

**REPORT OF EACO WG01
STAKEHOLDERS
CONSULTATIVE FORUM
HELD ON 26TH APRIL 2017
AT THE
EAC HEADQUARTERS,
ARUSHA, TANZANIA.**

1.0 Opening of the stakeholders' forum

Mr Godliving Kessy, EACO Liaison Manager, opened the forum with the word of prayer and welcomed the attendees. He thereafter invited the attendees to introduce themselves and the EACO Executive Secretary, ATU Representative and the WG1 Chairperson to make opening remarks.

Mr Hodge Semakula, the EACO Executive Secretary, in his opening remarks, welcomed the members, appreciated the good work done by the WG1 and thanked the Representative from ATU for attending the stakeholder's consultative forum. A copy of his speech is attached as **Annex I**.

Ms Meriem Slimani on behalf of ATU Secretary General thanked EACO for having invited ATU in the stakeholder's consultative forum. She indicated that ATU recognizes EACO as a partner in ICTs development in Africa and promised its availability in future EACO endeavors. She reiterated that ATU is committed to support EACO's resolutions which are in line with its own mission.

2.0 Attendance

All Member States of EACO namely; Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania were represented at the forum. EACO and ATU Secretariats were also represented.

The list of participants is appended herein as **Annex II**.

3.0. Programme of the Stakeholders' forum

The programme of the stakeholder's consultative forum is appended as **Annex III**.

4.0. Model EAC ICT Policy

4.1. Presentation

The presentation was made by Mr Andrew Otim (UCC). The presentation layout was as follows:

- i. Context of ICT Policy in the EAC
- ii. Rationale for Model ICT Policy Framework

- iii. Policy Direction
- iv. Policy Focus Areas
- v. Policy objectives
- vi. Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

The presentation is herein attached as **Annex IV**.

4.2. Discussion on the Model EAC ICT Policy

Discussions were held with regard to the following;

- Need to refer to the EAC Treaty and ICT Protocol;
- Establishing PPP in Research and Development with Academia;
- To include planning and management of scarce resources both at national and regional level;
- Cost of bandwidth for landlocked countries;
- Aligning national curriculum to ICT Industry needs;
- Collaboration between industry and academia on ICT skills development
- Highlight the need to support ICT Incubation at national and regional level;
- Include the integration of ICTs in government processes;
- Include collaboration between industry, research institutions and academia in ICT Research and Development;
- To include establishment of a harmonised conformance and Interoperability regime for the region;
- To emphasise Implementation of laws on e-transactions including the establishment of institutions responsible for PKI;
- To include Quality of Service.

5.0. Model EAC ICT Regulatory Framework

5.1. Presentation of the Model ICT EAC Model Regulatory framework

The Model EAC ICT Regulatory Framework was presented by Ms Fortunata Mdachi, WG1 Chairperson.

The presentation layout was as follows:

- i. EACO WG 1 Terms of Reference
- ii. Draft EAC Model ICT Regulatory Framework
- iii. Recommendation

The presentation is herein attached as **Annex V**.

5.2 Discussions on the model ICT Regulatory Framework

Discussions were held with regard to the following;

- Establishment of NRAs and separation of functions with other institutions dealing with ICTs;
- To include provisions on adequate human and financial resources;
- To add Spectrum Planning;
- To include numbering resources planning;
- To build enforcement capacity of NRAs and enhance collaboration with other relevant institutions;
- To include provision on requirement on information to support planning and monitoring of performance in the sector;
- To add a provision on monitoring and enforcement of Quality of Service parameters.

6.0. Group break away and group presentations

After the plenary session, the participants were divided into two groups to discuss four thematic questions as follows:

6.1 Model ICT Policy Framework

- a) What is the impact of implementing the EAC Model ICT Policy?

- b) What are the roles of ICT stakeholders in implementing the EAC Model ICT Policy?

6.2 Model ICT Regulatory Framework

- a) What are the challenges of having a harmonized EAC ICT Regulatory framework?
- b) What are the recommendations to address the identified challenges?

After the group discussions, participants reconvened to share the group presentations that are herein attached as **Annex VI and VII**.

7.0. Wrap up

In closing the forum, the EACO Executive Secretary thanked all the participants for their fruitful deliberations and contributions. He indicated that it was a commitment to finish the task of improving the Model ICT Policy and Regulatory Frameworks before they are finally submitted to Congress in July 2017.

Fortunata Mdachi
Chair Person WG1

Alexis Sinarinzi
Rapporteur

Godliving Kessy
LM/Regulatory Affairs

Annex I (ES Speech)

Annex II

Annex III

Annex IV

Annex V



Presentation EACO- Model Regulatory Framework- April 2017.pptx

Annex VI

Annex VII