REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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National Gender and Equality Commission

EQUALITY BULLETIN

Usawa kwa Wote;Equality For All

EDITION #46

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EQUALITY IN THE CBE TRANSITION

As Kenya examines a record 3,634,846 candidates, the National Gender and Equality Commission is asking whether Competency-Based Education reaches every learner, starting with learners with disabilities entering senior school ... Continue to Read... Page 04



Learners with disabilities make their way to class along a covered walkway at Joytown Secondary School.

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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSION SECRETARY / CEO



Welcome to Edition 46 of the Equality Bulletin.

As a record 3,634,846 candidates sit their examinations, this edition asks a simple question: does Competency-Based Education reach every learner?

Our assessment of Grade 10 placement gives the answer for learners with disabilities. We found willing schools, overstretched special schools, assessment reports that never arrived and girls missing from the data. The findings come with clear recommendations, and the next cohort enters senior school in January.

I am also honoured to join the national Task Team on Unrest in Schools, where the Commission will bring its evidence on gender, age and disability.

Beyond the classroom, we follow disability inclusion into work and the ballot. We report on children's rights, on legal aid in Nairobi's prisons and on access to justice in Nakuru. The edition closes with women in trade and the Commission at COP17.

I wish you an insightful read.

PURITY NGINA, PhD, MBS
COMMISSION SECRETARY/CEO
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THE COMMISSION



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ASSESSING EQUALITY IN KENYA'S NEW EDUCATION SYSTEM

With a record 3,634,846 candidates examined this season, Edition 46 opens the Commission's evidence on whether Competency-Based Education reaches every learner, beginning with Grade 10 learners with disabilities.



A career pathways chart setting out subject choices under Competency-Based Education at one of the assessed schools.

As Kenya examines a record 3,634,846 candidates, the National Gender and Equality Commission is asking whether Competency-Based Education reaches every learner, starting with learners with disabilities entering senior school.

According to the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC), 1,380,463 learners registered for the Kenya Primary School Education Assessment (KPSEA) and 1,206,028 for the Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA), which ran from 26 to 30 October. The Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) has 1,048,355 candidates, the first time KCSE candidature has crossed one million. Written KCSE papers run from 2 to 20 November.

The Grade 9 learners who sat this year's KJSEA form the second cohort to move into senior school under the new structure. The first cohort, 1,130,459 learners, reported to Grade 10 on 12 January 2026.

FROM LENANA OUTWARD

Within days of that first reporting, the Commission was at Lenana School, where 118 learners with diverse disabilities had been placed in a school without the facilities and specialised staff to support them.

The Commission then assessed seven public schools in Nairobi and Kiambu Counties between 28 and 30 January 2026.

> "With the next cohort preparing to join senior school, the time to act is now."
>
> Hon. Rehema Jaldesa, Chairperson, National Gender and Equality Commission

Its report, Reimagining Inclusive Education under the Competency-Based Education Framework, published in October 2026, is the centrepiece of this edition. It examines how learners with disabilities were placed and admitted, how accessible the receiving schools are, and who supports learners once they arrive.

Edition 46 reads the report alongside two other Commission studies: Teachers of Kenya, the audit of the teaching workforce conducted jointly with the Teachers Service Commission, and the 2025 study of school-level factors affecting girls' access to quality education in 19 marginalised counties. Together they show who teaches, who leads, who is admitted and who is supported.

GROUNDED IN LAW

The Commission's work in education rests on Article 27 of the Constitution, which prohibits discrimination on any ground including disability, and Article 54, which entitles persons with disabilities to access educational institutions. Section 8(m) of the National Gender and Equality Commission Act requires the Commission to audit the status of special interest groups, including persons with disabilities and children.

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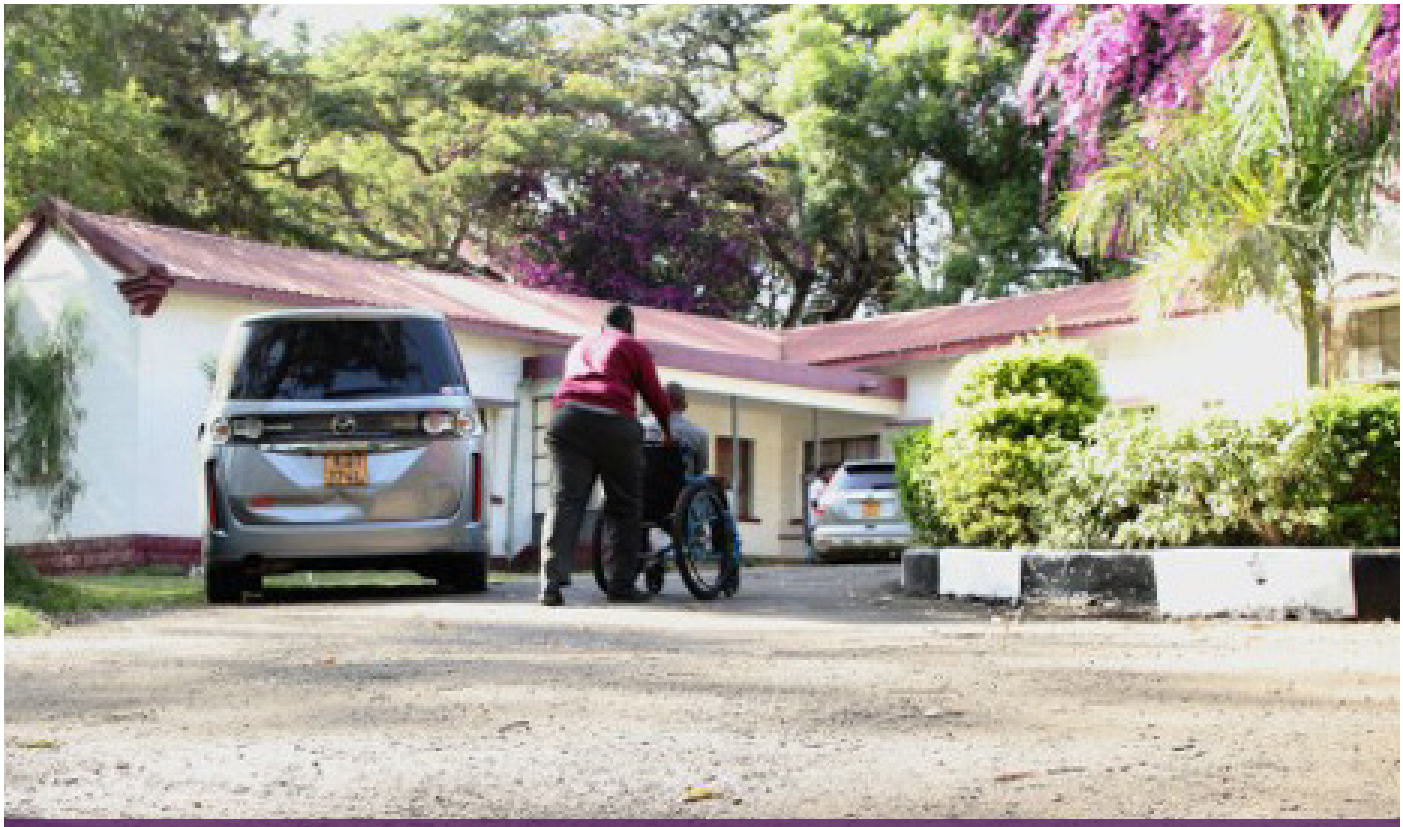
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The Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025 adds force. Section 20 gives every learner with a disability the right to admission, assessment and placement in an appropriate institution, and makes denial of admission on the basis of disability an offence.

This edition carries the assessment's findings, a comparison of special and mainstream schools, the missing assessment reports, the position of girls with disabilities, and the appointment of the Commission Secretary/CEO to the national task team on school unrest. It then follows disability inclusion beyond the classroom, the Commission's work on children's rights and access to justice, and its engagements on women in trade and biodiversity.



The NGEC team outside the administration block at Lenana School during the Commission's inquiry in January 2026.



A student at Lenana School helping his fellow student in a wheelchair to move around the school

SPECIAL REPORT | INCLUSIVE EDUCATION UNDER CBE

GRADE 10 PLACEMENT GAPS REVEALED

A Commission assessment of seven senior schools in Nairobi and Kiambu found placements that did not match school capacity, special schools overstretched and mainstream schools admitting learners with disabilities without trained teachers or accessible facilities.



