

QuickStop

Tourism fund casts wider its revenue net

Newly appointed Tourism Fund (TF) Chairman Henry Kosgey wants apartments, villas, cottages and homestays to start paying two per cent catering levy normally charged to the industry players. He warned that there will be no sacred cows and asked personnel of the Fund involved in the levy collection not to discriminate when discharging their duties. The new measure, he said, was in line with new regulations introduced last year. Kosgey, a former Cabinet minister, says the levy was an excellent regulation that would address the perpetual unfair competition in the hospitality industry. He said so far, hotels have been remitting the levies, which go a long way in financing key tourism agencies -- Kenya Tourism Board (KTB), the Tourism Regulatory Authority (TRA) and Tourism Research Institute (TRI) among other tourist bodies. He said the two per cent tourism levy payable to the Fund had collected Sh2 billion in the last financial year, which was ploughed back into the sector. "We intend to raise Sh3 billion this financial year and that is why we want to cast the net wider," said Kosgey. — Philip Mwakio

Business

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