

SMA Africa Report 1 – Kenya – September 2016

Cybercrime Varieties

The government report that it will update cybercrime legislation by the end of the year. One of the questions that they should tackle is defining what cybercrimes are. Especially clarifying, does the method constitute the crime? The ‘misuse of a communication device’ has been a favourite charge of police against ‘bloggers’ who they felt were disseminating sensitive information or wrong information, but one that has been repeatedly shot down by the ODPP. One wonders if other legislation does not already cover much of what the Cybercrime Act tries to do. There are already laws against hate speech, libel, fraud, embezzlement etc. Digital technology increases the reach (size of audience, speed of dissemination, etc.) but does not really change the legality of the act, or does it? The Nairobi Law Institute is holding a conference in November, which if the timetable is correct, will be just in time to discuss any new provisions.

Kenya is preparing legislation to curb cyber crime and regulate social media. #DigitalAge (WeliyowSokorta, 2016)

Within the public sector, close to 15 billion shillings was lost through cybercrime in 2014 #CyberCrimeConfKe cc @nairobiLaw_inst (Sokodirectory, 2016)

Kenya is still ill equipped in terms of fighting Cybercrime #CyberCrimeConfKe cc @nairobiLaw_inst (Sokodirectory, 2016)

The term ‘cybercrime’ is bandied about quite a bit on social media, as in the case of Ken Wa Mwangi who found himself facing the wrath of twittertariat when he made inappropriate jokes about child molestation, on *Facebook*. Opinion on social media was split between those who felt that he had committed a criminal offense and those who saw the former response as an overreaction. And so it was that Ken’s life took a turn, because he aired his thoughts in the wrong platform. Whether or not there was legal precedent to formally charge him, he was tried and convicted in the court of public opinion. It seemed as though he was pilloried not only for his thought but where he expressed them.

The power of #KOT has won. KenWaMwangi was relieved of his duties last evening when reporting for deployment at JKIA. #KenWaMwangi (Lunasogun, 2016)

Kenya still lacks a credible cyber crime unit of law enforcers that can build a valid case against the likes of #KenWaMwangi. (Tjmwas, 2016)

Kenya is preparing legislation to curb cyber crime and regulate social media. #DigitalAge

The @ODPP_KE has already taken up #KenWaMwangi case, @KenyaAirports apparently fired him already. Price of Likes and Lmaos (Kinyanboy, 2016)

#KenWaMwangi to serve as basic lesson on consequences of misuse of #socialmedia (Hagonofrank, 2016)

Ezekiel Mutua should for a task force that will be auditing what people post online. This #KenWaMwangi nonsense could have been banned (Mugiirajob, 2016)

So sad that social media has turned into a platform where perverts/criminals can freely express their criminal activities #KenWaMwangi (Khadududiana, 2016)

In other cybercrime-ish news, the impostors who plague Inspector Joseph Boinnet had moved up the ranks.

A uni student been charged with impersonating IG Joseph Boinnet & DCI Ndegwa Muhoro by opening a fake Facebook account. John Cheboiwo (Suemc_phee, 2016)

CS Nkaissery warns of fake #SocialMedia accounts with his name asking for mobilization fee to offer scholarships to university students (Citizentvkenya, 2016)

CS @GenNkaisserry warns public of fake Twitter, Facebook accounts in his name claiming to offer bursaries to university students. (InteriorKE, 2016)

Cyber crime units are investigating the scam and will apprehend those found responsible. (InteriorKE, 2016)

The official social media platforms for the CS are @GenNkaisserry on twitter <http://facebook.com/GenNkaisserry> & 0719777719 official WhatsApp no (InteriorKE, 2016)

Countering Extremist Violence (CVE)

After the Kapenguria police post attack it became apparent that terrorist networks are operating beyond what are assumed to be their traditional haunts of Coast, NEP regions and Nairobi. See this report from Sigona, near Kikuyu, bastion of the PCEA (Presbyterian Church of East Africa), and quite atypical as far as stereotypes of Al Shabaab recruiting zones are concerned:

Suspected Al Shabaab recruiter: Parents say man has been misleading area youth (Ntvkenya, 2016)

And this one involving a recruit who had almost made to Al Shabaab.

