



PRESS RELEASE

THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY OF KENYA TO HOST CONSUMERS INTERNATIONAL 2023 GLOBAL CONGRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAIROBI: TUESDAY, 18TH APRIL, 2023

In line with its mandate of promoting public knowledge and awareness of consumers' rights, the Competition Authority of Kenya ("the Authority") has successfully bid to host the **2023 Global Congress** from **6th to 8th December in Nairobi, Kenya**.

The Congress, which is held every four years, is organized by [Consumers International](#) and congregates members of the global consumer movement and leading cross-sector influencers to tackle pressing issues impacting consumers worldwide.

The **objective of the Congress is to develop practical solutions to consumer protection issues**, especially on emerging areas, and building a powerful coalition across Government, international agencies, business and civil society, while ensuring that **consumers are part of the dialogue**.

Dr. Adano Wario, the Authority's Acting Director-General, said Kenya's selection as host country, is emblematic of the milestones achieved in promoting consumers' welfare in recent years and on issues that **positively impact the lives of a majority of citizens**.

"We look forward to sharing our experience in promoting consumer protection both nationally and regionally as we work towards common solutions with leaders in attendance," said Dr. Wario, while assuring attendees of Kenya's warmth and hospitality.

The Authority's consumer-related **case workload has increased three-fold in the past five years**, cutting across sectors such as finance & insurance, wholesale & retail, and e-commerce. Additionally, the Authority has **investigated cases on our own motion** relating to, among others, maize and wheat flour, bread, cooking oil and juice sector, and digital financial services in order to address various infringements.

As the World battles rising food prices, advances climate change goals, and safeguards the vulnerable consumers amidst rapid digitization, the Congress' agenda will ask crucial questions of decision-makers and seek further collaboration across those instrumental to marketplace change.

Some of the key questions that need concerted effort addressing include; how can we make **sustainable lifestyles** the norm? How do we build **a digital future that consumers can trust**? How do we strengthen **consumer protection between and across borders**? These issues can be tackled by, among others, sharing



best practice case studies, including on enforcement action, issuing calls to action, and sharing of latest insights to inform our interventions.

“Global leaders have a short window of opportunity to address the most significant challenges threatening people and the planet. Over the past years, we have seen that breakthrough solutions will be reliant on consumers. Our Congress is a place for marketplace actors to build real trust with consumers and their advocates,” said Helena Leurent, Director General, Consumers International.

Mr. Marimuthu Nadason, President of Consumers International & the Federation of Malaysian Consumer Association, said the Congress will happen as the World emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and as we see effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and climate change.

This is the **first time that the Congress is being held in Africa**. Previous editions have been held in Portugal (2003), Australia (2007), Hong Kong (2011), Brazil (2015), and Portugal (2019). This year’s event is being hosted in collaboration with the COMESA Competition Commission (CCC).

“The hosting of the Congress in Africa demonstrates the commitment COMESA and the continent attach to matters of consumer protection and welfare,” said Willard Mwemba, Director and Chief Executive Officer, CCC. “The Congress will allow us enhance cooperation and coordination among diverse stakeholders, addressing cross cutting consumer matters to protect consumers globally.”

Registration for the event will open in May 2023. If you are a senior leader from Government or a member of the business community, civil society, academia, or consumer advocacy organization, kindly E-mail impact@consint.org to receive an invite.

Ends...

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Mobile Application: Search ‘*Competition Authority of Kenya*’ on Android/iOS platforms

**EFFECTIVE 1ST MAY, 2023, THE AUTHORITY WILL RELOCATE TO THE CBK PENSION TOWERS,
HARAMBEE AVENUE, NAIROBI.**