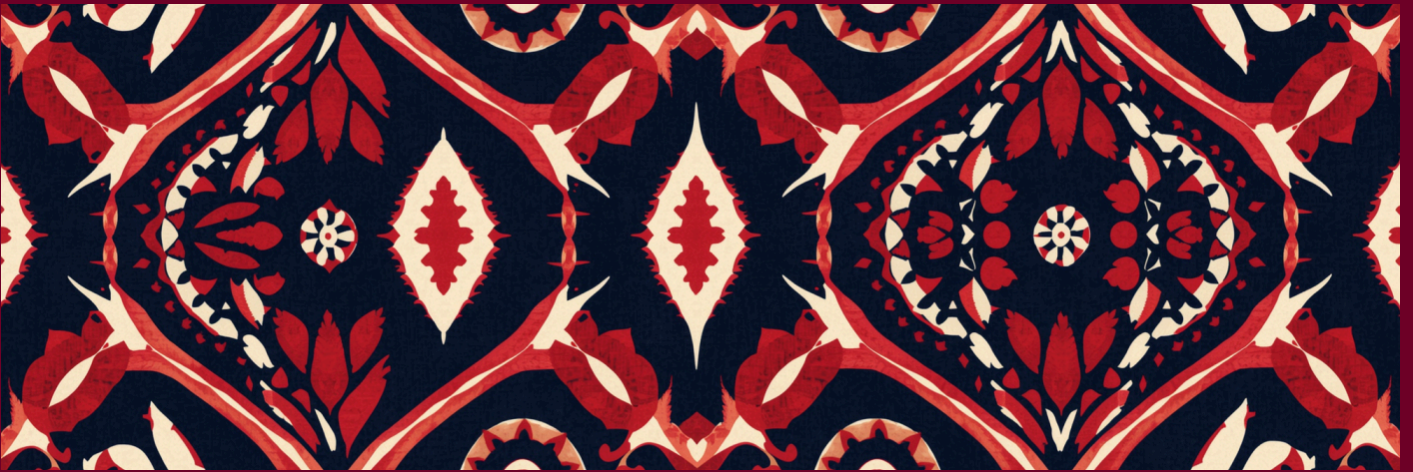


LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN



SEPTEMBER 2026



LEGAL INSIGHTS

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1. LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY HIGHLIGHTS

- The Kenya National Council for Population and Development Bill, the Public Finance Management (Amendment) (No. 4) Bill, the Trust Administration Bill and the Air Passenger Service Charge (Amendment) Bill were assented to and are now Acts of Parliament.
- The National Assembly approved ratification of the Convention on the Establishment of the International Organization for Mediation, covering consensual State-to-State, investor-State and international commercial disputes.
- The Central Bank of Kenya and the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury approved the transfer of the business, assets and liabilities of Access Bank (Kenya) PLC to National Bank of Kenya Limited, subject to completion of the transaction.
- The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner (ODPC) invited comments on the proposed treatment of political affiliation and trade-union membership as additional categories of sensitive personal data.
- Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) announced a transition to a multi-vendor, user-owned electronic-seal model under RECTS, with KRA owned seals to be phased out by 26 October 2026.
- Regulatory Impact Statements were issued for proposed Product Certification, Scientific and Industrial Metrology and Hydrologists Regulations, with affected stakeholders invited to submit written memoranda within the stated consultation periods.



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2. SECTORAL LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES

2.1. FINANCIAL, FISCAL & FINTECH UPDATES

a) The 2026 Budget Review and Outlook Paper and the Annual National Government Budget Implementation Review Report for FY 2025/26 were tabled. Parliament also reported that the Public Finance Management (Amendment) (No. 4) Bill was assented to and is now an Act of Parliament.

b) A response presented to the National Assembly from KRA through the Ministry of National Treasury and Economic Planning reported VAT claims pending processing and a VAT-refund payment backlog of KSh23.093 billion. It stated that the monthly allocation for VAT-refund payments was below the average value of claims approved each month and referred to the use of Refund Adjustment Vouchers for approved claims not paid within the prescribed period.

c) The shareholders of Access Bank (Kenya) PLC and National Bank of Kenya Limited approved the transfer of Access Bank business, assets and liabilities to National Bank of Kenya. The Central Bank of Kenya approved the transfer on 17 August 2026, and the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury approved it on 21 September 2026. The transfer will take effect upon completion in accordance with the transaction agreement dated 24 September 2026.

d) The Senate sought information on the alleged unlawful operations of Quant Vest Stock Exchange after a warning attributed to the Capital Markets Authority concerning QVSE and other entities. The requested response covers the number of affected investors, funds solicited, enforcement action and measures to improve detection and public guidance.

