

Media Council names team to review law

BY PHILIP MWAKIO

A task force to look into the amendment of the Media Act has been unveiled.

While announcing a 13-member committee at the Nyali Beach Hotel, Mombasa, yesterday, Media Council of Kenya chairman Wachira Waruru said the media are under critical self-examination and external scrutiny.

“Emerging technological capabilities and trends in the media sector bring with them both unprecedented opportunities and threats,” he said.

The team representing various stakeholders and which will serve for one month includes Ezekiel Mutua (Director of Information and Public Communications), Esther Kamweru (Media Council of Kenya), Linus Gitahi (Media Owners Association), Hassan Kulundu (Editors Guild), Kubai Khasiani (Ministry of Finance), Okong’o O’mogeni (Law Society of Kenya) and Johnson Okoth Okello (Kenya Law Reform Commission).

Others are Muthoni Kimani (Solicitor-General’s Office), Hiram Mucheke (Kenya Institute of Mass Communication), Hannington Gaya (Media Council of Kenya), David Ochami (Kenya Union of Journalists), Priscila Nyokabi (International Commission of Jurists) and William Oloo Janak (Kenya Correspondents Association).

Waruru explained the task force would recommend amendments to the Act to enable the council receive funding from the exchequer.

The team is tasked with looking into the issues of self-regulation and media freedom and make recommendations.