



**AAK** | PROMOTING EXCELLENCE  
IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

### **REINSTATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RELATED FEES**

We refer to the recent notice by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) to reinstate the environmental impact assessment and related fees effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Our Association is greatly concerned that the move will do more harm to the construction industry than good.

As a major contributor to the Kenyan economy, the construction industry has been considerably affected by the ongoing recession being experienced globally. Therefore, the fees will further make the business environment more unfavorable for property developers.

The industry has experienced an unprecedented increase in cost of construction materials over the last few months. The re-introduction of the levy will further hurt the industry and will not be supporting recovery from the effects of global price increases, especially considering that we are still recovering from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The National Environment Management Authority has been operational all through the period when the fees were set aside and we see no need to re-introduce the charges. We urge NEMA to continue placing emphasis on enforcing compliance considering our environment and the climate is feeling the impact of degradation.

Should these fees be retained, we propose that developers should pay the fees according to the risk of the project and not as a standard one-off payment for every project. The risk should be put in the bands from low to high risk. We also propose that an environmental fund should be introduced to channel the fees because the authority is supported by the exchequer and not fees from developers. The fund can then be used towards developing and implementing concrete environmental conservation plans, such as installing air quality monitors, sound meters, recycle bins, etc., to monitor the environment.

The association implores the government to reconsider this decision as it will substantively impact the growth of the construction industry.

**Ends**

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**WILSON MUGAMBI**  
**PRESIDENT, AAK**  
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#### **HEAD OFFICE**

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