INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OF KENYA BILL, 2010

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

CHAPTER 1	2
INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS	
1.Definitions	2
CHAPTER II	3
INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OF	KENYA 3
Establishment of Independent Communications Commission	n of Kenya
	3
4. Functions of Commission	4
Constitution of and appointment of Commission lors to Com	
Disqualification	<u>6</u> 5
7. Terms of office	7
9 Domoval from office	97
9. Vacancies	9
10. Remuneration	10
11. Meetings of Commission	10
12. Conflicting interests	<u>11</u> 10
12. Conflicting interests 13. Validity of proceedings 14. Staff	<u>12</u> 11
14. Staff	12
15. Financing of and accounting by Commission	13
16. Annual report	13
CHAPTER III	
COMMITTEES	14
CHAPTER IV	
TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS	
Transfer of staff	
FIRST SCHEDULE	
LAWS AMENDED OR REPEALED	<u>18</u> 17
MEMORANDUM OF ORIECTS AND REASONS	10

THE INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OF **KENYA BILL, 2010**

A Bill for

AN ACT of Parliament To provide for the establishment of the Independent Communications Commission of Kenya; to provide for the dissolution of the Communications Commission of Kenya; to transfer the functions of the Communications Commission of Kenya to the Independent Communications Commission of Kenya; to amend the Media Act 2007, The Information and Communications Act, 1998 and to provide for matters connected therewith.

PREAMBLE

Recognizing that technological advancements has resulted in the convergence in the fields of broadcasting, information technology and telecommunications, are with us due to technological advancements;

Acknowledging that the establishment of an independent body to regulate the airwaves Formatted: Right: -0.31" and other forms of signal distribution broadcasting and telecommunications is required in compliance with the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

ENACTED by Parliament of Kenya, as follows —

PARTCHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

1.Definitions

1. In this Act, unless the context indicates otherwise, any word or expression defined in the Information and Communications Act,1998 has the meaning assigned to it in the Act and:

"Commission" means the Independent Communications Commission of Kenya established by section 3;

"effective date" means the date determined as such by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;

"former Commission" means the Communications Commission of Kenya established under section 3 of the Information and Communications Act;

"family member", in relation to any person, means his or her parent, child or spouse, and includes a person living with that person as if they were married to each other;

"Minister" means the Minister for the time being in charge of Information and Communications;

"Consolidated Fund" means the Fund referred to in section 213 of the Constitution

"prescribe" means prescribe by regulation;

"President" means the President of the Republic;

"Information and Communications Act" means the Information and Communications Act, 1998 (Act No. 2 of 1998);

"This Act" includes any regulation made under the Information and Communications Act;

2. Object of Act

2. The object of this Act is to establish an independent Commission which is

- (a) is independent of control by government, political Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + commercial interests;
- (b) reflects the interests of all sections of the society;
- (c) sets media standards and regulate and monitor complia with those standards as required by section 34 of Constitution
- (d) regulate telecommunications in the public interest; and
- (e) Achieve the objects contemplated in the Act.

PARTCHAPTER II

INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION **KENYA**

Establishmen 3. (1) There is hereby established a juristic

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t of Independent Communicati Commission of Kenya

Independent Communications Commission of Kenya.

- (2) The Commission shall be a body corporate with perpetual succes Formatted: Font: (Default) Garamond, Font and a common seal and shall in its corporate name, be capable of :
 - (a) suing and being sued;
 - (b) acquiring, holding, charging and disposing of movable and immovable property; and
 - (c) doing or performing all such other things or acts for the discharge of its functions under this Act.
- (2)(3) The Commission acts through the Chairman as contemplate section 5.
- (3)(4) The Commission is independent, and subject only to Constitution and the law, and must be impartial and must perforn functions without fear, favour or prejudice.
- (4)(5) The Commission must function without any political or comme interference.

Functions of Commission

- 4.(1) The Commission
- (a) must perform the duties imposed upon the former Commission b Formatted: Font: 9 pt under the Act;
- (b) may exercise and continue the exercise of the powers conferred u the former Commission by or under the Act;
- subject to section 2 and CHAPTER 4, Part 2 of the Constitution, r act in a manner that is consistent with the obligations of the Repu under any applicable international agreement.
- (2) The Commission is subject to the Public Finance Management 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999).

