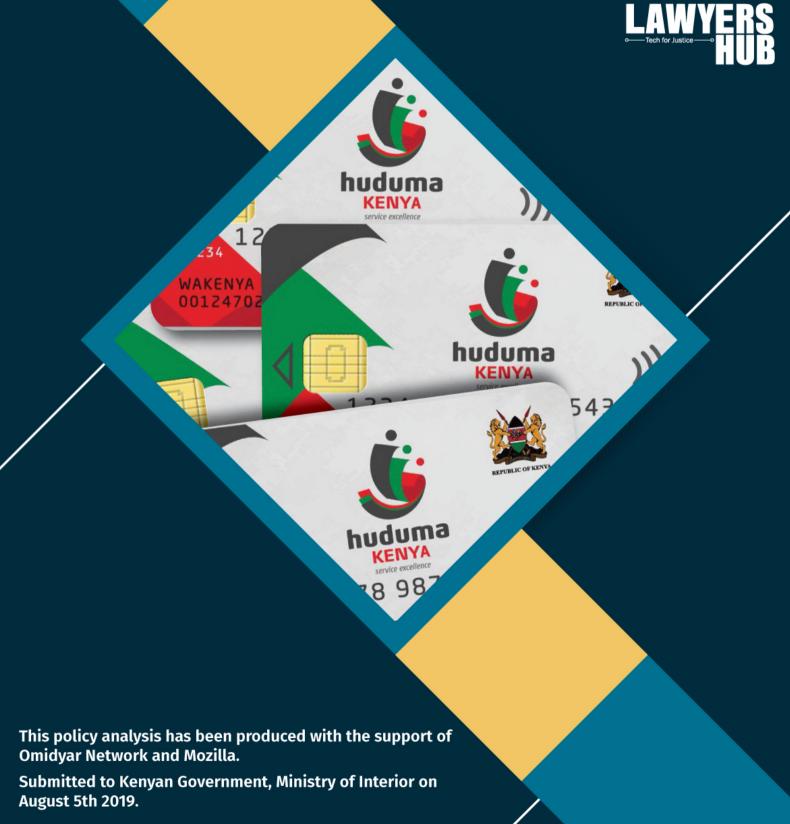


Kenya's Draft Digital Identity Law





BACKGROUND

The question of proof of citizenship and legal Identity in Kenya has been present from the colonial period till now, where bona fide Kenyans have had the onus of proofing their citizenship sometimes with documents they lack. Kenya has a multiple disintegrated Identification system mainly comprised of the civil Birth and Death registry, which issues birth and death certificates, the department of National Registration Bureau that issues Identity Cards to Kenyan citizens only and the Department of Immigration that issues the Kenyan Passport¹. The World Bank in 2017 reported that although Kenya lacks a fully integrated National Population Registration System, it is currently working on an Integrated Population Registration Service which seeks to integrate information from the civil registry, National ID database and Immigration department to provide an online validation of identity to public and private service providers². The Huduma Bill 2019 was released to the public on July 15th 2019 for public comments and views as per article 10 and 118 of the Constitution of Kenya on which requires public participation when enacting legislation.

It introduces a National Integrated Identity Management System which combines both functional and foundational data of an individual to one database and grants them a unique identification number that will serve as proof of identity in Kenya. The bill however follows the Government Huduma Namba Pilot Registration exercise which was done in absence of any robust laws on privacy and Data protection in Kenya. Though the system proposes some benefits to Kenyans the process has elucidated suspicion among the citizenry leaving many wonderings why the government is in such a rush to roll out the system and who the main beneficiaries of the system are or will be. Moreover, there are serious legal questions which the bill leaves unanswered that challenge the constitutionality and legitimacy of the bill and require amendment.

² World Bank Group, The State of Identification Systems in Africa, A Synthesis of country assessments (2017) < <u>http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/156111493234231522/pdf/114628-WP-68p-</u> TheStateofIdentificationSystemsinAfricaASynthesisofIDDAssessments-PUBLIC.pdf> accessed 30th July 2019



¹ Ministry of Interior and Co-ordination of National Government services, Department of Immigration services < <u>http://www.immigration.go.ke/civil-registration-services</u>> accessed 30th July 2019

1.2 Justification for Amendment

1.2.1 Nomenclature and definitions

The bill is referred to as the Huduma Bill 2019. Huduma is the Swahili word for services yet the main objects of the Bill are to establish a National Integrated Identity Management system for the purpose of legal Identification and facilitate the assigning of Unique Identification Number and Identity documents to facilitate registration of Births and Deaths. The title is thus misleading.

Lawful residence and Biographical data are not defined under the act. The act requires every lawful resident to mandatorily enroll for a Huduma Namba yet fails to describe what amounts to lawful residence specially to marginalized communities such as stateless persons living in Kenya who lack any documentation to prove their nationality in their country of residence i.e. Kenya and cannot establish any legal link to any other nation.

The act has failed to describe what Biometric Data is or means under the Bill which is important because of the sensitivity of the Data and the fact that the Data is a vital component of the ensuring efficiency of the NIIMS system.

1.2.2 Violation of Human rights

The Huduma Bill makes it mandatory to have a Huduma Namba in order to access Universal Healthcare, enroll into a public educational facility, access social protection services and benefit from the Government Housing Scheme³. The constitution is the supreme law in Kenya through which all laws including the bill draw their validity. Article 43 of the Constitution adopts a non-discriminatory approach by granting every Person and not every citizen a similar right to access the highest attainable standards of health including emergency medical services, accessible and adequate housing, social security and education.



³ The Huduma Bill 2019, s8

Human rights are by nature universal and granted to all persons by virtue of their humanity as is supported by natural and universalist theory of law⁴. Article 19 (3) takes a similar view and includes a positivist approach by restating the rights under the constitution belong to each individual and are not granted by the state. Kenya has also ratified the ICESR which further guarantees these rights and thus Kenya has a constitutional mandate to uphold them. The government cannot therefore be allowed to restrict access to essential services especially those relating to medical treatment and abrogate its duty to observe, promote and protect the rights of citizens under the constitution.

It thus pegs the question whether the denial of these rights by reason of nonenrolment for the Huduma Number is a reasonable and Justifiable limitation as envisaged by article 24 of the constitution. In recent decision by the Kenyan courts in the *John Kabui Mwai* case the court noted that education must be accessible to all without discrimination but especially to the most vulnerable groups⁵. The marginalized and minority communities such as the Nubian Community, and Kenyan Somalis and Kenyan Arabs who because of discrimination have been unable to acquire Identity documentation as easy as other Kenyan citizens. This places them at risk of further marginalization and exclusion.

CHILDREN

Children from these communities are further disproportionately affected as they run the risk of denial of basic education and healthcare. The state is under article 53 of the constitution, the Children's Act and the Convention on the Rights of the Child to which Kenya has ratified, obligated to work in the best interest of the child at all times. By requiring minors, the age of 6 to have access to a Minor's Huduma Card will potentially lock them out of accessing essential services leaving them continuously marginalized through no fault of their own. The state thus has to

⁵ John Kabui Mwai & 30thers v Kenya National Examination Council & 2 others (2011) e KLR



⁴ All Answers Itd, 'Universalism and Cultural Relativism In Human Rights International Law Essay' (Lawteacher.net, February 2019) <https://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/internationallaw/universalism-and-cultural-relativism-in-human-rights-international-law-essay.php?vref=1> accessed 30th 2019

recognize the *de facto inequalities* suffered by these children and abolish the need for it to basic education and healthcare.