Simon Karuga Gitau, 32, ID 30249716 from Mwea, Kirinyaga County, Arrested in Mandera crossing border to join #AlShabaab (Taqwamedia3, 2016)

---- @taqwamedia3 @TYCOONEWS @CTNSIS @kaachonjo2 @GenNkaisserry radicalization is taking root in Kenya. Very sad! (Hykic, 2016)

The government has launched its policy response to violent extremism and it was clear that anti-radicalisation is a core strategy. Dr. Martin Kimani of the National Counter Terrorism Centre is the lead.

H.E Uhuru Kenyatta just launched the National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism. (CTNSIS, 2016)

1/2: Congratulations to #Kenya on launching the National Countering Violent Extremism Strategy. (USEmbassyKenya, 2016)

2/2: The #US stands with #Kenyan government & #civilsociety in countering radicalization and preventing terrorism. #CVELaunchKE (USEmbassyKenya, 2016)

PRESIDENT Kenyatta launches strategy to Counter Violent Extremism; NCTC Director Martin Kimani named special envoy #CVELaunchKE (SokoAnalyst, 2016)

Together, in coordinated fashion, we must as a people drain the swamp of violent extremism and deny it room to radicalize Kenyans (UKenyatta, 2016)

The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government will be a primary implementation vehicle for this strategy (UKenyatta, 2016)

The focal point and coordinating point for the strategy in my office will be the National Counter Terrorism Centre (UKenyatta, 2016)

My administration has launched unprecedented multi-agency security operation, investments in technology, skills & innovating new approaches (UKenyatta, 2016)

We are adding prevention and counter radicalization to those more traditional security approaches (UKenyatta, 2016)

This is purely conjecture, but I noted what seemed to be a mysterious group of young, cogent people tweeting (mostly) about the CVE and other security matters and quoting official talking points. Perhaps, an anti-radicalisation, social media tactic has also been implemented. SokoAnalyst who has a following due to his commentary on business matters, has also developed a curious interest in security matters:

Everyone's worried about stopping terrorism. Well, there's really an easy way #CVELaunchKE (Traceylva, 2016)

The battle against terrorism is not only a military fight but primarily a battle of information #CVELaunchKE (Traceylva, 2016)

In this strategy, Civil societies as well as religious groups will have an upper hand in helping for the fight against terror #CVELaunchKE (SokoInsights, 2016)

The National Counter-Terrorism Centre will be the focal point 4 the coordination of processes managing returnees in the country #CVELaunchKE (Thogam, 2016)

#CVELaunchKE will rally all parts of government, communities, civil society, the private sector as well as our international partners (Traceylva, 2016)

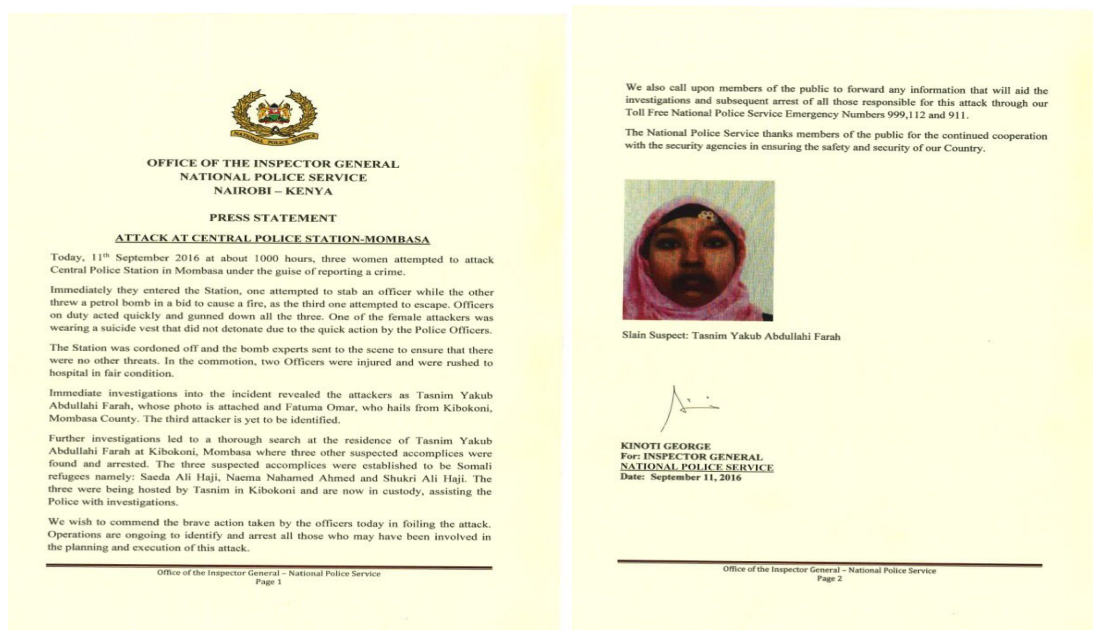
Those involved in development of the strategy were;government agencies, county governments, religious leaders,civil society #CVELaunchKE (AcholaOgonji, 2016)