5. Constitution of and appointment of Commissioners rs to Commission

- 5. (1) The Commission consists of seven Commissioners lors appointed the President on the recommendation of the Public Commission National Assembly according to the following principles: namely
- (a) The Minister in consultation with the Public Service Commission

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within seven days of the commencement of this Act, by notice in

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applications.	Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.25", No bullets or numbering	
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(i) qualified person; or	Formatted: Justified, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25", Don't hyphenate, Tab stops: 1", Left	
(ii) person, organization or group of persons proposing nomination of any qualified person;	Formatted: Font: (Default) Garamond, Font color: Black	
(c) The Public Service Commission shall consider the application interview and shortlist at least two persons qualified for appointment	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: i, ii, iii, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.5" + Indent at: 0.75", Hyphenate	
chairperson and nine persons who qualify for appointment as memb	Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.75", No bullets or numbering, Hyphenate	
Gazette, appoint the chairperson and members approved and forware by the Public Service Commission.participation by the public in	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: i, ii, iii, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.5" + Indent at: 0.75", Hyphenate	
nomination process;	Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.5", No bullets or numbering, Hyphenate	
(a) the publication of a shorthist of candidates for appointments, with	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25"	
	Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.25", No bullets or numbering	
a. (a) The President must appoint one of the Commissioner chairperson of the Commission . i-(2) In the absence of the chairperson, the remaining Commissioners of the chairperson in the chairpe	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25"	
from their number elect on acting chairmances, who while he are the	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25"	
b.(3) Persons appointed to the Commission must be persons who (2)(a) are committed to fairness, freedom of expressions open	Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25"	
and accountability on the part of those entrusted with	Formatted: No bullets or numbering	
governance of a public service; and	Formatted: Indent: Left: 0"	
(3)(b) when viewed collectively—	Formatted	
(S)(D) when the wed concedively	Formatted	
are representative of a broad cross section of	Formatted	
population of the Republic; and	Formatted	
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b-(ii) possess suitable qualifications, expertise and experi Formatted: Numbered + Level: 2 + in the fields of, amongst others, broadcasting telecommunications policy, engineering, technol after: 1.25" + Indent at: 1.25" frequency spectrumband planning, law, marketing, journalismmedia, entertainment economics, business practice related expertise or qualifications.

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- (4) A Commissioner appointed under this section shallmust, before he or she begins to perform his or her functions, take an oath or affirm that he or
 - is committed to fairness, freedom of express openness and accountability; and
 - will uphold and protect the Constitution and laws of the Republic, including this and other Acts.

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6.Disqualification

- 6. (1) A person may not be appointed as a Commissioner if he or she
 - (a) is not a citizen of the Republic;
 - (b) is a public servant or the holder of any other remuner position under the State;
 - (c) is a member of Parliament, any provincial county legislate local authority or any municipal Commission state official
 - (d) is an office-bearer or employee of any party, movemen organization of a party political nature:
 - (e) or his or her family member has a direct or indirect finar interest in the telecommunications or broadcas industrysector;
 - (f) or his or her business partner or associate holds an office or with, or is employed by, any person or body, whe corporate or unincorporated, which has an inte contemplated in paragraph (f);
 - (g) is an un-discharged bankrupt;
 - (h) has been declared by a court to be mentally ill or disorder

- (i) has at any time been convicted, whether in the Republi Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + elsewhere, of-
- (i) theft, fraud, forgery or uttering a forged document, per an offence in terms of the Anti-Corruption and Econo Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + Crimes Act, 2003 (Act No. 94 of 2003), or any other offe involving dishonesty; or
- (k) an offence under this Act or the underlying statutes;
- has been sentenced to a period of imprisonment of not than one year without the option of a fine; or
- (m) has at any time been removed from an office of trust account of misconduct.
- (2) A person who is subject to a disqualification contemplated in subsec (1) (b) to (i) may be nominated for appointment as a Commissioner but may only be appointed if at the time of such appointment he or is no longer subject to that disqualification