In addition, *minors of foreign nationals* who are 6 years and above are discriminated as there is no provision to issue a foreign nationals Minors' Huduma Card for resident minors while the law provides for Minor's card for Kenyan Minors, Adult card for Kenyans above the age of 18 and Foreign Nationals Huduma Card for Resident adult non-citizens.

Section 19 of the Bill requires the enrolment of a new born into the NIIMS system in order to grant them a Huduma Namba. The NIIMS system generally fails to cater for stateless persons who lack the necessary documentation to enroll under the system. This means children of stateless persons run the risk of further marginalization as their parents may be unable to enroll them under the system and ultimately lack access to essential Government services.

AGED

Ageism, the assumption of negative stereotypes about a particular age group is mostly related with the adoption of negative stereotypes of the aged. This is a growing demographic in Kenya and the government in the proposed Huduma Bill has failed to recognize the intersectionality of discrimination suffered by this marginalized group. Article 57 of the constitution places a duty on the state to ensure older persons receive reasonable care and assistance from the state and the family. General Comment no 6 of the Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights on the economic, social and cultural rights of older persons of the ICESR regarding older persons and the 1991 UN principles for older persons have interpreted care to include healthcare and social security. The government thus needs to consider the aged population who may potentially be locked out of the system and vital access to these essential services.

In light of the above the limitation may thus be unjustified and un-proportional in relation to the services denied and thus ultimately unconstitutional.



REFUGEES

Kenya is a host of close to 477000 refugees some of whom a number of whom have resettled and continue to live in Kenya⁶. In the recent case challenging the Government directive to close down Refugee Camps and repatriate refugees back to Somalia by the KNCHRC against the Government, submissions were given by refugees living in urban areas in Nairobi who wished to remain for they needed healthcare services. The court recognized the need for Kenya to respect its obligation under the 1951 Refugee Convention and protocol relating to the status of Refugees and nullified the directive to forcefully repatriate refugees⁷. In the same manner, Kenya has under the 1951 Convention an obligation to give refugees similar treatment as nationals with regard to access to public education, social security, and healthcare.

The Huduma Bill fails to meet these requirements as section 11 of the Bill fails to state what documents refugees and asylum seekers should use to acquire a Huduma Namba. Noting that the process of Refugee Status Determination and issuance of Refugee Identity Cards takes as long as one year or more⁸ in which they will need access to essential services such as housing, healthcare and education for which it is mandatory to present a Huduma Namba to access. Moreover, the Huduma Namba is the recognized form of identification which refugees ought to have as per the Third Schedule of the Bill. Noting the long period, it takes for refugees and refugee minors to acquire identity documents, they will continue to be subject to harassment and arrest from state officials⁹.

https://www.rckkenya.org/refugees-asylum-seekers-and-returnees/> accessed 31st July 2019 ⁹ Lonah Kibet, Groups Decry Rise in Refugee Attacks, *Standard Digital* (Nairobi 23rd Jan 2013) < https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2000075646/groups-decry-rise-in-refugee-attacks> accessed 31st July 2019



⁶Registration, (UNHCR) <<u>https://www.unhcr.org/ke/registration</u>> accessed 31st July 2019

 ⁷ Kenya National Commission on Human Rights & another v attorney General & 3 others (2017) e KLR
⁸ RCK, Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Returnees (Refugee Consortium of Kenya) <

INTERSEX

An intersex in Kenya is defined as 'a condition in which a person has physiological characteristics which cannot be classified as exclusively fitting into the binary definition of male or female at birth¹⁰. The Huduma bill under section 9 and 23 requires the Huduma Card and the birth certificate respectively to have the Sex of an Individual. The bill fails to expressly describe sex to include Intersex Persons as well. A taskforce formed to compile comprehensive data on the number and challenges facing intersex persons in Kenya reports that,

"In terms of legal recognition and documentation, the study found that a majority of intersex persons in Kenya had birth certificates but their recorded sex conflicts with their self-recognized sex making it difficult for them to acquire Identity Cards. This is compounded by their changed physical appearance that conflicts with the recorded sex. As a result, those who have IDs have acquired them through use of sworn affidavits, baptism cards and assistance of third parties making the process longer and delaying or denying them opportunities, employment and voting. They also have conflicting identity as sex recorded on their birth certificates and educational certificates differ."¹¹

In light of the above the taskforce recommended the inclusion of Intersex as a sex category within the NIIMS system and further inclusion in administrative and institutional forms such as birth notifications and medical documents¹² which the Bill has failed to expressly provide for leaving intersex persons at risk of further discrimination, exclusion and marginalization.

¹² Ibid pg. 200



¹⁰ Taskforce on Policy, Legal, Institutional and Administrative Reforms Regarding Intersex Persons in Kenya, (KLRC Blog 27 November 2018) <<u>http://www.klrc.go.ke/index.php/klrc-blog/613-taskforce-on-policy-legal-institutional-and-administrative-reforms-regarding-intersex-persons-in-kenya-blog</u>> accessed 31st July 2019

¹¹ Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice, *Report on the Taskforce of Policy. Legal, Institutional and Administrative Reforms regarding Intersex Persons in Kenya*, (2018)<http://www.klrc.go.ke/images/TASKFORCE-REPORT-on-INTERSEX-PERSONS-IN-KENYA.pdf> accessed 31st July 2019

CAUSE OF DEATH

Section 29 requires the registration of the cause of death in the death certificate where known. An argument is presented that death occurring in violation of dignity of the deceased and the survivors even where known should not be compulsory to include in the death certificate. An example is where the deceased dies of HIV/AIDS, HIV status is sensitive and protected data to the deceased and also the survivors who may later face discrimination on the disclosure of such information. Even where a child for example survives a HIV Positive parent, the disclosure of the parent's status may open them to discrimination as they would need to present the certificate to other offices.

1.2.3 Appeal

The bill under section 25 provides for the cancellation of an enrollment for a Huduma Namba where it was obtained by either fraud, false representation, bribery, concealment of material facts and on any other justifiable cause after giving such person an opportunity to Heard. The act however fails to provide the appeal procedures to the decision of the principal secretary. Article 48 of the constitution guarantees citizens the rights of access to justice which includes the right to fair administrative action. This is further supported by the overriding objective within the civil procedure act. Citizens thus have a right to appeal to a known appellate body and a right to have their dispute resolved within the shortest time possible.

On this matter another issued left unresolved is whether on revocation of the Huduma Namba, such person guilty of fraudulent activity would still be entitled for re-enrolment to get another Huduma Namba especially to access government services. Article 12 of the constitutions states that every citizen is entitled to a Kenyan passport and any document of registration or identification issued by the state to citizens. Further a citizen by birth can't be deprived of their Kenyan citizenship thus their legal right to identity documents.



Further section 58 of the Bill requires the Principal Secretary to establish dispute resolution mechanisms which in our opinion ought to be established by the act due to the sensitive nature of data handled and issues arising out of denial of citizenship.