2.2. AGRICULTURE SECTOR

a) The Government outlined an animal-feeds programme to stabilise milk price and feed cost strategy, a proposed National Strategic Feeds Reserve, use of public land for commercial feed production, public-private investment, subsidised breeding inputs and consideration of duty-free yellow-maize imports. It also stated that raw-milk producer prices are largely market-driven, with legal safeguards for periodic review of minimum producer prices.

b) The Senate received the Fisheries Management and Development Bill following its passage by the National Assembly. It was read a First Time in the Senate and subsequently considered at Second Reading.

c) The Senate received the Plant Protection Bill after passage by the National Assembly and referred it to the relevant Senate committee following First Reading.

d) Debate on the Livestock Protection and Sustainability Bill continued at Second Reading during the reporting period.

e) The Senate sought details of plans to procure and distribute certified, early maturing seeds and suitable seedlings in arid and semi-arid counties ahead of anticipated rains, together with distribution controls and extension support on climate-smart agriculture, soil, water, pests and fodder.

f) A 2026 report on theft and illegal trade in donkey skin and related products in Kenya was laid before the National Assembly.

2.3. Transport Logistics & Aviation

a) The Air Passenger Service Charge (Amendment) Bill was presented for assent on 8 September 2026, assented to and is now an Act of Parliament.

b) The Civil Aviation (Aeronautical Charts) Regulations, 2025 and the Civil Aviation (Aerodromes Design and Operation) Regulations, 2025 were listed among the legislative supplements for the reporting period.

c) The Senate received the Kenya Roads (Amendment) Bill following its passage by the National Assembly. It also introduced the National Transport and Safety Authority (Amendment) Bill at First Reading.

d) The Senate sought information on KeNHA and KURA preparedness for heavy rains, including inspection and maintenance of drainage, culverts and storm-water channels, risk assessments and emergency-response arrangements for vulnerable roads.

e) KRA is transitioning to a multi-vendor Regional Electronic Cargo Monitoring System (RECTS) and has approved 15 vendors to provide electronic monitoring and tracking services for goods under customs control under a multi-vendor, user-owned seals framework. KRA-owned seals are to be phased out by 26 October 2026, after which tracking will be undertaken using approved-vendor devices under private commercial arrangements.

f) The Senate sought a statement on Kenya Airways' financial position, aircraft availability, operating costs, Government exposure, debt arrangements, previous restructuring measures and the targets and timelines for restoring profitability.

2.4. ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE & ICT



a) Conventions concerning nuclear safety, early notification of a nuclear accident, assistance in a nuclear or radiological emergency, and the safety of spent-fuel and radioactive-waste management were laid before the National Assembly.

b) The Senate considered a Motion calling for county policies, budgets and County Integrated Development Plan targets on clean cooking; priority financing by the National Treasury and Ministry of Energy; adoption by public institutions; support for carbon-finance authorizations; and private-sector and community participation.

c) The Senate adopted the Standing Committee on Energy report regarding alleged irregularities in the petroleum-products supply chain.

2.5. Technology & Digital economy

a) The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026 were tabled together with an explanatory memorandum and Regulatory Impact Statement.

b) The ODPC proposed political affiliation and trade-union membership as additional categories of sensitive personal data and invited comments. The proposed definitions extend to information from which political leanings or trade union involvement may reasonably be inferred.

c) A committee report was tabled on a petition seeking the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system.

2.6. CONSUMER GOODS & PUBLIC HEALTH

a) The National Assembly received a committee report on a petition concerning illegal alcoholic brews. Separately, the Senate sought information on deaths and injuries, enforcement action, agency coordination, border controls and regulatory gaps affecting counterfeit, illicit and adulterated alcoholic drinks.

b) The Standing Committee on Health tabled its report on the Quality Healthcare and Patient Safety Bill during the reporting period.

c) A Motion proposed a national framework for the diagnosis, treatment and management of endometriosis.

d) The Senate considered a resolution concerning the provision of sanitary towels to girls in public basic education institutions.

