

## PRESS STATEMENT

8/11/2022

### FKE URGES PARTIES TO USE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISM (ADR) AND URGENTLY RESOLVE THE ONGOING STRIKE AT KQ

The Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) is deeply concerned about the ongoing industrial action by the Kenya Airline Pilots Association (KALPA) which commenced on Saturday, 5th November 2022. The Industrial action has not only brought operations at the JKIA to a halt but also caused great inconvenience to travelers. It is also likely to push our national Airline into deeper financial crisis.

KQ operates in the essential service sector and the continued disruption of services will definitely have a ripple effect on the entire economy and reverse the gains made by the airline in recovery from the heavy losses made during the pandemic. The strike continues to inflict a huge financial blow with each passing day.

Given the ramifications of this strike action on both the company and workers and the erosion of industrial relations at the Airline, FKE calls on both parties to embrace social dialogue and show commitment and tolerance towards resolving the dispute instead of the current impasse.

Reiterating FKE's stand on the ongoing industrial action FKE Executive Director and CEO Ms. Jacqueline Mugo said "Industrial action should be the last resort after exhaustion of all dispute resolution mechanisms including mediation. The industrial action by KALPA is going to have serious consequences, not just for individuals but for the wider economy. The Strike action has inevitably caused disruption, delays and cancellations of flights affecting passengers across the network who cannot travel for business, medical or leisure."

"Disruption in cargo freight has caused huge losses to farmers whose perishable goods are due for export. This has inconvenienced businesses with goods scheduled for carriage. I urge KALPA to be understanding, accommodative and open to engagement and put effort towards unlocking this stalemate. No one wins in this situation." She added

Both parties are encouraged to embrace Social dialogue and conciliation over the items in dispute in a free spirit and open heart committed to reaching agreement. This is the only realistic approach.

FKE continues to provide support where needed to help the parties reach a win-win resolution.

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