A learner with a physical disability is helped up a staircase at Lenana School.

Some Grade 10 learners with disabilities were placed in senior schools whose facilities and staff could not support them, a National Gender and Equality Commission assessment of seven public schools has found.

The rapid assessment covered two special schools and five mainstream schools in Nairobi and Kiambu Counties between 28 and 30 January 2026, weeks after the pioneer Competency-Based Education cohort of 1,130,459 learners reported to Grade 10.

It followed the Commission's inquiry at Lenana School on 15 and 16 January, where 118 learners with diverse disabilities, many with high support needs, had been placed. The school worked with the Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE), the Ministry of Education and parents to arrange assessments and alternative placements, but it lacked the accessible infrastructure, specialised staff and support services for so large and diverse a group.

PLACEMENT AND CAPACITY

The Ministry's placement guidelines state that no school is to be allocated learners beyond its capacity. Both special schools reported receiving more learners, including learners with high support needs, than their facilities and staff could support. Joytown Secondary School, which specialises in physical disabilities, reported overcrowded dormitories, classrooms, laboratories and dining hall.

> "These are not failings of individual schools. They are gaps in the system, and they can be closed."
>
> Hon. Rehema Jaldesa, Chairperson, National Gender and Equality Commission

Disability assessment reports often did not accompany learners at admission, leaving schools to assess learners after they had arrived. Learners and parents had little say in placement decisions.

Mainstream schools were willing to admit learners with disabilities and had added ramps, adapted desks and ground-floor rooms. Most lacked accessible washrooms and dormitories, teachers trained in special needs education (SNE) and a structure for coordinating inclusion. Aquinas High School had ten learners with visual, physical and hearing disabilities, and none of its 53 teachers was trained in SNE. Only Ngara Girls High School had a disability mainstreaming committee.

WHO PAYS FOR INCLUSION

Schools relied on partners for therapy, assistive devices and learner welfare, and teachers sometimes used their own resources to support learners. Information on learners with disabilities was not consistently recorded by type of disability, support need or sex.

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The Commission recommends that the Ministry of Education base placement on assessed needs, school capacity and specialisation, consult learners and parents, and provide a clear and timely way to review unsuitable placements. It calls on the Ministry and KISE to assess every learner with a disability in good time and to make sure assessment reports travel with the learner.

It further asks the Ministry to fund accessibility, assistive devices and learning materials in special and mainstream schools; the Teachers Service Commission to recruit and deploy SNE-trained teachers according to need; the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development to supply braille, large-print and accessible digital materials on time; and Boards of Management to set up disability inclusion committees and conduct accessibility audits.

The assessment was carried out under Section 8(a) and 8(m) of the National Gender and Equality Commission Act. The report notes that its seven schools in two counties cannot be generalised to all senior schools, and that learners and parents were not interviewed directly.



A classroom block reached by staircases at Aquinas High School, Nairobi, where none of the school's 53 teachers was trained in special needs education.



The NGEC assessment team at Ngara Girls High School, the only assessed school with a disability mainstreaming committee

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION | SCHOOL CAPACITY

SPECIAL SCHOOLS UNDER STRAIN

Two special schools reported 487 learners with disabilities and five mainstream schools 23 between them. The Commission found expertise concentrated where space is shortest, and willing mainstream schools without trained teachers or accessible facilities.



A learner on crutches at Joytown Secondary School, which reported 391 learners with physical disabilities.

Learners with disabilities in schools assessed by the National Gender and Equality Commission are concentrated in two special schools that reported 487 such learners. Five mainstream schools reported 23 in total.

Joytown Secondary School reported 391 learners with physical disabilities, and 20 of its 27 teachers are trained in special needs education (SNE). Its partnership with BethanyKids provides physiotherapy, occupational therapy and rehabilitation, while the Safaricom Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, KCB Bank and Special Olympics Kenya support learner welfare, sponsorship and sport. Its dormitories, classrooms, laboratories and dining hall were overcrowded, and its computer laboratory only partly equipped.

Thika High School for the Visually Impaired reported 96 learners with visual impairments or albinism. It works with Thika Level 5 Hospital, the Directorate of Social Development, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) and local National Government Administration Officers. The assessment team observed steep and narrow ramps, uneven paved pathways and ongoing construction, and the school reported shortages of braille, large-print and assistive technology.

MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS ADAPTING

> “Specialised teachers, assistive devices and accessible learning materials must be funded as a matter of right, not left to charity.”
>
> Hon. Rehema Jaldesa, Chairperson, National Gender and Equality Commission

Upper Hill Secondary School had one learner with a disability and one of its 62 teachers trained in SNE; most of its dormitories are upstairs. Moi Girls Secondary School had six learners with visual impairments, provided talking calculators and adapted spaces, and worked with Kikuyu Hospital, the Mt. Kilimanjaro Trust and the Kenya National Library Service.

Ngara Girls High School had five learners with physical disabilities, scoliosis and cerebral palsy, three of 58 teachers trained in SNE and the only disability mainstreaming committee among the five. Some of its ramps were too steep to use safely. Aquinas High School had ten learners, separate sleeping cubicles and accessible classrooms, but no fully accessible washrooms and no SNE-trained teacher among 53. Moi Forces Academy had one learner and no formal inclusion structure.

A SHARED BURDEN

The report concludes that neither special nor mainstream schools, on their own, can absorb the growing number of learners with disabilities entering senior school. In special schools the quality of support falls as enrolment rises; in mainstream schools learners are admitted but not fully included.

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The shortage of specialised teachers extends below senior school. In the Commission's 2025 study of public primary schools in 19 marginalised counties, an average of 7.7 per cent of teachers had been trained in SNE.

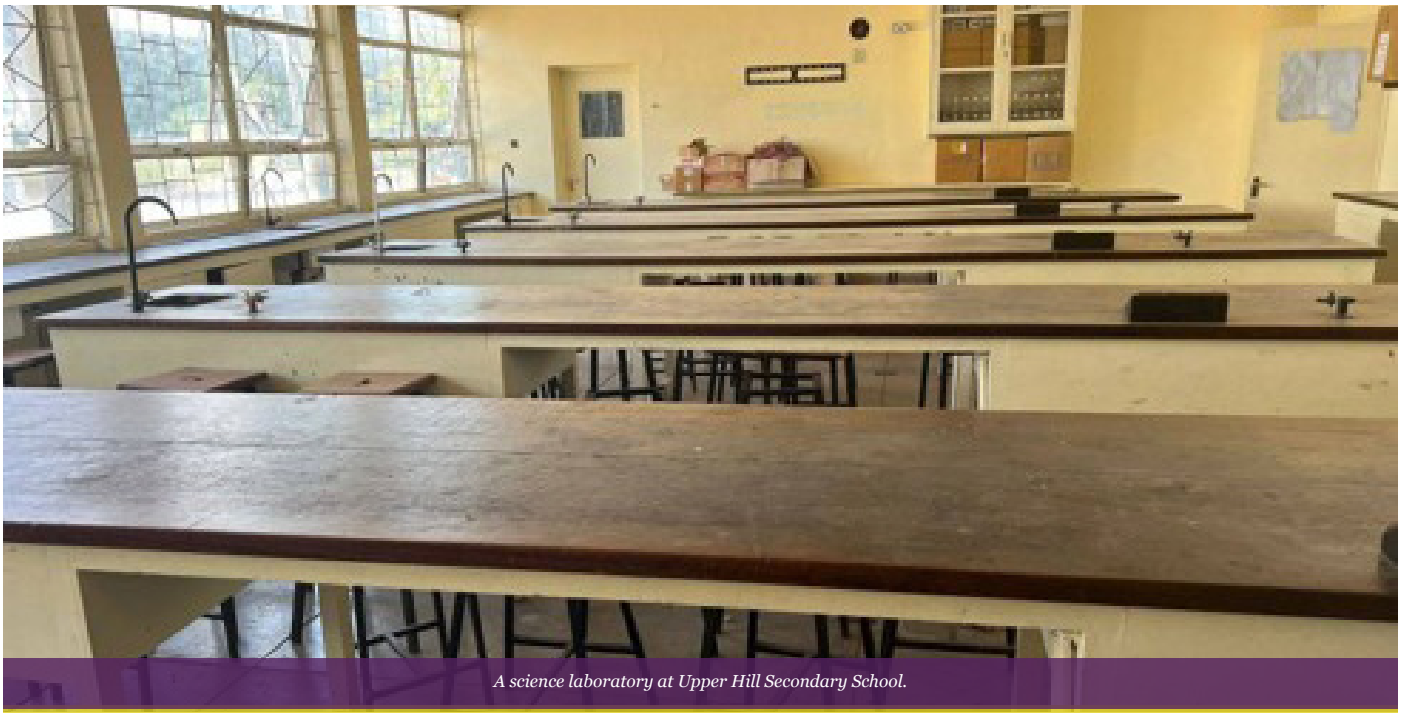
The Commission recommends that the Ministry of Education ease overcrowding in special schools and apply universal design to all new construction, that the Teachers Service Commission deploy SNE specialists, including in braille, Kenya Sign Language and orientation and mobility, and that NCPWD supply assistive devices, prioritising schools without donor support.



