



PRESS RELEASE

EXTENSION OF OPERATING HOURS FOR KENYA ELECTRONIC PAYMENT AND SETTLEMENT SYSTEM (KEPSS)

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) is pleased to announce the extension of operating hours for the Kenya Electronic Payment and Settlement System (KEPSS), the national Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system, effective July 1, 2025.

Following extensive consultation with participants of the system and in alignment with the objectives outlined in the National Payments Strategy 2022–2025, the KEPSS operating hours will be revised from the current 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. to the new schedule of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on all business days with the exception of public holidays and weekends.

This strategic enhancement is aimed at improving the efficiency, accessibility, and resilience of Kenya's payments ecosystem. By enabling earlier initiation and later completion of large-value and time-sensitive payments, this move will support the country's transition towards a 24/7 digital economy.

Benefits of the Extended Hours:

- **Enhanced Convenience:** Businesses, government institutions, and financial institutions will have greater flexibility to process payments, improving cash flow management and reducing end-of-day settlement risks.
- **Support for a 24/7 Economy:** Longer operational hours will bridge the gap between traditional banking hours and the demands of a modern economy, facilitating seamless transactions across time zones and increasing the competitiveness of Kenya as a regional financial hub.
- **Improved Access to Financial Services:** By expanding the time window for settlements, CBK reinforces its commitment to greater financial inclusion, allowing more individuals and entities to engage in the formal financial system with ease.
- **Alignment with Global Best Practices:** This extension mirrors the progressive steps taken by central banks globally to modernize their payment systems, enhancing regional integration and interoperability of cross-border payments.

CBK remains committed to ensuring that the national payments infrastructure continues to meet the evolving needs of the economy and to fostering a secure, efficient, and inclusive financial system.

CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA

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