



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND ECONOMIC PLANNING**

**THE REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT**

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON:**

**THE DRAFT LEGAL NOTICE ON THE PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT (GOVERNMENT PRESS FUND) REGULATIONS, 2025 BY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE NATIONAL TREASURY.**

**Government Press is the government's primary centralized resource for producing, procuring, authenticating, cataloging, disseminating, and preserving the official information products of the Kenya Government. The objectives of and reasons for the proposed Legal Notice are mainly to provide funds to support the sustainability of the commercial and noncommercial activities of the Government Press which include; printing publishing, publications, consulting and in particular;**

- a) finance the purchase of raw materials for printing and publishing works by the Government Press including:-
  - i) artworks;
  - ii) designs;
  - iii) printed stationery and documents;
  - iv) printed and bound publications including the Kenya Gazette, Kenya Gazette Supplements, chapters of the Laws of Kenya and official Government publications;
  - v) security printing;
  - vi) exercise books;
  - vii) security documents; and
  - viii) any other stationery and publications;
- a) finance the maintenance, renewal and replacement of plant, machinery and equipment used for printing and publishing works by the Government Press;
- b) provide resources for the payment of overheads related to printing and publishing works referred to in paragraph (a); and
- c) support any other activities incidental to the sustainability of the Fund.

**1) The effect of the proposed gazettelement of the Legal Notice includes the following:**

- a. Enhancement of security and production of printed Government documents;
- b. Enhancement of effectiveness and efficiency of Government Press;
- c. Designation of Government Press– as a strategic national resource and allocation of adequate funding from national budget to ensure long term sustainability;

- d. Inclusion of the economic value of the Government Press into national income accounting, planning, and budgeting, thereby improving fiscal planning and resource allocation;
- e. Promotion of retention of benefits generated from the Government Press Fund to support its growth and self-sufficiency while reducing reliance on direct exchequer allocations;
- f. Establishment of a fund to promote replacement, renewal, maintenance of production machines and equipment hence service delivery to the Government of Kenya and the public;
- g. Promotion of access to innovative and sustainable utilization of modern printing as an economic driver, reducing production costs and ensuring government self-sufficiency in printing services;
- h. Mainstreaming Government Press Fund resources into frameworks on eco-friendly printing and environmental sustainability in line with the BETA framework and ISO 14000 standards;
- i. Enhancement of citizen access to information in line with Article 35 of the Constitution of Kenya, thereby promoting transparency and accountability;
- j. Effective contribution to the authentication of government documents, reinforcing the role of the Government Press as the sole printer of critical government documents;
- k. Cataloguing of government information through proper serialization of government documents, improving record-keeping and archiving;
- l. Storage, archival, and retrieval of government documents, ensuring long-term preservation of official records;
- m. Digitization of old and new government documentation (e-publication), aligning with global best practices in digital governance;
- n. House style of the Government Press by introducing standardized fonts and types, improving readability and professionalism;
- o. Standardization of government documents as a key consideration ensuring consistency across all state publications;
- p. Cost reduction as optimized production will lower wastage through efficient resource utilization;
- q. If well anchored, optimized production shall drastically reduce waste and enhance environmental sustainability;
- r. Significant reduction in machine and equipment downtime, ensuring faster service delivery to the public and government agencies;
- s. The introduction of the fund shall also contribute positively to reducing machine and equipment failure rates, improving throughput time, and enhancing revenue generation for sustainability

**2) Possible alternatives and practicable means of achieving the foregoing objectives, including other regulatory as well as non-regulatory options:**

- a) Development of these Regulations seeks to address the problems and challenges currently being faced by the Government Press in offering optimal printing services to the MDACs and the general public. Modernization of GP need adequate funding to achieve maximum benefit, The effect of not having the fund will lead to critical Government services not being offered and it will make the GP fail in its mandate of being the mouthpiece and handwriting of the Government.
- b) Several alternatives were explored before recommending the opening up of this dedicated Fund including:
  - i) Maintaining the Status Quo: Reliance on periodic exchequer funding has proven inefficient, leading to delays, budget constraints, and reduced service quality. This has affected timely government communication and compromised service delivery, ultimately impacting governance and economic planning.
  - ii) Privatization or Outsourcing: While privatization could attract investment, it poses security risks, such as potential leaks of classified government information. Additionally, outsourcing would

increase dependency on private entities, leading to fluctuating costs and reduced state control over critical government documentation processes.

- iii) Public-Private Partnerships (PPP): While PPPs may help in infrastructure development, they do not guarantee sustained financing for operational expenses, making a dedicated Fund more viable. PPPs also come with contractual complexities and long-term obligations that may not align with the urgent and evolving needs of the Government Press.
  - c) These alternatives point to the establishment of the fund through section 34 of the exchequer and Audit Act of 1988 (Government Press, Regulation of 1988), was to ensure timely, and consistent delivery of production materials for printing urgent Government documents which cannot be offered relying on the normal and limited exchequer processes.
  - d) The establishment of the fund shall contribute to the generation of revenue to other sectors of the economy through employment creation and value chain
  - e) It shall provide a proper legal anchorage and operation framework of the Government Press Fund.
  - f) It shall provide a framework of the Government press as the national organ (State Printer) for the printing of Government security documents.
  - g) Through the regulation, Kenya Gazette shall be classified as the official Newspaper for dissemination of Government notices and general information to the public or legal requirements
- 3) **Assessment of costs and benefits of the proposed Government Press Fund.**

The seed capital for the Fund will be appropriated by the National Assembly. Other revenues include donations, grants, income from commercial activities, and loans.

**The following are the costs and benefits of the proposed Government Press Fund**

- a) Enhanced revenue collection
  - b) Reduction in over-reliance on the exchequer
  - c) Acquisition of modern machines and equipment
  - d) Timely and efficient repair of machines and equipment
  - e) Competitive prices for the clients who are mostly MDAs
- 4) **Any other matters specified by the guidelines:**  
Overall, the net impact of the proposed Legal Notice on Government Press Fund by the Executive Office of the President is positive. It is recommended that the proposed Regulations be adopted.
- 5) **Draft copy of the proposed statutory instrument**  
Draft copies of the proposed Legal Notice can be downloaded from the National Treasury website [www.treasury.go.ke](http://www.treasury.go.ke).

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