

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA COMPLAINTS COMMISSION SANCTIONS NATION MEDIA GROUP OVER BREACHES TO THE CODE

NAIROBI - The Media Complaints Commission has found the Nation Media Group to be in breach of the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism over a story it published in the stable's *Daily Nation* newspaper that the Central Bank of Kenya Governor Dr Patrick Njoroge said was inaccurate.

Dr Njoroge had filed a complaint with the Commission about an article published on page 25 of the *Daily Nation* on 24th November 2021 titled '*CBK boss loses bid to testify in bank suit*' which he said was in violation of clause I on Accuracy and Fairness as espoused in the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya.

The Commission has ordered the newspaper to publish the Commission's statement of adjudication, which directs the newspaper to explicitly address the Governor's concerns. The Commission has further ordered that all copies of the article accessible on any of the *Daily Nation's* platforms be accompanied by an Editor's Note reading "*This story has been withdrawn by the publisher following a challenge on its accuracy*". It also directed the Editor to ensure compliance with the orders as per the responsibilities under clause 24 of the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya.

The Governor had earlier made a direct complaint to Nation Media Group who then published an apology. However, the Governor felt that the correction was not sufficient.

"In line with our mandate to mediate or adjudicate in media disputes, the Commission found it appropriate that the media house is reprimanded for breaching a major foundation of journalism, which is accuracy. It is critical that media owns up when in the wrong by issuing appropriate apology or rebuttal", says Media Complaints Commission Chairman Mr William Oketch.

“The Commission exists to ensure that our media adheres to the ethical code of practice as enshrined in the Second Schedule of the Media Council Act of 2013. We seek to achieve this through impartial, speedy and cost-effective settlement of complaints against journalists and media enterprises and the decisions of the Commission have the force of the decisions of a court of law and are only appealable to the High Court”, says Mr Oketch.

The decision is found on the link: <https://bit.ly/3pF9W4b>