A learner in a wheelchair on a covered walkway at Joytown Secondary School.



A dormitory block with a ramp at Thika High School for the Visually Impaired, built with National Government Constituencies Development Fund support.



A science laboratory at Upper Hill Secondary School.

ASSESSMENTS LOST IN TRANSITION

The law gives every learner with a disability the right to assessment and appropriate placement, and requires an assessment centre in every county. NGEC found Grade 10 learners arriving without the reports that should guide their support.



The entrance to Thika High School for the Visually Impaired, which assessed learners who arrived without disability documentation.

Many learners with disabilities arrived in senior school without the assessment reports needed to plan their support, the National Gender and Equality Commission found, leaving receiving schools to assess them after admission.

Section 20 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025, in force since 27 May 2025, gives every learner with a disability the right to assessment and to placement in an appropriate institution. It requires the Ministry responsible for education to establish at least one assessment centre in every county, and makes denial of admission on the basis of disability an offence.

Assessment documents already move through the system at examination time. KNEC's 2026 registration circulars for KPSEA and KJSEA require candidates with special needs to be registered with a medical report and an assessment report from the sub-county Educational Assessment and Resource Centre (EARC).

CENTRES UNDER REVIVAL

> "Placement must follow assessment. Schools must be accessible by design."
>
> Hon. Rehema Jaldesa, Chairperson, National Gender and Equality Commission

In September 2026, Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos Ogamba said the Ministry was reviving EARCs, starting with ten regional facilities, after the centres fell into disrepair from 2019 and through the COVID-19 period. The country previously had 46 district centres and ten regional ones. He said the exercise would generate reliable data on learners with special needs and guide staffing, teacher training and equipment purchases.

In January, when a Grade 10 learner's admission to Lenana School was delayed pending a further medical assessment, KISE deployed assessors to the school. "We have sent assessors to determine the nature and degree of the disability so the school can put in place the right interventions," KISE Deputy Director Programmes Daniel Sanoe told The Standard.

The Commission found that the special schools it assessed had built their own systems to fill the gap. Thika High School for the Visually Impaired assessed learners who arrived without documentation and followed up with parents to complete formal assessment. At Joytown Secondary School, physiotherapists and occupational therapists assessed learners on an ongoing basis. Some disabilities, such as low vision or neurodevelopmental conditions, are easily missed without proper assessment, the report notes.

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THE NEXT COHORT

The Commission recommends that the Ministry, working with KISE, ensure every learner with a disability is assessed before transition, establish the county assessment centres the Act requires, and make sure assessment reports accompany learners to the receiving school. It asks KISE to share functional assessment results with the Ministry and receiving schools, and the Ministry to consult learners and parents and provide a timely way to review unsuitable placements.

The 1,206,028 learners registered for this year's KJSEA, which closed on 30 October, form the cohort due to enter senior school in January 2027.

#DisabilityInclusion

#EarlyAssessment

#InclusiveEducation

#EqualAccessToEducation



An NGEC officer assists a learner in a wheelchair during the Commission's assessment



NGEC staff converse with an administrator at the school during the Commission's assessment

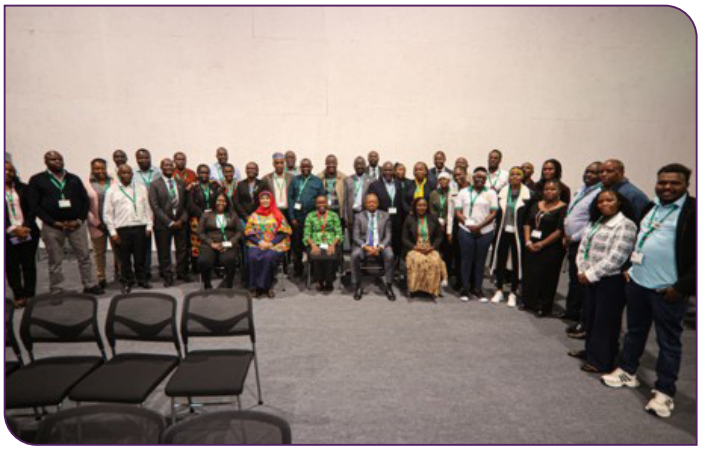


NGEC staff interact with a learner in a wheelchair at the school

PICTURE SPEAK



A group photo of delegates and award winners at the Africa Women in Trade gala dinner at Weston Hotel.



A group photo of delegates at COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia



The Nairobi Medium Security Prison, one of the prisons the Commission's legal team visited



Boda boda operators during the child protection and male engagement forum in Nakuru



NGEC officer Ruth Njenga fills forms during one of the assessment visits



NGEC staff speaking to headteacher at one of the schools the Commission assessed



A group photo of some of the Commission's officers and a school administrator during one of the assessments



A learner in a wheelchair pushing himself in the school



A local assistant chief addressing members of the community during a session of the legal aid clinic in Kibera, Nairobi



A learner in a wheelchair at one of the school corridors

GIRLS LEFT OUT OF THE DATA

The schools assessed did not report learners with disabilities by sex. Without that data, the Commission says, the education system cannot see whether girls and boys with disabilities are placed and supported equally.



A girl with a disability at one of the schools assessed by the Commission.

None of the seven schools in a National Gender and Equality Commission assessment reported learners with disabilities by sex, so the system cannot see whether girls with disabilities are treated equally.

The schools also did not report learners by age or level of support need. The Commission's report says that without such data the education system cannot plan for learners with the highest support needs or tell whether girls and boys with disabilities receive equal treatment.

The report identifies particular risks for girls with disabilities. Accessible and private sanitation is essential for them to manage menstruation with dignity, and inaccessible washrooms and dormitories affect their privacy, safety and dignity. Boarding schools, it says, need safeguarding arrangements that take disability into account.

The physical findings bear on these risks. Most of the five mainstream schools lacked accessible washrooms and dormitories. Aquinas High School had no fully accessible washrooms, and at Upper Hill Secondary School most dormitories are reached by stairs.

> "Inaccessible washrooms and dormitories affect privacy, safety and dignity, and boarding environments need safeguarding arrangements that take disability into account."
>
> NGEC, Reimagining Inclusive Education under the Competency-Based Education Framework, October 2026

A PATTERN FROM PRIMARY

The Commission's 2025 study of public primary schools in 19 counties, drawn from arid and semi-arid areas and Nairobi's informal settlements, found similar gaps earlier in the school cycle. Girls with disabilities made up 0.09 per cent of enrolment in the schools surveyed, against 0.62 per cent for boys, and respondents cited limited identification of learners with disabilities and a lack of screening tools.

About one in four school toilets in that study was accessible to girls with disabilities. Menstruation-related absenteeism was 15.8 per cent in counties with inadequate sanitation, more than double the 7.3 per cent recorded where sanitation was adequate.

The teaching workforce shows the same thin representation. The Teachers of Kenya audit, conducted with the Teachers Service Commission, found that teachers with disabilities make up 1.7 per cent of all TSC-employed teachers, against a five per cent threshold, and that women are 37.2 per cent of them. In junior schools, teachers with disabilities are 0.3 per cent.

COUNTING EVERY LEARNER

KNEC's registration of KPSEA and KJSEA candidates already captures each learner's gender and category of disability. The Commission recommends that the Ministry of Education track placement outcomes and the support provided to learners with disabilities, with data disaggregated by sex, age, type of disability and level of support need, subject to data protection requirements.

Section 8(m) of the National Gender and Equality Commission Act requires the Commission to audit the status of special interest groups, among them women, children and persons with disabilities.



