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***Communications for all in East Africa***

**REPORT OF THE 3RD EACO E-WASTE MANAGEMENT AWARENESS WORKSHOP, 14TH -16TH MAY 2018 AT THE PARK INN HOTEL, KIGALI, RWANDA**

# 1.0 PREAMBLE

The East African Communications Organization (EACO) has held two regional workshops in an effort to enhance awareness on 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. In this workshop, 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 was held from **14th – 16th May 2018** in **Kigali, Rwanda.** The theme of this workshop was: **“Implementation of the Regional E-waste Management Strategy and National E-waste Regulations Awareness”.** In this workshop, Rwanda took the opportunity to launch their E-waste Regulations.

* 1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP**

The Objective of the awareness workshop included:

1. To evaluate the status of implementation of the regional strategy on e- waste management by EACO member states;
2. To create awareness on the Rwandan E-waste management Regulation;
3. To devise sustainable methods/mechanisms for successful implementation of the E-waste management strategy;
4. To mobilize resources for the Regional Strategy (Identifying strategies for financing of E-waste management initiatives/projects);
5. To create a platform to devise ways (Identifying possible mechanisms) of harmonizing regional efforts in E-waste management, keeping in view the global developments;
6. To propose strategies towards enhancing stakeholder collaboration and partnership for sustainable E-waste management in the region;
7. To raise awareness on issues relating to E-waste and its management, Facilitating the development of sustainable strategies and initiatives for E-waste management in the region;

To achieve the above objectives, a programme was developed in line with the theme and stated objectives. The programme is attached in **Appendix 1**

**1.2 PARTICIPATION**

The 3rd awareness workshop was attended by the following stakeholders from the six EACO Member countries:

i) EACO member’s states and partners;

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) 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.

**(*The list of participants is appended in the report as Appendix 2)***

# 2.0 REMARKS BY GUESTS

1. Opening Remarks by ICT Director – (***Attached as Appendix 3)***
2. Welcoming Remarks by Executive Secretary, EACO, Dr. Ally Yahaya Simba – (***Attached as Appendix 4)***
3. Remarks by Director General, REMA – (***Attached as Appendix 5)***
4. Key Note Speech by Mr. Stuart Fleming, Group CEO, Enviroserve

Mr. Stuart presented a speech titled: Sustainable Options for E-waste Management in the East African Region ***(Presentation Attached as Appendix 6)***

1. Opening Speech, by Guest of Honour, Minister for ICT, Rwanda – (***Attached as Appendix 7)***

**3.0 PRESENTATIONS**

Presentations were done by experts from Sofies, GIZ, Enviroserve and other East Africa countries ministries and agencies, corporate organizations, recyclers, informal sector, Academia and Research institutions.

