THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE 25TH EACO CONGRESS

HOSTED BY ARCT - BUJUMBURA BURUNDI
AT ROYALE PALACE HOTEL

30TH JUNE, 2023

1) Adoption of the EACO HR Policy (Reviewed HR Manual)

2) Adoption of the EACO Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028

3) Adoption of Financial Statements of 2020/2021 and 2021/2022

4) Adoption of Regional E-waste Management Strategy 2022-2027

5) The Reviewed Hosting Agreement between the Republic of Rwanda and EACO Secretariat was approved by the Rwandan Government/Cabinet in December 2022.

6) Regulators to continue encouraging Operators in their respective countries to participate in EACO activities, especially in working group meetings, workshops, and also pay their membership fees and sign the EACO Constitution.

7) Regulators and Operators to continue encouraging their staff to participate in EACO activities especially in trainings, workshops and working group and committees meetings.

8) Regulators and Operators to appoint staff who are experts on specific subjects being handled by Working Groups and Committees for easy execution of the strategic activities.

9) Regulators and operators to appoint experts in the different working groups for effectiveness and efficiency;

10) Regulators to encourage operators to attend working groups especially in technical ICT areas.

11) Budgetary support by Regulators and Operators to enable member participation in EACO's activities and programmes;

12) Encourage participation in the Working groups including ensuring attendance of the right experts in the preparation of all EACO documents;

13) Build Capacity building on emerging technologies and best practices. There is also need for Capacity Building on specific subject matters.

14) Encourage cooperation between EACO and other regional organizations at strategic level

15) Member States are requested to retain nominees to EACO Working Groups for consistency, continuity, effectiveness and efficiency

16) Encourage member states to actively participate in WRC-23 preparation meetings and other ITU Radio-communication meetings.

17) Steer Cross border frequency coordination in the region;
18) To focus on Cyber security due to increased use of internet services;
19) To critically handle the regulation of emerging technologies in the region
20) New Membership: APRTC- National ICT Regulator from DRC attended Congress as observer.
21) 29th Assemblies will be hosted by Republic of Kenya in 2024
22) 30th Assemblies and 26th Assemblies will be hosted by Republic of South Sudan in 2025

23) The following documents were adopted and endorsed from the work of the Working Groups

a) Guidelines for management of Critical Infrastructure in the Region

b) Best Practices for System/Network Management issues within the Region

c) EACO Guidelines for Quality of Service for Mobile Voice Services

d) Manual on Harmonized Strategy to address risks in Digital Financial Services (DFS)

e) Regional strategy for establishing and operationalization of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs)

f) EACO Harmonized framework for Satellite Licensing

g) EACO radio frequency spectrum policy guidelines
h) EACO Satellite filing and Coordination guidelines
i) Harmonized spectrum management strategy and roadmap for future spectrum release

j) EACO Radio Frequency Spectrum Allocation Plan.

k) Guidelines for content sharing, digital rights management and digital content management

l) Guideline for Competition assessments in the communication sector

m) EACO Frequency Spectrum Pricing Guidelines

n) Guidelines for Metering and Billing for Voice and Data Services

o) Costing Methodologies for regulated basic Postal Service's Regional Strategy for Establishing and Operationalization of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs)

p) EACO Guidelines for Universal Postal Service and Access