**KENYA TOURISM FEDERATION (KTF) STATEMENT ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE NORTH RIFT SITUATION IN KENYA.**

**Wednesday 21st June *2023***

There had been security concerns reported in Northern Kenya arising from acts of cattle rustling and general lawlessness. This disrupted normal business activity and increased tensions among host communities living in the affected areas, which included the Counties of: Turkana, West Pokot, Elgeyo Marakwet, Baringo, Laikipia and Samburu.

The Government of Kenya, through the Cabinet Secretary for Interior, responded decisively to the situation and instituted measure to address the insecurity. This included declaring a 30-day dusk-to-dawn curfew in those key affected areas but it was uplifted sometimes in March.

We are advised that the areas are now generally calm.

KTF wishes to advise tourism stakeholders and intending visitors to Kenya that:

1. The areas where the insecurity arose are outside our key tourism destinations and attractions.
2. There are no tourist facilities located within close proximity of any of the operational areas.
3. The on-going security operation in the affected areas is part of the normal Government response to secure the lives and property of Kenyan citizens.
4. The KTF Safety and Communication Centre has not so far received any reported incidents related to tourists or tourism establishments in any of the tourism circuits.
5. If one wishes to transact through these areas, it is advisable to visit the Nakuru Regional Commander or pass via a Police Station enroute for a security brief just in case there could be a need for a security escort.

**NB:**

**One might hear gunshots in some areas, but this is due to the ongoing Government Operation.**

The KTF Safety Centre continues to closely monitor the situation on the ground and will issue timely updates as and when the situation demands. We urge all intending visitors to Kenya to feel free to continue with their travel plans.

For timely information and assistance, the KTF- Safety Centre remains open 24/7:

KTF – Safety and Communication Centre

Tel: 020 8001000; Cell: 0722745645 / /0738617499

Email: operations@ktf.co.ke; Twitter: @KTF\_Kenya

ODEK FRED

**CHAIRMAN**

***Kenya Tourism Federation (KTF) is the national apex body of the tourism private sector in Kenya, representing the seven key tourism trade associations, namely:-***

***Kenya Association of Tour Operators (KATO); Kenya Association of Air Operators (KAAO); Pubs,***

***Entertainment and Restaurants Association of Kenya (PERAK); Kenya Association of Travel***

***Agents (KATA); Kenya Coast Tourism Association (KCTA); Ecotourism Kenya (EK); Kenya***

***Association of Hotel Keepers and Caterers (KAHC) and the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association (KPSGA).***

***Our core mandate is advocacy for enabling policies to grow, protect and sustain the tourism sector.***