



## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (REGISTRAR OF COLLEGE OF ARMS)**

1. What are Arms?

**“Arms”** means a heraldic representation of a Coat of Arms with or without any other armorial bearings like a crest, motto, flag, medal, seal, insignia, uniform, emblem, all of which other than the Prescribed Emblem, may be represented separately or in any combination.

2. What is a Coat of Arms?

Coat of Arms is the official shield or seal having an arrangement of bearings, or symbols usually depicted on and around a shield in a special language described as heraldry which uses symbolic short hand.

3. Why should I register my Arms?

Registering your Coat of Arms provides a formal record of your unique design. It establishes your right to use and display the Arms, ensuring their authenticity and preventing others from claiming the same design.

4. What is the difference between a Logo and a Coat of Arms?

A Logo is a simplified sign for a company or a product identifier, whereas a Coat of Arms is a more sophisticated symbol of identity that constitutes the highest statement in graphic form of an organization's mission and aspiration and is displayed prominently in the Organizations premises, correspondence, certificates, uniforms etc.

5. How much do I pay for registration of Arms?

Registration of a freshly unregistered Arm the application fee is Kenya shillings 10,000 and thereafter after approval you pay Kenya Shillings 26,000 for the vellum parchment paper.

If you have already registered your Arms in a competent College of Arms and you wish for it to be recognized in Kenya, you pay Kenya Shillings 5,000.

6. If I have my Arms registered in another jurisdiction can I have the same registered by the Kenyan College of Arms?

Yes, Section 6(2) of the College of Arms Act provides that,

Any person who has received a grant of arms from the proper authority in another country may apply to the registrar for its registration, and the registrar, if he is satisfied that the arms do not resemble any other arms registered under this Act so as to be likely to mislead, may register the grant accordingly.

7. What is a blazon?

A blazon is the formal defining description of a coat of arms. To emblazon is to decorate something or to depict an armorial bearing in graphic form.

8. What constitutes a good design in heraldry?

A good Coat of Arms is simple shield with one or not more than two shield color backgrounds upon which are not more than 3 elements(charges) and preferably with an accompanying motto below the shield on a scroll. The entire design should not have more than 4 flat heraldic colors.