



## **Public Consultation on the Draft Recommendations of the National Taskforce on Transition to Digital Broadcasting- Published on 10th July 2007 to close on 13th August 2007**

The fast growth of the communications industry in Kenya, especially the mobile sector, has witnessed massive network infrastructure roll out in the country by the operators and service providers. This has led to the construction of numerous base stations, masts and towers to support the antennae for cellular mobile, mobile radios, broadcast transmitters and other related wireless communications services.

The massive deployment of communication networks has brought with it some challenges. There has been growing public concern on the perceived health and safety effects especially those associated with exposure to electromagnetic emissions from these towers and base transceiver stations. There has also been growing environmental concern in regard to the impact of communications networks on natural beauty/aesthetics. There have been allegations that public participation as provided for under the Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act (EMCA, 1999) has not been adhered to. These concerns have translated into complaints channelled to the Communications Commission of Kenya by residential associations and individuals.

As a result of the foregoing, the Commission engaged the relevant Government agencies, which culminated in the establishment of a Standing Committee on Siting of communication Towers and Masts. The said committee is made up of representatives from Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), Radiation Protection Board (RPB), National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Ministry of Local Government, Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) and Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK). The committee's key objective was to develop guidelines that would reflect a win-win approach for all the stakeholders.

Through an elaborate and consultative process and with reference to various legislative instruments enforced by the relevant Government agencies mentioned above, the standing committee prepared draft guidelines for siting of communication infrastructure. The guidelines are envisaged to act as a guide for the communications industry in the process of application for collocation of communication facilities, applications for the construction of new communication facilities as well as decommissioning of these facilities, whenever they cease to be in use.

Once adopted, these guidelines will be anchored in the Kenya Communications Regulations, 2001, for enforcement purposes.

The Commission therefore invites stakeholders and members of the public to submit their comments on these guidelines. These comments will be considered for incorporation in the final document.

The draft guidelines are attached below in pdf format. Comments/input may be submitted via [guidelines@cck.go.ke](mailto:guidelines@cck.go.ke) or the address given here below:

**The Secretariat – Standing Committee on Base station & Towers  
Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK)  
P.O. Box 14448, NAIROBI, 00800, KENYA**