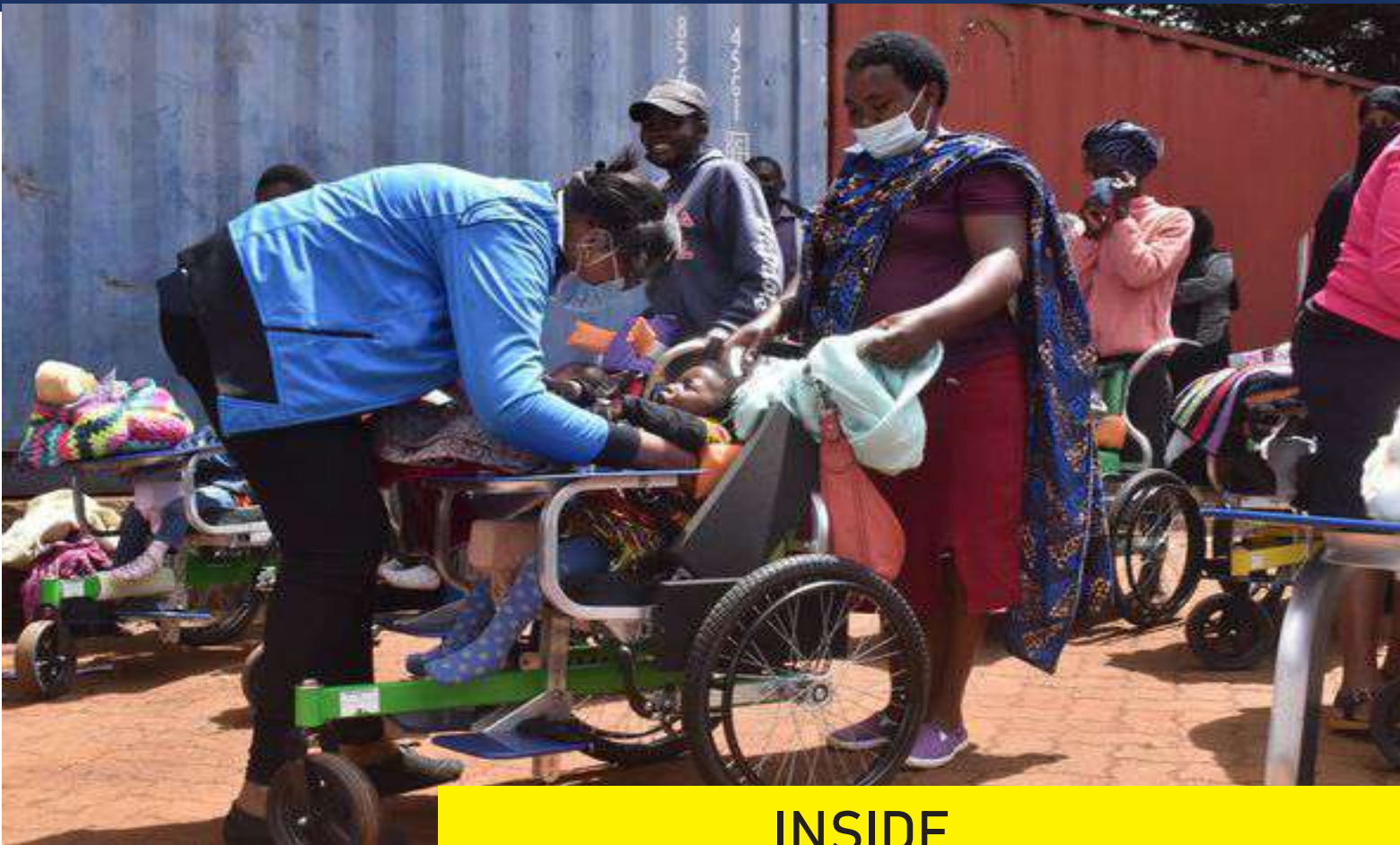




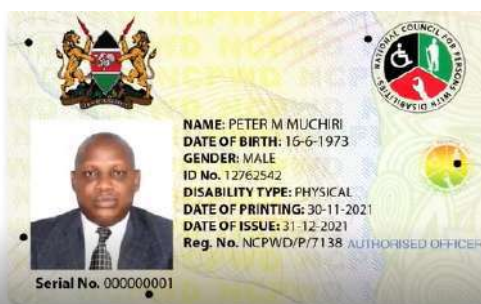
# USAWA NA HAKI

MARCH 2022



## INSIDE

### New look NCPWD identification Card



>Editorial.....	1
>From the Executive Director's Desk.....	2
>National Council for Persons with Disabilities - Board Members.....	4
>Hope for enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Bill 2021.....	5
>International Wheelchair Day celebrations.....	7
>Celebrating champions of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.....	8
>Sur?ng Securely; A VPN Perspective.....	10
>Embracing Education as an Equalizing Factor.....	12
>Social Engineering as a cybersecurity threat.....	15
>Council rolls out the new registration system.....	17
>News segment.....	21

## EDITORIAL

The registration of persons with disabilities is a critical component of the mandate of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities. Establishing data on critical segments of the population is important for the purpose of planning and allocation of resources. It is in view of this that we have published a story on the rollout of the new registration system for persons with disabilities. We believe that the new system is going to drastically revamp the registration process so that we are able to capture data of all persons with disabilities. We are also confident that once fully operational the new system will give the county officers carte blanche in registration of persons with disabilities. The Q and A on the new registration system attempts to allay some of the fears that persons with disabilities have had on the new system.

We have also carried out other stories that are informative and educative. The two articles on ICT provides insights into some of the issues in the ICT utilization. The ICT article on VPN provides a good read to those who want to know how to make surfing safe. The article provides some insights on safe surfing while using public ICT networks.