An adapted washroom fitted with a commode chair at one of the assessed schools.



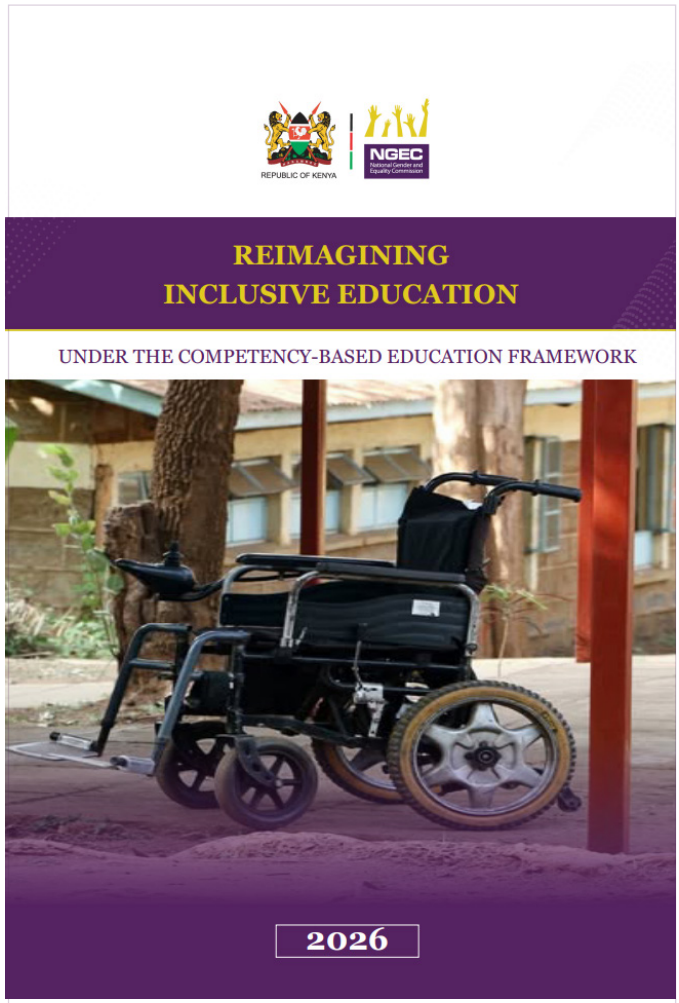
Outdoor washing facilities at Thika High School for the Visually Impaired.

REPORT FOCUS

AT A GLANCE

A rapid assessment by the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) found gaps in Grade 10 placement of learners with disabilities, with placements often failing to consider learners' needs and schools' capacity. An assessment of seven public schools in Nairobi and Kiambu revealed overcrowding in special schools, inadequate accessibility, shortages of specialised teachers and learning materials, and limited learner and parent participation in placement decisions. The report calls for needs-based placement, early assessment, increased public funding, accessible learning environments and stronger school inclusion structures.

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO READ THE REPORT



KEY FINDINGS

√ **Placement gaps:** Special schools exceeded their staffing and facility capacity.

√ **Uneven distribution:** Special schools had 487 learners with disabilities, compared to 23 in mainstream schools.

√ **Missing assessments:** Learners often lacked assessment reports upon admission.

√ **Teacher shortages:** Aquinas High School had no trained special needs education teacher.

√ **Limited inclusion:** Only one mainstream school had a disability inclusion committee.

√ **Accessibility barriers:** Schools lacked accessible facilities and adequate assistive learning resources.

√ **Donor dependency:** Learner support relied heavily on donors and staff goodwill.

√ **Limited participation:** Disability data was inadequate, and learners and parents had little say in placement decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

√ **Needs-based placement:** Match placement to learner needs, school capacity and specialisation.

√ **Early assessment:** Assess learners before transition and establish county assessment centres.

√ **Adequate funding:** Fund assistive devices, learning materials, infrastructure and specialised support.

√ **Accessible infrastructure:** Upgrade school facilities and apply universal design.

√ **Disability data:** Track placements using data disaggregated by sex, age, disability and support needs.

√ **Specialised teachers:** Recruit special needs teachers and train all teachers in inclusive education.

√ **Adapted learning materials:** Provide CBE materials in braille, large print and accessible digital formats.

√ **School inclusion structures:** Establish inclusion committees, conduct accessibility audits and strengthen partnerships.

APPOINTMENT | SCHOOL UNREST

NGEC JOINS SCHOOL UNREST TASK TEAM

Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos Ogamba has appointed Commission Secretary/CEO Dr Purity Ngina to a 52-member task team required to examine school unrest by region, gender, age, disability and boarding status.



Dr Purity Ngina, MBS, Commission Secretary/CEO, National Gender and Equality Commission.

Commission Secretary/CEO Dr Purity Ngina is among 52 members of the Multi-Stakeholder Task Team on Unrest in Schools appointed by Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Migos Ogamba.

The appointment was published in Gazette Notice No. 16733, dated 23 October 2026, under the Basic Education Act (Cap. 211). The Task Team is chaired by Prof. Peter Mulwa Mbithi and served by eight joint secretaries led by Dr William Sugut. It has 90 days from publication to complete its work.

Its terms of reference require it to study the reports of previous task forces and inquiries on school unrest and their implementation status, and to investigate the immediate, underlying and systemic causes of the 2026 unrest, taking into account differences by region, school category, gender, age, disability and boarding status.

The Task Team will evaluate the links between unrest and social media, smartphones and misinformation, examination-related stress, long academic terms, food, criminal gangs, religious extremism, substance abuse, bullying, peer influence, gender-based violence and copycat behaviour. It will also audit school safety, security, safeguarding and emergency preparedness, with particular attention to boarding schools and the obligations of the National Disaster Risk Management Act, No. 16 of 2026, and examine boarding school models, uniform costs, infrastructure, fees, capitation grants and the unit cost of education.

SCALE OF UNREST

In June 2026, Ministry of Education data showed that 204 senior secondary schools had reported cases of unrest, which Mr Ogamba said was less than two per cent of senior schools, with boarding schools accounting for most of those affected.

"Following due consultations within the government and other stakeholders, we wish to announce that we shall be forming a multi-stakeholder team to review the causes of unrest and make recommendations on strategies for stemming this challenge," he said on 10 June.

THE COMMISSION'S EVIDENCE

Several areas in the terms of reference are covered by evidence the Commission published this year. The Teachers of Kenya audit, conducted with the Teachers Service Commission, records that TSC upheld 421 cases of sexual offences against learners involving teachers between the 2021/22 and 2023/24 financial years, and that none involved a learner with a disability. The 2025 study of schools in 19 marginalised counties found that 23.9 per cent of surveyed schools reported learners experiencing some form of violence.

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Cabinet Secretary for Education, Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba addresses delegates during the the Gusii Education Stakeholders Convention in September 2025

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> "We have agreed that we are going to form a multi-stakeholder team to discuss the issues affecting students in all our schools."
>
> Julius Migos Ogamba, Cabinet Secretary for Education, 28 June 2026

The Commission's October 2026 assessment of Grade 10 placement found that boarding environments need safeguarding arrangements that take disability into account, and that dormitories in some schools are inaccessible to learners with mobility impairments.

The terms of reference require the Task Team to take account of differences by gender, age and disability, areas within the Commission's mandate under Article 27 of the Constitution and Section 8 of the National Gender and Equality Commission Act.

#SchoolSafety

#LearnerProtection

#InclusiveEducation

NGEC REVIEWS SIX EDUCATION BILLS

Before the National Assembly Committee on Education, the Commission pressed for six Bills reshaping the sector under Competency-Based Education to protect Special Interest Groups in access, special needs education, assessment, placement and funding.



The Commission's secretary and CEO Dr Purity Ngina presents to the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Education

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) has presented a memorandum on six Education Sector Bills, 2026 to the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Education.

The submission called for the rights of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) to be safeguarded, particularly in equitable access to education, inclusive and special needs education, learner assessment, placement and funding.

THE SIX BILLS

The Bills seek to transform Kenya's education sector under the Competency-Based Education system. They are the Tertiary Education, Placement and Funding Bill; the Basic Education Bill; the Kenya National Educational Assessments Council Bill; the Pre-Service Education and In-Service Training Bill; the Kenya National Qualifications Framework (Amendment) Bill; and the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

The Commission was represented by Vice Chairperson Thomas Koyier, Commission Secretary/CEO Dr Purity Ngina and Assistant Director, Legal and Investigation, Mr Desire Njamwea.