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7. Terms of office

- Formatted: Font: 9 pt 7. (1) The chairperson holds office for a period of five years as from the date of his or her appointment
- (2) the other Commissioners hold office for a period of four years as f the date of their appointment
- A Commissioner may at any time, upon written notice tendered to President, resign from office.
- Despite subsections (1) and (2), the Commissioner remain in office expiry of their term of office until the commencement of the tern office of their successors, but the extended term of office may exceed 45 days
- (5) A Commissioner may at the end of his or her term of office Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + reappointed in terms of section 5 for one additional term.
- (6) Every Commissioner serves in a full-time capacity to the exclusion any other remunerative employment, occupation or office which is li to-

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- (a) interfere with the exercise by any such Commissioner o or her functions in terms of this Act or other law; or
- (b) create a conflict of interests between such employm occupation or office and his or her office as Commission

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8. Removal from office

- 8. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a Commissioner may be removed f office on account of—
 - (a) a serious violation of the Constitution or any other law including a contravention of Chapter Six of the Constitut
 - (b) gross misconduct, whether in the performance of the member's or office holder's functions or otherwise inabil to perform the duties of his or her office efficiently;
 - (c) absence from three consecutive meetings of the Commis without the permission of the Commission, except on g cause shown;
 - (d) physical or mental incapacity to perform the functions of office:
 - (e) incompetence; or
 - (f) Bankruptcy
 - (g) a contravention of section 7(6);
 - (h) failure to disclose an interest in terms of section 12(2)(a voting or attendance at, or participation in, proceeding the Commission while having an interest contemplate section 12(1); or
 - his or her becoming disqualified as contemplated in sec 6(1).
 - Commissioner may be removed from office only on
 - a finding to that effect by the National Assembly; and
 - the adoption by the National Assembly

The President-

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calling for that Commissioner's removal from office.

may suspend a Commissioner from office at any

9. Vacancies

9. (1) A vacancy in the Commission occurs if a Commissioner —

court, who shall be the chairperson;

of the particular ground for removal.

person suspended under this Article is entitled

tribunal shall investigate the matter expeditiously.

facts and make a binding recommendation to the President,

act in accordance with the recommendation within thirty days

one-half of the remuneration and benefits of the office while sus

Supreme Court judges; and

least two persons who are qualified to be appointed

one other member who is qualified to assess the facts in res

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- (a) becomes subject to a disqualification referred to in section 6;
- (b) tenders his or her resignation as contemplated in section 7(3) the resignation takes effect;
- (c) is removed from office in terms of section 8;
- (d) dies; or
- (e) becomes permanently incapable of doing his or her work.
- (2) (a) Where a vacancy has arisen as contemplated in subsection (1) procedure contemplated in section 5 applies.

Commissioner appointed under the rest of the period of the predecessor's term National Assembly directs that such Commissioner holds office a longer period which may not exceed four years.

10.Remuneration

10. The Cehairperson and other Commissioners must shall be paid remuneration and allowances and be entitled to such benefits as the Min Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Tab may determine with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, subject after: 0.5" + Indent at: 0.5" any applicable national legislation envisaged by Section 230 of Formatted: Font: 9 pt Constitution.

11. Meetings of Commission

11. (1) (a) Meetings of the Commission must shall be held at such times Formatted: Font: 9 pt, Bold places as the Commission may determine.

- (b) However, the first meeting must be held at such time and place Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + the Cehairperson determines.
- (2) (a) The Cehairperson may at any time convene a special meeting of Commission, which must be held at such time and place as Cehairperson determines.
 - (b) If at least three Commissioners request a special meeting in writering in write the chairperson must shall convene such a meeting within se days after receiving the request.
 - (c) If the Cehairperson fails to convene a special meeting within se

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days after receiving the request, the Commissioners concerned may convene a special meeting

(3) The quorum for any meeting of the Commission is a majority of Commissioners in office at the time.

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(4) (a) Subject to subsection (3), a decision of the Commission is taken resolution agreed to by the majority of Commissioners lors at meeting of the Commission.

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(b) In the event of an equality of votes regarding any matter chairperson has a casting vote in addition to his or her delibera vote.