1.2.4 Citizens access

Article 35(1) guarantees all citizens the right to information held by the state while (2) grants every person the right to correction of untrue or misleading information that affects them. The bill similarly guarantees a person enrolled under the system the right to access their data and to correction of misleading information about them. The NIIMS System however is comprised solely of the NIIMS Database, The Huduma Namba and the Huduma Card. The system lacks the mechanism or platform for citizens to access their data and then correct it. Article 10 provides for transparency, integrity and public participation to be the core national values and principle of governance in Kenya. In *Robert Gakuru case*, the Court stated that public participation ought to be real and not illusionary and ought not to be treated as a mere formality for the purposes of fulfillment of constitutional dictates¹³. The public access portal should thus be a vital component of the NIIMS system.

1.2.5 Lack of Transitional provisions

The transitional provisions within the act fail to give proper direction on how long the enrolment shall take and how long it will take to acquire the new Huduma card on enrolment. The method used to enroll persons on the NIIMS database has also not been disclosed. Currently, minority communities such as the Nubians and other communities living along the border have to undergo vetting prior to the issuance of identity documents. Vetting though formally done was not a legal step of identity verification until the amendment via the security Laws (amendment) Act 2014 which introduced section 8 of the Registration of Persons Act which gives the director discretion to demand proof of any information required under the act via documentary and other evidence and to appoint an identification committee or an

¹³ Robert N. Gakuru & others v Kiambu County Government & 3 others [2014] e KLR



identification agent to assist in the authentication of the information provided. The minister similarly has power to make rules for the vetting applicants prior to issue or replacement of ID cards. Any person who has attained the age of 18 years is legally required to apply for an ID which may be used to grant any license or permit or for any legal consideration when required.

Section 67 of the Bill calls for the repeal of the Registration of Persons Act and as a result will lead to the abolition of vetting in law that has historically been discriminative and marred with maladministration as was recognized by the African Commission on Human and People's Rights in the Nubian children Minority decision¹⁴. The law should thus ensure that once outlawed the practice doesn't informally find its way in the system again.

1.2.6 Prohibition against automated decision making

There is general fear of abuse and misuse of the data collected under the NIIMS system. There is a general concern of the use of this information for profiling during elections. The concept isn't foreign having already witnessed the use of the concept of 'the Tyranny of Numbers' that is mostly used in Kenya to relate to oppression by those with numerical advantage over the minority such as in the Kenyan 12th Parliament. It however gained popularity in Kenya in the run up to the 2013 general election. Its main proponent is Professor Mutahi Ngunyi who assuming that Kenyans vote on ethnic lines, assumed who would win the upcoming 2013 general elections based on the number of registered voters within the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) Register.

There was a total of about 12.3 million registered voters by IEBC 6.2 of who belonged to the GEMA and Kalenjin Community, the communities of the contestants of the Jubilee Alliance and the largest tribes in Kenya by numbers. Approximately 2.9 million belonged to ethnic communities of the second contestant of the Coalition for Reforms and Democracy (CORD) and 1.8 million to the community of the third

¹⁴ Communication 317/2006- The Nubian Community in Kenya vs The Republic of Kenya <u>http://www.achpr.org/files/sessions/17th-eo/communications/317.06/communication 317.06 eng.pdf</u>



contestant. In his theory, the Professor analyzed the remaining voters as swing votes who could be swayed to vote for either communities based on certain factors. However, based on those numbers the majority tribes would have an easy time winning and would therefore oppress minority tribes as the leader would be an imposition on them thus the tyranny. This type of algorithmic calculation that leads to automated decisions also those that relate to a person's creditworthiness should be prohibited in order to avoid data abuse and misuse.

1.2.7 Mode of Data collection

The bill fails to give the methodology the government intend to use to collect the data. In the 2013 Kenyan Presidential electoral Petition, the Kenyan Supreme Court took judicial notice of the fact that technology isn't perfect and it's sometime prone to fail. This failure has been observed in India as well. There have been reports where there has to be physical persons to verify and deliver services to people generally when the technology itself doesn't work like the village revenue officer who helps beneficiaries access services¹⁵. Similarly, the elderly and many people living in rural areas have found themselves denied essential services as their fingerprints are unable to scan properly thus leading to Aadhaar linked starvation deaths.

The World Bank similarly reports the challenge in performance Huduma Centers outside Nairobi due to lack of proper ICT infrastructure systems. "Kenya has built nearly 300 Huduma centers around the country. Outside Nairobi, however, many lack regular connectivity and power reducing their inability to be used as potential points of access to digital identities. Authentication over mobile networks is a potential solution to reducing the problem made more feasible by growing internet connectivity in Africa¹⁶".

¹⁶World Bank Group, The State of Identification Systems in Africa, A Synthesis of country assessments (2017) < <u>http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/156111493234231522/pdf/114628-WP-68p-</u> <u>TheStateofIdentificationSystemsinAfricaASynthesisofIDDAssessments-PUBLIC.pdf</u>> accessed 30th July 2019



¹⁵ Mukherjee and Gelb, 'Beyond ID: Using Digital Identification to Transform Governence', (Centre For Global Development, September 20 2018) < https://www.cgdev.org/blog/beyond-id-using-digital-identification-transform-governance> accessed 30th July 2019

The most recent report from the communication Authority of Kenya shows at least 42 Million Kenyans actively make internet subscriptions¹⁷. Further the UNHCR similarly recognizes the need for connectivity to improve access to services and especially internet in remote areas¹⁸. Likewise, Kenya could borrow from the GSMA project which uses mobile connectivity and partnerships from Mobile Network Operators and Government to register births in remote areas in countries such as Pakistan using community workers¹⁹.

Delegated Powers

Section 63 leaves a lot open to interpretation and gives wide regulatory discretion on sensitive matters like the procedure of birth and death, particulars to be recorded in the NIIMS database and issuance of Huduma Card or any other Identification Document. Though the Kenyan Constitution gives anyone the legal mandate to challenge laws that are unconstitutional, this also involves a lot of time and expense. In order to reduce cases of abuse of discretion and over regulation, it is necessary to employ safeguards that will fetter the regulatory power of the Cabinet Secretary which includes legislating on the procedure of births and death and reduce overall speculation.

1.2.8 Offences

Some of the offences stated in the act are so punitive as to be considered unfair. Failure to register a birth attracts a penalty of 1 year in prison or 1, million fines. Failure to register a death within 30 days will ultimately attract a penalty of 2million Kenya shillings or two years in prison. Bearing in mind cases of failure to register births fall within poor and marginalized communities the government should seek more redress than punitive measures. 30 days to report a death is also unrealistic given it's a morning period and various communities mourn for up to 2 weeks and

¹⁷ <u>https://ca.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Sector-Statistics-Report-Q1-2018-2019.pdf</u>

¹⁸ <u>https://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2016/9/57d7d4478/mobile-connectivity-lifeline-refugees-report-finds.html</u>



¹⁹ <u>https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/2018/08/DBR_infographic.pdf</u>

some may take even longer. Article 11 of the constitution recognizes culture as the foundation of the nation and the state has a duty to respect all forms of cultural expression.