EQUALITY IN LAW

Drawing on its constitutional mandate to promote gender equality and freedom from discrimination, the Commission set out its institutional and technical perspectives on the proposed reforms and their implications for gender equality, non-discrimination and inclusive education.

It stressed that education laws and policies must address systemic inequalities and uphold the rights of all learners, so that no learner is left behind.



Members of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Education follow a presentation during the meeting

Back to cover

TURKANA | ILIMANYANG COMMUNITY

ILIMANYANG MEDICAL CAMP PREPARATIONS BEGIN

Hospitals, research institutions and disability and supplies agencies met at the Commission to plan an integrated socio-medical camp in Kapua, turning the community's identified needs into coordinated services.



Stakeholders converse during the multi-stakeholder meeting on preparations for an integrated socio-medical camp for the Ilimanyang community in Kapua, Turkana County.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) has convened hospitals, research institutions and government agencies to prepare an integrated socio-medical camp for the Ilimanyang community in Kapua, Turkana County.

The multi-stakeholder meeting, held at the Commission's boardroom, followed the Commission's recent field mission. It seeks to mobilise coordinated interventions on healthcare access, disability assessment, civil registration and social protection for the community.

THE PARTNERS

The meeting brought together representatives of the Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral and Research Hospital (KUTRRH), The Karen Hospital, the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA).

FROM NEEDS TO ACTION

The Commission is working to turn the community's identified needs into practical interventions by combining medical expertise, research capacity, institutional resources and social protection services.

The Commission holds that access to healthcare, civil registration and social protection is a fundamental human rights imperative, and that no community should be left behind because of its geographical location or historical marginalisation.

The Commission's engagement with the Ilimanyang community in Kapua was reported in Edition 45 of the Equality Bulletin.



The Commissions head of Minority and Marginalized division, George Wanyonyi presenting to stakeholders during the meeting

SRHR | NAKURU

NAKURU YOUTH NAME HEALTH BARRIERS

A Commission engagement with young people, including persons with physical disabilities and hearing impairments, identified stigma, discrimination and inaccessible information as barriers to sexual and reproductive health services.



Young people, including persons with disabilities, at the Commission's engagement on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Nakuru.

Young people in Nakuru, including persons with disabilities, have identified stigma, discrimination and inaccessible information as barriers to sexual and reproductive health care.

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Nakuru Regional Office convened the engagement on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in partnership with Women in Society Empowerment Organization (W.I.S.E). Participants were aged 25 and below and included persons with physical disabilities and hearing impairments.

WHAT WAS DISCUSSED

The engagement addressed consent, bodily autonomy, contraception, gender-based violence and access to disability-inclusive health services. Participants cited stigma, discrimination, limited access to accessible information and a shortage of youth-friendly health care.

CLOSING THE GAP

The Commission holds that persons with disabilities have an equal right to accurate information, dignity, safety and informed choices, and that exclusion from sexuality education heightens their vulnerability to abuse and exploitation.

Addressing the gap, it says, requires sign language interpretation, accessible information materials, trained service providers and sustained partnerships with community organisations, so that the right to information becomes meaningful access for every young person.

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

PICTURE SPEAK



Stakeholders coordinate preparations for an integrated socio-medical camp for the Ilimanyang community in Kapua, Turkana County



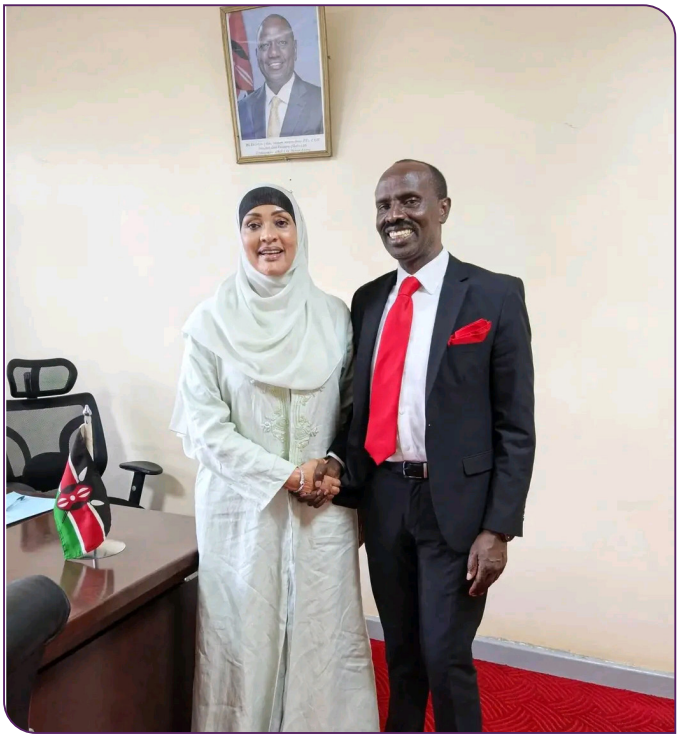
Delegation from the Commission during the courtesy call to the National Democratic Institute (NDI) Kenya



NGEC Isiolo regional officer Mr Alyaro Somo speaks during a strategic engagement on preparation of the 16 Days of Activism



Mr Desire Njamwea, Assistant Director, Legal and Investigation, presenting the memorandum on education sector bills to the National Assembly Committee



TSC Commissioner Hon. Wilson Sossion hosts NGEC Chairperson Hon. Rehema Dida Jaldesa at TSC

DISABILITY | EMPLOYMENT

SUMMIT TACKLES DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT BARRIERS

The inaugural Disability Inclusive Employment Summit brought government, the private sector and other stakeholders together to assess progress and turn inclusion commitments into programmes for persons with disabilities.



Participants at the inaugural Disability Inclusive Employment Summit 2026 at the Institute of Monetary Studies, Nairobi.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) took part in the inaugural Disability Inclusive Employment Summit 2026, held on 29 and 30 October at the Institute of Monetary Studies, Nairobi.

Organised by Riziki Source in partnership with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), the Summit brought together government institutions, private sector actors and other stakeholders.

FROM COMMITMENT TO PROGRAMMES

Participants assessed progress in disability-inclusive employment, with a focus on strengthening inclusive recruitment, investing in skills development and career progression, and translating inclusion commitments into actionable programmes.

The Summit served as a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing and partnerships to address barriers to employment and promote equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. It also underscored the need to advance workplace inclusion, economic empowerment, independent living and the dignity of persons with disabilities.

THE COMMISSION'S POSITION

The Commission reaffirmed its commitment to equality, non-discrimination and inclusive development, so that persons with disabilities can access meaningful employment and participate fully in Kenya's social and economic development.



NGEC officers Carol Munyua and John Nzioka among other attendees follow proceedings during the summit

DISABILITY | GENERAL ELECTION

NGEC PRESSES FOR ACCESSIBLE ELECTIONS

At an election stakeholder engagement, the Commission set out what the IEBC, political parties, the media and citizens must each do to make the General Election accessible to persons with disabilities.



NGEC Officers Joshua Ogembo and John Nzioka address the Election Stakeholder Engagement and Dissemination of Resource Materials.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) has called on the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to ensure accessible registration, polling stations and voter materials for persons with disabilities.

The Commission made the call at the Election Stakeholder Engagement and Dissemination of Resource Materials, held with UDPK, Uraia, the IEBC, the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) and the Embassy of Denmark. The engagement advanced disability-inclusive electoral processes ahead of the General Election.

THE FIVE PER CENT PRINCIPLE

Article 54(2) of the Constitution requires the State to ensure the progressive implementation of the principle that at least five per cent of members of elective and appointive bodies are persons with disabilities.

The Commission holds that the principle is realised only when registration, party primaries, nominations, campaigns and polling stations are accessible to all.

A CALL TO EVERY ACTOR

The Commission called on political parties to hold open primaries and to nominate persons with disabilities in winnable positions, and on the media to report fairly and without stereotypes.

It called on citizens to register, to encourage family members and neighbours with disabilities to participate, and to report any exclusion to the Commission.

The Commission will continue to monitor, audit, advise and investigate. In its view, accessibility is the test of democracy, and a credible election is one in which no Kenyan is left behind.



Stakeholders engage in discussions during a meeting to refine the Inclusive School-Related Gender-Based Violence (SRGBV) Reporting and Response Model for Nairobi County schools.