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Conflict intereste

Formatted: Font: 9 pt 12. (1) (a) (a) A Commissioner lor may not vote at, attend or in any of Formatted: Font: 9 pt

manner participate in, any meeting or hearing of the Commission-, nor be present at the place where the meeting is held if-

(b) in relation to an application relating to a licence, he or she of Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.45", No bullets or or her family member is a director, member or business partne numbering associate of or has an interest in the business of the applicant or of any person who made representations in relation to the application;

(bc) in relation to any matter before the Commission, he or she Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.45", No bullets or any interest which may preclude him or her from performing hi numbering her functions as a Commission lor in a fair, unbiased and proper

(2) (a) If, during the course of any proceedings before the Commiss Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + there is reason to believe that a Commission<u>er lor</u> has any interpretation of the course of any proceedings before the Commission of the contemplated in subsection (1), that Commissioner must immedia 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" fully disclose the nature of his or her interest and leave the meeting or hearing in question so as to enable the remaining Commissioners to discuss the matter and determine whether or not that Commissioner should be allowed to participate in the proceedings.

(b) The disclosure, and the decision taken by the *remair Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Commissioner, must be recorded in the minutes of the proceed in question.

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(3) If any Commissioner lor fails to disclose any interest as required Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after:

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manner

subsection (2) or, subject to that subsection, if he or she is present at the place where a meeting of the Commission is held or in any manner participates in the proceedings of the Commission, the relevant proceedings of the Commission shall be null and void.

(4) A Commissioner-lor is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + fine not exceeding Kshs24,000,000R250 000 or to imprisonment f Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 2 + period not exceeding five years, or to both such fine and imprisonm 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" if he or she-

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- (a) contravenes subsection (1); or
- (b) fails to disclose any interest or fails to leave the meeting hearing as required by subsection (2).

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13. Validity of proceedings

13. Subject to section 12, a decision taken by the Commission or an performed under that decision is not invalid merely by reason of-

- (a) any irregularity in the appointment of a Commissioner,
- (b) a vacancy in the Commission; or

(c) the fact that any person not entitled to sit as a Commissione: as such at the time when the decision was taken provided decision was taken by a majority of the Commissioners pre at the time and entitled so to sit, and those Commissioner the time constituted a quorum.

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14. Staff to

14. (1) The Commission must shall establish its own administration to a Formatted: Font: 9 pt, Bold the Commission in the performance of its functions and to this end the Commission must shall appoint—

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(a) a suitably qualified and experienced person designated Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 +Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.5" + Tab after:

- Secretary the Director-General to the Commission or other as the chief executive officer of the Commission for 0.75" + Indent at: 0.75" purpose of assisting the Commission—, subject to the Commission's direction and control, in the performance of all financial, administrative and clerical functions and work arising from the administration of this Act; and
- (b) such other staff as the Commission may deem necessar assist the Commission with all such work as may arise thro Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.5" + Tab after:

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the performance of its functions.

- (2) The Commission shallmust, in the appointment of its staff—
 - (a) provide for the advancement of persons disadvantaged 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" unfair discrimination, with the aim that its staff, when vie collectively represents a broad cross-section of the popula Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + of the Republic
 - (b) subject to paragraph (a), apply equal opportunity employn Formatted: Numbered + Level: 3 + practices.

(3) The Commission may pay to the persons in its employ s remuneration and allowances and provide them with such pension Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 2 + other employment benefits as the Minister Commission may detern Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: ster of Finance, and subject to any applicable national legislation envisaged by section 230 of the Constitution.

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15. Financing of and accounting by Commission

- 15. (1) The funds of the Commission shall be as envisaged in Section 1 Formatted: Font: 9 pt the Information and Communications Act, No. 2 of 1998Commission is financed from money appropriated by Parliament.
- (2) The chief executive officer contemplated in section 14(1)(a) is Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + accordance with section 36 of the Public Finance Management Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Tab after: 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999), the accounting officer of the Commis 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" and charged with the responsibilities referred to in that Act which include, amongst others, responsibilities regarding auditing, financial control, budgetary control and reporting

All revenue received by the Commission in a manner other tha Formatted: No bullets or numbering rdance with subsection (1) must be paid into the Consolidated Fund within 30 days after receipt of such revenue.