SECTION 18 (4) requiring the mother to indicate their marital status may prove problematic during registration especially where the paternal father to the child is not her husband. Ideally, it's also discriminatory that the law requires the mother to state her status while the father is absolved of the same responsibility.

A general offence constitutes the Actus Reus and the Mens Rea but the offences as framed under the Bill assume a strict liability approach. Given the strict nature of the penalties under the Bill, it amounts to overly punitive sanctions and poor drafting.

1.2.9. Data Protection

Privacy and data protection are one of the major concerns of this system. The Huduma bill under section 8 makes registration mandatory in order to access certain services. The Government of India has already enrolled the Unique Identification Number for its citizens known as **'Aadhaar'** under the AADHAAR (TARGETED DELIVERY OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER SUBSIDIES, BENEFITS AND SERVICES) ACT, 2016. Initially enrolment for the Aadhaar number was voluntary however, after a Ruling by the Indian Supreme court that the number should be used to pay income tax in India, the number of enrolments rose to the current numbers of 1.15 Billion people. This then brings the voluntary nature envisaged by the act to an involuntary stalemate²⁰.

It's thus can be inferred that as long as certain government services mandatorily require a Huduma Namba citizens will have no choice but to enroll. The government thus has to be able to properly safeguard the data given by its citizens.

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/what-india-supreme-court-ruling-aadhaar-means-future> accessed 24th July 2019



²⁰ Gelb, Navis and Mukherjee, 'What India's ruling on Aadhaar Means for the future'

1.2.9.1 Lack of Data protection Laws.

Kenya has not yet enacted the data protection billed 2018 that is worrying especially now when we intend to roll out this new system. Though the bill attempts to restate and reconcile certain provisions it fails to:

a) Give proper definitions

Unlike the data protection Bill, The Bill leaves open to interpretation who is the data subject, the data controller and data processor. Secondly, this being sensitive data, the Bill ought to speak to the conditions to be satisfied to be selected as a data processor.

b) Restrictions on use

To prevent abuse, the bill must clearly define what use the Government is either allowed to use it to or prohibited from. The bill doesn't speak to prohibition of use of sensitive data and prohibition against profiling or automated decision making.

c) Data minimization

The Bill describes **biometric data** to include fingerprint, iris and retina scan, hand and earlobe geometry, toe impression, voice waves, blood typing, photographs and other biometric information or such other biological attributes of an individual obtained by way of biometrics.

To begin with the interpretation is too broads and creates room for arbitrary exercise of power to collect additional and at times unnecessary data like DNA. Secondly, this is sensitive data whose breach could lead to significant loss of identity to many Kenyans. From this fact alone, the Government ought to have adopted the Data minimization approach. Borrowing from the GDPR, data minimization could be said to include use of the least minimal data possible to accomplish a task. Therefore, minimal data should be collected, stored and processed²¹. The High court Interim Ruling on the Petition challenging the Constitutionality of the NIIMS system, the court stated that collection of DNA is not

²¹ <u>https://www.dataguise.com/gdpr-compliance-data-minimization-use-purpose/</u>



mandatory for the system. The government ought to restrict or limit the biometric collected and only use alternative biometrics like DNA or Earlobe geometry when the primary Biometric data is unavailable e.g. for persons living with Disabilities.

d) Liability

To ensure more data protection, liability should be personal for government officers should be personal while that for corporates should be pegged to their annual turnover to reduce data breaches.

e) Third party

The bill under section 38 prohibits the publishing, display or posting publicly of any biometric data under the NIIMS System. The questions remain if the Government is alive to the possibilities this type of system brings. The Aadhaar database is ideally open source software that allows for other developers to develop on this database and is comparable to android or IOS Software. ²². Therefore, it is generally used as a verification tool. The benefits of open source software are just evident as it makes developing easier, cheaper, and even improves the system as the developer also releases the improved code to the software. There are growing concerns however that the use of the Aadhaar in various databases that may collect sensitive data e.g. cast, religion and the databases are open to attack²³. The challenge of the system remains similar and thus the government when drafting the bill ought to seek to learn from various jurisdictions, emulate and adapt.

f) Right to be forgotten

Concerned that the Huduma Namba collects data on children, it is likely that the information of minors collected especially relating to any criminal offences maybe available and susceptible to misuse by other entities. Further, there is question of the role of the right to be forgotten and deletion of data in such a system.

 ²² Al Jazeera,' Aadhaar The world's Largest biometric identification system', (June 16 2017) < https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNr2t-6Ab7E> accessed 30th July 2019
²³ Ibid



g) Right to privacy and threat of increased surveillance

The right promotes autonomy of an individual and ability to exclude others from accessing certain information about them such as their health status, sexual orientation or political and religious beliefs²⁴. In *Kenya Human Rights Commission v Communication Authority of Kenya& 4 others*²⁵, the court developed substantive interpretation of the right to privacy as the area of autonomy and liberty of a person, the right to be left alone. It recognizes the increased use of telecommunication technologies e.g. smart devices which hold sensitive data relating to one's sexuality, health, communication with lawyers and loved ones even their personal and religious beliefs as a great threat to privacy where abused, and emphasizes on its protection and limitation only as justifiable by law.

In the case, the CAK attempted to introduce a Device Management System that would access information on the IMEI, IMSI, MSISDN and CDs of the subscribers of Mobile Network Service Providers in Kenya. However, the petitioners contended that this would amount to unlawful interference with subscriber's privacy first because it's possible to obtain this information without intruding on privacy of the subscribers and secondly that this is an attempt to spy on Kenyans as the CAK would have unfettered access to confidential information. In any case the plaintiff alleged that the CAK was not the body mandated to install the DMS system.

The court held that any limitation to right to privacy has to be justifiable under article 24 thus should be rationale and proportionate. The DMS system was not appropriate as there were less restrictive that could be employed which don't violate subscribers right to privacy. Example is the Mobile Network Owners, as they had previously done, could block use of any black listed devices.

It's a matter of great concern that information collected by the government could be used for unlawful surveillance including information about primary residence, email address and contact mobile. This information could help online activity and physical activity and have the potential to lead to a surveillance state which has the power to limit enjoyment of rights and freedoms for citizens.



²⁴ Black Laws Dictionary (8th edn, Thomson West, 2004)

²⁵ n 10

1.2.10 Voter Registrations

Elections are generally an issue of contention in Kenya with electoral disputes leading to violence among citizenry. The worst form of post-election violence followed the 2007 elections where their complaints of electoral theft and ballot staffing. In 2013 CORD (Coalition on Reforms and Democracy) challenged the election results from the IEBC citing electoral manipulation. In 2017 the Kenyan Supreme Court nullified the first presidential elections for election irregularities. It's a matter of public notoriety that calls for electoral reforms have not been adhered to by Government enough to satisfy Kenyans of free and fair elections. With this in mind, the automatic registration of persons within the voter register creates a potential heaven for electoral manipulation where there is no way to verify the people who actually vote against those registered as those who don't vote may still be manipulated to appear like they did.

1.2.11 Administration

Currently, the Bill proposes the establishment of the NIIMS Committee to be responsible for the coordination and implementation of the NNIMS System. There should be established the National Integrated Identity Management Authority that should be a body corporate capable of being sued and suing. This will enable the citizens sue the authority in cases of breach of their data arising from their act or omission. In India, one of their major challenges is that the Aadhaar Authority is the only body mandated to sue for breach of data meaning the citizens cannot sue on their own behalf.

