managing Director, Mr Sam Chappatte noted that despite good internet connectivity, Kenya's e-commerce uptake still remains low. "Our mission is to leverage technology to grow markets and build marketplaces that solve everyday problems. E-commerce is a fast-growing, low-cost sales channel. We are excited to partner with KAM to support SME growth," he added.

Also present at the forum, DHL Express Kenya Country Manager, Mr Andrew Mutuma noted that, "International e-commerce is growing at a remarkable pace, and we want our Kenyan businesses to grab their share of the market – that means adding value to their e-commerce proposition. We're convinced that cross-border e-commerce has a huge upside that many merchants – B2C and B2B – have not yet tapped. As the international express provider of choice for e-commerce customers, our aim is to support web sellers as they go global."

On the other hand, Amari Consulting Co-founder, Ms Abigail Bundi noted that the e-commerce space has radically changed the way of doing business globally.

The E-commerce players include Amari Consulting, Jumia Kenya and DHL Express, Grofin Kenya and Amitruck.

KAM recently launched a Manufacturing SME Hub geared towards uplifting micro, small and medium businesses in value addition towards achieving the 15% targeted growth of the sector by 2022. The Hub aims to work with partners to develop frameworks that wil nurture and encourage SME growth.

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

Dear Member,

Thank you for your support and partnership in advocating for competitive and sustainable manufacturing sector.

In order to best serve you, kindly share any issue(s) you are facing by clicking on the feedback form below.

FEEDBACK FORM

Thank you.

Regards, KAM Team

CONTACT US



15 Mwanzi Road, Westlands, Opp. Westgate Shopping Mall



www.kam.co.ke



info@kam.co.ke



@kam_kenya



Kenya Association of Manufacturers



Kenya Association of Manufacturers

KAM, KMJA partner to develop Company Law Guidebook



KAM CEO Phyllis Wakiaga (R) with KMJA Chair Lady Justice Jacqueline Kamau during the MoU signing ceremony for the development of the Company Law Guidebook.

KAM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kenya Magistrates and Judges Association (KMJA) for the development of the Company Law Guidebook, which seeks to:

- Ease the process and increase the speed of determining cases on the Companies Act and the Insolvency Act.
- Reduce the time and burden of reading through the voluminous provisions of the Companies Act and the Insolvency Act.

- To enhance awareness on the provisions of the laws.
- To provide an easy to read document on the environment of company law in Kenya.
- Support compliance in the private sector with company law requirements and support investor confidence.

We shall continue to update our members on the progress of the development of the Guidebook.

TOP 2 POLICY ISSUES IN THE MEDIA

1. SGR

- Business Daily: <u>Truckers</u> protest order to transport all cargo through SGR
- The Standard: Fact Checker: Transporters right to blame SGR for job losses
- 2. County fees and charges
- Daily Nation: <u>Manufacturers</u> fault City Hall over proposed higher levies
- Soko Directory: <u>Manufacturers engage County</u> <u>Government on Inter-county</u> <u>Trade Challenges</u>