16. Annual report

16. (1) The Commission shallmust—

(a) supply the Minister with an annual report of the operation Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + the Commission for the immediately preceding year or

information and particulars as he or she may in writing requir 0.75" + Indent at: 0.75" connection with the activities of the Commission; and

(b) as soon as may be reasonably practicable after the end of Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + financial year but in any event within three months of the en the financial year, supply the Minister with a copy of—

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the annual report of the Commission;

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- (2) For purposes of this section, the annual report referred to in subsec (1)(b)(i) must include, amongst others—
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 - (a) information regarding licences granted, renewed, amen transferred, suspended or revoked; and
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 - (b) such other information in connection with Commission as the Minister may in writing require.
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- (3) The Minister must shall table a copy of the annual report in Parlian Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + within 30 days after it has been received by him or her if Parliamer then sitting and, if Parliament is not in sitting, within 14 days after 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" next ensuing sitting of Parliament,

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PART CHAPTER III

COMMITTEES

17. Standing and special committees

17. (1) The Commission may establish standing committees or sp Formatted: Font: 9 pt committees for such purposes as the Commission may deem necessary a view to assisting it in the effective exercise and performance of its po and duties.

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- Each committee established in terms of this section must consist of
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- (a) one or more Commissioners designated by the Commission; and
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- (b) such additional members as the Commission may determine.
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- (3) The additional members referred to in subsection (2)(b) must persons who—
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 - (a) are not subject to any disqualification contemplated in sec 6(1)(d) to (i); and
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- (b) on account of their expertise, qualifications and experience suited to serve on the relevant committee.

(4) The Commission must shall appoint the chairperson of each comm Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + from the Commissioners designated in terms of subsection (2)(a).

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(5) A committee must shall perform such functions as may be delegated assigned to it.

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(6) The meetings of a committee (including any special meetings) be convened by the chairperson, who determines the procedure at meeting.

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(7) Section 11 is applicable, with the necessary changes, as regards meetings of any committee.

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(8) The members of any committee, who are not Commissioners members of the staff of the Commission-must shall be paid remuneration and allowances as the Commission may determines.

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PART CHAPTER IV

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

18. Dissolution of CCK and first meeting of the Commission

18. (1) The CCK is hereby dissolved with effect from the effective date.

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(2) (a) The Commissioners <u>Directors Board</u> of the <u>former</u> Commis Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + referred to in section 3 (2) of the Information and Communications 1998 remain in office until immediately before the commencemen 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" the first meeting of the Commission.

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the prospect of further employment of that person

If the Commission lor is not satisfied with any offer made to Minister, the matter must be referred to arbitration in terms Arbitration Act, 1995

(3) The first meeting of the first Commission constituted in terms section 5 must be held within three months of the effective date.

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19. Transfer of staff

19. (1) (a) Every person appointed under section 14 of the Information Formatted: Font: 9 pt Communications Act, 1998 who is in the service of the CCK immediately before the effectivestablishment date, is, as from that date, hereby transferred to the service of the Commission

- (b) Every person so transferred must be regarded as having been appoint in terms of section 14.
- (2) The remuneration and other terms and conditions of service of person transferred as contemplated in subsection (1) may not be favourable than the remuneration terms and conditions applicable that person immediately before the effective date, and he or she entitled to all rights, benefits and privileges to which he or she entitled immediately before that date, including, where applicable
 - (a) membership of a pension fund;
 - (b) membership of a medical aid scheme;
 - (c) employer contributions in connection with the members contemplated in paragraphs (a) and (b);
 - (d) accrued pensionable service;
 - (e) accrued leave benefits; and
 - (f) retirement at a specific age.
- (3) Any person transferred to the service of the Commission as contemplated in subsection (1), who immediately before such transfe was a member of a pension fund of the former Commission, remains member of that pension fund upon such transfer despite any provisit to the contrary in any law or in the rules of that pension fund and the

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Commission must contribute to the pension fund in respect of that person to the same extent as an employer is required in terms of the laws and rules regulating that pension fund to contribute in respect of an employee who is a member of that fund.