Secondly, an independent authority will promote accountability and transparency as they are easily accountable and promotes better governance as the administration of the authority will involve stakeholders from various departments including the Refugee Affairs Secretariat.



1.2.12 Repeal of laws

The Bill proposes the repeal of The Births and Deaths Registration Act without properly appropriating its provisions. Section 8 of the Act for example extends the period for compulsory registration to 6 months as opposed to 90 days as in the Bill and allows for late registration on payment of a fine.



RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to strengthen the NIIMS system and delivery of services in general we recommend adoption of the current Huduma Bill to include:

- a) The bill ought to be renamed to the National Integrated Identity Management System Act.
- b) Lawful residence and Biometric Data ought to be clearly defined under the Act.
- c) Section 9 of the bill ought to be amended to include Foreign Nationals Minor's Huduma Card for foreign minors who have attained 6 years of age.
- d) Section 8 should be amended to abolish requirement of the Huduma Namba for medical attention and access to basic education in public facilities to ensure each child has access to education and healthcare. Thus, are able to contribute adequately within society.
- e) The Bill ought to allow enrolment and issuance of Birth Certificates for children born to Stateless parents living in Kenya in line with UNHCR plan to end statelessness.
- f) The Government ought to identify and allow alternative forms of Identification for refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons in Kenya to enable them access services under section 8 of the Bill.
- g) The definition of sex under the bill be expressly expanded to include intersex so as to lead to the inclusion of intersex persons and allow them easily access identification documents and essential services.
- h) Requirement for cause of death on the death certificate be optional even where known.
- i) Affirmative action measures to ensure the aged population is actively enrolled in the NIIMS system. Legal provisions to cater for older persons who may have resided within Kenya but who may have either lost their identification documents, have them mutilated or never acquired them.
- j) There should be established an appeal tribunal dedicated to settle issues of identity and other related disputes emanating from the NIIMS system. In addition, there should be clear procedures for appeal. The time taken to determine petitions should also be very minimal and be clearly defined in law as deprivation of identity relate to deprivation of services.



- k) The NIIMS system should contain the citizens' access portal as a component of the system through which citizens can access their portal and information held by government on their behalf. The portal should further allow for correction of data.
- l) The Bill should expressly outlaw vetting that is abolished by repeal of the Registration of Persons Act to ensure it doesn't informally re-occur.
- m) Prohibition against automated decision making and profiling.
- n) Enact data protection laws to guarantee maximum protection of data and privacy. The laws should include principles of data minimization, gives proper definition of actors in the system and establish liabilities for corporates.
- o) The IEBC should still register and maintain its own separate voter register.
- p) There should be established a NIIMS Authority capable of being sued and is accountable and responsible for the administration of the NIIMS system.



MEMORANDUM

The suggestions expressed herein reflects sections that in our opinion would better the provisions in the bill and enhance protection of citizen's data and privacy.

In our view the following sections would be best suited if they were amended to be construed as follows.

HUDUMA BILL 2019	PROPOSED AMENDED	COMMENTS
	SECTIONS	
Amend the title of the	Amend to read	Huduma means service,
bill	THE NATIONAL INTERGARTED	the title is misleading and
THE HUDUMA BILL, 2019	IDENTITY MANAGEMENT	it does not constitute
	SYSTEM BILL,2019	provisions of any services.
		Let the bill be given the
		name of what it is about
		which is identification of
		persons.
	Remove by deleting the term	
	"mandatory obligation"	
	whenever it appears in the	
	bill.	
Section 2 insert new	Amend by defining biometric	Before you profess what
definition of biometric	data as.	biometric data include, it
data	"Personal data resulting from	should be well elaborated
	specific technical processing	what is biometric data.
	relating to the physical,	
	physiological or behavioral	
	characteristics of a natural	
	person, which allow or	
	confirm the unique	
	identification of that natural	



	person, such as facial images	
	or dactyloscopic (fingerprint)	
	data."	
		The inclusion of an
Amend by deleting the	Amend to read	ambiguous term that does
following words	"Biometric data" include	not explain exactly what
immediately after the	fingerprint, hand geometry,	other biological attributes
word "photograph"	earlobe geometry, retina and	include is open to
"Or such other biological	iris patterns, toe impressions,	sneaking in DNA through
attributes of an	voice waves, blood typing and	the back door which has
individual obtained by	photograph.	been highly opposed.
way of biometrics.		
Insert a definition of	Basic personal data means	Before defining
what is basic personal	any information relating to an	foundational data, it is
data as per the GDPR.	identified or identifiable	important to define what
	natural person.	basic personal data
		include.
Define what lawful	Lawful residence means a	The act should use an
residence is	person who is allowed to be	unequivocal declaration of
	in Kenya lawfully.	what constitutes lawful
		residence.
Section 6	Amend Section 6 by adding a	Refugees being vulnerable
6. (1) The NIIMS	newer sub-section	persons need to be
database is an	immediately after 6 (2) (e) to	incorporated in the NIIMS.
integrated digital	read	This is because they need
population register and		access to government
a	6. (1) The NIIMS database is	services of which if one
repository of	an integrated digital	doesn't have the Huduma
foundational data and	population register and a	Namba then they will not
functional data of every	repository of foundational	be able to access any
resident	data and functional data of	government services.
individual.	every resident individual.	



(2) The NIIMS database	(2) The NIIMS database shall	
shall contain—	contain—	
(a) foundational data	(a) foundational data outlined	
outlined under the First	under the First Schedule; and	
Schedule; and	(b) other functional data	
(b) other functional data	generated by a public agency	
generated by a public	responsible for	
agency responsible for	afunction requiring use of the	
a function requiring use	Huduma Namba.	
of the Huduma Namba.	(3) The purpose of the NIIMS	
(3) The purpose of the	database is to –	
NIIMS database is to –	(a) serve a single source of	
(a) serve a single source	both foundational and	
of both foundational	functional data for	
and functional data for	enrolled resident individual;	
enrolled resident	(b) enable use of fingerprints	
individual;	and other biometric data to	
(b) enable use of	identify an	
fingerprints and other	enrolled person;	
biometric data to	(c) facilitate the use of the	
identify an	data in the database to assign	
enrolled person;	the Huduma	
(c) facilitate the use of	Namba and issue of the	
the data in the database	Huduma card;	
to assign the Huduma	(d) support access and	
Namba and issue of the	generation of downloadable	
Huduma card;	copies of birth and	
(d) support access and	death certificates or any	
generation of	other identity document; and	
downloadable copies of	(e) support access by an	
birth and death	individual to their academic	
certificates or any other	certificate issued	
identity document; and		



