



## **CAK RAIDS PREMISES OF FOAM MATTRESS MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS AS PART OF PROBE INTO SUSPECTED ANTI-COMPETITIVE CONDUCT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**NAIROBI: 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2026**

The Competition Authority of Kenya ('the Authority') has conducted simultaneous entry and search operations in the business premises of six (6) major foam mattress manufacturers and distributors across four (4) counties namely; Nairobi, Machakos, Kiambu, and Kisumu. At the unannounced inspections, commonly referred to as dawn raids, the Authority retrieved critical electronic and physical evidence for forensic analysis. These include hard disks and thumb drives, laptops, mobile phones, management reports, and sales records, among others.

Sections 31 & 32 of the [Competition Act](#) empower the Authority to enter the premises of persons believed to possess relevant information, and inspect goods, documents and records that are necessary to confirm existence of restrictive trade practices such as abuse of dominance, collusive tendering, price fixing, and market or customer allocation. Dawn raids secure credible evidence that is likely to be concealed, destroyed or altered if advance notice is given. These exercises are not a confirmation of guilt or culpability, but are a key step in an ongoing investigation.

The Authority's intervention in the foam mattresses sector is supported by actionable intelligence from market surveillance by our case officers, which pointed to suspected concerted practices of a cartel nature between competitors. During the raids, the rights of the businesses, including access to legal representation, were upheld. Additionally, due care was taken to minimize business disruption.

"Foam mattresses are an essential household commodity, used by millions of Kenyan consumers. Our intervention seeks to establish whether collusive practices are undermining the affordability and accessibility of these products for ordinary households," said Mr. David Kemei, the Authority's Director-General.



The Competition Act does not prescribe a statutory deadline for finalizing investigations into anti-competitive conduct. Each matter is unique and subject to variable factors, including number of parties involved, their level of cooperation, as well as the volume and complexity of the records under review.

However, the Authority is cognizant of its obligation under the Constitution of Kenya to accord parties to an investigation fair administrative action that is expeditious, efficient, lawful, reasonable and procedural.

Upon reviewing the evidentiary information retrieved today, the Authority shall make a decision on the next cause of action with regard to the investigation in line with our guidelines and procedures. The Authority will ensure the safe custody of the data retrieved from the unannounced inspections and afford the parties, and their legal representatives, opportunities to make oral and written submissions before a final determination is made.

If the Authority establishes an infringement of the Competition Act, it may restrain the undertaking(s) from engaging in the illegal conduct and order them to reverse or remedy the infringement. The Authority may also order parties found culpable to pay a financial penalty of up to 10% of their gross annual turnover.

“Based on our experience handling complex cases, this investigation is reasonably expected to take several months to complete. However, our proactive measures such as upskilling our case officers, installation of an in-house modern forensic laboratory, and thorough planning ahead of the searches will improve the case completion time,” said Mr. Kemei.

**Members of the public with information regarding suspected anti-competitive practices in any market are invited to report the matter to the Authority.**

### **Competition Authority of Kenya**

**Website:** [www.cak.go.ke](http://www.cak.go.ke)

**Direct Line:** +254(20)2779000

**Email:** [complain@cak.go.ke](mailto:complain@cak.go.ke)

**E-Filing Portal:** <https://competition.cak.go.ke:444/>

**Twitter:** @CAK\_Kenya

**Mailing List:** <https://tinyurl.com/5ff86ruv>

**Media inquiries:** [mmutegi@cak.go.ke](mailto:mmutegi@cak.go.ke)