20. Transfer of obligations

20. (1) All assets, rights, liabilities and obligations which, immediately before the effective date, vest in the former Commission pass to the Commission on that date.

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- (2) The registrar of deeds must make the necessary entries or endorsements for the transfer of any property in terms of subsection (1), and no transfer fee, office fee or other charge is payable in respect of that entry or endorsement.
- (3) All licences issued, rights granted and undertakings given by the former Commission by or under the underlying statutes shall be deemed to must be regarded to have been issued, granted or given by the Commission.

21. Legal proceedings

- 21. (1) Any application, proceedings or similar matter pending before the Formatted: Font: 9 pt former Commission at the effective date must be dealt with by the Commission under the relevant law.
- (2) Any order, ruling or direction made or given by the former Commiss Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + immediately before the effectivestablishment date must be regarded having been made or given by the Commission.

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22. Legality of acts

- 22. (1) Anything done before the commencement of this Act under or in Formatted: Font: 9 pt terms of a provision repealed or amended by this Act must be regarded, unless clearly inappropriate, to have been done under or in terms of the corresponding provision of this Act.
- Any reference to the former Commission in any law must be regarde Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + unless clearly inappropriate, to be a reference to the Commission.

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- 3) The Commission is the legal successor of the former Commission in the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Act and any other prior law relating to the regulation of broadcasting and telecommunications, the provisions of this Act prevail.
- Amendments
- 23. The Several written laws specified in the First Column of the sixth First Sechedule are amended, in the provisions thereof specified in the Second

to Statute Law

column, in the manner respectively specified in the Third Column.

FIRST SCHEDULE

LAWS AMENDED OR REPEALED

First Column Second Column Year of law and Number 1998, Act Number 2

Third Column Extent of Amendment or Repea

(1) The amendment of section 1 by the substitution for the definitions of the following definitions, respectively:

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(a) "Commission" means the Independent Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Communications Commission of Kenya established by section 3 of the Independent 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" Communications Commission of Kenya Act, 2010;";

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(b) "'chairperson' means the chairperson appointed under section 5(12) of thise Independent Communications ActAuthority of South Africa Act. 2000;";

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(c) Substitution of the word "Board" with "Commission"

(d) "Commissioner" means any Commissioner appointed under section 5(1) of this e In 2010:"

- (2) The repeal of section 3(1)
- (3) The repeal of section 6.
- (4) The repeal of section 8.

(5) The repeal of section 9. (6) The repeal of section 10. (7) The repeal of section 11. after: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.25" (8) The repeal of section 12. (9) The repeal of section 13. (10) The repeal of section. (11) The repeal of section (12) The repeal of section.

(13) The repeal of section 46S

(14) The First Schedule

(15) The Repeal

Media Act, 2007

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The principal object of the Bill is to provide fore the establishment of an Independent Communication Commission to carry out the functions under the Information and Communications Act, 1998 and in keeping with the requirements of the Constitution of Kenya.

The Bill is borne of the realization that any law that is inconsistent with the Constitution is null and void to the extent of the inconsistency

Part I of the Bill contains preliminary provisions.

Part II contains provisions on the establishment of the Independent Communications Commission of Kenya and appointment of Commissioners, their disqualification, Terms of office, Removal from offices, Vacancies and Remuneration

The part further provides for Meetings of the Commission, resolution of sittings at meetings in case of Conflicting interests, Validity of proceedings

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It also provides for the Staff and Financing of and accounting by Commission including reporting mechanisms in the Annual report

Part III contains provisions on the setting up of standing and other Committees Committees of the Commission.

Part IV contains provisions on transitional issues in relation to staff, assets, assets, liabilities, proceedings, licences amongst others in relation to the Commission and the former Commission.

Part V contains powers and remedies of the Commission in relation to violation of data protection principles and provides for damages that may be awarded.

Part VI contains miscellaneous provisions that include the various offences and penalties and empowers the Minister to make regulations for the better carrying into effect the provisions of the Act.

The enactment of this Bill will not occasion additional expenditure of public funds.

Dated the, 2010

SAMUEL POGHISIO, Minister of Information and Communications.