2.7. Environment, Extractives & Water

a) National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) notified importers, exporters, refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians and servicing companies of requirements under the Environmental Management and Co-ordination (Controlled Substances) Regulations, 2025. The notice refers to licensing, import and export permits, handling, storage, labelling, recovery, recycling and disposal requirements.

b) The Senate sought information on the implementation and effectiveness of the 2017 plastic carrier-bag ban, the wider regulatory framework for plastics and extended producer responsibility, Kenya's position in Global Plastics Treaty negotiations and future measures for emerging plastic-pollution sources.

c) The Senate requested details of the legal framework governing the company's operations, the basis for the suspension, royalty payments and distribution, employee obligations, continuity of community services and the conditions for lifting the suspension.

d) The Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation prepared a Regulatory Impact Statement for the proposed development of the Hydrologists (General) Regulations, 2026. The proposed Regulations are intended to operationalize the Hydrologists Act and strengthen professional regulation of hydrology practice.

The Senate received the Gold Processing Bill following its passage by the National Assembly and proceeded with First Reading.

2.8. Trade, Industry and Cooperatives

a) A general statement was made in the National Assembly concerning the Local Content Bill. The Bill was described as seeking to establish a framework to regulate local content, protect and promote local businesses, provide youth-employment opportunities and encourage the sourcing of locally produced goods and services. The statement linked the proposal to concerns that local small businesses are being displaced by external sourcing.

b) The Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry notifies the general public that Regulatory Impact Statements on the proposed Standards (Product Certification) Regulations, 2026 and the Standards (Scientific and Industrial Metrology) Regulations, 2026. The proposed Product Certification Regulations address certification marks, administration of the marks, quality and safety, prevention of deceptive practices and facilitation of trade. The proposed Metrology Regulations address KEBS's role as the National Metrology Institute, traceability services, mandatory calibration, licensing of calibration providers and offences.

c) The Senate sought a breakdown of funding and disbursement, national oversight, progress and completion timelines, monitoring findings and the provision of common-user equipment for County Aggregation and Industrial Parks.

d) A joint taskforce involving the County Government and gaming-industry representatives was established to review the Nairobi City County Betting, Lotteries and Gaming Act, 2026 and related licensing, fees, enforcement, taxation, transition, responsible-gaming and ease-of-doing-business issues

2.9. Employment & Labour

a) The Community Groups Registration Regulations, 2026 were tabled in the National Assembly together with an explanatory memorandum, public-participation report and Regulatory Impact Statement.

b) The Convention concerning protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families was laid before the National Assembly.

c) The Public Petitions Committee tabled reports on alleged unfair labour practices at Sukari Industries, unpaid salary arrears and terminal dues of former Uchumi Supermarkets employees, and proposed conversion or amalgamation of former civil-service non-contributory pension arrangements.

d) The Senate considered an adjournment Motion concerning an ongoing strike by nurses. The Teachers Service Commission (Amendment) Bill and the Local Authorities Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill were introduced and referred to the relevant committees.

2.10. Public Sector

a) The Public Finance Management (Integrated County Revenue Management System) Regulations, 2026 were tabled in the National Assembly together with an explanatory memorandum.

b) Amendment Regulations concerning implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions on suppression of terrorism were tabled. Separately, a multi-agency working group was constituted to identify, monitor and coordinate engagement with non-profit organizations at risk of terrorism financing.

c) The Senate received the Public Participation Bill following its passage by the National Assembly and referred it to the relevant Senate committee after First Reading.

d) IEBC proposals were referred to the National Assembly's Justice and Legal Affairs Committee for possible inclusion in the Elections (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill. The Senate also considered a report on a petition seeking re-introduction of an Elections (Amendment) Bill concerning the use of popular names on ballot papers.

e) The Senate Committee of the Whole considered National Assembly amendments to the County Governments Additional Allocations Bill and reported progress, with the House to resume consideration.

f) The Senate sought details of the legal basis, procurement and approvals for a private revenue-collection arrangement covering KICC services, the rationale for any collection outside e-Citizen, revenue comparisons and any losses, delays or irregularities.



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