



ENGINEERS BOARD OF KENYA

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT FOR ENGINEERS

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The Registrar
Engineers Board of Kenya
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INTRODUCTION

The Engineers Board of Kenya is a statutory body established by the Engineers Act 2011. The Board is responsible for registration of engineers and firms, regulation of engineering professional services, setting of standards, development and general practice of engineering in Kenya.

One of the functions of the Board as provided under Section 7(1)(u) of the Act is to “develop, maintain and enforce the code of ethics for engineers and regulate the conduct and ethics of the engineering practice in general.”

The Board has therefore developed this code of conduct and ethics which forms the basis and framework for responsible professional practice as it prescribes standards of conduct to be observed by all engineers.

This code is based on broad tenets of truth, honesty, trustworthiness, respect for human life and welfare, fairness, openness, competence, accountability, engineering excellence, protection of the environment and sustainable development.

OPERATIONAL TERMS

The Act refers to the Engineers Act 2011

Engineer means “That person who is by virtue of training, able to harness the resources of nature for the benefit of society. Thus the society expects the engineer to have acquired scientific and technological knowledge which he is able to apply in solving a problem facing the society. In doing so the engineer is expected to be guided by the principles of safety and economics”.

Engineering means “the creative application of scientific principles to design or develop structures, machines, apparatus, or manufacturing processes, or works utilizing them singly or in combination or to construct or operate the same with full cognizance of their design or to forecast their behavior under specific operating conditions or aspects of intended functions, economics of operation and safety to life and property”

NO	ITEM	SUBJECT MATTER
1	CITATION	This Code may be cited as the Code of Conduct and Ethics for Engineers
2	APPLICATION	This Code of Conduct and Ethics shall apply to all engineers and firms registered under the Engineers Act 2011
3	THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES	Engineers shall uphold and advance the integrity, honour and dignity of the engineering profession by: a) Using their knowledge and skill for the enhancement of human welfare; b) Being honest and impartial, and serving with fidelity the public, their employers and clients; c) Striving to increase the competence and prestige of the engineering profession; and supporting the professional and technical societies of their disciplines.
4	THE FUNDAMENTAL CANONS	An Engineers shall; a) Hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public in the performance of their professional duties. b) Perform services only in the areas of their competence. c) Issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner. d) Act in professional matters for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees, and shall avoid conflicts of interest. e) Build their professional reputation on the merit of their services and shall not compete unfairly with others. f) Act in such a manner as to uphold and enhance the honour, integrity and dignity of the profession. g) Continue their professional development throughout their careers and shall provide opportunities for the professional development of those engineers under their supervision
5	OBLIGATIONS TO SOCIETY	1) Engineers shall at all times recognize that their primary obligation is to protect the safety, health, property and welfare of the public. If their professional judgment is overruled under circumstances where the safety, health, property or welfare of the public are endangered, they shall notify their employer or client and such other authority as may be appropriate. 2) Engineers shall approve only those engineering documents which are in conformity with appropriate standards. 3) Engineers shall not permit the use of their name or firm name nor associate in business ventures with any person or firm which they have reason to believe is engaging in fraudulent or dishonest business or professional practices. 4) Engineers shall be objective and truthful in professional reports, statements or testimony. 5) Engineers may express a professional opinion on technical subjects only when that opinion is founded upon competence in the subject matter. 6) Engineers shall take all reasonable steps to avoid waste of natural resources damage to the environment and wasteful damage or destruction of the products of human skill
6	OBLIGATIONS TO EMPLOYER OR CLIENT	Engineers shall act in professional matters for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees. 1) Engineers shall disclose all known or potential conflicts of interest to their

