

# National News

**Health** Medical equipment supply project has mimicked the biblical tower of Babel, as conflicting voices from both

## Ruto: We didn't force counties to sign onto SHA equipment plan

Identity of seven firms contracted to supply equipment remains a closely-guarded secret between State House, Health ministry and a few county officials

BY BRIAN WASUNA AND STEVE OTIENO

President William Ruto has maintained that counties were not forced to sign onto a multi-billion-shilling medical equipment deal, as the identity of seven companies contracted for the supplies remains a closely-guarded secret between State House, the Health ministry and a few county government representatives.

The medical equipment supply project has mimicked the biblical Tower of Babel, as conflicting voices from both levels of government continue to throw confusion into fine details that would allow public scrutiny of deals counties will be tied to for at least seven years.

Speaking at the Kilifi County International Investment Conference yes-

terday, Dr Ruto said sourcing of vendors to supply medical equipment to county-owned health facilities was done in line with procurement laws and with the input of the Council of Governors.

Under the National Equipment Service Project (NESP), the dealers will supply an assortment of machines and equipment to county-owned facilities, and will be paid directly from Social Health Authority (SHA).

"(Kilifi governor Gideon Mung'aro is here, (Mombasa governor Nassir) Abdulsamad is here, (Kwale governor Achan) Fatuma is here. They are governors. There is nobody who forced them to sign any contract. That is the truth. Nobody was forced. You have to be a fool to be forced to sign the wrong thing and you actually sign," the President said.

Mombasa is among the counties that are yet to sign agreements with the Ministry of Health for the supply of the medical equipment.

Mr Nassir on Wednesday said his county is still evaluating the document, but that it is exploring other options to equip its health facilities.

President Ruto held that there are seven vendors contracted for the project, and that he will guard it against corruption. He did not name the vendors.

Earlier, Health Cabinet Secretary

Deborah Mlongo Barasa and Council of Governors chairperson Ahmed Abdullahi released a joint statement stating "a transparent tendering process" had led to the award of contracts to "seven qualified bidders in October 2024."

But the statement did not reveal the names of the seven bidders and the two did not provide their names despite subsequent inquiries by *Nation*.

We asked Ms Mlongo for the names of the seven vendors, which procurement method the ministry used, and the contradictions in the statement and the COG's submissions to Senate.

Ms Mlongo referred us to Medical Services Principal Secretary Harry Kimtai, whose known mobile phone number was still switched off at the time of going to press.

Neither Mr Kimtai nor the Ministry of Health responded to an email sent to their official addresses yesterday.

In their statement, Ms Barasa and Mr Abdullahi explained the seven companies were in October contracted to supply the medical equipment through a Fixed-Fee-for-Service (FFS) model.

They said the tender was advertised in June, 2024 and evaluation of bidders concluded in October, with seven companies being awarded contracts.



President William Ruto arrives for the official opening of the Kilifi International Investment Conference at Vipingo in Kilifi County yesterday. He was accompanied by Coast leaders, including host Governor Gideon Mung'aro and Cabinet secretaries Salim Mvurya and Hassan Joho. PHOTO: IPCS

"To operationalise the FFS model, a transparent tendering process was undertaken informed by the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act. Public advertisements were made in *MyGov* bulletin, the Ministry of Health website and the Public Procurement Information Portal in June, 2024," the statement read in part.

But when the *Nation* checked all four editions of *MyGov* published between June 4 and June 25, 2024, there were no advertisement of the tender.

On the Health ministry website, there were only advertisements for recent tenders. This means the ministry may have pulled down the advertisements if they had been placed on the website.

On the Public Procurement Infor-

mation Portal, there were no postings of contracts awarded under the NESP.

Mr Abdullahi said that the procurement was done through open tendering, but he refused to divulge the names of the seven bidders, insisting that the information is "publicly available", despite there being no mention of the deals or vendors in any public procurement platform.

The Health ministry in June, 2023 got approval to use the Specially Permitted Procurement Procedure (SPPP) – the same method that was used to contract the Safaricom consortium for a Sh104.8 billion health system, and Adani Energy for a Sh96 billion electricity transmission lines deal. The President has since announced the cancellation of the Adani deal with Ketracco after



### NOTICE OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> KIM GRADUATION CEREMONY (In Collaboration with MUA)

The Kenya Institute of Management (KIM) in collaboration with the Management University of Africa (MUA) wishes to notify all candidates that the 21st KIM Graduation Ceremony (In Collaboration with MUA) will be held on Friday, 13th December 2024 at the Management University of Africa Main Campus – Kisaju, Kajiado County.