**DAY 1**

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| **Session** | **Presenter** | **Panelists** |  |
| **Session 1: High Level Round Table Discussion**Resource Mobilization for the effective implementation of the Regional E waste Management by strategy | Dr. Federico Magalini (Sofies, UK)  | **Moderator**Mr. Alex Ntale, CEO, ICT Chamber PSF, Rwanda**Panelists** 1. Dr. Ally Simba, Executive Secretary, EACO
2. Hubert Ruzibiza, CEO, Rwanda Green Fund
3. Dr. Alice Kaudia , Environment Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forestry, Kenya
4. Stuart Fleming, CEO, Enviroserve;
 | *Presentation by Dr. Federico Magalini (****Attached as Appendix 8****)*Highlights from the presentation1. EACO strategy is a well done document;
2. Develop, adopt and enforce policies on E- waste management;
3. Map the infrastructure - Develop a plan
4. Identify sources of funding;
5. On budget allocation in the strategy, legal framework and mapping of the legal infrastructure takes 60%;
6. Several agencies have been approached to fund;
7. Proposals for funding are always stronger when the Governments are involved and is co-financing;
8. EACO is doing a good job;
9. Mobilization of funds is required;
10. Don’t wait for anyone to implement, start;
11. Policies should protect the investors/entrepreneurs;
12. Research on volumes should be done;
13. Garner political support;
14. Establish/strengthen one regional recycling facility and have other national facilities and collection centers in other countries;
15. Harmonize environmental policies in the Region;
16. We need influencers/decision makers;
17. Make it an agenda item at the EAC Council of Ministers first so that each country is able to bring its case and it is discussed there and then it goes to the Summit.
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| **Session 2:**Presentation on highlights of activities of EACO WG 7: E waste and Counterfeit Gadgets Management | Mr. Juma Ooro(Chairperson EACO WG 07) |  | *Presentation by Mr. Ooro (****Attached as Appendix 9)***Highlights from the presentation1. WG7 was initially WG10. EACO re-organized the working groups for better performance;
2. ToR now include management of counterfeit gadgets;
3. Regional E-waste Strategy is the flagship of the group. Currently being implemented
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| **Session 3:**Presentation on highlights of EACO Regional E waste Strategy | Mr. Olivier Mbera(Chairperson, EACO Regional E-waste ManagementSteering Committee  |  | *Presentation by Mr. Olivier Mbera (****Attached as Appendix 10)***Highlights from the presentation* The experts in the Regional Steering committee prepared strategy.
* Strategy is currently getting some funding support
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| **Session 4:**Technical Assistance for the Implementation of Regional E-waste Management Strategy | Mr. Mathias Shuelp (GIZ)Dr. Federico Magalini(Sofies (UK) - Consultants) |  | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 11)***Highlights from the presentation* GIZ experts include Oeko, Sofies, UNU, WRFA;
* WP1 EACO strategy, WP2 Off grid lead acid batteries (Geographical focus not yet defined by Oeko);
* GIZ support for EACO includes; Review of existing policy/law, development of regional policy, alignment of national policies and e-waste management infrastructure;
* Local experts developed the strategy; the locals should also do implementation and solutions. GIZ will only support the implementation.
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| **Session 5:**Official Launch of the Rwanda E-waste Management Regulations  | Mr. Christian Tuyishime (RURA) | **Moderator**Dr. Denis Rugege, **Green Economy Expert, Rwanda****Panelists** Lt. Col. Patrick Nyirishema, **DG RURA**Eng. Coletha Ruhamya, **DG REMA**Mr. Raymond Murenzi, **DG, RSB**Mr. Eric Serubibi, **DG, RHA**Mr. Olivier Mbera, **GM, Enviroserve** | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 12)***Highlights from the presentation* In some cases, funding might not be a big problem;
* The necessary structures has to be made available prior to investors committing to finance establishment of E-waste recycling facility;
* Such structures include business related policies that offer conducive environment for investment, WEEE directives i.e. WEEE polices, WEEE regulations and WEEE legislations;
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| **Session 6:**Global Policies and Regulation for e-waste Management  | Dr. Federico Magalini **(Sofies, UK)** | **Moderator**Dr. Federico Magalini **(Sofies, UK)****Panelists**Mr. Issa Musa Nyashilu, Principal Environment Officer, Tanzania; Mr. Julius Torachi, Ministry of ICT, Uganda;Dr. Tom Musili, Computer for Schools Kenya;Dr. Alice Kaudia; Environment Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya;Dr. Christian Sekomo | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 13)***Highlights from the presentation1. Who pays for e waste? (Tax payers, consumers, EPR);
2. Cost effectiveness is important;
3. EPR - state controlled and compliance schemes be created by the producers
4. Tanzania- No specific policy;
5. Kenya – Management of e-waste is devolved (Done by the county governments). Counties have own regulations, the national regulations on E- waste is in progress;
6. Rwanda – Has invested a lot in environmental protection, the E-waste regulations is in place and have built a facility for e-waste management;
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| **Day 1 Highlights**1. Harmonize environmental policies in the East Africa Region (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, South Sudan and Burundi);
2. Monitor the implementation strategy for the EACO Regional E-waste Strategy;
3. Attract investors by enforcing policies – formulate integrated WEEE polices, guideline, regulations law.
4. Do a survey/study on statistics on volumes for the region;
5. Identify sources of funding and source for the funding (institutional donors or align with ongoing projects);
6. Strengthen the existing plant to serve the region;
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**Day 2**

