

## Communications for all in East Africa

DOC NO: 25/GA/018

## THE COMMUNIQUE OF JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING SAFARI PARK HOTEL, NAIROBI, 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018

- **1.** EACO to diligently continue to harmonize ICT Policy and Regulatory Frameworksto enable social-economic development and enhancing the adoption and usage of ICTs by all sectors;
- 2. The necessity of commitment, participation and compliance to the cross-border frequency coordination framework in time to resolve cross border mobile frequency/ network interferences;
- **3.** EACO to develop a reliable and accessible database of ICT Statistics in the EAC region for purposes of decision making;
- **4.** There is need to strengthen regional E-waste Management Steering Committee to coordinate the establishment of a harmonized E-Waste Management System in the region;
- **5.** EACO to continue pursuing the initiative to become a specialized Communications agency for the East African Community have influence on policy and decision making process.
- 6. The postal sector to embracetechnology to transform their operations and remain competitive in the market whilediversifying their services to take advantage of the growing electronic transactions;
- 7. The region shouldendeavor to harmonize National Address and postcode systems as essential facility in the region to facilitate e-commerce development.

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- **8.** EACO secretariat to work with Chairpersons of WGs and Committees in order to identify gaps in view of rationalizing/merging of the current WGs and/Committees.
- 9. Members are encouraged to participate effectively in EACO activities and online meetings and Regulators are urged to implement EXCOM decision to establish online facilities to improve attendance toonline meetings within the next financial year.
- **10.** NRAs should establish enforceable mechanisms for monitoring of illegal cross-border courier operators in the region;
- **11.** EACO secretariat to liaise with EAC secretariat in view to re-initiate the etransactions bill which is felt needed by the Industry.
- **12.** EACO to provide an annual calendar of meetings and events and communicate the same early to members to enable them to budget for the event;
- 13. There is need for monitoring and evaluation of progress of the WGs and Committees in order to track effectiveness of their Action Plans.
- **14.** There is need for a review of policies and regulations to support and enable innovation both at the national and regional levels.
- **15.** The need for collaboration between NRAs and EACO Secretariat to create consumer awareness on activities by EACO WGs e.g. e-waste, consumer protection/cyber-security, broadcasting (FTA) etc.
- **16.** EACO Secretariat and NRAs facilitate cascade of information from international fora on topical issues of interest to the region as reflected in the WG TORs.





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DONE AND SIGNED IN NAIROBI, ON  $14^{\mathrm{TH}}$  JUNE 2018