In addition, we have carried articles on other areas including the education article that provides information on measures put in place to enhance access to education by persons with disabilities and what the education programme at the Council offers to persons with disabilities; the progress in the finalization of Persons with Disabilities Bill 2021. We have also included other stories on International Wheel Chair Day celebrations and the National Diversity and Inclusion Recognition Awards (DIAR Awards). **Read on!**

**Usawa na Haki is a quarterly newsletter Published by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities**

## Executive Director



Harun Hassan

## Editor



Francis Anyenda

## Graphics & Layout



Samson Njapit

Kindly Submit your article to [Newsletter@ncpwd.go.ke](mailto:Newsletter@ncpwd.go.ke)

ARTICLES

## DIRECTOR'S DESK.



Once again it is that time that we are pleased to release our *Usawa na Haki* newsletter. The March issue comes on the heels of the start of the political campaigns for the various political positions in the country. It is our hope that we in the disability fraternity will seize this opportunity to ensure that we exercise our democratic right and vote in leaders that will drive the disability agenda to greater heights. We have also joined other stakeholders, led by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, in making the clarion call for a peaceful electioneering period through the '*Elections Bila Noma*' initiative.

We would also like to inform our clients that at last we can see progress in the review of Persons with Disabilities Act 2003. The journey to review the Act 2003 started in 2014. It's been a long time coming, and we are hopeful that at last it is coming to an end.

The Persons with Disabilities Amendment Bill 2021 went through the first reading and later on was subjected to public participation where members of the public submitted their memoranda. I'm pleased to note that with the Bill going through the third reading, it signals that our legislators – across the political divide – are committed to passing it and having the President assent before Parliament ends its term. The Bill is a big game changer to the disability sector.

Not only does it provide far-reaching reforms in the sector but also provides opportunities for persons with disabilities to reap heavily on the various reliefs and incentives therein. It also provides a wide range of privileges and rights of persons with disabilities which are not provided for in the current Act.

Another key milestone in the quarter was the appointment of new Board members. The Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Gender, Senior citizens Affairs and Special Programmes, gazetted a new Board on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 who will serve for the next three years.



The Board members are drawn from various professions. We are confident that they will bring fresh ideas that will be instrumental in enabling the Council deliver on its mandate.

I am also pleased to inform our clients that, following the launch of the new registration system by His Excellency the President, we developed a road map to implement the new system. So far, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Council of Governors, we trained over 300 county medical personnel who will be conducting disability assessments. With this milestone achieved, we are now engaging Ministry of Health to officially decentralize the Directorate of Medical Services signature to the counties.

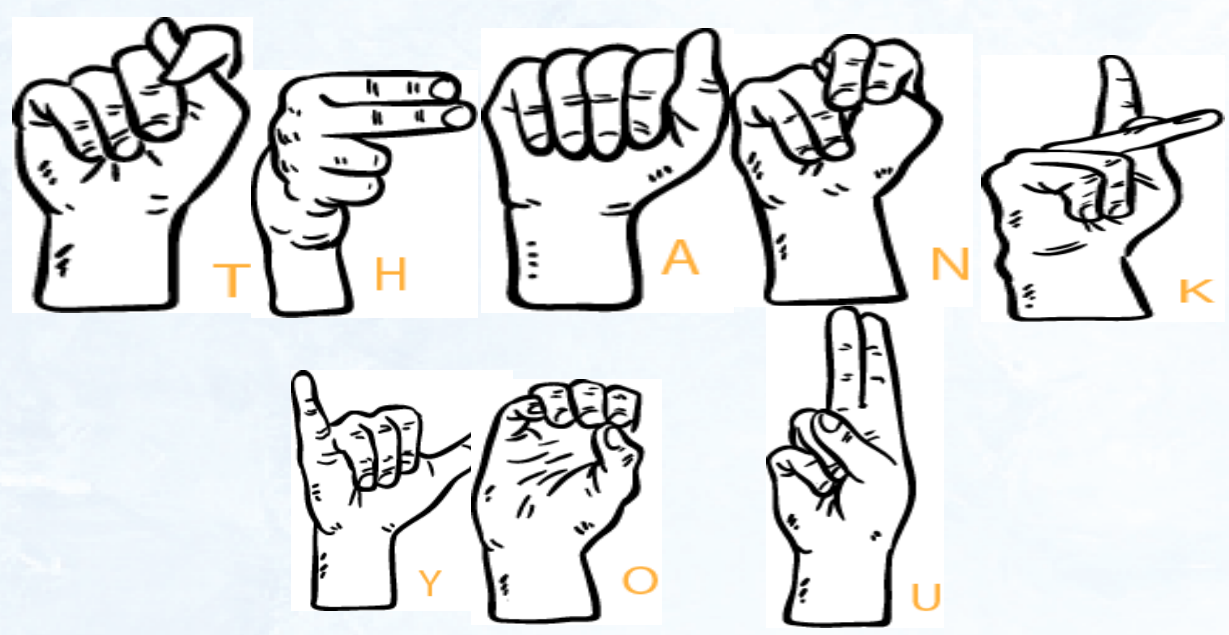
We are also actively engaging the COG in implementing the Presidential appeal to counties that they waive the costs of disability assessment, which is a requirement for registration. As we roll out the new system, I would like to assure our clients that the migration of those already registered is ongoing in all our county offices and that there will be no costs charged on our clients during the migration.

It is our hope that the new registration system will be able to address some of the challenges that persons with disabilities face in registering with the Council. The new system greatly improves the way we register persons with disabilities as the exercise is decentralized, with proper approval controls and accountability trails.

Finally, I wish to convey my gratitude to all persons with disabilities and other stakeholders for the support they accorded the Council during the last quarter. As we come to the end of the financial year, we look forward to your continued support, constructive criticism and positive engagements towards improving the wellbeing of persons with disabilities.