NGEC AND NDI EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP

The Commission's leadership met National Democratic Institute Kenya to explore joint work on the barriers women face in party nominations and on the inclusion of Special Interest Groups ahead of the 2027 General Election.



A group photo of the delegation from the Commission and the NDI team during the courtesy visit.

NGEC Chairperson Hon. Rehema Jaldesa and Vice Chairperson Thomas Koyier, EBS, led a Commission delegation on a courtesy visit to the National Democratic Institute (NDI) Kenya.

The delegation was received by the Institute's Country Director, Mr Dennis Omondi, and his team. The engagement explored how the two institutions can work together to ensure that more women, young people and other Special Interest Groups take part in shaping the country's leadership.

BARRIERS TO NOMINATION

Discussions focused on the barriers women face during political party nominations and the need for stronger representation in leadership.

The two institutions also identified opportunities for joint advocacy, stakeholder engagement, electoral monitoring and reforms that promote transparency, accountability and inclusion in political processes.

A SHARED AGENDA

Through the partnership, the Commission and NDI Kenya seek to translate commitments to equality into meaningful opportunities for participation and representation, so that women, young people and other Special Interest Groups are included, heard and actively involved as Kenya looks towards the 2027 General Election.



The Commission Chairperson Hon. Rehema Jaldesa speaking to the delegation during the courtesy visit to the National Democratic Institute



Mr Dennis Omondi, Country Director at National Democratic Institute sharing insights during the courtesy visit

INCLUSIVE ELECTIONS | KITUI

NGEC ENGAGES KITUI IEBC LEADERSHIP

The Commission's Kitui office and the county's electoral leadership identified joint voter education, disability-inclusive preparedness and county inclusion committees as areas for partnership ahead of the 2027 General Election.



A group photo of NGEC officers from the Kitui Regional office and the leadership of IEBC Kitui County during the courtesy visit

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Kitui Regional Office has visited the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) leadership in Kitui County to explore collaboration on inclusive electoral processes.

The courtesy visit sought to strengthen collaboration towards gender-responsive and inclusive electoral processes as the 2027 General Election approaches.

ON THE AGENDA

Discussions focused on voter registration, disability inclusion, accessible voter education and the decentralisation of IEBC Inclusion Coordination Committees to the county level.

The two offices gave particular attention to barriers that limit the participation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, minorities and marginalised communities throughout the electoral cycle.

AREAS FOR PARTNERSHIP

The engagement identified joint voter education and sensitisation programmes, disability-inclusive electoral preparedness, stakeholder coordination, the promotion of gender equality and advocacy for the meaningful participation of Special Interest Groups as potential areas of partnership.

The Commission holds that an inclusive electoral process requires deliberate measures so that every eligible citizen, regardless of gender, age, disability or social background, has an equal opportunity to participate freely, independently and meaningfully.



A publication is presented to the IEBC leadership in Kitui County

#InclusiveElections

#DisabilityInclusion

#GenderEquality

#MeaningfulParticipation

CHILD RIGHTS ROADMAP TAKES SHAPE

Government institutions and civil society met to turn the concluding recommendations on Kenya's Third Periodic Report under the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child into actions with owners, timelines and budgets.



Participants in the multisectoral workshop on implementing the concluding recommendations on Kenya's Third Periodic Report under the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 27 to 28 October 2026.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) joined government and civil society actors on 27 and 28 October 2026 to plan how Kenya implements recommendations on its children's rights record.

The two-day multisectoral workshop addressed the concluding recommendations on Kenya's Third Periodic Report under the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Its task was a practical implementation roadmap with clear institutional responsibilities, timelines, resource allocation, and monitoring and accountability mechanisms.

PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED

Discussions highlighted strengthening child protection systems, promoting child participation, enhancing access to inclusive services and addressing the needs of children in vulnerable and marginalised circumstances.

Stakeholders worked towards a multisectoral framework to strengthen collaboration between state and non-state actors and to translate the recommendations into measurable actions for the realisation of children's rights and welfare in Kenya.

THE COMMISSION'S INTEREST

The Commission's participation rests on its commitment to advancing equality and inclusion and protecting the rights of all children, particularly those at risk of discrimination and exclusion. The Commission holds that protecting children's rights is a shared responsibility.



Participants follow a session during the multisectoral workshop



A speaker addresses attendees during a session

NO GENDER DESK AT SALGAA

Forums with shining Hope for Communities reached about 100,Nakuru residents,and a visit to Salgaa Police Station found no dedicated gender desk, prompting the Commission to call for gender-responsive policing.



Boda boda operators at the child protection and male engagement forum convened by the Commission's Nakuru Regional Office.

A National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) team found no dedicated gender desk at Salgaa Police Station in Nakuru County, raising concern about survivor-centred reporting at the first point of contact.

The finding came during a series of engagements by the Commission's Nakuru Regional Office with Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO) on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), child protection and the engagement of men and boys.

BOROR AND SALGAA

In Boror Location, Rongai Sub-County, the Commission and SHOFCO convened a community sensitisation forum for about 300 residents, predominantly women.

The forum drew attention to persistent concerns in the wider Salgaa area, including child neglect, sexual exploitation, teenage pregnancies, poverty, school attendance challenges and children living on the streets. Women also face risks of violence and harassment and barriers to essential services.

Participants learnt how to recognise and prevent SGBV, report abuse, access referral services and respond when a child is at risk. The central message was that a child who experiences abuse must be heard, protected and connected to support.
The absence of a gender desk, the Commission says, raises questions about the availability of specialised, confidential and survivor-centred reporting and support. It has called for gender-responsive policing and accessible mechanisms for reporting and following up cases of abuse.

Kenya's reporting channels include 1195, the 24-hour GBV helpline, and 116, the free 24-hour Child Helpline. The Commission holds that public awareness of these services must be matched by effective local referral systems, timely intervention and accountability.

700 REACHED IN NAKURU

At the Kenya Red Cross Society in Nakuru, the Commission joined the SHOFCO Gender and Inclusion Department and other partners in a public education forum on GBV prevention and child protection that reached about 700 members of the public.

The forum covered GBV and child rights violations, the signs of abuse, reporting procedures, referral pathways and the barriers that limit access to justice. Participants received legal aid and advice from the Commission, the National Legal Aid Service (NLAS), the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and other partners, alongside on-site psychosocial support and counselling.

The Commission called on communities to report abuse promptly, on duty bearers to respond without delay and safeguard the dignity and confidentiality of survivors, and on justice sector actors to strengthen coordination and follow through on cases.

RIDERS AS ALLIES

Ahead of Children Services Month, the Commission, through the Nakuru Children Protection Centre, also partnered with the SHOFCO Gender and Inclusion Department and the Department of Children Services to engage boda boda operators in a child protection and male engagement forum.

Riders, whose work connects households, schools and neighbourhoods, were encouraged to recognise risk, challenge abuse and exploitation, promote respect for women and girls and link children and survivors to support services. Children Services Month runs in November under the theme "Strengthening Multi-Agency Action to Safeguard Childhood Beyond Commitments (10 Years On)".

Across the engagements, the Commission stressed that fathers, male caregivers and community leaders share responsibility for challenging harmful social norms and supporting survivors. In its view, men must be part of the solution, communities must refuse to normalise abuse, and institutions must respond when survivors speak.

#positivemasculinity

#ChildProtection

#MaleEngagement

REGIONS PREPARE FOR 16 DAYS

Ahead of the campaign, the Commission's Isiolo office took survivors' needs to the airwaves and its Kitui office joined county partners in planning activities on prevention, protection and accountability.



NGEC Isiolo regional Officer Alyaro Somo(right) at Nagaa Radio station during a talk show on the 16 Days of Activism

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Isiolo and Kitui Regional Offices have begun preparing for the 2026 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, running from 25 November to 10 December.

This year's campaign is held under the theme "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls: Ensure Justice, Protect Survivors, End Impunity".

ON AIR IN ISIOLO

On Nagaa Radio Isiolo, the Commission's Isiolo Regional Office placed access to justice, survivor-centred protection and accountability at the centre of the response to gender-based violence (GBV).

The Commission set out what survivors require of the system: accessible reporting channels, timely investigations, effective referrals, psychosocial support, and institutions that act decisively. It explained its own role in promoting equality and freedom from discrimination, monitoring institutional compliance, investigating violations and advising on measures to strengthen protection and redress.

