CONCEPT PAPER

EACO REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE E-WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE EAST AFRICAN REGION, 14TH - 16TH MAY 2018, PARK INN HOTEL, KIGALI, RWANDA

THEME "Implementation of the Regional E-Waste Management Strategy and National E-waste Regulations Awareness"

1.0   Introduction

The East African Communications Organization (EACO) has held two regional workshops in an effort towards achieving sustainable e-waste management in the East African region. The 1st workshop was held in March 2015 in Nairobi Kenya and the 2nd Workshop was held in July 2017 in Kampala, Uganda.

The objective of the 1st workshop was to create a multi-stakeholder forum. Here, various stakeholders discussed the relevant issues among them challenges and opportunities of e-waste management in the East African region.

The workshop resulted in the development of an action plan which recommended the establishment of regional and national steering committees on e-waste management. The committees have helped in the implementation of the said action plan as well as the development of a regional e-waste management strategy.

The 2nd EACO regional workshop on sustainable e-waste management was held from 19th to 21st July 2017 in Kampala, Uganda. In this workshop stakeholders also validated the Regional E-waste management Strategy. The theme of the workshop was "**towards zero negative impact of e-waste in the EACO member states by 2030**."The regional e-waste management strategy was developed on the backdrop of similarity of e-waste management challenges in the East African region. It spelled out the priority e-waste management strategies and actions to help actualize the strategy.

The 3rd regional workshop for sustainable e-waste management is planned to be held from **14th –16th May 2018 in Kigali, Rwanda.** The proposed theme of this workshop is: **"Implementation of the Regional E-Waste Management Strategy and National E-waste Regulations Awareness"**

2.0   Objectives

The workshop is aimed at;

a. Evaluating the status of implementation of the regional strategy on e-waste management by EACO member states,
b. E-Waste management Regulations Awareness – the Rwandan Case
c. To devise sustainable methods/mechanisms for successful implementation of the e-waste management strategy.
d. Resource mobilization for the Regional Strategy (Identifying strategies for financing of e-waste management initiatives/projects)
e. Creating a platform to devise ways (Identifying possible mechanisms) of harmonizing regional efforts in e- waste management, keeping in view the global developments,
f. Proposing strategies towards enhancing stakeholder collaboration and partnership for sustainable e-waste management in the region,
g. Raising awareness on issues relating to e-waste and its management,
h. Facilitating the development of sustainable strategies and initiatives for e-waste management in the region.

3.0   Workshop content

The 3-days workshop shall include among others;

- Status review of the regional e-waste management strategy
- Interactive panel sessions to discuss the best practice, challenges and needs in the e-waste management sub-sector and the effective awareness strategies.

- The workshop will be organized as follows:
  o Each session to be moderated by a moderator.
  o There will be selected speakers/presenters for each topic to bring the subject into perspective and stimulate the discussion.
  o A panel of experts/players will discuss the paper or issues highlighted.
  o After the panel discussion, delegates will be given opportunity to comment or ask questions.
  o The moderator will at the end summarize the issues and agreed positions.

- the individual sessions and relevant presentations will be structured in such a way that not only to focus on the role and issues pertinent to a particular group or players/stakeholders in e-waste but link or fit into one another in a logical sequence.

4.0   Speakers and presenters

Speakers and presenters for the various sessions shall be drawn from national, regional and international experts and stakeholders. Speakers/presenters and panelists would be selected on the basis of their knowledge and experience in a given field. While some will be sourced from the collaborating organizations, others shall be proposed by National Regulators and other members of EACO. As much as possible, the different categories of players on this subject area and EACO stakeholders will be involved as Moderators or Panelists. We shall also call for presenters interested in various aspects of e-Waste management.

4.1 Case studies
In order to spice the presentations, we shall as much as possible arrange for case studies of countries which have registered success in a given area. This will help the process of sharing information, benchmarking and learning best practices.

5.0   Participation

5.1   Target Audience/Participants

The workshop will target the following in the six EAC countries:
i)   EACO Members
ii)   East African Community
ii)   Law makers, including parliament
iii)   Policy makers in relevant Government Ministries, which includes: Ministry of Information, Communications & Technology; Ministry of Environment, Water & Natural Resources; Ministry of Devolution/Local Government; Country Governments, Ministry of East African Affairs; Ministry of Commerce & Tourism, United Nations, Environmental & ICT Regulators
iv)   EACO Partners
v)   National Standards Bodies
v)   Border Control Agencies
vi)   ICT Service Providers;
vii)   Private Sector Players/Recyclers;
ix)   Academia/Training Institutions;
x)   Research Institutions;
xi)   Consumer Organizations and the public/consumers of ICT services.

5.2 Mode of Participation

Participation shall be both physically and remote. Remote participation shall be enabled for those who may not attend physically.