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| **Session** | **Presenter** | **Panelists**  | **Remarks** |
| **Session 7:**Evaluating the status of implementation of the Regional Strategy. | Open Discussion  | **Moderator**Ambassador Peter Gitau.**Panelists**Ms. Anita Hodari, RURAMr. Julius Torachi, Ministry of ICT, Uganda;Mr. Eric Guantai, Recykla International, Kenya;Mr. Issa Musa Nyashilu, Principal Environment, Tanzania;Mr. Ouedraogo Pingwende Roger, National E-waste Committee, Burundi; | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 14)***Highlights from the presentation* Strategy is still at very early stages of implementation in various countries
* Develop joint regional EAC E-waste research project, to be undertaken by academic institutions
* Facilitate single acceptable licenses for transboundary movement of E-waste with no hiccups, establishment of cross-border industrial parks.
* There is need to have Standards to be complied with, tailored to guide sustainable E-waste management (recycling and processing) for E-waste entrepreneurs (both formal and informal) as well as Producers . This will allow promotion of E-waste best practice, competence, ethics, and integrity at workplace, develop a pool of specialized WEEE Auditors and enhance professionalism. Thereof curbing any unethical or fraudulent practice in E-waste business segments or E-waste diversion thus restoring Producer confidence;
* E-waste entrepreneurs (both formal and informal) capacities need (inclusive of access to market) to be increased to allow them become more competitive economically whilst manage environment sustainably. Enhanced capacities allow them mainstream ethical business operations standards and procedures thereof embrace environmental governance. Further, it promote creativity in innovation and inventions leading to sustainable value additions at various levels of E-waste recycling process.
* Mainstream E-waste Agendas in Country Vision or Agendas
* Observing that in most instances regulators might be more than one, there is need for coordinated collaborations
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| **Session 8:**Creating a platform to devise ways/identifying possible mechanisms for harmonizing regional efforts in e- waste management, keeping in view the global developments;  | Dr. Farida Were, University of Nairobi | **Moderator**Mr. John Bosco Kavuma;**Panelists**Ms. Winnie Grace Onziru, Uganda Bureau of Standards;Ms. Nancy Kulthum Shushu, National Environment Management Council, Tanzania;Dr. John Wasswa, Makerere University;Ms. Nancy AllimadiNational Environment Management Authority, Uganda;Alexis MULISA, Rwanda Green Fund; | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 15)***Highlights from the presentation* E-waste facilities need volumes;
* Resources for implementation are required;
* There is inadequate enforcement of EPR in the region;
* It is important to harmonize the policies so that information can be shared, duplication reduced and progress tracked**;**
* Inadequate and sustained information from majority of Producers operating in the EAC region ,in their market/sales strategies which inform their clients how to sustainably dispose waste arising from their end of life products
* E-waste as a business segment (Circularity) in the EAC region has not been given the same holistic integrated attention like other businesses
* WEEE (E-waste) has always been collected together with municipal residual waste (lack of E-waste separation at source) thereof disposed both in illegal dumpsite and legally designated landfills. Therefore losing positive economic value that would have been realized through support of establishment of formal recycling infrastructure;
* E-waste entrepreneurs (both formal and informal) bear the cost of Disposal (they also pay for destruction harmful fragments in advanced E-waste facilities located in developed economies) ,Collection ,Transportation and Recycling (machinery);
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| **Session 9:** Facilitating the development of sustainable strategies and initiatives for E-waste management in the region, regional manufacturer’s association and a regional E-waste fund as well as ongoing national initiatives for a product fee managed by public funds. including effective capacity building/training  | Dr. Christian Sekomo | **Moderator**Dr. Tom Musili**Panelists**Dr. Farida Were, UONDr. John Wasswa, MakerereMr. John Bosco Kavuma, Pearl Creatives, UgandaProf. KAMATARI, UNITEK | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 16)***Highlights from the presentation1. Research on volumes is required;
2. Package training/capacity building programmes depending with the clients
3. Work with Academia on e-waste and domesticate EACO indicators;
4. Give progress;
5. Africa has good policies, but need political will to finance the implementation;
6. Come up with a standardized procedure within the region ;
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| **Session 10:**Visit to the Recycling facility |  Olivier Mbera | * The plant was funded by the Government of Rwanda;
* It is now being run by a private company (Enviroserve) for a period of 10 years (leased);
* Recycling is done in an environmentally friendly manner;
* No value addition on materials recovered;
* Materials recovered are sold to the local market such as plastic, metals while others are exported to international markets;
 |
| **Day 2 Highlights**1. Regulation- Lobbying required for political will (EAC/EALA);
2. Capacity Building and training of different stakeholders;
3. Raise awareness and work with informal sector (partner);
4. Partner with Academia for Research;
5. Mobilize Resources;
6. Domesticate EACO indicators and standards;
7. Give feedback on work done;
8. Work together as a block/team (Coordinate);
9. Strong coordination by EACO for the region;
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**Day 3**

