



## PRESS STATEMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nairobi, Wednesday, March 29, 2017

## INTRODUCTION OF THE MUSIC PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION OF KENYA (MPAKE) TO THE KENYAN CMO FAMILY

After an intense bidding process with copyright regulators KECOBO( Kenya Copyright Board), we are delighted to accept the issuance of a certificate of registration as a CMO for Authors, Composers and Publishers class of copyright and related rights to the Music Publishers Association of Kenya (MPAKE); effective March 2017.

MPAKE is a non-profit organization that was registered on April 13, 2015 as a company limited by guarantee, initially to represent music publishers in Kenya. Ours now, is to represent and safeguard the rights of music Publishers, Authors and Composers within the territory of Kenya and other rights' holders from other parts of the world by way of bilateral/reciprocal agreements with their respective national societies. It is a member of the International Confederation of Music Publishers and with our appointment as a CMO we intend to join the International Confederation of Authors and Composers (CISAC).

The leadership of MPAKE includes Authors, Composers and Publishers including leading musicians Stella Mengeles, Amileena Mwenesi, Dan Aceda, Linda Muthama, Calvin Kirimba, Lilian Mibei, Njeri Njesh, Sarah Naana, Edward Irungu, Randalson as well as music publishers Mike Strano affiliated with Phat Music and Publishing ,Pacho Studio co-owner Bernard Kioko who has a vast experience with Skiza related matters and Judy Wambui Karara who is involved in international catalogue publishing. The team also includes Arthur K who has many years' experience in music industry matters.

Our vision is to become the most innovative promoter and champion of music rights holders within the national and international territory of our occupation. MPAKE's mission is to protect, promote and advance the interests of ALL music rights holders within our jurisdiction to government, the music industry, the media and the public at large. We seek to provide all rightful music rights holders with an open forum to express their views, needs and wants; a collective voice and a wide range of extra benefits to our members, . Our governing values and principles will be based upon **Transparency, Integrity, Efficient service to all rights holders (both members and rightful non-members), Efficient service to all customers (the consumers of music copyright) and Respect for the Rule of Law**



In conjunction with our counterparts PRISK and KAMP mandated with safeguarding the rights of music performers and producers alike and in keeping with one of the stipulated conditions by the regulator KECOBO, we seek to begin forging an agreement to facilitate joint licensing to further promote our stance on transparency and efficiency for the collective management of copyright. We are very keen on fostering inclusivity and proper representation of music rights holders and are currently in the process of co-opting representatives of the Kenya Musicians Union, 8 different regional Musicians Associations.

It is important for us to reassure all music rights holders that our efforts shall not be resolute to our members only. We intend to work with non-members as well, provided they can demonstrate rightful claim to any works written, composed and/or published. To this end, MPAKE welcomes any and all members from any societies; previous or incumbent, to sign up as members of MPAKE to help us grow the Kenyan music industry to one that is consummate and a force to be respected and reckoned with the world over. We shall announce a date when we shall commence membership process in the next coming days.

We encourage and invite dialogue from all stakeholders, and would be beneficiaries of our work, as it is our hope that we will shape the industry singularly and not single-mindedly. We shall be happy to respond to any queries and/or thoughts via our contact email: [admin@mpake.org](mailto:admin@mpake.org), or via our social media platforms Twitter: @mpakenya; FB: fb.com/mpakenya.

We have been encouraged by messages of support and commitment to a stronger industry that we have so far received. We are also mindful of the inherent challenges associated with such a transition and would like to reassure all music rights holders and music users alike that we are committed to working together to find solutions for the betterment of all stakeholders.

We look forward to working with you all

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