

## **KTF EPOP REPORT 2017**

RICHARD CORCORAN

### ABBREVIATIONS:

- EPOP: Election Period Operational Procedures.
- SCC: KTF "Safety and Communications Center" Based at KWS Headquarters.

The principle of the idea was prevention rather than cure. It would use as many "Field Observers" as we could get and over 100 private and personal informers.

A "Field Observer" was basically a tour driver and vehicle. These were stationed at strategic points around the country, taking in to consideration both the amount of tourism traffic and the potential for flare-up. This person basically sits in the town or village and monitors any crowd build-up and how rowdy or irritated they are. When he deems that a situation may be any kind of danger to tourists, he moves some kilometers back down the road (informing the SCC) and physically stops all tourist vehicles from entering the area. He then holds the vehicles until the scene is clear or diverts them down a pre-determined route to avoid the trouble spot.

An "Informer" was basically a cross section of the public from Boda Boda riders, to hawkers, to askaris to taxi and matatu drivers, Kiosk owners, mahindi sellers and wazee wa mji in little villages and towns across the country. People we could send a 1,000/- credit in exchange for constant information about what is going on around, the talk in bars and restaurants, around the kiosks etc.

The SCC, basically operates as it has always done 24/7 – 365. A small team of Radio Room Operators with the backup of the KTF Secretariat. They were the center of the whole operation. Get information from observers, informers, Kenya Police and KWS. Verify this with a completely different source then as quick as possible broadcast is to the different WhatsApp groups, with the idea that they might keep themselves, their guests and their staff out of any trouble. The different WhatsApp groups were as follows:

1. KTF – Executive
2. KTF – KATO. Transport and / or Operations Managers from KATO members.
3. KTF – KAHC. Security Managers from all KAHC members.
4. KTF – Observers
5. KTF – Air Operators
6. KTF – Others. Members who signed up from other associations.

In total it was well over 300 messages per broadcast.

**KTF Mombasa** – All coast observers and informers were run very successfully by Mike Kirkland who has always operated the KTF Mombasa branch based inside his own Southern Cross radio room, with the very capable assistance of Mike Muriithi, an ex – Police Officer and a real Gentleman who has always run KTF Security at the coast.

### **24 October 2017**

We held a brief meeting with the Kenya Police Service through Tourist Police Unit (TPU) and Kenya Wildlife Service, and both institutions confirmed being on standby to assist in case of any incidents. Additionally, the TPU officers reiterated that the Kenya Police was prepared adequately to provide security for the election.

We met and briefed all observers, handed out a pack to each of them with the following:

1. KTF Vehicle stickers
2. KTF I/D
3. Branded high visibility vest.
4. Introduction Letter to Kenya Police Officer in-Charge
5. Vehicle log sheets
6. Communication log sheets
7. Note book
8. Clip board
9. Pens
10. 1000/- airtime
11. Instruction manual
12. Their location map
13. Suggested diversion maps

We circulated a detailed memo to all members, through the trade associations, outlining 'Election Period Operational Procedures' to be observed by all in order to ensure guests' and their operational safety.

All material for Coast Crew was sent via courier.

All informers were called and briefed.

### **25 October 2017**

All observers drove to their various locations, reported to the local police station / post and introduced themselves and our operation. They swapped numbers with

the officer in-charge and sent through those numbers to SCC. They also recce'd their areas, escape routes and diversions.

We updated all the WhatsApp groups for efficient sharing of information to members. To ensure effective trickle down of information to enable members organize their operations in a safe manner, the WhatsApp groups membership was mainly transport/fleet/operations managers, as well as executives.

### **26 October 2017 to 31 October 2017**

Operations commenced at 06h00 and we stood down at 18h00.

- The observers and informers maintained regular contact with KTF-SCC throughout the duration of the operation that is, 26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October, providing detailed situation reports of their location regardless of whether there was an incident or not.

On 29<sup>th</sup> Oct, we agreed there was a need to continue with EPOP awaiting the reaction and statement from the opposition following the final announcement of the election result as there were pockets of trouble in certain areas.