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| **Session** | **Presenter** | **Panelists** | **Remarks** |
| **Session 11** The Work of ITU SG5-Regionan Group for Africa on e-waste management and how this feeds into the ITU Agenda on e-waste management | Online presentation by Ms Helen Nakiguli, Uganda Communications Commission, Senior Environment Officer UCC | **Moderator: Mr. Andrew Otim** | *Presentation (****Attached as Appendix 17)***Highlights from the presentation:* ITU is a UN specialized agency for ICTs
* They facilitate peaceful relations, international cooperation between peoples and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunication services
* Membership of ITU and sectors were mentioned.
* ITU has 3 sectors; Standardization, Development and Radiocommunication.
* They develop standards to protect environment
* They assist countries to develop policies and implement ITU-T standards to tackle e waste and circular economy
* They also engage in research, development, and awareness creation.
* ITU-T Africa’s mandate is to encourage participation of African countries, boost discussions of current issues and enhance development of contributions from Africa
* East Africa hosted the 8th Green Standards Week. EACO WG7 members presented papers and contributions
* It was indicated that EACO can approach ITU to assist with E-waste Statistics
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| **Session 12**Regional and global statistics on e-waste | PresenterDr. John Wasswa (Makerere University) | **Moderator****Mr. Issa Nyashilu (Principal Environment Officer – Vice-Presidents’s Office (VPO), Tanzania)**Panelists* Representative Rwanda National Statistics
* Representative MITEC Rwanda
* Representative RICA RWANDA
* Stephane Mugabe, Environmental statistics
* Dr Denis RUGEGE (ITU)
* Juma Ooro – Eaco Chairperson, Working Group 7, Communications Authority of Kenya
 | **Presentation appended as Appendix 18****Highlights from the presentation*** Talked about standards and methodologies for measuring e-waste and challenges involved in e-waste statistics
* Global e-waste generated stands at 46% and has an annual growth rate of 3-4%
* 20%of e waste is documented to be collected and properly recycled.
* 80% is not documented
* Update on e-waste in Africa is required
* Challenges in statistics include; lack of data especially from Customs department and distributors, e-waste main players are the informal sector and the issue of branded vs counterfeit products
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| **Session 13** This session looked at the impact of poor management of e-waste on environment and human Health and the benefits of effective management of e-waste as presented by relevant stakeholders. |  | **Moderator:**Virginia Onyara, Multimedia University of Kenya;**Panelists:**Dr. Farida Were (UON)Dr. Dickson Andala (MMU);Mr. John Bosco Kavuma, Pearl Creatives, Uganda;Mr. Noel (Cleaner Production, TZ); | **Highlights from the presentation*** Consumers of Electrical and Electronics Equipment at household levels are holding back large end-of- life Waste Electrical and Electronics Equipment (E-waste) either for lack of information on where to dispose (collection points) or lack of incentives in spite of dangers they are exposed to by Waste Electrical and Electronics Equipment (E-waste).
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| **Session 14****Wrap up and Closing Remark** |  | **Moderator**Juma Ooro and Hermes Ntahomvukiye |  |
| **Presenter**Virginia Onyara (MMU) | **10-Point Rwandan Declaration appended as appendix 19** |
| Mr. Godliving Kessy  | **Gave closing remarks (Attached as appendix 20)** |

**Conclusion**

The workshop was successful . It was generally agreed that the region should emphasize on implementation of the Regional Strategy to achieve harmonization in E-waste management.

