

REPORT OF THE 25TH EACO ASSEMBLY OF BROADCASTING OPERATORS HELD AT SAFARI PARK HOTEL IN NAIROBI KENYA, FROM 11TH – 15TH JUNE 2018.

1.0. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The 25th Assembly of Broadcasting Operators of EACO was held at Safari park Hotel in Nairobi Kenya from 11th to 15th June 2018. The Chairperson, Ms. Rachel Nakitare (Kenya) who welcomed members present to the 25th Assembly of Broadcasters of EACO.

Opening prayer by Ms. Jocelyne Muthoka of Zuku (Kenya)

The meeting was attended by members from the EACO Secretariat, Broadcasting Operators and National Regulatory bodies of the EACO members, namely Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, South Sudan and Uganda.

2.0. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

In accordance with the Rules of Procedures of the EACO, the Assembly of Broadcasting Operators elected the following members to the Bureau:

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| a) Rachel Nakitare | <i>Chairperson- Kenya</i> |
| b) Eustace Njeru | <i>1st Rapporteur-Kenya</i> |
| c) Erasmo A. Mbilinyi | <i>2nd Rapporteur-Tanzania</i> |

3.0. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Assembly's agenda was presented and adopted as follows.

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Adoption of the Agenda and Programme
4. Report of the Outgoing Chairman
5. Consideration of Matrix on Status of Implementation of Decisions of the Last Meeting.
6. Consideration of the report of the Working Group 5-Broadcasting , Spectrum Management and Media Services
7. Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the Broadcasting Assembly
8. AOB
9. Closing of the Meeting

4.0. REPORT OF THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN

Rachel Nakitare (Kenya) presented the chairperson's report.(**Annex 01**). The Assembly considered the report and adopted it.

They highlighted the following:

<p>Noted 01; <i>Broadcasting development</i></p>	<p>The working group 5 was tasked to work on broadcasting development in the region. The WG is in the process of implementing the TORs spread across 2 years. Detailed report will be presented by WG Vice Chair Eng. Deo Bizindavyi (Rwanda)</p>
<p>Noted 02; <i>EACO Frequency Coordination Initiatives</i></p>	<p>The EACO Frequency Coordination meeting was held on 10th to 11th May 2018 in Arusha Tanzania. Besides the frequency coordination, it was agreed that assignments should be registered in the ITU master international frequency Register (MIFR). Final agreements to be signed during the 25th EACO Assemblies</p>
<p>Noted 3; <i>WRC-19 Preparations</i></p>	<p>EACO has commenced its preparatory work for the World Radio Conference scheduled to take place in 2019. Meetings held in Dakar and Juba. EACO preliminary position developed and will be considered by ATU before submission to ITU</p>
<p>Noted 4: <i>Membership</i></p>	<p>The EACO Secretariat is continuously carrying out membership campaigns. However, majority of broadcasters and operators are yet to participate in EACO.</p>
<p>Challenges;</p>	<p>The following concerns were noted;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of broadcasters and operators from working groups • Affordability and Availability of STBs and integrated digital TV receivers. • Insufficient local content • Poor Quality of Service and Quality of Experience. • Escalating piracy and copyright issues.
<p>Agreed 01</p>	<p>a. To develop questionnaire and administer it to all broadcasters with the view of establishing their concerns. Assembly nominated Jocelyne Muthoka (Zuku Kenya) and Salvatore Nizigiyikana (RTNB Burundi) to work with secretariat on the questionnaires</p> <p>b. Regulators should get all CEOs of the broadcasting organizations together and have a candid discussion on EACO</p> <p>c. EACO needs to cut down the bureaucracy and proactively engage the members encourage all Private and Public broadcasters to form associations in member countries, which will advocate and represent them in EACO.</p>

5.0. CONSIDERATION OF THE MATRIX ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF LAST MEETING.

The Assembly considered the report and adopted it. Matters arising will be dealt after the WG05 report

6.0. CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP 5

The WG 5 has held two meetings, the first one in Arusha from 31st October to 2nd November 2018 and the other online. The report from the WG 5 to broadcast assembly was considered and contained in (**Annex 02**)

The Assembly Adopted the Report which reported on the implementation of the TOR's as follows:

<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 01;</p> <p><i>(i) BROADCAST DEVELOPMENT – Sustainability of FTA TV broadcasts</i></p>	<p>The WG developed a questionnaire to collect data on revenue generation for the past three years. Report with recommendations expected in December 2018</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 02;</p> <p><i>Introduce digital sound broadcasting in EAC</i></p>	<p>A public consultation document has been developed and will be circulated to stakeholders for input Report expected December 2018.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 3;</p> <p><i>Develop roadmap for migrating interoperable digital TV receivers</i></p>	<p>Deployment of CAM in digital receivers will enable interoperability of STBs. WG5 prepared PCD for stakeholders input on deployment of CAM. Harmonized roadmap for interoperable digital terrestrial television expected by April 2019</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 4:</p> <p><i>(ii) SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT Preparations for WRC -19</i></p>	<p>Preliminary views harmonized during Juba meeting 14th - 18th May 2018 Document submitted to ATU for consideration</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 05;</p> <p><i>Eliminate Cross border harmful interference .</i></p>	<p>All EACO members participated in the coordination exercise For mobile services, 90% of verification has been done except South Sudan who will conduct exercise in September 2018</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 6;</p> <p><i>FM Broadcasting</i></p>	<p>FM broadcasting coordination completed. Administrations to finalize on bilateral agreements and submit the same to EACO. Assignment to be registered in the ITU Master International Frequency Register (MIFR)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Noted 07</p> <p>Protection of Satellite Orbital slots</p>	<p>The WG developed harmonized draft guidelines for use of ESIM within the region Work projected to end by December 2018 and final document submitted to Congress for adoption.</p>

CHALLENGES	<p>Poor participation by broadcasters and operators in the WG05</p> <p>Inconsistency in participation of members</p>
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Each administration/ regulator to establish a meeting room with online facilities</p> <p>Need to constitute a team to drive Sound digital Broadcasting</p> <p>Regulators and EACO secretariat to encourage operators to participate in the online meetings</p>

7.0. AOB CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE BROADCASTING ASSEMBLY

The Assembly considered and adopted the report of the Broadcast Assembly.

8.0. AOB

- 8.1. Secretariat needs to continuously engage Broadcasters to make them more active in EACO;
- 8.2. Members be urged to Participate on Online Meetings which are less expensive but effective;
- 8.3. Regulators engages operators in each member country continuously
- 8.4. Concerns have been carried forward over the years. Time to get tangible action on all areas of concern.

9.0. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

The Chairperson thanked members for their participation in the Assembly meeting and encouraged them to actively participate in the work of the Assembly during the year. The meeting ended at 12.45 hrs.

ANNEXES

Annex 01: Report of the Chairman of the Assembly of Broadcasting Operator



CHAIRMANS
REPORT BROADCAST

Annex 02: Reports of WG05



Wg5 report to
Broadcast Assembly.d