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		employers or clients which could influence or appear to influence their judgment or the quality of their services. 2) Engineers shall not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one party for services on the same project, or for services pertaining to the same project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed to, and agreed to, by all interested parties. 3) Engineers shall not solicit or accept financial or other valuable consideration, directly or indirectly, from contractors, their agents, or other parties in connection with work for employers or clients for which they are responsible. 4) Engineers shall not reveal facts, data or information obtained in a professional capacity without the prior consent of the client or employer except as authorized or required by law. 5) Engineers in public service as members, advisors or employees of a governmental body or department shall not participate in decisions with respect to professional services solicited or provided by them or their organizations in private or public engineering practice 6) Engineers shall avoid improper solicitation of professional employment and shall ,in the circumstances; a) Not falsify or permit misrepresentation of their, or their associates, academic or professional qualifications, or exaggerate their degree of responsibility. b) Not offer, give, solicit or receive, either directly or indirectly, any financial contribution in any amount intended to influence the award of a contract. 7) An Engineer whose professional advice is not accepted shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that persons overruling or neglecting his advice are aware of the dangers the engineer believes may result from such overruling or neglect 8) A practicing engineer shall endeavor to understand and take all reasonable steps to inform his clients and employers of societal and environmental consequences of actions or projects in which he is involved and to interpret issues to the public in an objective and truthful manner
7	INTEGRITY OF AN ENGINEER	1) Engineers shall be guided in all their professional relations by the highest standards of integrity and shall; a) Admit and accept their own errors when proven wrong and refrain from distorting or altering the facts in an attempt to justify their decisions. b) Not accept outside employment to the detriment of their regular work or interest. 2) Engineers shall at all times strive to serve the public interest and shall in the process; a) Seek opportunities to be of constructive service in civic affairs and work for the advancement of the safety, health and wellbeing of their community. b) Endeavor to extend public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and its achievements and to protect the engineering profession from misrepresentation and misunderstanding. 3) Engineers shall avoid all conduct or practice which is likely to discredit the profession or deceive the public
8	DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION	1) Engineers shall not disclose confidential information concerning the business affairs or technical processes of any present or former client or employer without his consent.

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9	CONFLICT OF INTEREST	1) Engineers shall not be influenced in their professional duties by conflicting interests and shall not accept; a) Financial or other considerations, including free engineering designs, from material or equipment suppliers for specifying their product. b) Commissions or allowances, directly or indirectly from contractors or other parties dealing with clients or employers of the Engineer in connection with work for which the Engineer is responsible.
10	COMPENSATION IMPROPER	1) Engineers shall uphold the principle of appropriate and adequate compensation for those engaged in engineering work
11	UNFAIR MEANS	1) Engineers shall not compete unfairly with other engineers by attempting to obtain employment or professional engagements by taking advantage of a position, or by criticizing other engineers, or by other improper or questionable methods. 2) Engineers shall not request, propose, or accept a professional commission under circumstances in which their professional judgment may be compromised 3) Engineers shall not attempt to injure, maliciously or falsely, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects, practice or employment of other engineers, nor indiscriminately criticize other engineer's work. Engineers who believe others are guilty of unethical or illegal practice shall present such information to the proper authority for action
12	ENGINEERING PRACTICE	1) Engineers shall undertake assignments only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved. 2) Engineers shall not affix their signatures to any plans or documents dealing with subject matter in which they are not competent. 3) Engineers in private practice shall not review the work of another engineer for the same client, except with the knowledge of such other engineer, or unless the connection of such engineer with the work has been terminated. 4) Engineers in governmental, industrial or educational employment are entitled to review and evaluate the work of other engineers when so required by their employment duties 5) Engineers in sales or industrial employment are entitled to make engineering comparisons of represented products with products of other suppliers. 6) Engineers shall accept personal responsibility for all professional activities under their charge and shall; a) Conform to state registration laws in the practice of engineering. b) Not use association with a non-engineer, a corporation, or partnership, as a 'cloak' for unethical acts, but must accept personal responsibility for all professional acts.
13	RECOGNITION OF PROPRIETARY INTERESTS	1) Engineers shall give credit for engineering work of those to whom credit is due, and will recognize the proprietary interests of others 2) Engineers using designs supplied by a client shall recognize that the designs remain the property of the client and may not be duplicated by the Engineer for others without express permission.
14	COOPERATION, DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF ENGINEERS	1) Engineers shall cooperate in extending the effectiveness of the profession by interchanging information and experience with other engineers and students, and will endeavor to provide opportunity for the professional development and advancement of engineers under their supervision and in that case shall;

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		a) Encourage engineering employees' efforts to improve their education. b) Encourage engineering employees to attend and present papers at professional and technical society meetings. c) Encourage engineering employees to become registered at the earliest possible date
15	ADVERTISEMENT OR WRITING OF ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION	1) No Engineer shall in self laudatory language or in any manner derogatory to the dignity of the engineering profession , advertise or write articles for publication
16	BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT	1) No Engineer shall assist, induce or be involved in the breach of this code of conduct and ethics but shall do all necessary endeavors to support those who seek to uphold it and report immediately any unethical engineering decisions or practices by Engineers and others to the Board
17	PENALTIES	1) Engineers failing to observe any provisions in this code of conduct and ethics shall commit an offence under the Act and shall be liable to penalties as prescribed by the Board