It called on communities to reject victim-blaming and report abuse promptly, on duty bearers to respond without delay and ensure every report is acted upon, and on justice sector actors to strengthen coordination and uphold accountability. No survivor, the Commission said, should face the path to justice alone.

The broadcast was supported by Plan International Kenya, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Horn of Africa Institute (HAI).

PLANNING IN KITUI

In Kitui County, the Commission's Kitui Regional Office joined stakeholders in a brainstorming and planning meeting to coordinate activities to prevent violence, protect survivors and strengthen accountability for perpetrators.

Discussions covered stakeholder mapping, the choice of venue and activities to drive public awareness, community engagement and collective action, as well as a concept note, activity budget and invitation letters for the campaign.

The Commission holds that ending GBV requires sustained commitment to prevention, survivor-centred services, access to justice and accountability.

#EndGBV

#EndImpunity

#16DaysOfActivism

#JusticeForSurvivors

NGEC JOINS PROSECUTORS IN RIRUTA

At a community dialogue convened by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Commission set out its mandate and introduced its Male Engagement Division to residents of Riruta, Nairobi.



Residents follow proceedings at the Chapa Gumzo na Prosecutor community dialogue at AIC Riruta, Nairobi.

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) joined the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) at the "Chapa Gumzo na Prosecutor" community dialogue at AIC Riruta, Nairobi.

The forum brought justice institutions closer to residents to strengthen public awareness, accountability and meaningful participation in the justice process.

A NEW DIVISION

The Commission set out its mandate to promote gender equality and freedom from discrimination. It also introduced its Male Engagement Division, which seeks to enlist men and boys as partners in advancing gender equality and building an inclusive Kenya.

PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICE

The Commission holds that partnerships of this kind turn equality, non-discrimination and access to justice from constitutional principles into lived realities for all.

It has committed to inclusive, community-centred engagement and to a Kenya where everyone can participate, access justice and enjoy equal protection of the law.



Mr Lewis Mwaniki, Head of Male Engagement Division among other attendees at the Chapa Gumzo na Prosecutor dialogue

LEGAL AWARENESS WEEK 2026

LEGAL AID REACHES NAIROBI PRISONS

During Legal Awareness Week, the Commission's Legal Department advised remandees and women inmates in three Nairobi prisons, where mothers raised fears for young children left at home without adequate care.



The Legal Awareness Week 2026 legal aid caravan, run under the theme "Community Advocates: Bridging the Gap Between People and Justice".

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Legal Department took legal aid to remandees and inmates in three Nairobi prisons during Legal Awareness Week 2026, held from 26 to 30 October.

The Commission joined the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and other partners for the week, held under the theme *"Community Advocates: Bridging the Gap Between People and Justice"*. The initiative brings legal information and assistance closer to communities and persons in custody, helping people understand their rights, explore remedies and learn where to seek redress.

INSIDE THE PRISONS

On the second day of the week, the Commission joined the LSK, the Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU), the National Legal Aid Service (NLAS) and Kenyatta University School of Law students at Industrial Area Prison. The team visited the Medium and Maximum Security sections and engaged remandees on their constitutional rights, including the right to a fair hearing under Article 50 of the Constitution.

At the Medium Security section, an interactive session addressed questions on legal rights, individual cases and the administration of justice. At the Maximum Security section, remandees received one-on-one legal assistance. The Commission also took part in mobile legal aid outreach in Kibera.

On the third day, the Commission joined the LSK, SHOFCO, IMLU and law students from the University of Nairobi, Mount Kenya University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) at Nairobi West Prison. Remandees enquired about their cases and received guidance on their legal concerns.

WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN

At Lang'ata Women's Prison, the Legal Department held a plenary session on inmates' fundamental rights, followed by questions and answers and one-on-one sessions with individual inmates.

Many women raised concern for the welfare of their very young children, who had been left at home without adequate care while their mothers were in custody. The team also noted missing case documents, including witness statements, which may affect the preparation and progression of cases.

The week's programme also scheduled mobile legal aid caravans in Mukuru, Githurai 44 and Kasarani, and legal aid outreach at Kamiti Maximum and Medium Prisons on 30 October.

The Commission holds that legal awareness and accessible legal support are central to ensuring that persons in custody, including women in correctional facilities, understand their rights and the avenues available to them in seeking justice.



The legal aid team and partners at a Nairobi prison during Legal Awareness Week 2026.



The Commission's legal team and partners at Lang'ata Women's Maximum Security Prison.

WOMEN IN TRADE | NAIROBI

KARUNGARU PRESSES FOR WOMEN-LED TRADE

At the Africa Women in Trade Forum gala in Nairobi, NGEC Commissioner and OWIT Kenya Patron Dr Margaret Karungaru urged governments and financiers to treat women-led enterprises as serious commercial partners as continental free trade opens new markets.



Commissioner Dr. Margaret Karungaru (left) with Ambassador Dr Ida Odinga (Centre) Kenya's Permanent Representative to UNEP, and Trade Principal Secretary Regina Ombam (right) during the 2026 OWIT Gala Dinner and Awards at Weston Hotel, Nairobi.

National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) Commissioner Dr Margaret Karungaru has called on governments, financial institutions and development partners to recognise women-led enterprises as serious commercial partners.

She spoke at the OWIT Gala Dinner and Awards 2026, held on Thursday 29 October at the Weston Hotel, Nairobi, in her capacity as Patron of the Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT) Kenya. She presented the Patron's Awards on an evening that also marked the unveiling of a new OWIT Kenya Board.

Organised by OWIT Kenya in partnership with OWIT Africa and the State Department for Trade, the gala anchored the Africa Women in Trade Forum (AWTF) 2026, a four-day summit held from 27 to 30 October that brought together trade leaders, entrepreneurs, investors and policymakers for trade labs, workshops, a youth summit and factory visits. The evening's Impact Honors & Awards recognised leadership and innovation in women-led enterprises and cross-border trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Ambassador Dr Ida Odinga, Kenya's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), was the chief guest. Also present were Trade Principal Secretary Ms Regina Ombam, OWIT Kenya President Ms Salome Kavindu and Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency (KEPROBA) Chief Executive Officer Ms Floice Mukabana.

WHY WOMEN, WHY NOW

Dr Karungaru built her remarks around two questions: why women, and why now. Africa, she said, cannot realise its full economic potential while women continue to face barriers to trade, and the AfCFTA is creating opportunities to connect markets, expand regional commerce and strengthen African businesses.

"The question is whether women will be equipped to seize these opportunities," she said.

She noted that women across Africa are building businesses, producing goods and creating employment, yet many struggle to access financing, meet export requirements, secure distribution networks and reach buyers beyond their domestic markets. *"A promising product does not automatically secure an international customer,"* she said.

She asked OWIT Kenya to judge its work by outcomes: whether a connection leads to a buyer, a discussion produces a partnership, and an entrepreneur gains access to a new market or the support needed to prepare for export. She encouraged the incoming Board to build practical programmes, meaningful partnerships and sustained engagement with women entrepreneurs.

Accessible financing, fair procurement opportunities, reliable trade information and practical technical support, she said, can help women-led businesses grow and compete. She urged women entrepreneurs to invest in financial management, product quality, digital capabilities and knowledge of their target markets.

"Your ambition must be matched by preparation, while institutions must do their part to ensure that avoidable barriers do not stand in your way," she said.

..... Continued on page 34



NGEC Commissioner Dr Margaret Karungaru MBS, presents the Patron's Award at the OWIT Gala Dinner and Awards 2026, Weston Hotel, Nairobi, on 29 October 2026

..... Continued from page 33

COMMISSION AT THE FORUM

The Commission exhibited its publications, research and initiatives on gender equality, inclusion and the protection of the rights of Special Interest Groups at the forum, inviting participants to its booth to learn about its mandate and engage on advancing equality.

Dr Karungaru closed by inviting each guest to consider a practical contribution to women's trade. *"It may be a buyer introduction, a commercial partnership, a financing opportunity, mentorship or support for a policy that removes an unnecessary barrier,"* she said.

#AWTF2026

#WomenInTrade

#AFCFTA



NGEC Commissioner Dr Margaret Karungaru, MBS, addresses delegates during the OWIT Gala Dinner and Awards 2026, Weston Hotel, Nairobi, on 29 October 2026

KITUI CLIMATE RISK PROFILE REVIEWED

At a National Drought Management Authority validation meeting, the Commission's Kitui office pressed for gender equality and the participation of Special Interest Groups in the county's climate risk, conflict and peacebuilding plans.