We finally decided to stand down the observers at 18h00 on 31 October and continue with informers only.

### **Summary:**

As we did in August, this was a well coordinated, efficient, and well run operation. General incidents and challenges were reported in certain areas but never interfered or disrupted the smooth flow of tourist itineraries/ movements. The regions mostly affected by the riots or violence have less tourism activities but we were always alert and vigilant monitoring the situation and reports posted accordingly. There was only one incident in Narok town after the results were announced involving supporters from both sides; Police intervened and quickly contained the situation.

Our informer network worked so well with daily call ins giving a current situation report on their areas of operation.

Very special thanks need to go to:

1. Mohamed Hersi, for being understanding, helpful and active Chairman.
2. Mike Kirkland, for his continued and forever dedicated role in KTF Coast.
3. The Nairobi Secretariat for their dedication.

4. Mike Murithi for his dedication, integrity and hard work in KTF Coast.
5. Radio Operators in the control rooms, both Nairobi and Mombasa, for the long hours and endurance without whom nothing was possible.
6. Sati Channa of Diplomatic Protection Services (DPS), who has been a real asset to KTF SCC, not just for EPOP but always. His sharing of information and intelligence has helped us keep our guests safe over the years, and his back up when things go wrong has proved invaluable.

Then of course to the members who came out in numbers, very strongly and gave assets, staff and cash to have this operation work properly, the response and support was overwhelming, as you will see from the accounts.

Paws Africa	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
African Horizons	2 Vehicles with fuel and allowance	
Abercrombie & Kent	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Liberty Africa Safaris	2 Vehicles with fuel and allowance	100,000/-
Kobo Safaris	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Pollmans Tours & Safaris	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Bunson Travel Service	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Sense of Africa	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
African Eagle	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Twiga Tours	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Natural World Safaris	1 Vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Safari Trails	1 vehicle with fuel and allowance	
Southern Cross Mombasa	2 Vehicles dry	100,000/-
Pollmans Mombasa	2 Vehicles dry	
Abercrombie & Kent Mombasa	2 Vehicles dry	
Eyes on Africa Safaris Mombasa	1 Vehicle dry	

Papa Musili Safaris	1 Vehicle dry	
Dream Kenya Safaris	1 Vehicle dry – half time	
Go Africa Safaris	1 Vehicle dry – half time	
Ketty Tours & Safaris	1 Vehicle dry	
Somak Safaris Mombasa	1 Vehicle dry	
Africa Last Minute	1 Vehicle dry	
Private Safaris Mombasa	1 vehicle dry	
Kuldip's Tours & Safaris	1 Vehicle dry	
Southern Sky Safaris	1 Vehicle dry	
Kudu Safaris	1 Vehicle dry	
Ashnil		50,000/-
Asilia		40,000/-
Atuan Enkop Africa		30,000/-
African Quest		35,000/-
Amanda Belcher		15,000/-
Game Watchers Safaris		100,000/-
Magical Skies		15,000/-
Origin Safaris		50,000/-
Pride Inn Hotel		50,000/-
Private Safaris		50,000/-
Safarilink		100,000/-
Walter Reif		5,000/-
<b>PLEDGES</b>		
A&K		50,000/-
English Point Marina		50,000/-
Hemingway's/Express travel		50,000/-
Karim Sopa Lodges		150,000/-
Pollmans Safaris		100,000/-
Roberto Marini/Ocean Beach		25,000/-
Severin Sea Lodge		50,000/-
Somak Safaris		100,000/-
Serena Hotels		100,000/-
Tamarind		50,000/-

So, in summary, please find herewith attached a complete accounting of every shilling of the money you all contributed and the balances left over.

Our Chairman, Mohamed Hersi, will be writing to you all separately to give his thoughts on what to do with the balance.

From me, thank you to each and every one for the amazing support in cash and kind that made this operation possible.

Stay Safe.

**RICHARD CORCORAN**

**CHAIRMAN KTF SECURITY SUB-COMMITTEE.**