“The Persons with Disabilities Amendment Bill 2021 not only does it provide far-reaching reforms in the disability sector but also provides opportunities for persons with disabilities to reap heavily on the various reliefs and incentives therein.

It also provides a wide range of privileges and rights of persons with disabilities which are not provided for in the current Act.”



## National Council for Persons with Disabilities - Board Members.

In the gazette notice of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes, Professor Margaret Kobia, gazzetted Board of Directors for the National Council for Persons with Disabilities to serve for the next three years. The gazzetted Board of Directors are here below.



**Dr. Habiba H. Mohamed**



**Dr. Michael Munene**



**Sylvia M Mochabo**



**Mercy M Gichuge**



**Joseph K Lerina**



**Zena A Jalenga**

# Hope for enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Bill 2021

The journey towards enactment of the law to repeal the Persons with Disabilities Act is heading towards the last lap. The Persons with Disabilities Bill 2021 is an amendment to repeal and replace the Persons with Disabilities Act No.14 of 2003 so as to give effect to Article 54 of the Constitution and restructure the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and provide for its functions, powers to provide for the institutional framework for protecting, promoting and monitoring the rights of persons with disabilities and for related purposes.



Participants in a mass registration exercise

The Bill was introduced to the National Assembly as a Government sponsored Bill by the Leader of Majority and went through the first reading in January 2022. The introduction of the Bill to the National Assembly followed the directive of the president in his address to the public during the observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities at KICC, Nairobi on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

In his address, his Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta directed all the relevant agencies to fast track the finalization of the Bill so that parliament can pass it before the recess for the General Elections. The Bill has since gone through the second and third reading and was recently forwarded to the Senate.

As the Bill is being finalized by the Senate it is important to note that the journey towards reviewing the Bill began after the promulgation of the new Constitution. There was need to review the Persons with Disabilities Act 2003 to align it with the new Constitution and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The review involved various stakeholders engagements both from the government and civil society and individuals in the disability sector.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
 TWELFTH PARLIAMENT (SIXTH SESSION)  
 DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND THAT ON  
 DEFENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

In the Matter of Article 118 (1)(b) of the Constitution and National Assembly Standing Order 127(3) and  
 In the Matter of consideration by the National Assembly of –

- 1) The Persons With Disabilities Bill, 2021 (National Assembly Bill No. 61 of 2021); and
- 2) The Military Veterans Bill, 2022 (National Assembly Bill No. 4 of 2022)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SUBMISSION OF MEMORANDA)**

Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution provides that, "Parliament shall facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other businesses of Parliament and its Committees." National Assembly Standing Order (S.O.) 127(3) provides that "The Departmental Committee to which a Bill is committed shall facilitate public participation and take into account the views and recommendations of the public when the Committee makes its report to the House".

The **Persons With Disabilities Bill (National Assembly Bill No.61 of 2021)**, sponsored by the **Leader of the Majority Party**, was read a First Time on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 and thereafter committed to the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare for consideration and reporting to the House. The Bill seeks to give effect to Article 54 of the Constitution to restructure the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and to provide for its functions and powers to provide for the institutional framework for protecting, promoting and monitoring the rights of persons with disabilities and for connected purposes.

The **Military Veterans Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 4 of 2022)**, sponsored by the **Leader of the Majority Party** was read a First Time on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 and thereafter committed to the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations for consideration and reporting to the House. The Bill seeks to establish a regulatory and institutional framework for the management of military veterans' affairs; for the provisions of benefits to military veterans and military veterans' dependants; to establish the dependants' Education Fund; to establish the Defence Forces Retirement Home and for connected purposes.

**Now therefore**, in compliance with Article 118 (1) (b) of the Constitution and National Assembly Standing Order 127(3), the Committees hereby invite the general public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the two Bills. Copies of the Bills are available at the National Assembly Table Office or on [www.parliament.go.ke/the-national-assembly/house-business/bills](http://www.parliament.go.ke/the-national-assembly/house-business/bills).

The memoranda may be submitted to the **Clerk of the National Assembly, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi**; hand-delivered to the **Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly, Main Parliament Buildings, Nairobi**; or emailed to [clerk@parliament.go.ke](mailto:clerk@parliament.go.ke); to be received on or before **Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**.

MICHAEL R. SIALAI, CBS  
 CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022



After the first reading in January, The National Assembly Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, in compliance with Article 118 (1) (b) of the Constitution of Kenya and the National Assembly Standing Order 127(3) invited the general public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bill.

To enhance participation of persons with disabilities in submitting the memoranda, the Council publicized the call for submissions through various channels including announcements in meetings with stakeholders where the Council participated, announcements in various platforms including Council notice boards in all its offices, social media platforms and the Council website.

Internally, the Bill was introduced to and shared with Council staff for their comments through the departmental heads. The comments were consolidated and later on shared with the experts from the disability sector and the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

As a way of building consensus and lobbying for fast tracking on the enactment of the Bill into law, the Council held a one-day consultative forum with the committee on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 during which the Council presented additional comments on the Bill.

During the forum, the committee members were also taken through the Bill by the National Assembly Legal Counsel.

It is hoped that the passing of the Bill will revolutionize the disability sector as it broadens the mandate of the Council and also provides a wide range of rights and privileges to persons with disabilities.



**Legal Aid Clinic in Bombolulu, Mombasa**

## International Wheelchair Day celebrations

Kenya observed its 4<sup>th</sup> International Wheelchair Day celebrations on Tuesday, March 1st 2022 at the University of Nairobi's Graduation Square which was organized by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), Association for the Physically Disabled of Kenya (APDK), University of Nairobi, Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage, the National Fund for the Disabled of Kenya among other stakeholders. The theme for this year's celebrations was *my wheelchair, my right to inclusion*. The Chief Guest was Josephtha Mukobe, the Principal Secretary, Culture & Heritage.

