



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PRESS RELEASE

STATUS ON MARIE STOPES KENYA CLINICS

The above matter was brought to my attention through a petition by CitizenGo Africa that alleged that Marie Stopes Kenya was advocating for abortion through advertisements. The petitioners requested me to initiate investigations into the operations of Marie Stopes Kenya Clinics.

In line with this petition, I tasked the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board, a statutory body under my ministry, established under CAP 253 of the Laws of Kenya to regulate the practice of medicine, dentistry and health institutions in the country, to inquire into this matter.

The Board has confirmed to me that Marie Stopes Kenya has complied with the orders issued on 10th November, 2018 including:

1. Deactivating their 0800- toll free number for telehealth during this period and the corresponding advertisements.
2. Submitting 100 sample patient files from various facilities to the Board for review and examination.
3. Suspending all abortion related services in all its facilities.

Having reviewed the observations and determination of the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board, I hereby direct that:

1. The ban on post abortion care services in Marie Stopes Kenya belifted and Marie Stopes Kenya be directed to ensure all its procedures are carried out in line with the Laws of Kenya.
2. Marie Stopes Kenya and all health practitioners and health institutions in Kenya must adhere to the provisions of article 26(4) Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which provides that Abortion is not permitted unless, in the opinion of a trained health professional, there is need for emergency treatment, or the life or health of the mother is in danger, or if permitted by any other written law.
3. Marie Stopes Kenya complies with all the other Orders given by the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board and ensure their operations are in total compliance with the relevant Laws of Kenya including submission of letter of commitment to the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board that they will not carry out any abortions services on demand.

Finally, I require the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board to continuously carry out regular supervision of the operations of Marie Stopes Kenya and to submit corresponding reports to my office.

SICILY K. KARIUKI (MRS.) EGH
CABINET SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF HEALTH