EACO has scheduled the next awareness workshop for March 2019 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

**10-point Rwandan Declaration**

**10-point EACO E-waste Recommendations in Rwanda, 16th May 2018**

1. Harmonize and establish regional policies, laws, regulations, guidelines for sustainable management of e-waste in the East African Region;
2. Carry out a survey/study on volumes of e-waste generated in the region to assist in planning, decision making and investment. Create a link/platform/data repository to share e-waste management information across the region;
3. Identify potential funders/sponsors in collaboration with key stakeholders including government to support e-waste management projects and programmes in the EAC Region;
4. Establish implementation plan for the EACO Regional e-waste management strategy;
5. Enforce regional policies and legislation to create an enabling environment for business in management of e-waste in EAC Region;
6. Establish formal/upgrade the existing e-waste recycling plants to serve the region;
7. Lobby/engage for political will from various governments, EAC, AU, UN etc to support the e-waste agenda;
8. Capacity Building and training of stakeholders at all levels of management of life-cycle of e-waste (Recyclers, government and government agencies, transporters, refurbishers etc) a cross the region;
9. Raise awareness among stakeholders in management of e-waste in the region; and
10. Implement Regional E-waste Strategy.

**Appendices**

Kindly, note that all appendices can be accessed from EACO’s website under workshop reports ([www.eaco.int](http://www.eaco.int) )

 **Appendix 1 –** Workshop Programme **Appendix 2 –** List of Participants

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**Appendix 3 -** Opening Remarks by ICT Director

**Appendix 4 -** Welcome Remarks by Executive Secretary, EACO, Dr. Ally Yahaya Simba

**Appendix 5 -** Remarks by Director General, REMA

**Appendix 6 -** Key Note Speech by Mr. Stuart Fleming, Group CEO, Enviroserve

**Appendix 7 -** Opening Speech, by Guest of Honour, Minister for ICT, Rw**anda**

**Appendix 8 –** Presentation by on Resource Mobilization for the effective implementation of the Regional E waste Management by strategy, by Dr. Federico Magalini

**Appendix 9 –** Presentation on highlights of activities of EACO WG 7: E waste and Counterfeit Gadgets Management, by Mr. Juma Ooro

**Appendix 10 -** Presentation on highlights of EACO Regional E waste Strategy, by Mr. Olivier Mbera

**Appendix 11 –** Presentation on Technical Assistance for the Implementation of Regional E- waste Management Strategy, Mr. Mathias Shuelp (GIZ) and Dr. Federico Magalini (Sofies (UK)

**Appendix 12 –** Presentation and Official Launch of the Rwanda E- waste Management Regulations, by Mr. Christian Tuyishime (RURA)

**Appendix 13 –** Presentation on Global Policies and Regulation for e- waste Management, by Dr. Federico Magalini (Sofies, UK)

**Appendix 14 –** Evaluating the status of implementation of the Regional Strategy

**Appendix 15 –** Presentation on creating a platform to devise ways/identifying possible mechanisms for harmonizing regional efforts in e- waste management, keeping in view the global developments, by Dr. Farida Were, University of Nairobi

**Appendix 16 –** Presentation on Facilitating the development of sustainable strategies and initiatives for E-waste management in the region, regional manufacturer’s association and a regional E-waste fund as well as ongoing national initiatives for a product fee managed by public funds, including effective capacity building/training, by Dr. Christian Sekomo, National University of Rwanda

**Appendix 17 –** Presentation on the Work of ITU SG5-Regionan Group for Africa on e-waste management and how this feeds into the ITU Agenda on e-waste management, by Ms. Helen Nakiguli, Uganda Communications Commission

**Appendix 18 –** Presentation on Regional and global statistics on e-waste, by Dr. John Wasswa (Makerere University)

**Appendix 19 -** Managing e-waste. Impact and Benefits - Presentation on Turning waste into resources for development - Principles for Inclusive Recycling, by Mathias Schluep, World Resources Forum