

# BEWARE OF HARMFUL DIGITAL CONTENT

Regulation 62 of the COMESA Competition and Consumer Protection Regulations, 2025, prohibits supply of harmful digital content which causes harm, distress, or adverse effects on consumers. This includes content which:

- Discloses a person's personal information without consent;
- Involves threatening, bullying, harassing, intimidating, or menacing behaviour;
- Exposes underage children or non-consenting adults to indecent, obscene, or pornographic content;
- Makes false allegations or constitutes defamation;
- Incites or encourages personal harm;
- Denigrates or discriminates against a person on the basis of gender, colour, tribe, disability, or similar grounds;
- Promotes drug abuse, illicit activities, or extremist activities; or
- Circulates malware, viruses, scams, or phishing content.

## How to Protect Yourself

- ✓ Think before you click or share inappropriate content.
- ✓ Block users who harass, bully, or post harmful material.
- ✓ Take breaks regularly from social media, and talk to someone you trust if online content upsets you.
- ✓ Educate children and teens about safe online behavior, encouraging them to report uncomfortable content and not to befriend/talk to strangers online.
- ✓ Use parental controls and age-appropriate settings for children's devices.
- ✓ Report harmful, misleading, violent, or abusive content to the platform and to the relevant authorities.

**A person who breaches the above provision is liable to a fine of up to 10% of the total turnover generated within the COMESA region, among other remedies provided for under the law.**

**Any person affected by the supply or circulation of harmful digital content may report the matter to the COMESA Competition and Consumer Commission at the address below:**