The International Wheelchair Day is commemorated annually around the World on 1st March to celebrate the positive impact a wheelchair has on the life of wheelchair user.

The Day is dedicated to celebrate the great work of all wheelchair providers and people who support and are caregivers to wheelchair users.

The wheelchair is one of the most commonly used assistive devices for enhancing personal mobility, which is a precondition for enjoying human rights and living in dignity.



The challenges in accessing a wheelchair in Kenya are lack of policies that guide and bind actors when it comes to product sourcing, distribution, service provision and referrals related to wheelchairs.

Facilities plan and implement their own ways of providing services. There's need for guiding policies to be put in place to allow all wheelchair actors to co-exist together.

In addition, more staff should be trained to allow health centers and wheelchair access points to have sufficient trained personnel.

During the event, the Guest of Honour, highlighted the importance of encouraging research towards the development of appropriate wheelchairs and the creation and implementation of legislation and policies which helps the government to continue supporting persons with disabilities.

In her speech, the Guest of Honour reiterated the significance of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the commitment of the Government in supporting the Council to deliver on its mandate.



In his speech, Prof. Stephen Kiama, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, emphasized on the need to promote inclusion to ensure that every one is taking part in the development process.

Dr. Kunda, representing the Ministry of Transport informed participants that his Ministry recognizes the use of wheelchair as a mode of transport and invited all stakeholders to submit suggestions for reforming the transport sector.



### Celebrating champions of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The Council in partnership with Daima Trust organized and held the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of National Diversity and Inclusion Recognition Awards (DIAR Awards) ceremony on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Sarit Expo Centre in Nairobi. The theme for the ceremony was *Celebrating Champions of diversity, equity and inclusion–Turning our Differences into strengths*. This theme celebrated individuals championing the course of diversity and inclusion in deferent sectors. The Council played the role of the jury as well as judging and ranking the nominees for the Persons with Disabilities Inclusion Award.



NCPWD Chair Mr Peter Muchiri and Executive Director, Harun Hassan join participants in celebrating the award of Diversity and Inclusion, Innovative and Inclusive Deployment Technology Award

As an organization promoting inclusion of persons with disabilities, the Council was also awarded with the Diversity and Inclusion Innovative & Inclusive Deployment of Technology Award for its NCPWD **Career Portal**. The portal was considered as the greatest innovation promoting employment of persons with disabilities as it provides the link between employers and persons with disabilities seeking employment

Celebrating champions of *diversity, equity and inclusion* motivates beneficiaries to continue committing to fostering inclusivity, equity and diversity which translates our organizations and institutions into inclusive environments, where individuals are valued for their talents and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Inclusion of persons with disabilities for example helps them live a dignified life and become active members of the society.

Equity ensures everyone has access to the same treatment, opportunities, and advancement. Equity aims to identify and eliminate barriers that prevent the full participation of some groups. Speaking at the Awards ceremony, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission Chairperson Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia called on Kenyans to promote peace in the run up to the August elections.



*"Celebrating champions of diversity, equity and inclusion motivates beneficiaries to continue committing to fostering inclusivity, equity and diversity which translates our organizations and institutions into inclusive environments, where individuals are valued for their talents and have the opportunity to reach their full potential."*

*Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities for example helps them live a dignified life and become active members of the society."*

The Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr. Mercy Mwangangi who was the Chief Guest, called on Kenyans to embrace the differently abled through making buildings accessible and providing work opportunities for persons with disabilities. The Executive Director of the Council, Mr. Harun Hassan, informed the participants that disability is as a result of barriers that are confronted by persons with impairment. These barriers are two-fold - to make persons with disabilities less productive and to be isolated from the society. He reiterated the importance of including persons with disabilities in the society and ending the stigma that comes with it.

BY Veronica Aoko

In this article the writer explores the role of VPN technology in ensuring secure internet surfing and how it guarantees security especially when surfing in networks that are shared. The writer also highlights advantages and disadvantages of using a VPN



Staying online securely is almost impossible, especially with the dynamic advancement in technology. However, if you want to achieve even a little privacy, basic knowledge of the internet and its components is very important. After all, when you comprehend how things work, it becomes easier to deal with them properly. Therefore, it's important to secure your computer and internet connection.

A VPN is an awesome way to do that. A VPN or Virtual Private Network is a technology that creates a safe connection to a different network over the internet. Usually, you need internet access for a VPN connection to work. A VPN is important for anyone using public and unprotected networks like bars, coffee shops, hotels, airports, or restaurants, it can protect your confidential information such as bank details, work projects, and Personal information.

Therefore, instead of browsing directly, your device connects to the website through the virtual privaver insecure nette network's encrypted connection. The VPN will then forward the computer's requests to the website and give back the website's responses.

Think of a VPN as a tunnel, ensuring that data gets from one point to another without any sideways interruptions. The data and information that moves directly within this tunnel is encoded, which plays a major role in ensuring that eavesdropping by both black and grey hat hackers is prohibited. For instance, imagine being connected to a network that is monitored by your service provider. This means that he can restrict what sites you visit, and he can see your every activity online. A VPN creates a tunnel that ensures your online activities are invisible to not only your service provider but also possible black hat hackers. Black hat hackers can steal identities, and financial information, and use personal collected information such as email addresses and contact lists to conduct malicious activities.

An example of a very common VPN is Psiphon. It is a free and open-source tool that utilizes a combination of secure communication and SSH technology to facilitate secure surfing. SSH or secure shell technology is a type of network protocol that allows users and computers secure access to information oworks.

