

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

The Unwarranted Vandalism and Disruption of Critical ICT Infrastructure by the County Government of Nairobi

26th February 2025

TESPOK STATEMENT:

It has come to our attention that the County Government of Nairobi has taken the reckless action of unlawfully disconnecting and destroying critical ICT infrastructure installed along Argwings Kodhek Road in Nairobi under contract between Kenya Power and our members.

The Technology Service Providers Association of Kenya (TESPOK) would like to remind all stakeholders that ICT infrastructure is the cornerstone of Kenya's digital and economic transformation. Further, the National Government has been at the forefront in ensuring adequate support and protection of ICT infrastructure notably; gazetting it as critical and in need for highest level of protection. This is against the backdrop that its disruption has wideranging consequences, affecting both the Government and citizens alike. Moreover, ICT infrastructure is also legally protected under key Kenyan laws, including the Kenya Information and Communications Act and the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act. The actions of Nairobi County officials clearly violate these laws and fly in the face of stakeholder efforts to achieve Kenya's digital agenda; such must not be tolerated.

This is not an isolated incident but part of a worrying trend where disputes between government bodies are causing unwarranted losses to legitimate business activities and disrupting the lives of Kenyans. Our members are facing huge losses amounting to millions of shillings due to these actions, which have disrupted vital services. It is shocking that this conflict has been allowed to escalate to this extent, with no regard for the far-reaching consequences on Kenyan citizens and the economy.

The County Government's actions have led to severe downtime for customers in mission-critical sectors such as healthcare, finance, and public services, as well as for businesses and households that depend on stable, reliable internet connectivity. We demand that the County Government take full responsibility for these actions and compensate service providers and affected customers for the downtime caused. We also call on the National Police Service to investigate and arrest those responsible for this criminal act.

TESPOK strongly condemns the Nairobi County Government's actions and urges all parties to resolve any disputes through constructive dialogue within the legal framework of the country.

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Note to Editors:

Technology Service Providers of Kenya (TESPOK) is a professional, non-profit organization



representing the interests of Technology service providers in Kenya. Established in 1999, the strength of the Association rests on its ability to be truly representative of the Kenyan industry as a whole.

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