



PUBLIC NOTICE

MANAGEMENT AND SAFE DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS

The Government of Kenya is committed to ensuring a clear and healthy environment for its citizenry.

The constitution of Kenya espouses the tenets, duties and responsibilities of the state and its institutions to eradicate all forms of environmental degradation to promote sustainable development.

As Kenya develops towards achieving Vision 2030 its imperative that all forms of development and waste associated with it is managed in an Environmentally Sound manner.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Asbestos was a material of choice in the construction industry. A number of facilities including food manufacturing industries as well as residential homes used asbestos roofing material due to its durability and fire resistance characteristics.

These Asbestos roofing materials have deteriorated over time requiring their replacement necessitating their removal and disposal.

Asbestos is a hazardous material with extremely fine fibres which can remain suspended in the atmosphere for hours. Exposure to air containing the fibres increases the risk of inhaling the fibres which leads to serious chronic health

problems such as asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma. These diseases are incurable and fatal.

According to the Legal Notice No.121 of the Environmental Management and Coordination (Waste Management) Regulations 2006, waste containing asbestos is classified as hazardous waste.

In addition, the Legal Notice requires that hazardous waste be disposed off in a specified manner as **APPROVED** by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA).

It has come to the notice of the Authority that the public is engaging in removal, transportation, storage and disposal of asbestos waste without following the due process as approved by the Authority.

In this regard, any person found engaging in removal, transportation, storage and disposal of the Asbestos waste without **WRITTEN APPROVAL** from the Authority will be prosecuted.

You are advised to comply accordingly.

Signed
Prof Geoffrey Wahungu
Director General, NEMA.