Amb. Martin Kimani also hit the ground running, recommending this report for “anyone working in schools and radicalisation”: https://info-radical.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/RAPPORT_CPRLV.pdf

Attack on Mombasa Central Police Station

No sooner had the government launched their Countering Violent Extremism programme than there was an attack on a police station in Mombasa. Three women had allegedly gone to the station under the guise of reporting the theft of a mobile phone. Once there, they set about trying to kill police and burn down the station. The women were repelled and killed. Apparently, a suicide vest found on one of the women, had failed to detonate.

POLICE foil attack on Mombasa Central Station killing 3 suspected female bombers in buibuis; officer seriously wounded (Suemc_phee, 2016)



Source: https://twitter.com/NPSOfficial_KE/status/775033535510044673

The attack had the effect of lowering public perception of the police's capability to keep them safe.

#MombasaAttack Very disturbing news...but going to police station with knives& Petrol bomb? even if its bravery there is something wrong (Abubakr254, 2016)

#MombasaAttack solidarity with the police; but more disappearances or EJKs no answer [sic] (GabrielDolan1, 2016)

Let me hope we won't hear some people yap extra-judicial killings and the like. Our police did a superb job. Stay safe Kenyans #MombasaAttack Wamunyotah1, (2016)

You know things are bad when the police...who are charged with the responsibility to keep us safe aren't safe themselves #MombasaAttack (MaureenSunday1, 2016)

Police stations don't have security checks. Anyone can walk in with anything and gain access to the cops #PoliceLivesMatter #MombasaAttack (Lillian_eve, 2016)

If a police station can be attacked, how sure are we of our safety as the 'common wananchi' #MombasaAttack (Bena_101, 2016)

After the #MombasaAttack now everyone must be more vigilant. The times when the police was a source of security are long gone (ItsMusyoki, 2016)

#MombasaAttack its obvious more anti terrorism drills n skills r needed to all KPS..Evn so to some credible, honest civilians (Fdr_maina, 2016)

I think its now a personal call for each of us to be in charge of our security and stop leaving it all for the police #MombasaAttack (Gracekyalo20, 2016)

#MombasaAttack This is a wake up call for @KenyaPolice3 to screen every person who visits the station (cncollyz4, 2016)

Conspiracy theories from usual suspects emerged. Robert Alai implied that the Kenyatta administration had planned a fake attack in order to draw attention away from its failures and those of County Commissioner Nelson Marwa. Thus, there was a related thread of conversation.

Hmm! #MombasaAttack, what are we to forget this time? That Jubilee spent 2B without accounting to anyone (ItumbiOle, 2016)

Nelson Marwa's tenure as Mombasa County Commissioner was characterised by numerous criminal activities. They have now reduced #MombasaAttack (Nyandiga001, 2016)

@RobertAlai like you said, not even a month since the transfer of the county (sic) commissioner an attack already. We need truth. #MombasaAttack (Kinskom, 2016)

Many people seemed preoccupied by the gender of the attackers, in a way that I found surprising. The notion of a violent woman seemed to jolt their sensibilities. It was very odd, it was if gender changed their interpretations of this attack, relative to others—including its motives and even its legitimacy as a ‘terrorist attack’. There was an air of incredulity.