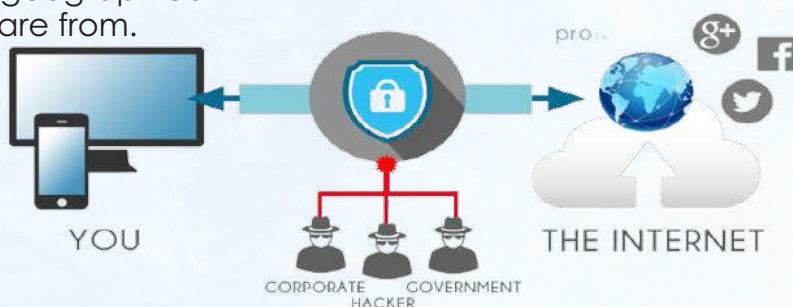
“ A VPN is an awesome way to do that. A VPN or Virtual Private Network is a technology that creates a safe connection to a different network over the internet. Usually, you need internet access for a VPN connection to work. A VPN is important for anyone using public and unprotected networks like bars, coffee shops, hotels, airports, or restaurants, it can protect your confidential information such as bank details, work projects, and Personal information.”

Psiphon is managed centrally and contains a diverse network of proxy servers that have been distributed all over the world, using a performance-oriented architecture. Using Psiphon is quite easy. All you have to do is install it in your windows operating system, launch it, and click connect.

With that, you can browse comfortably without the fear of your browsing history is visible to people lurking in the shadows or your service provider. Windscribe is another good example of a VPN for the linux operating system. It is an online tool that ensures the safety of your wi-fi connection and guarantees extreme privacy while online by hiding your real IP address and gives you a fake location every time you create a connection.

It is free to use and does not require extra settings, just one click to connect, and you can stay online safely for as long as you want.

Since the VPN hides your real location by hiding your IP address, you can be able to access services that have been restricted from your geographical location. Virtual Private Networks can also prevent online price discrimination during shopping since airline companies and retailers show different prices based on the geographical location they are from.



The major advantage of using a VPN when browsing using a public network. First, you can access blocked content from literally anywhere with VPN technology. Since a Virtual Private Network encrypts traffic and hides the IP address of the user, you can ensure that your online footprints cannot be used, thus, it will be difficult for black hat hackers to get your original IP address unless they get hold of your personal information. Moreover, A VPN guarantees enjoyable surfing.

That is, with no VPN, a lot of sites may push an influx of advertisements and unnecessary pop-up messages that may interrupt the normal surfing experience. Furthermore, a VPN ensures that bandwidth throttling is avoided.

Bandwidth throttling refers to a situation where an Internet service provider (ISP) deliberately slows down the speed of your internet or controls how your Wi-Fi works, and what kind of sites you can visit while online. Using a VPN may also have some problems for both the network and the computer. First, using a VPN reduces the network connection speed. That is the entire process taken by the VPN to encrypt data can take a lot of time, which in turn reduces the speed of your internet.

That is, in as much as VPN ensures safety while online, free Virtual private networks store a history of your online activity, have a lot of advertisements, and pose a weak algorithm for securing a network.

This is sometimes done by an organization when you visit a site that is not recommended for organizational purposes during work hours. However, if you have a VPN installed on your device.

Then your online activities can be effectively encrypted from your organization's VPN, and others cannot see the websites you are visiting. Moreover, you can easily hide your location using a VPN connection on both smartphones and computers. That is, if your device connects to the internet, it creates a temporary internet protocol (IP) address that uniquely identifies the machine and its location.

A very rare advantage of VPN is its ability to bypass geographical blocks. Once in a while, you browse the internet and receive the message that "Sorry, the content you requested is not available in your area."

**"A very rare advantage of VPN is its ability to bypass geographical blocks.**

**Once in a while, you browse the internet and receive the message that "Sorry, the content you requested is not available in your area."**

Thus, getting a quality VPN may be costly since it needs monthly subscriptions. Furthermore, it may foster the creation of stronger anti-VPN software. That is, with the development of VPNs, innovations to build better blockers have been inspired thus, limiting the strengths of the currently working VPN.

To conclude, a VPN is just one way of ensuring you surf securely. If this method, doesn't sit well with you, you can always try other methods such as Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTPS), password management, keeping your anti-virus software up to date, clearing of cache and cookies, and being careful what you post, and make purchases from secure sites. These security measures don't have to cost you much. In almost all cases, there are cheap and even free options that are perfectly capable of securing your data. In addition to the above-mentioned password managers, there are also free antivirus programs and free Virtual Private Networks.

## Access to Education

By Titus Yego & Elizabeth Kibor

In this article, the writer examines some of the efforts made in ensuring that persons with disabilities access education. The writer also highlights some of the education programmes offered by the Council.

Education is the most empowering force in the world. To quote the former president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the World."

It is through education that one becomes thoughtful about what goes around them, adjusts properly in one's own environment, meets basic job qualifications and secures better job opportunities.

Education is aimed at acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes which help one to navigate in their day today lives. This is because it creates knowledge, builds confidence, and breaks down barriers to opportunities.

The more knowledge one gains from education, the more opportunities will open up to allow a person to achieve better possibilities in career and personal growth.

Hence, education lessens the challenges one faces in life, stimulates economic growth directly by increasing innovation, productivity, and human capital and fostering positive social change, by encouraging things like political participation, social equality, and environmental sustainability. According to the 2019 Kenya National Housing and Population Census, 3.5 percent of the country's population had attained tertiary education (university) as the highest level completed.



Photo courtesy of Kilimanjaro Trust

7% finished a middle level or Technical and Vocational Training (TVET) after secondary school. Half of the population reported having primary education as the highest level completed, while 24.5 percent attained secondary level.