#### GRADUATION FEE

The graduation fee of Ksh7,500 is payable on or before 6th December 2024. All payments should be made to any of the following accounts:

The Kenya Institute of Management:

NCBA: A/c No: 6425720016; Branch: Wabera Street

MPEA: Paybill No.: 896600 Account No: your Admission number

#### GRADUATION ATTIRE

During working hours, graduation attire will be issued from respective KIM branches from 2nd December 2024.

#### RETURN OF GRADUATION ATTIRE

All graduands are expected to return their graduation attire by 19th December 2024, after which a penalty of Ksh500 per working day will be charged for any attire returned after the deadline.

#### REHEARSAL

All graduands must attend a rehearsal that will be held virtually on 11th December 2024 from 10.30 AM (link will be sent)

#### GRADUATION DAY

The graduation ceremony will start at 9.30 AM.

*We congratulate all graduands*



### INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE, INC

#### BID NOTICE

The International Rescue Committee, Inc. (IRC) is a private international, nonsectarian, voluntary organization providing relief, protection and resettlement services for refugees and victims of oppression or violent conflict.

This Notice of sale informs the public that IRC invites bids for purchase of vehicles as below.

Vehicle Registration	YOM	MAKE	COMMENT	LOCATION	VIEWING & INSPECTION DATES
KX85A041	2020	Toyota Corolla Cross	Duty Not Paid	Merchant Square Building 4th Floor,	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2024-1000-1500 HRS
KX85A042	2020	Toyota Corolla Cross	Duty Not Paid	Block C, Riverside Drive, Nairobi, Kenya	
KX85A044	2020	Toyota Corolla Cross	Duty Not Paid	Drive, Nairobi, Kenya	
KX 85A28	2012	Toyota corolla	Duty Not Paid	Nairobi- IRC Office warehouse at Alpha Centre, Go Down Number 85, City Cabanus, Mombasa Road, Nairobi, Kenya.	
KAQ 775S	2007	Yamaha-Motor Cycle	Duty Paid	Hagadera IRC Field office	
KX 85 A10	2009	Toyota Landcruiser Hardtop	Duty Not Paid		

Kindly note that the sale of the vehicle will be on, 'AS IS, WHERE IS', basis. All interested bidders can view and inspect the vehicles from **10.00am-3.00pm on 9th, 10th and 11th December 2024 only at location and time indicated above**. Bidding form and additional information document can be obtained from <http://www.rescue.org/about/procurement>

Interested buyers should drop/submit their **physical bids** to the tender boxes located at

**International Rescue Committee office at Merchant Square Building 4th Floor, Block C, Riverside Drive, Nairobi and at Hagadera Field office in Dadaab, Garissa County. Individual bidding forms should be clearly filled and inserted in an envelope well sealed and indicated 'Sale of vehicles'**

**The Physical Bids should be submitted on /or before 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 10:00AM EAT.**

Bids delivered after this deadline will not be accepted.

Please note that IRC shall not be bound to accept any bid, and any form of canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.



**Airports Sacco Limited**

— Your Growth, Our Strength —

### TENDER ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

Airports Sacco Society Ltd invites sealed bids from eligible firms for the following tender: -

REFERENCE NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION	CLOSING/ OPENING DATE
ASSL/RFQ/EA/01/2024	PROVISION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES TO AIRPORTS SACCO LTD FOR FYS 2025, 2026 AND 2027	20/12/2024

Information on this tender notice and document detailing the requirements, tendering procedures and guidelines should be downloaded from our website at [www.airportssacco.co.ke](http://www.airportssacco.co.ke) free of charge.

For any information or clarifications, please contact us through our email, [procurement@airportssacco.co.ke](mailto:procurement@airportssacco.co.ke)

Canvassing for the tender by the tenderer or by proxy shall lead to automatic disqualification of their tender.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
AIRPORTS SACCO SOCIETY LTD  
P.O BOX 19048-00501  
NAIROBI**