(e) Support access by an	under any education law in	
individual to their	Kenya.	
academic certificate	(f) Support the access and	
issued under any	integration of Refugee data	
education law in Kenya.	into the NIIMS.	
(4) No government	(4) No government agency	
agency shall collect	shall collect foundational	
foundational data from	data from an individual who	
an individual who has	has enrolled under this Act.	
enrolled under this Act.		
Section 7	Insert Section 7(4)	It is good to state
	immediately after Section 7(3)	outrightly that despite
	to read	foreign nationals being
	Section 7(4) The Huduma	given access to Having
	Number shall not be proof of	Huduma Number does not
	nationality.	make them Citizens.
Section 8 (1) Every	amend by deleting the	The government is not in a
resident individual shall	following words and the	war with the people to
have a mandatory	following subsections	make citizen obligations
obligation to present	8. (1) Every resident individual	as threats. Delete the
the Huduma Namba in	has an obligation to present	words "Shall have
order to—	the Huduma Namba in order	Mandatory"
(a) be issued	to	In addition Article 43 of
with a passport;	(a) be issued with a	the Constitution provides
(b) apply for a	passport;	for Social and Economic
driving licence;	(b) apply for a	rights which if otherwise
(c) register a	driving licence;	limited would amount to a
mobile phone	(c) register a mobile	violation of the
number;	phone number;	constitution.
(d) register as a	(d) register as a	You cannot require
voter;	voter;	mandatory registration to
(e) pay taxes;	(e) pay taxes;	Huduma Namba and then
		have such basic rights



(f) transact in	(f) transact in the	such as access to
the financial	financial markets;	education universal health
markets;	(g) open a bank	care being limited because
(g) open a bank	account;	a person does not have
account;	(h) register a	Huduma Namba.
(h) register a	company or a public	
company or a	benefit organisation;	
public benefit	(i) transfer or make	
organisation;	any dealings in land;	
(i) transfer or		
make any	(j) register a	
dealings in land;	marriage;	
(j) register for	(k) access social	
electricity	protection services;	
connection;	(l) register or	
(k) access	transfer a motor	
universal health	vehicle; or (q) any	
care services;	other specified public	
(l) benefit from	service.	
the government		
housing		
scheme;		
(m) register a		
marriage;		
(n) enrol into a		
public		
educational		
facility;		
(o) access social		
protection		
services;		



(p) register or		
transfer a motor		
vehicle; or		
(q) any other		
specified public		
service.		
9. (1) Subject to this Act,	Amend section 9 (2) by	
every resident individual	deleting the following words	Children below the age of
who has enrolled into	under section 9 (2) (a) after	six should not be excluded
the	the word "minors"	in the NIIMS system as
NIIMS shall be issued	immediately before who. To	they also need access to
with a Huduma card.	read	government services such
(2) The types of Huduma	9 (2) (a) Minor's Huduma card	as health care and
card that may be issued	for minors.	education.
include—		
(a) Minors' Huduma		This should really be
card, for minors who	Insert new section 9 (2)(d)	captured so that
have attained the age of	immediately after section 9	treatment of all children
six	(2)(C) to read	including foreigners is
years;	9(2) (d) Minor foreigners	equated.
(b) Adults' Huduma card,	Huduma card, for minors	
for citizens who have	non-citizens.	
attained the age of		
eighteen years; and	Amend section 9 (3) to	This would be
(c) Foreign nationals	include intersex on the	discriminatory and against
Huduma card, for	huduma card details.	section 27 of the
resident adult non-		Constitution of Kenya
citizens.		2010, if such persons are
		not allowed to have such
		of their details on the
		Huduma card.



Section 9	Insert new section 9(7) to	This is in aid of protection
	read	of data to make sure that
	9 (7) Only authorized	other entities including
	governmental agents shall	but not limited to private
	use such identification in the	entities are now allowed
	absence of the Huduma Card.	to access to this data.
Section 11	Amend section 11 (1) to	
11. (1) Upon the	incorporate refugees and	Refugees being vulnerable
commencement of this	further amend by inserting a	persons need to be
Act, every resident	new subsection to include	incorporated in the NIIMS.
individual shall	documentation that refugees	This is because they need
personally attend before	will need so that they can be	access to government
a designated NIIMS	enrolled in the NIIMS.	services of which if one
registration officer at a	Amend the section to read	doesn't have the Huduma
specified location to	Section 11 (1) Upon the	Namba then they will not
enroll into the NIIMS.	commencement of this Act,	be able to access any
(2) An individual seeking	every resident individual or a	government services.
to enroll shall –	refugees shall personally	
(a) provide particulars	attend before a designated	
outlined under the First	NIIMS registration officer at a	
Schedule; and	specified location to enroll	
(b) permit their	into the NIIMS.	
fingerprints and other		
biometric data to be		
taken.		
(3) A citizen residing out		
of the country shall		
enrol into NIIMS at the		
Kenyan Embassy in their		
country of residence or	Insert new sub-sections	It is in the best interest of
any other designated	under Section 11 (6) to read;	the citizens to know who is
centre.	(6) At the time of enrolment,	responsible to keep their
	the NIIMS registration officer	data, the use of their data



	ll inform a person olling – (a) the purpose for collecting their personal data;	and the systems used to process their data. This is because data is sensitive
special arrangements,	(a) the purpose for collecting their	because data is sensitive
	collecting their	
	-	and if not handled
availing mobile		carefully can cause
registration, for the	(b) the scope and	citizens both financial and
enrolment of minors,	method of personal	social harm.
persons with	information	
disability, persons	processing;	
incapacitated by illness,	(c) the manner in	
elderly citizens, or	which personal data	
individuals in	collected shall be	
institutional	used;	
households.	(d) how personal	
(5) An individual seeking	data collected shall	
to enrol shall furnish the	be protected;	
designated NIIMS	(e) the person in	
registration officer with	charge of the data;	
such documentary proof	and	
of identification as	(f) right of access	
may be required.	to their personal	
(6) At the time of	data.	
enrolment, the NIIMS		
registration officer shall		
inform a		
person enrolling –		
(a) the purpose for		
collecting their personal		
data;		
(b) the manner in which		
personal data collected		
shall be used;		



(c) how personal data collected shall be protected; and (d) right of access to their personal data.		
Section 12. The Principal	Amend the section to read	There should be a clear
Secretary, upon	Section 12. The NIIMS	delamination of roles and
examining of the	registration Officer acting for	its unnecessary to have
information provided,	the	the principal secretary
shall enroll the	PS, upon examining of the	examining documents and
applicant into the NIIMS	information provided, shall	deciding whether to issue
and assign the applicant	enroll the applicant into the	Huduma Namba or not.
a Huduma Namba.	NIIMS and assign the applicant a Huduma Namba	There should be many



