Kenyan mobile networks not meeting minimum requirements

Cabinet Secretary for Information and Communication Technology, Fred Matiang'i, has warned that Kenya's mobile network operators risk losing their licences if they do not improve services rendered to clients.

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The threat follows a survey that the Kenya Communications Commission, the local regulatory body, carried out. It established that none of the four licensed mobile network companies in the country met the minimum requirements set for operation.

"The line on the issue of regulatory obligations is very clear. You comply or you are out of business. If you come in, you come to a regulatory environment and you play according to the rules," said Matiang'i.

Last year October, the chief executive officers of the four mobile network operators were taken to task over unregistered subscriber identity module (SIM) cards.

This matter had caused serious security concerns especially after the September Westgate mall attack when it emerged that the terrorists used unregistered SIM cards to communicate, making it difficult to monitor their ill-intended plans.

Airtel, Safaricom, Orange and Yu dominate the country's mobile network sector. Kenya, with a population of 44 million, has more than 30 million subscribers.

Source: CAJ News