

## **EACO WORKING GROUP 5 ON BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENT, SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT & MEDIA SERVICES REGULATIONS**

### **TORS AND SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR THE CYCLE 2019-2021**

1. To make recommendations on the development of digital broadcasting.
  - 1.1. To conduct a study on sustainability of FTA television broadcasting services
  - 1.2. Develop strategies of introducing digital sound broadcasting in EAC
  - 1.3. Develop a roadmap for migrating to interoperable digital television receivers
2. To develop guidelines for content sharing, digital rights management and digital content management
3. To coordinate and participate in the work of WRCs and relevant ITU Study Groups.
4. To make recommendations to the EACO member states on Radio Spectrum policy issues, with regard to efficient use of spectrum taking into account technical parameters, and socio-economic factors.
  - 4.1. To assess implementation of the harmonized spectrum policy framework by the Member States in view to identify regulatory gaps
  - 4.2. To develop a harmonized spectrum management strategy and roadmap for future spectrum release for effective and efficient use of spectrum
5. To make recommendations to the EACO member states on issues pertaining to protection of satellites orbital slots and efficient use of associated frequency spectrum.
  - 5.1. Develop harmonised framework for authorization of satellite earth stations (fixed) by Member States
  - 5.2. Analyse the coordination procedures and protection of satellite orbit in Member States with the view of improving use of spectrum orbits.
  - 5.3. Review the Harmonised framework for authorization of Earth Stations in Motions (ESIMS)

6. To analyse the allocation, usage, pricing and management of radio frequency spectrum resource in the region and recommend strategies for its optimal usage for the provision of communications services.
7. To develop mechanism for coordination within the EACO Member States to eliminate cross-border harmful interferences
  - 7.1. To conduct cross border frequency coordination
  - 7.2. FM coordination review and signing
  - 7.3. Review Framework of Cross Border Coordination Operations
8. To develop a project concept paper and development of space and satellite technology.

## WG5 MEETINGS HELD

Five (5) WG5 meetings were held.

All WG5 meetings were held online. The meetings were as follows:

- i. 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019
- ii. 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- iii. 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020
- iv. 31<sup>st</sup> March 20201
- v. 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

## STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TORS

TOR	ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTATION STATUS
1. To make recommendations on the development of digital broadcasting.	1.1 To conduct a study on sustainability of FTA television broadcasting services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FTA questionnaire was circulated to member states</li> <li>• Draft document is under development</li> </ul>
	1.2 Develop strategies of introducing digital sound broadcasting in EAC member states	Document available for EACO assemblies/congress for endorsement and adoption
	1.3 Develop a roadmap for migrating to interoperable digital television receivers	Document available for EACO assemblies/congress for endorsement and adoption
2. To develop guidelines for content sharing, digital rights	2.1 To develop strategies and regulatory frameworks for digital rights management	Draft document is available and was circulated to members for comments

management and digital content management	and digital content management	
3. To coordinate and participate in the work of WRCs and relevant ITU Study Groups.	4.1 WRC-23 Preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WRC-19 preparations was successfully completed.</li> <li>• EACO work plan for WRC-23 is available</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> preparatory Meeting took place in November 2020</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</li> <li>• Proposed dates for next meeting <b>24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> August 2021.</b></li> </ul>
4. To make recommendations to the EACO member states on Radio Spectrum policy issues, with regard to efficient use of spectrum taking into account technical parameters, and socio-economic factors.	5.1 To assess implementation of the harmonized spectrum policy framework by the Member States in view to identify regulatory gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gap Analysis was done</li> <li>• drafting the revised document is on going</li> </ul>
	5.2 To develop a harmonized spectrum management strategy and roadmap for future spectrum release for effective and efficient use of spectrum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A questionnaire was prepared and circulated to Member States for inputs All inputs to questionnaire were received from all members</li> <li>• Draft document is under development</li> </ul>
5. To make recommendations to the EACO member states on issues pertaining to protection of satellites orbital slots and efficient use of associated frequency spectrum.	6.1 Develop harmonised framework for authorization of satellite earth stations (fixed) by Member States	Draft document is available and was circulated to members for comments
	6.2 Analyse the coordination procedures and protection of satellite orbit in Member States with the view of improving use of spectrum orbits.	Draft document is available and was circulated to members for comments
	6.3 Review the Harmonised framework for authorization of Earth Stations in Motions (ESIMS)	Document available for EACO assemblies/congress for endorsement and adoption

6. To analyse the allocation, usage, pricing and management of radio frequency spectrum resource in the region and recommend strategies for its optimal usage for the provision of communications services.	6.1. To harmonise pricing methodology of frequency spectrum	Coordinate with WG06. Updated expected from WG06. WG06 would lead this activity and provide an update to WG5. And WG06 will call on WG5 for their input
7. To develop mechanism for coordination within the EACO Member States to eliminate cross-border harmful interferences	7.1. To conduct cross border frequency coordination	Verification exercise to resume in the FY 2021/2022.
	7.2. FM coordination review and signing is ongoing	Signing of agreements is ongoing
	7.3. Review Framework of Cross Border Coordination Operations	Draft Document is available  Consultation ongoing with MNOs in the region for their inputs
8. to develop a project concept paper and development of space and satellite technology.	8.1. Develop a concept paper on Cubesat	A project concept paper was completed.
	8.2. Explore possibilities of having satellite and space applications in the region beyond Cubesat	A proposal for a regional broadcasting satellite for East Africa was completed.

## DOCUMENTS FOR ADOPTION AND ENDORSEMENT

The following documents have been successfully completed under WG5  
WG5 recommends EACO Assemblies to accept the documents for adoption and endorsement.

- i. Regulatory framework for introducing digital sound broadcasting (DSB) within EACO member states
- ii. Migration Plan for adoption of conditional access module (CAM) and deploy terrestrial television (DTT) receivers in East Africa
- iii. Harmonized framework for authorization of Earth Stations in Motions (ESIMS) based on the updated outcomes of WRC-19

- iv. Project Concept Paper for EACO Cubesat Project and a proposal for a regional broadcasting satellite for East Africa

## **CHALLENGES**

- 1) Lack or limitation on experts on specific subjects being handled in the working group
- 2) Delay in delivering draft documents

## **ACTIVITIES TO BE HANDLED IN THE NEXT CYCLE INCLUDE**

- i. To conduct a study on sustainability of FTA television broadcasting services
- ii. Complete the development guidelines for content sharing, digital rights management and digital content management
- iii. Develop regulatory framework for local content development and management
- iv. To coordinate and participate in the work of WRCs and relevant ITU Study Groups.
- v. Complete the Development of harmonised framework for authorization of satellite earth stations (fixed) by Member States
- vi. Complete the Development of the coordination procedures and protection of satellite orbit in Member States with the view of improving use of spectrum orbits.
- vii. To conduct cross border frequency coordination
- viii. Completed the FM coordination signing
- ix. Complete the Review Framework of Cross Border Coordination Operations
- x. To conduct a study on spectrum trading, transferring and sharing in the Communication market
- xi. Develop East African Spectrum Allocation Plan