

REPORT OF THE 27TH EACO ASSEMBLY OF BROADCASTING OPERATORS HELD ONLINE ON 8TH JULY 2021

1.0. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The 27th Assembly of Broadcasting Operators of EACO was held on online 8th July 2021.

Mr. Andrew Kisaka welcomed the participants present to the 27th Assembly of Broadcasters of EACO.

The meeting was attended by 90 members who included Broadcasting Operators and National Regulatory bodies of the EACO members, namely Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda the EACO Secretariat

2.0. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

In accordance with the Rules of Procedures of the EACO, the Assembly of Broadcasting Operators elected the Rapporteurs of the bureau as follows:

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|----------------------------|---|
| a) Mr. Amani David RUGAMBA | <i>1st Rapporteur-Rwanda</i> |
| b) Mr. Clovis NUGAME | <i>2nd Rapporteur- Burundi</i> |

3.0. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted without amendments. The agenda is contained in *Annex 1*.

4.0. REPORT OF OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON OF THE BROADCAST ASSEMBLY

Mr. Andrew Kisaka presented the report of the outgoing chairperson of the Broadcast Assembly. Assembly of Broadcasters.

The following were highlighted from the report of the outgoing chairperson:

- i. The trends in the broadcasting sector
- ii. Challenges in the sector
- iii. Highlighted the achievements in EACO

The details of the report are provided in *Annex 2*.

5.0. REVIEW OF THE AGREED ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS ASSEMBLY MEETING

The report of the 26th Broadcasting Assembly is contained in *Annex 3*.

The agreed actions from the last broadcasting assembly held in Mwanza, Tanzania in 2019 were discussed and the actions taken were reviewed as follows:

	Agreed Actions	Action Taken
1	EACO Member States are encouraged to hold meetings with commercial advertisers to get their views on issues pertaining advertisement in media.	-Handled at country level - Questionnaire was circulated
2	The EACO Secretariat is requested to organise a regional workshop that will address the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local content development and challenges faced by the independent content producers and TV broadcasters.• Sustainability business model for FTA TV broadcasters taking into account rapidly changing environments in the broadcasting sector.	A workshop was held focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Content Management- Trends in broadcasting- Digital Sound Broadcasting

6.0. HANDOVER OF THE CHAIRPERSON

The outgoing chairman of the Broadcasting Assembly Mr. Josiah Murunga from TVE Tanzania was represented by Eng. Andrew Kisaka from Tanzania, who handed over the chairmanship to Mr. Arthur Asiimwe from Rwanda Broadcasting Agency (RBA) who was represented by Mr. Innocent Nkurunziza.

Mr. Innocent Nkurunziza, thanked Tanzania for the great chairmanship for the past two years and committed to continue the good work.

7.0. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE WGS

Mr Andrew Kisaka the chairman of WG05 on Broadcasting Development, Spectrum Management & Media Services Regulations gave a presentation on the works of WG5.

The details of this WG05 report are available in the *Annex 4*.

The key activities highlighted in the report and their implementation status are provided in the table below:

Noted 1: The following documents in the broadcasting are ready for adoption

- i. A roadmap for migrating to interoperable digital television receivers. The document is contained in *Annex 5*
- ii. Harmonized Framework for the Introduction of sound broadcasting in EAC member states. The document is contained in *Annex 6*

8.0. IDENTIFY CROSS CUTTING ISSUES TO BE SHARED IN THE JOINT WORKING COMMITTEE

The Broadcast Assembly meeting identified the following cross cutting issues::

- 1) Cross border Frequency coordination requires participation of both broadcasting and mobile operators
- 2) Participation in the work of WRC-23
- 3) Market survey of digital radio receiver availability and benchmark with other countries
- 4) Promote the development and deployment of DSB as a EAC region to promote conducive regulatory environment
- 5) Develop Regulation of Internet based/ online media platforms regulation for the East African Region to maintain broadcasting ethics
- 6) Promote infrastructure Sharing in the Broadcasting Industry
- 7) Determine Lesson learnt in the promotion of CAM (one decoder): Experience from Number portability
- 8) EAC countries to develop a regional Space Agency at EAC level
- 9) Concept paper for Cubesat Project was developed and is brought to the attention of the JWC
- 10) Involvement of Broadcasters by defining their role for active participation and discussing topical issues e.g. acquiring games right at affordable rates, artists' rights
- 11) Secretariat to facilitate presentation of accomplished regulatory frameworks from EACO to the EAC to promote awareness to policy makers within EAC.

9.0. WAY FORWARD FOR THE TORS IN REGARD TO BROADCASTING AND PLAN FOR THE BROADCASTING ASSEMBLY FOR THE NEXT CYCLE

The following were identified as way forward for the Broadcasting Assembly for the next year 2021/2022:

1. Follow, understand and build capacity in the latest Broadcasting technologies
2. Continue the work on Sustainability of FTA and come up with harmonised approach
3. Encourage attendance of broadcasters in the work of EACO
4. Promote Digital Sound Broadcasting (DSB) development and determine the right standards and licensing approach
5. Follow and actively participate in WRC-23 agenda items related to broadcasting services especially spectrum in the UHF band of 470-694 MHz
6. Broadcasting Satellite project for East Africa should be spearheaded to ensure that the objectives are realised.
7. EACO Member states should follow through and work together to ensure that submissions made under resolution 559 (WRC-19) are completed in time for WRC-23 consideration and approval.
8. Develop capacity on space technology

10.0. CLOSING OF THE BROADCASTING ASSEMBLY

In the closing remarks, the Chairman thanked the members and other participants for their participation in the Assembly meeting and were encouraged to actively participate in the future work of the Broadcasting Assembly.

In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of EACO thanked the outgoing of chairperson for work performed during in his chairmanship and thanked the incoming chairperson for leading the assembly.

The Chairman therefore declared the meeting closed at 11:11 hrs CAT

ANNEX 1: AGENDA FOR THE 27TH BROADCASTING ASSEMBLY



Agenda for Broadcast
Assembly.docx

ANNEX 2: REPORT OF THE OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON OF THE BROADCAST ASSEMBLY



Report of Outgoing
Broadcast Assembly c

ANNEX 3 : REPORT OF THE 26TH BROADCASTING ASSEMBLY



Report of the 26th
EACO Broadcasters As

ANNEX 4: REPORTS OF THE WG05



WG5 report at EACO
Assemblies.pdf

ANNEX 5: A ROADMAP FOR MIGRATING TO INTEROPERABLE DIGITAL TELEVISION RECEIVERS.



EACO CAM
MIGRATION PLAN_ Jc

ANNEX 6: HARMONISED FRAMEWORK FOR DIGITAL SOUND BROADCASTING



Harmonised
Framework for Digital s