		NIIMS registration officers
		acting on behalf of the PS.
Section 13. (1) The	Amend to read	The explanation under 12
Principal Secretary shall	Section 13. (1) The NIIMS	above should apply
issue a Huduma card to	registration officer acting for	mutatis mutandis.
an individual	the PS shall issue a Huduma	
who has been assigned	card to an individual who has	
a Huduma Namba within	been assigned a Huduma	
sixty days from date of	Namba within sixty days from	
such assignment.	date of such assignment.	
(2) Despite subsection	(2) Despite subsection (1), a	
(1), a minor shall be	minor shall be issued with	
issued with minors'	minors' Huduma	
Huduma	card only upon attaining the	
card only upon attaining	age of six years and after	
the age of six years and	capturing the	
after capturing the	required biometric data.	
required biometric data.	(3) The initial issue of	
(3) The initial issue of	Huduma card to citizens shall	
Huduma card to citizens	be free of charge.	
shall be free of charge.		
Section 18(4)	Amend section 18 by deleting	It is immaterial to indicate
(4) For the purpose of	the word Marital status	the marital status of the
sub-section (2), the	wherever it appears and;	mother. It will be in
particulars of record of	Insert new sub-section 18(4)	contravention of the right
birth	(d) to read	to dignity where the
include—	(2) For the purpose	mother is does not have a
(a) in regard to a birth,	of sub-section (2), the	partner.
name of the new-born,	particulars of record	
sex, date, type of	of birth include—	
	(a) in regard	
	to a birth,	



delivery, any disability,	name of the	
weight at birth, and	new-born, sex,	
place of birth;	date, type of	
(b) in regard to the	delivery, any	
mother, name, age,	disability,	
marital status, usual	weight at birth,	
residence, nationality,	and place of	
Huduma Namba, and	birth;	
previous births;	(b) in regard	
(c) in regard to the	to the mother,	
father, name, age, usual	name, age,	
residence, nationality,	usual	
and Huduma Namba;	residence,	
and	nationality,	
(d) in regard to any	Huduma	
informant, name,	Namba, and	
capacity, and date of	previous	
notification.	births;	
(5) Registration of a	(c) in regard	As the reality may remain
birth is compulsory and	to the father,	in special circumstances
free of any charge.	name, age,	and in other cases such as
	usual	where after rape the
	residence,	mother is unable or
	nationality,	unwilling to terminate the
	and Huduma	pregnancy. Once such a
	Namba;	baby is born the mother is
	(d) if the	not able to determine the
	information	father of such a baby and
	about the	thus such details may not
	father of the	be readily available as a
	baby are not	result the section should
	known at the	consider such
	time the same	circumstances and give
L I		



	maybe	the mother the leeway to
	suspended but	make an informed
	for not later	decision on who the father
	than ninety	of such a child will or
	days upon the	should be.
	registration of	
	the baby on	
	NIIMS; and	
	(e) in regard	
	to any	
	informant,	
	name,	
	capacity, and	
	date of	
	notification.	
	(5) Registration of a birth is	
	compulsory and free of any	
	charge.	
Section 20 (b)	Amend Section 20 to read	If there is a justifiable
20. An applicant seeking	20. An applicant seeking to	cause to the reason for
to enroll into NIIMS a	enroll into NIIMS a child	non-registration of birth
child whose birth was	whose birth was not	then such penalties are
not	registered within ninety days	punitive in nature and
registered within ninety	shall be required to –	should not be imposed. As
days shall be required	(a) furnish	we, all know we are not a
to –	the NIIMS	country that can boast of
(a) furnish the NIIMS	registration officer	decent healthcare and
registration officer with	with such further	other social amenities and
such further information	information as the	as a result, it might be
as the Cabinet Secretary	Cabinet Secretary	practically impossible to
may specify;	may specify;	have all births happen in



(b) pay a prescribed	(b) pay a	areas where the same can
penalty, which shall be	prescribed penalty,	be reported immediately.
graduated with the	which shall be	
number the period of	graduated with	
delay after expiry of	number the period	
stipulated period.	of delay after	
	expiry of	
	stipulated period	
	unless the	
	applicant can show	
	cause that under	
	all the prevailing	
	circumstances it	
	was not practically	
	possible to register	
	the birth within the	
	ninety days	
Section 22. (1) Where any	Amend section 22(1) to read	We have to be a bit lenient
living new-born is found	Section 22(1) Where any living	to a person who is trying
exposed, it shall be the	new-born is found exposed it	to help a child. Making
duty of	will lie upon the person or	provisions that might
any person finding such	any other person in whose	encourage neglecting such
child, and of any person	charge such child may be	a child is contrary to the
in whose charge such	placed and upon proper care	provisions of Article 53 of
child may be placed, to	having been given to the child	the Constitution of Kenya.
provide particulars	to provide particulars to have	Further, the article states
required to register such	such birth registered as the	that in all matters
birth	informant may possess as	concerning the child the
as the informant may	maybe practically possible.	best interests of the child
possess.		are of paramount
		importance and thus care
		should be given priority to



		such a child before
		registration.
Section 24	Amend section 24 by inserting	
	a new sub-section 6 to read	
	24 (6) necessary	
Section 25		Cancellation and
25. (1) The Principal	Amend by deleting the entire	revocation of Huduma
Secretary shall cancel	section 25.	Number in the Huduma
the enrolment into		Number era such be such
NIIMS of any		a severe action as one will
individual where it was		not be able to transact
done through—		into any activity without
(a) fraud, false		the Huduma Number.
representation,bribery		Otherwise, this will lead to
or deceit;		serious constitutional
(b) concealment of		violations, for instance
material facts; or		one cannot lose his
(c) any other justifiable		citizenship by birth thus in
cause.		any such unlawful
(2) Before cancellation		acquisition of Huduma
of the enrolment, the		Number, a penalty would
Principal Secretary shall		suffice. Additionally, the
provide the individual,		section is ambiguous and
or in case of a child their		open to arbitrariness if
parent or guardian, with		malicious government
reasonable opportunity		officers want to frustrate
and forum to show		your operations in this
cause as to why their		country they will likely use
enrolment should not be		this avenue. A good
cancelled.		example is what happened
(3) The Huduma Namba		to Miguna Miguna even if
and the Huduma card of		the Huduma number was
a person whose		nor still in operation.



enrolment has been		
cancelled shall be		
revoked.		
26. (1) Every death	26. (1) Every death occurring	Death is a tragic
-		_
occurring within Kenya	within Kenya Shall be	happening to anyone and
shall be registered	registered though the NIIMS	at times people are in
through the	as soon as practical on its	severe pain such that they
NIIMS as soon as	occurrence but not later than	are not able to
practicable on its	ninety days.	Immediately report the
occurrence but not later		occurrence, some other
than thirty days.		people take long periods
27. The designated NIIMS	27. The designated NIIMS	of mourning and thus a
registration officer shall,	Registration officer shall	reasonable time should be
immediately after	immediately after entering of	given to allow for the
entering the particulars	particulars of death in the	registration of the death.
of death in the NIIMS—	NIIMS	
(a) retire the Huduma	(a) retire the Huduma	The information of the
Namba of the deceased;	Number of the deceased, and	dead person shall be used
and	(b) lock the account of the	in succession and thus, it
(b) revoke the Huduma	deceased person without	should be kept intact and
card.	having to delete any data	only the account of the
	- /	deceased person should
		be locked to curtail
		unauthorized access.
Section 36.	Amend section 36 by inserting	Data protection is not an
36. An individual	the following sub-sections	option that any institution
enrolled under the	and to read	holding personal sensitive
NIIMS has a right to —		data should be given give



(a) be informed of the	36. An individual enrolled	to exercise as a choice but	
use to which their	under the NIIMS has a right to	should be mandatory. As a	
personal data collected	_	result the data subject	
is to	(a) be	must not object so as not	
be put;	informed of the	to have their data shared	
(b) access their personal	use to which their	but they should have their	
data in the NIIMS	personal data	data not shared even	
database;	collected is to be	before they object to the	
(c) object to any sharing	put;	sharing of the data. The	
of all or part of their	(b) be	description of the	
personal data; and	informed on the	personal information	
(d) correction of any	description of the	needed is as good as the	
false or misleading data	personal	data being collected and	
about them without	information to be	how it will be used. The	
	entered into the		
delay.		most Important of all this	
	system;	is knowing the persons	
	(c) be	likely to come into contact	
	informed on the	with the personal data. A	
	purposes for which	person shall be asked to	
	they are being or	consent to sharing of their	
	are to be	data with any third party	
	processed;	due to the sensitivity of	
	(d) be	personal data.	
	informed on the		
	recipients or		
	classes of		
	recipients to whom		
	their data are or		
	may be disclosed		
	to;		
	(e) access		
	their personal data		



in the NIIMS	
database;	
(f) not have any	
sharing of all or	
part of their	
personal data	
without their	
consent.	
(g) Correc	tion
of any false or	
misleading data	a
about them	
without delay.	

