

Security Tips

Referendum Campaigns

Campaigns for and against the draft constitution have intensified in the run up to the 4th August 2010 referendum when a vote on the proposed constitution will be cast. The security team would like to remind all staff members that there is credible potential for general civil unrest in the lead up to, during and after the referendum vote that may adversely impact on the personal safety of all. It is prudent to note that even the best organized gatherings and meetings can be infiltrated by those opposed or unwilling to accept the good intentions of either side of the constitutional debate. It is also worth noting that civil unrest usually offer good breeding grounds for criminal activity. Following the recent bomb incident at Uhuru Park, coupled by the arrest/ discovery/eventual shooting of a man carrying explosive detonators/fuses and the arrest of a pastor with improvised explosive materials, it is envisaged that there is a credible likelihood for violence erupting during this period. In view of this, staffs are reminded to exercise caution and be particularly conscious of their personal security during this period. The following are some useful personal security guidelines and tips they may exercise:

- Avoid demonstrations and rallies as a security precaution to mitigate the risk of exposure to incidental violence
- Be cautious if/when intending to attend rallies and gatherings to promote either side of the referendum debate
- If you decide to attend a rally, pay particular attention to your surroundings, locate exits and have a safe exit plan. Look out for things that are out of place and share this information with the Police or local security soonest
- Minimize your movements on the day of the referendum vote and the day after, when the referendum result are expected to be announced
- On voting day, endeavour to cast your vote in the early hours of the morning before crowds gather and tensions rise
- In an effort to prepare for a worst case scenario during and immediately after the referendum vote, staff members are advised to:
 1. Ensure that their cell phones are registered with the HR Helpdesk (if not yet registered) in order to guarantee receipt of *Kaa Chonjo* SMS alerts
 2. Ensure that they have sufficient emergency funds
 3. Ensure that they stock up sufficient non perishable food, water, gas, fuel for cars and other essentials to last a few days
 4. Check emergency lights, torches or flash/spotlights, candles, matches and first aid kits
- During and immediately after the vote, avoid areas where you may fall victim to possible incidents of ethnic/religious instigated violence

- Monitor the media and check with security helpdesk for security situation updates whenever in doubt
- Field teams are particularly advised to check with the Security Helpdesk either on email: securityhelpdesk@safaricom.co.ke or on **phone: 0722003997/8 (SHQ1) or 0722004887/8 (SHQ2)** prior to embarking on any field assignments or for updates on the security situation of the areas they intend to travel to/through - be it within or outside the towns
- *Do not spread rumours or forward unverified text messages or emails.* Endeavour to confirm information received with the Security Helpdesk or the Police. Report any security related incident to the Police or the Security Helpdesk
- Last but not least, this is probably a good time to review your own residential security measures

Be safe!