



PRESS RELEASE

NAIROBI, Monday 12th May, 2020

KAMP, PRISK, MCSK REJECT “WORK FOR PAY” STIMULUS PACKAGE

The world is facing a medical emergency far graver than what we have experienced in over a century. The World Health Organization has declared COVID 19 outbreak as a global pandemic. The Kenyan Music and Arts industry has been hard hit by a series of festivals and event cancellations as a result of the virus and the government’s actions like lock downs and bans on gatherings in efforts to curb the spread. Due to these restrictions venues and businesses have been forced to close their doors. Although understood and accepted, the lockdown restrictions have unfortunately incapacitated many participants of the music industry.

To help the creative industry, on 6th April 2020, President Uhuru Kenyatta through his address to the nation and update on COVID-19 directed the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage to avail Ksh 100 million from the Sports Fund to help cushion artists in Kenya from the economic impact of the pandemic.

As KAMP-PRISK-MCSK we want to thank H.E President Kenyatta for this swift action and for the immense support he has given the creatives during and before this COVID period. We consider this gesture as an act of patriotism, and an opportunity to support the often-neglected creative industry.

After the announcement of April 2020 by the President, as Collective Management Organisations (CMOs) we have been patiently waiting for further direction in regard to how and when we shall receive the funds.

KAMP, PRISK, and MCSK had been hopeful on this matter that is until yesterday 11th March, When Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage Amb. Dr. Amina Mohamed launched the “WORK FOR PAY” 100 Million stimulus package for artists.

As per the press statement by the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage Amb. Dr. Amina Mohamed that was issued and circulated to various media houses and social media platforms, the program requires artists from different sectors to produce works that would entertain and educate Kenyans on the safety and precautions to curb the spread of Corona virus. She further added that the government agencies under the ministry will supervise and coordinate the implementation of the program under the administration of the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage leaving out CMOs.

We KAMP, PRISK and MCSK, are the only Collective Management Organizations. Our combined membership is about 20,000, composed of composers, Authors, Publishers, Performers (Musicians & Actors), and Producers of sound recordings and dramatic works and accordingly, considering our mandate and membership, the CMOs are integral and have a fundamental role in facilitating the President's program herein, in liaison with the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage.

In conclusion therefore, as CMOs, we feel to be the best placed institutions through which this well intentioned stimulus project aimed at assisting Kenyan Artists, should be implemented. Consequently, we (CMOs) humbly request the CS Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage Amb. Dr. Amina Mohamed, to consider CMOs to be part of the institutions to implement the presidents' good intended gesture.

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Chairman, KAMP

Mr. Ephantus W. Kamau
Chairman, PRISK

Mr. Lazarus Muli
Chairman, MCSK