To ensure that students successfully complete secondary education, the government has subsidized tuition fees for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in collaboration with the Higher Education Loans Board. Fees charged by TVETS per academic year is Ksh 56,400.

Capitation per academic year disbursed by government to subsidize access to tertiary education and training per student is Ksh 30,000 while the trainee is expected to pay Ksh 26,400 per academic year. In complementing the Ministry of Education to ensure persons with disabilities access education and training, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities,

implements an education programme that supports persons with disabilities access education.

The main objective of the programme is to empower learners with disabilities access education and training for them to access opportunities and eventually employment.

The Council has two types of scholarships under this Programme which have increased the number of students accessing secondary education with the sole aim of ensuring high retention rates in learning institutions

**The WEZESHA Scholarship Programme** targets bright and needy learners (not necessarily with disability) who depend on parents/guardians with disabilities. This scholarship programme was introduced with the aim of cushioning parents with disabilities from poverty through educating their bright children. The programme started in 2019 and has so far supported 188 beneficiaries.

**The Faulu Scholarship Programme** targets needy learners with disabilities joining secondary schools. Those targeted are distributed across the counties, disability categories, gender and geographical areas in order to ensure equity. The Council so far has supported 750 learners with disabilities across the country.

Besides the scholarship programmes, the Council also provides bursaries to needy learners with disabilities enrolled in primary special schools, rehabilitation and vocational training institutions.



*"Education is the most empowering force in the world. To quote the former president of the South Africa, Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." It is through education that one becomes thoughtful about what goes around them, adjusts properly in one's own environment, meets basic job qualifications and to secure better job opportunities."*

# Social Engineering as a cybersecurity threat.

By Veronica Aoko

In this article, the writer describes how cybersecurity threats are propagated through social engineering and provides advice on how to avoid such threats.

Cybersecurity threats have significantly increased with the introduction of new technologies. Security involves a deeper understanding of who or what sites you trust when using the internet. Since the aspect of the human mind such as their feelings, memories, and thoughts remains the same for most people, social engineering has become a huge threat, especially to technology-illiterate persons.

Therefore, before understanding how to guard yourself against social engineering, one must understand how it works and its effects on both individual lives and businesses.

In the context of societies, social engineering refers to the utilization of centralized planning to ensure that social changes are manageable and societal behaviours are effectively regulated.

However, in the context of cybersecurity and information systems, social engineering is the utilization of manipulation, lies, or deception to push individuals into willingly giving their personal or confidential information that may be used for fraud purposes. This confidential information may involve a person's mobile number, social security number, bank account information, personal signatures, email addresses, and tax identification details.

Since Social engineering aims at exploiting that trust and focuses on the human element of a system, the part that usually remains the same, it becomes easy for people with bad intentions to manipulate that trust.

A simple example may involve a co-worker convincing you that their login details to an organizational sensitive server have expired and they need to access the server urgently and convinces you to let them use your details, however, they use your credentials to steal sensitive information from the database, which will be traced back to you since your credentials were used to log in.

Social engineering is difficult to recognize since it has different ways of hiding itself, and understanding those ways can assist one in fighting against social engineering. These ways involve phishing, baiting, pretexting, quid pro quo, tailgating, and reverse social engineering.

Phishing uses text messages, phone calls, or emails that appear to be from legitimate sources that the user is familiar with to convince users to click on certain links that may turn out to be malicious.

Thus, when the user clicks on that link, the system of the user is infected by different kinds of malware that usually compromises the integrity of data. Malware is a general term created by two terms, malicious and software, and defines different types of computer programs that are capable of obtaining sensitive information, gaining unsanctioned access to protected networks, and compromising computer systems.



For example, you may receive an email from your bank account telling you that your account has been deactivated due to certain reasons and asking you to click a certain link to activate it without visiting the physical location, but once you click on the link, a malware attack is set on your system. Baiting involves enticing users with offers and free items into clicking links that introduce malware into the computer systems. These free items may involve free music, purchase offers, and free premium subscriptions. For instance, a user may receive an email or text telling them that they have won a certain prize, and they need to click a link that contains malicious software to claim their price.

With pretexting, an individual impersonates a representative from a trusted organization to acquire sensitive information.

Pretexting is largely dependent on gathering research about a user before making contact with the person. For example, an employee in an organization may receive a phone call from a person claiming to be the CEO of the company wanting certain information from the user, since the user believes a person from power is calling them, they are inclined into giving out information.

Another method of social engineering is quid pro quo. It is a way of baiting that promises a user something after completing a certain kind of activity. For example, a social engineer promises a free upgrade to your software if you download it, and once you download that particular software, instead of getting an upgrade, you have given a social engineer access to your computer system and every piece of data contained within it.

Reverse social engineering encompasses a hacker convincing a target that they have a problem, then positioning themselves with a solution. This pushes the target to willingly look for the attacker believing that they are the only ones that can solve their problem. The last form of social engineering involves Tailgating which is the only physical form of social engineering.



It involves a hacker gaining access to a physical building by tailing a legitimate employee, who pretends to be an employee, a client, or a delivery person. Once inside the building, they are free to roam around, talk to people, and access the organization's network through any computer within the network.

Social engineering poses a lot of effects on both individuals and organizations. For instance, individuals and organizations may experience financial losses if they fall victims to social engineering.

This is because hackers may sell important data to black markets, and organizations may lose the trust of their customers if clients lose faith in them. Moreover, social engineering may lead to identity theft, thus fraud and other malicious activities may be conducted under the victim's name. Furthermore, sensitive data can be stolen from individual and organization systems in case a hacker gets access to important access credentials thus ruining the integrity of systems, data, and processes.