Let me get this straight #MombasaAttack was carried out by 3 women? (LeonLidigu, 2016)

Can't believe they were all women #MombasaAttack (Pytermwangi, 2016)

Like France we should ban hijab, buibui #MombasaAttack (JoelOduor, 2016)

#MombasaAttack. Women terrorists? So daring to attack a police station? Women are always the least expected in handling such deadly weapons (Jumaf3, 2016)

3 Women killed? Trying to stage a terror attack? Mhn!! #MombasaAttack (AkokoFelix, 2016)

Retweeted brian mala (@brianmala1): #MombasaAttack should teach us that Women are no longer victims of the situation (DannyKiokoo, 2016)

Terrorist women fighting Jihad, wanting to kill while Kenyan women await Nominations & only vie for Women Representative seats #MombasaAttack (WakokoLJ, 2016)

Women attack a police station !!!! suprised ! #MombasaAttack (FreddieAyamba, 2016)

#MombasaAttack Sikuizi Wamama Wamemea Pembe,,,,Kuvunja vunja Wanaume [These days women have grown horns, breaking men down] (MseeWaHome, 2016)

When the gunmen (sic) are actually women #MombasaAttack (TeacherTrizah, 2016)

@EUVoteLeave23rd please be honest about #mombasaattack there were no gunmen just 3 buibui clad women with a petrol bomb. Kenya has media too (Gmwangi101, 2016)

I thank Allah for guiding the three foolish women to a police station. They have received the reward of not obeying holy book #MombasaAttack (Princejustoh, 2016)

3 "WOMEN" attacks mombasa police station...op those guys who are always like "gunmen" now know, women can also be terrorist #MombasaAttack (OmondilisedPaul, 2016)

Now days ladies had become very dangerous, women whatsapp with you #MombasaAttack (Galukonya6, 2016)

Women have attacked a police station. That sounds to Me like a movie #MombasaAttack #StageManagedTerrorAttacks (SimbaNyika, 2016)

This event brought up past acts and actors. Sheikh Aboud Rogo was allegedly slain by ATPU. There followed a tussle over his characterisation—without admitting to being behind his elimination the government called him a terrorist while others said that he was a community leader and that his only error lay in his criticism of the government.

Widow of the Controversial Slain Radical Sheikh Aboud Rogo Arrested over Links with Terrorist Women Killed (CTNSIS, 2016)

Did Moha Jicho Pevu tell us Aboud Rogo was innocent? someone remind me please nilisahau (GicheruGicheru, 2016)

---- @GicheruGicheru @CTNSIS someone called him a conspiracy pimp. I cannot agree more (KairuWangombe, 2016)

KDF

We seem to be hearing a lot more of the exploits of KDF in Somalia, and in general, from a variety of accounts e.g. Epuka Ugaidi and CTNSIS. The KDFinfo continues to only provide banal information. Perhaps, when it comes to this subject matter, it is best to let others do your talking for you.

We are pleased to announce the countrywide recruitment of General Recruits, Constabularies & Tradesmen/Women from 19th Sep to 18th Oct 2016 (Kdfinfo, 2016)

UHURU CALLS Magufuli, expresses sympathy over recent earthquake deaths. KDF to airlift mattresses, blankets, iron sheets disaster assistance (NationBreaking, 2016)

#BREAKIING Al-Shabaab Attacked KDF-Special Forces at Sarira Flashpoint 8 Killed in a Spectacular Counter Attack (CTNSIS, 2016)

Al-Shabaab Militants Ambushed KDF-Rangers Patrol Unit Outside Ras-Kamboni Somalia

KDF and Jubbaland Forces in Operation Code-named "Juba River" Captured Al-Shabaab Commander in the CT-Operation

WELL DONE 🙌🙌🙌: @kdfinfo helps Somalia forces clear Al Shabaab illegal taxation checkpoint in Sungunni near Kismayu @CTNSIS @PrivateMboyu (EpukaUgaidi, 2016)

Kenya: Victims of Garissa KDF torture awarded Sh5m (AfricaMedia54, 2016)

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