
Date: 13.03.2026 **Time:** 22:30 hrs
Subject: STEWARDS DECISION No. 6 **Document No:** 2.7

From: The Stewards
To: The Competitor RWANDA RALLY TEAM of car No. 45
Crew GIANCARLO DAVITE / FABRICE NYIRIDANDI

All Competitors / crew members

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, summoned the above crew members as well as, at their discretion, the competitor's representative, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

Facts On Friday 13th March 2026, at RZ4-WRTI Naivasha, the refuelling of Car No. 45 was assisted by three team members, one of whom was wearing improper clothing. The same team member also used abusive and threatening language towards the refuel safety official.

Offence Art. 8.4 of Bulletin No. 5 of Safari Rally Kenya 2026 in conjunction with art. 12.2.1. h of the 2026 FIA International Sporting Code
and
Art. 12.2.1.I of the 2026 FIA International Sporting Code

Decision 1) **2-minute** time penalty to the Competitor of car No. 45, to be applied at TC7
2) **€ 500 fine** to the Competitor RWANDA RALLY TEAM of car No. 45

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2026 FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

Reason A hearing was held on Friday 13th March 2026 at 19.45 hrs in the presence of the driver, the co-driver and the Team Representative of the Competitor of car No. 45, Mr Eric Gakwaya.

The Competitor's representative explained that he had been informed by their team members that the person who was wearing shorts was not involved in the refuelling operations since he apparently was outside the Refuelling Zone.

He further explained that the team was responsible for more than one car in Safari Rally Kenya 2026. The team was therefore under pressure for the refuelling operations of their cars.

He also stated that he had asked his team personnel about the use of abusive language, and he admitted that there was a heated discussion between a team member and an official since the team personnel wanted to remain in the Refuelling Zone waiting for the arrival of the next car of the team.

The Driver and Co-driver provided their point of view stating that they did not see any team member in shorts involved in the refuelling operations and that they did not hear any abusive language from any person in the Refuelling Zone.

The Competitor representative apologised for the behaviour of the team member.

As concerns the fact that a team member was wearing improper clothing, the Stewards concluded that, according to the report received from the Clerk of the Course, there was a third member within the refuelling zone wearing inappropriate clothing, and this was not in compliance with the applicable regulations and Bulletin No. 5.

In respect of the use of abusive language by a team member, the Stewards reminded that respectful interaction between all parties involved in a motorsport event is imperative, and any misconduct in whatever manner or form against an Official/Volunteer cannot be tolerated.

Within this context, the 2026 FIA International Sporting Code defines as misconduct *“the general use of language (written or verbal), gesture and/or sign that is offensive, insulting, coarse, rude or abusive and might reasonably be expected or be perceived to be coarse or rude or to cause offense, humiliation or to be inappropriate”*. In this line, Appendix B of the FIA International Sporting Code serves as Stewards Penalty Guidelines to penalise violations of certain articles of its International Sporting Code, including the breach stated above.

After investigating the matter extensively, the Stewards concluded that for the aforementioned incident the two penalties imposed as above, i.e. a time penalty and a fine, are appropriate under the circumstances

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2026 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 5 of the 2026 FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Edoardo Delleani
The Stewards



David Domingo



Tuta Mionki

This decision was notified to the Competitor’s officially nominated representative as below:

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	ERIC GAKWAYA	<i>Date:</i>	13.03.2026
<i>Position within the team:</i>	TEAM REPRESENTATIVE	<i>Time:</i>	22:35

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