The consequences of these social engineering attacks can be very dangerous. Therefore, it is important to come up with effective methods of dealing with them. First, do not open emails or any attachments that seem suspicious. If you are not sure about the legitimacy of the sender, do not answer the mail or click on the links contained in them.

Keep in mind that email addresses are often spoofed so an email that seems to come from a trusted source may be from a hacker. Second, use multifactor authentication since attackers often seek credentials since it can give them access to not only sensitive information but also financial data. Multifactor authentication will ensure that email and user accounts are protected against phishing attacks. Third, always be cautious of tempting offers.

That is if an offer sounds too good to be true, think twice before accepting them. Checking online about those topics before clicking on links can quickly determine whether you are dealing with a scam or a legitimate source. Also, since every email program comes with a spam filter, you can set your spam filter high to ensure that suspicious links do not get into your inbox. Lastly, always keep an anti-virus or anti-malware updated to ensure that your system is always getting scanned for possible infections and possible signs of phishing attacks.

In conclusion, the after-effects of social engineering can go beyond losing of files and stolen information. Certain social engineering attacks can lead to disruption of an organization's routine activities, huge financial losses and losing of credibility for both individuals and organizations. Therefore, it is important that individuals and business institutions take the necessary precautions to identify, prevent, and deal with social engineering attacks.

## Council rolls out the new registration system.

By Ann Kagwi

In this article we look at the new registration system developed by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and how it is going to enhance registration of persons with disabilities. The article also provides insights on how the new system will improve registration of persons with disabilities by decentralizing the registration process to the county levels.

Organizations of Persons with disabilities , State Department for Social Protection, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes among others.

The National Council for Persons with Disabilities began rolling out the new registration system. The new system that was developed last year was launched by His Excellency the President on 3rd December 2021 during the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The new system was developed by the Council and subjected to validation by various stakeholders including ,



The registration system is aimed at curbing fraud during registration, enhancing reporting structure for accountability, and also generating adequate socio-economic data for planning purposes.

The system is also aimed at addressing the constant delays occasioned by the signing of the disability assessment reports by the Director Medical Services at the Ministry of Health headquarters.

In the old system, all the disability assessment reports from all the hospitals carrying out the assessment in the 47 counties were forwarded to the MOH headquarters for signing. This resulted to delays in release of the reports to persons with disabilities.

The roll out of the system began with the formation of a task force within the Council and development of a road map to guide the roll out.

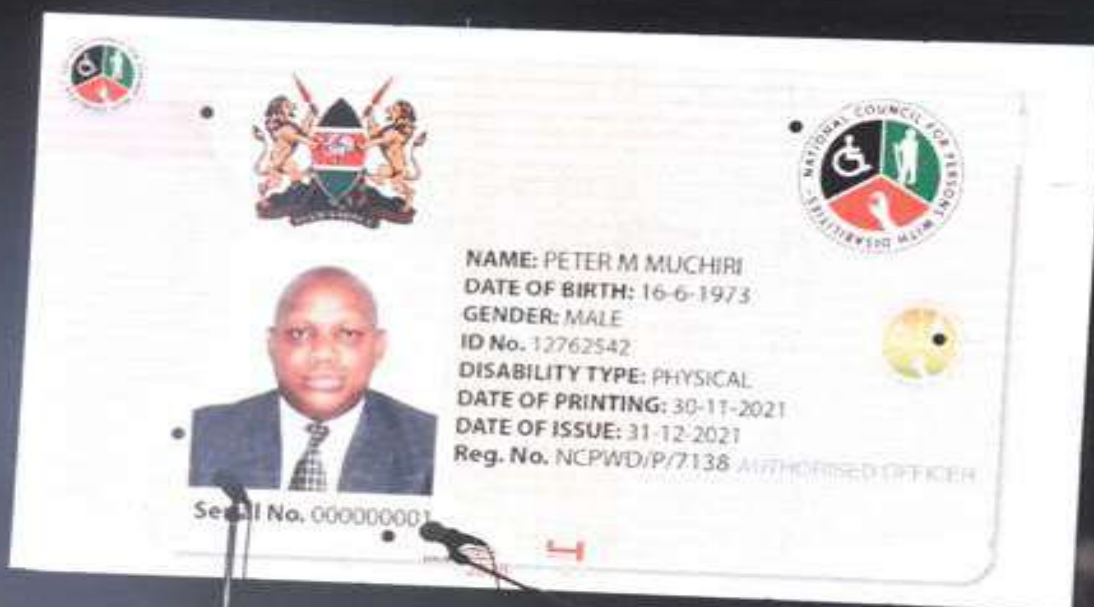
In addition, the Council held a stakeholder breakfast meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 with various partners to support the implementation of the road map.

The roadmap entails among others: training of county medical officers and disability officers on the new assessment guidelines, registration under the new system, printing of new cards as well as a series of stakeholder engagements to take stock of progress made, hiccups experienced and possible solutions.

Further, the Council also held a Zoom webinar on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022. The three-hour webinar was aimed at sensitizing the public on the new registration system.

Over 400 participants who interacted with panelists in Question and Answer session on a number of issues concerning registration and the Council programs in general. Some of the issues covered included; the Council's role in registering persons with disabilities, the Ministry of Health's new disability medical assessment guidelines, the ongoing process of amending the current registration regulations (2009), the ongoing rollout of the new registration and other general enquiries on the programs and services offered by the Council.

The Council also held a hybrid training for all medical teams from the 47 counties that are involved in the assessment of persons with disabilities. The training was aimed at equipping the medics with the skills and knowledge of the new assessment tool developed by the Ministry of Health in partnership with the Council and other stakeholders. The tool is embedded in the new Disability Assessment and Categorization Guidelines developed by the MOH and other partners aimed at standardizing disability assessment in all the hospitals.



Why does the Council register persons with disabilities?