Section 43	Amend the errors on section 43(2) to read	Change the
	as follows	word
	A NIIMS registrar shall without delay, notify	registration to
	the Principal Secretary upon becoming	registrar to
	aware of any personal data breach	have the
		clause make
		sense.
Section 43 (1)	Amend section 43 to read	The data
Where personal	Section 43 (1) Where personal data in the	subject should
data in the NIIMS	NIIMS database has been accessed or	be given
database has	acquired by an unauthorized person, and	priority in all
been accessed or	there is a real risk of harm to the	matters
acquired by an	enrolled person whose personal data has	concerning the
unauthorized	been subjected to the	sensitive
person, and	unauthorized access, the Principal	personal data.
there is a real	Secretary shall communicate to the	It is the duty of



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risk of harm to	enrolled person in writing within	the data
the	seventy(72) hours of	holder to
enrolled person	becoming aware of such breach.	always
whose personal	(2) A NIIMS registrar shall immediately,	promptly
data has been	notify the Principal Secretary upon	inform the
subjected to the	becoming aware of any personal data	data subject of
unauthorized	breach.	any attempted
access, the		breach
Principal	(3) The Principal Secretary may delay or	whether it
Secretary shall	restrict communication to the enrolled	actually
communicate to	person, as necessary and proportionate for	occurred or
the	purposes of prevention, detection or	not.
enrolled person	investigation of an offence by any relevant	
in writing within	agency.	
a reasonably		
practicable	(4). The communication to enrolled person	
period of	shall provide sufficient information to	
becoming aware	allow the enrolled person to take	
of such breach.	protective measures against the potential	
(2) A NIIMS	consequences of the data breach,	
registration shall	including —	
without delay	(a) description of	
notify the	the nature of the data	
Principal	breach;	
Secretary upon	(b) description of	
becoming aware	the measures that the	
of any personal	Principal Secretary >	
data breach.	intends to take or has	
(3) The Principal	taken to address the data	
Secretary may	breach;	
delay or restrict	(c) recommendation	
communication	on the measures to be	
to the	taken by the enrolled	
L		



oprolled person	porcon to mitigato the
enrolled person,	person to mitigate the
as necessary and	adverse effects of the
proportionate for	breach;
purposes of	(d) where
prevention,	applicable, the identity of
detection or	the unauthorised person
investigation of	who may have accessed
an offence by any	or acquired the personal
relevant agency.	data; and
(4) The	(e) the name and
communication	contact details of the
to enrolled	data protection officer or
person shall	other contact point where
provide sufficient	more information could
information to	be obtained.
allow the	
enrolled person	(5)The communication of a breach to the
to take	data subject shall be communicated
protective	notwithstanding appropriate security
measures	safeguards such as encryption of affected
against the	personal data having been implemented.
potential	
consequences of	
the data breach,	
including —	
(a) description of	
the nature of the	
data breach;	
(b) description of	
the measures	
that the Principal	
Secretary	



intends to take
or has taken to
address the data
breach;
(c)
recommendation
on the measures
to be taken by
the
enrolled person
to mitigate the
adverse effects
of the breach;
(d) where
applicable, the
identity of the
unauthorised
person
who may have
accessed or
acquired the
personal data;
and
(e) the name and
contact details of
the data
protection officer
or
other contact
point where
more information
could be
obtained.



(5) The		
communication		
of a breach to		
the data subject		
may not be		
required where		
appropriate		
security		
safeguards such		
as encryption of		
affected personal		
data have been		
implemented.		
Section 49	Amend section 49 by adding a new sub-	Impersonation
49. A person	section 2 to read	is the act of
who—	49 (2) Any person who does any act to	concealing
(a) gives false	constitute an act of impersonation,	identity to
information or	commits an offense	appear or to be
makes a false		construed as
statement		someone else.
whenproviding		This should
information for		therefore be a
an entry into the		major concern
NIIMS database;		in the Digital
(b) forges an		Identity setting
identity		as this is likely
document to		to be a very
enrol into NIIMS;		common
or		occurrence.
(c) Illegally		
influences the		
decision of a		
NIIMS		



registration		
officer,		
commits an		
offence.		
Section 66	Amend Section 66 by deleting section 66(2)	There is no
		justification as
		to the person
		or body that
		determines the
		valid of such
		actions as shall
		be deemed to
		be validly
		carried out this
		the provision is
		open to abuse.
Third Schedule	Under the Elections Act	The sceptic
Section 68	Delete the newly introduced sub-section 4	aspect of this
Consequential	(4) and (5) that require the commission to	idea is that
Amendments	use information under NIIMS to update the	Elections will
	register of voters by adding persons who	be open to
	have attained the age of 18.	manipulation
	And further the registration by default of all	giving regard to
	voters who have attained the age of 18 and	the fact that,
	has been issued with Huduma Namba.	people who do
		not wish to be
		registered as
		voters and
		those that do
		not turn out to
		vote might still
		find their
		identity being



	used to rig t	he
	elections sin	ce
	there is i	no
	control as	to
	the data of t	he
	current	
	registered	
	voters.	

Further additional amendments not contemplated in the bill.

- 1. The bill should also be amended accordingly to capture what should happen to the persons receiving unauthorized data from the persons who have access to the data. Both the juridical and the natural persons receiving the data should be subjected to some penalties. This should also include having their organizations data processing systems searched, blocked, and have the data removed and cleared from the system and to have such imposed penalties tagged on their turnover, to restrain them and make them more vigilant when they think of accessing such personal data. Further, such persons should be required to compensate the persons of whom data was illegally acquired.
- 2. The Bill should also explain as to how it has been possible to repeal Cap 149 with only two sections in the Bill. Cap 149 being a bulky registration that had defined processes and procedures should not just be amended by two sections. There should be clear guidelines as to how the Manual Cap 149 registration has been harmonized with the Digital NIIMS registration.
- 3. There should be an Authority that will govern the operations of the NIIMS. The committee that has been established under the authority has no clear guidelines as to how it shall operate and the selection process. The committee does not guarantee transparency and accountability, which would be an automatic dispensation if we have an authority in place, as we are able to know who is held accountable in case things go wrong.



4. The issue of stateless persons and their children has not been addressed in the bill and it is of paramount importance that such a provision should be in the bill.





Kenya's Draft Digital Identity Law



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