A group photo of attendees of the validation meeting on advancing inclusive climate change in Kitui

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Kitui Regional Office has taken part in validating the draft Integrated Climate Risk Profile, Conflict Analysis and Baseline Report for Kitui County.

The validation meeting was convened by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) in partnership with Anglican Development Services Kenya (ADS Kenya), Anglican Development Services Eastern (ADSE) and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).

INCLUSION IN RESILIENCE

The engagement highlighted the need to integrate gender equality and social inclusion into climate risk management, conflict prevention, peacebuilding and sustainable livelihood interventions.

Particular emphasis was placed on the meaningful participation of Special Interest Groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and marginalised communities, in decisions that directly affect their lives.

THE COMMISSION'S POSITION

The Commission holds that climate resilience depends on coordinated stakeholder action, inclusive policies and interventions that bring tangible and sustainable improvements in livelihoods, peaceful coexistence and community well-being, so that no one in Kitui County is left behind.



Members follow a presentation during the validation meeting

COP17 | YEREVAN

JALDESA JOINS KENYA'S COP17 DELEGATION

In Yerevan, the Chairperson joined Environment Cabinet Secretary Dr Deborah Mlongo Barasa and Kenya's delegation, pressing for conservation that recognises the rights and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, pastoralist women and marginalised communities.



Members of Kenya's delegation, among them NGEC Chairperson Hon. Rehema Jaldesa, at COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia.

National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) Chairperson Hon. Rehema Jaldesa joined Environment Cabinet Secretary Dr Deborah Mlongo Barasa and Kenya's delegation at COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia.

The delegation's engagement advanced biodiversity conservation and international cooperation.

The Commission is championing inclusive conservation that recognises the rights, traditional knowledge and contributions of Indigenous Peoples, pastoralist women and marginalised communities, and that ensures equality in environmental decision-making and access to natural resources.

ALTERNATIVE JUSTICE | NAKURU

SEXUAL OFFENCES BARRED FROM AJS

At Nakuru Law Courts during Alternative Justice Systems Week, the Commission received complaints and gave free legal advice, and restated that sexual offences must be handled through the formal justice system.

The National Gender and Equality Commission's (NGEC) Nakuru Regional Office offered free legal advice and received complaints at Nakuru Law Courts during Alternative Justice Systems (AJS) Week.

The office joined the Judiciary, the National Legal Aid Service (NLAS) and the Law Society of Kenya (LSK). It received complaints and referred cases to the relevant institutions for action, with particular focus on women, children, persons with disabilities, youth, and minorities and marginalised communities.

THE LIMITS OF AJS

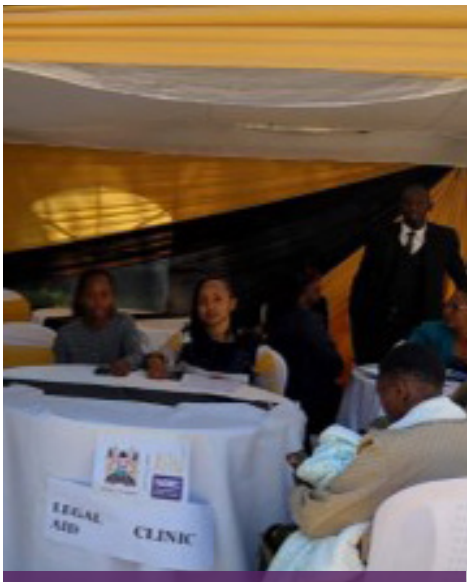
Article 159(2)(c) of the Constitution promotes alternative dispute resolution. Article 159(3) bars its use in ways that contravene the Bill of Rights or produce outcomes repugnant to justice and morality.

Sexual offences are serious crimes. As the Judiciary has affirmed, they cannot be resolved through AJS and must be handled through the formal justice system.

EQUAL ACCESS

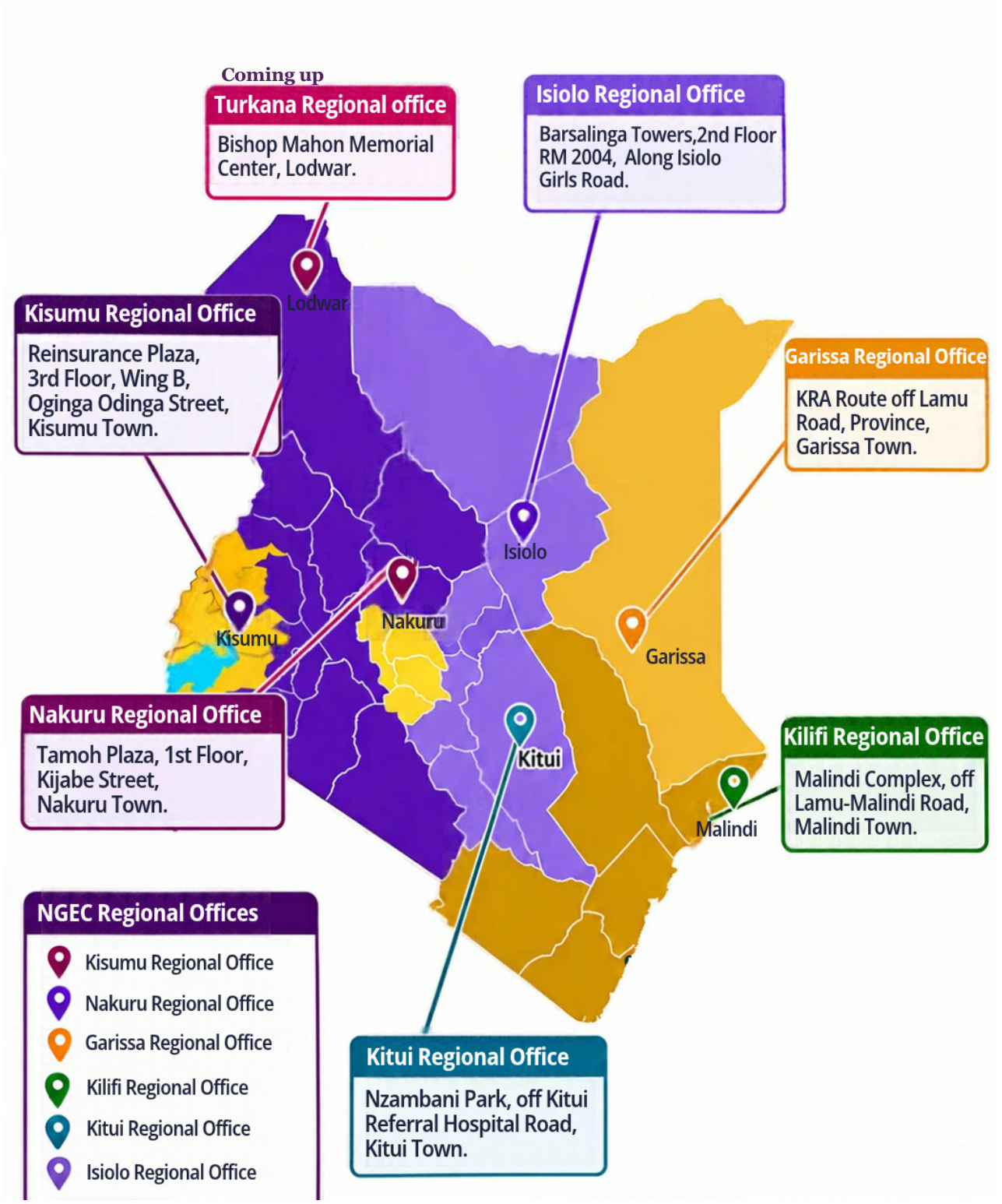
The Commission continues to advocate for AJS that protect dignity, participation and non-discrimination. It holds that access to justice must also mean equality in access to justice.

Members of the public who have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment can lodge a complaint at their nearest NGEC office.



The legal aid clinic run by the Commission and the National Legal Aid Service at Nakuru Law Courts during Alternative Justice Systems Week.

NGEC NATIONAL FOOTPRINT



About NGEC

The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) is a Constitutional Commission established under Article 59 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Our mandate is to promote gender equality and freedom from discrimination for all.

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