The Council is mandated by the Persons with Disabilities Act No. 14 to register to register all persons with disabilities in Kenya. Section 7(1c) of the Act, mandates the Council to register persons with disabilities and also organizations, institutions and associations of persons with disabilities.

### Why the New Registration System

- i) The Ministry of Health in partnership with other stakeholders including the Council Developed New Disability Medical Assessment Guidelines and New Medical Assessment Tool Per Category of Disability. This Guidelines are geared towards Standardizing Assessments in all the Assessment Centers in the Country. To align the Registration Process for Persons with Disabilities, a New Registration System was Developed and Launched by His Excellence the President on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021, during the International Day for Persons with Disabilities Celebration held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre.
- ii) The old Registration System lacked key Administrative Data of those registered and therefore the New System addresses the challenge of providing Disaggregated data per Village, Ward, County etc. This also covers Type and Category of Disability, Assistive Devices used/required, Gender, Level of Education, Employment etc.

- iii) This new registration system was also developed in line with fulfilling one of Kenya's commitment at the Global Disability Summit 2018 on generating properly disaggregated data on disability. Due to the many affirmative actions on disability such as tax exemption, duty free motor vehicle importations, additional five years beyond retirement age etc. many dishonest individuals have found their way into the registration system due to its weak controls. Therefore, the new registration system seeks to curb fraud cases and have in place proper accountability trails.

The new system will also generate a new-generation identification card with security features to curb fake disability identification cards.

With increased awareness on the privileges enjoyed by persons with disabilities, the assessment reports submitted to the Ministry of Health in the last few years have increased significantly. Clients have had to wait long to access services due to delays in processing their reports. Those concerns made it increasingly necessary to standardize the process to ensure only those who are eligible are registered. It also augmented calls to decentralize the signature on the disability medical assessment from the Ministry of Health Headquarters in Nairobi to the Counties, thus easing service delivery to persons with disabilities.

The new registration system is expected to revolutionize the registration process at the Council. Registration under the new system will come with new cards with enhanced security features like QR code, rainbow pattern, guilloche pattern, OVI, Microtext reading etc. Currently, logistic for printing the new look registration cards is underway and once the rollout will be complete, clients will be issued with the new cards. In the meantime, the old card is still valid and in use.

Persons with disabilities who get registered under the new system will receive a waiting card. A mass migration exercise will be conducted and persons already registered will be required to present themselves at our county offices carrying their old card, disability medical assessment report not older than 4 years, a passport photo and update their data using the new registration form after which they will be issued with a new registration card.

Once printing of the new cards kicks off, replacement of the old card with the new card across the country will take place for approximately one year. The old card will be invalid after a substantial number of people have been migrated into the new system, an exercise which will also involve among others a proof-of-life. The migration to the new system is ongoing and persons with disabilities will not be charged any fee by the Council during the process.



MOH facilitating a training for all the medics from the 47 counties mobilized by the Council.

## Is Everyone Supposed to be Registered Afresh?

### Answer:

- i) Not everyone is being registered afresh but everyone is supposed to go and update their Data in the New Registration System in readiness of being issued with a New Generation Disability Card.
- ii) Those who are already registered, their Data has already been migrated to the New System and they are Partially Registered. Updating of information completes the Registration Process to the New Registration System
- iii) For those who are Registering for the First Time, their Data is Automatically captured in the New Registration System

## Will my Registration Number (NCPWD/P/XXXX) be Changed after updating my Data in the New Registration System?

- i) No, Registration Numbers shall be Maintained

## What do I require to be migrated to the New Registration System?

- i) Copy of National Identification Card or Birth Certificate for Children under 18 Years
- ii) Copy of the Disability Medical Assessment Report Signed by the Director Medical Services
- iii) Passport Size Photo
- iv) You will fill the Registration Form

## What happens after Submitting the Required Documents?

### Answer:

- i) Data is Updated on the New Registration System
- ii) Documents are scanned and uploaded
- iii) The Officer submits the Data to Headquarters for Approval
- iv) Upon Approval by Headquarters, a Waiting Card Shall be Printed at the Office (County Level) and be issued with a Waiting Card
- v) The Client get an SMS confirming that Data has been Approved by the Headquarter Team
- vi) Upon receiving the SMS, the Client can visit our County Office to get a Printed Waiting Card for those who drop their Application Forms.

## How long shall I wait for the card and how will I know my New Generation Card is ready for Collection?

- i) You will get an SMS informing you that the card is ready and the Place to collect it just the same way you received an SMS when the Approval was done.
- ii) Time is not precise for now but immediately card printing begins, this will be immediate

## What are the advantages of the New Generation Card compared with the current one?

- i) The Card is Durable, Authentic, with QR Code and USSD. This shall be beneficial as anyone in need of information, they can quickly scan the QR Code or use the USSD and authenticate the status of the identity card holder
- ii) The current card doesn't have all this provision and Registered Persons with Disabilities are required to come back to the Council for Letters to authenticate their Registration Status. The New Generation Persons with Disability Cards Shall address this Challenge

## Is the current NCPWD card still in use?

- i) The Current NCPWD Card is still Valid and in Use until such a time that everyone will have received the New Generation NCPWD Cards

## For those Applying for the First Time and Those who lost their NCPWD Cards, what happens as cards are no longer being Printed?

- i) For those Applying for the first time, they shall be issued with a waiting Card Immediately Approval is done by the Headquarters
- ii) For those who have lost their NCPWDs Cards, they should go to the Nearest NCPWD Offices with a Copy of the National ID/Birth Certificate, Copy of the Medical Report and Passport Size Photo, Fill the New Registration Form to update Data and you will also be issued with a Waiting Card



# KENYA VISION 2030



# 4

THE BIG

EMPOWERING THE NATION



© 2015 NCPWD