



**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019**

**Our ref: 23/CONGRESS/07/019**

**TO: ALL EACO MEMBERS**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE KEY DECISIONS OF THE 23<sup>rd</sup> EACO CONGRESS HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 IN MWANZA, TANZANIA**

While congratulating you on the just concluded 23<sup>rd</sup> EACO Congress, I wish to thank all of you who participated in this year's Congress and pre-Congress events and also contributed to its success.

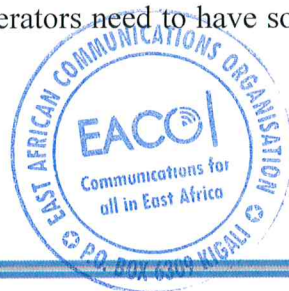
I want on behalf of EACO to commend the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) for its kind hospitality and excellent organization of this year's Congress which I believe not only created a forum for multistakeholder dialogue on the critical Communications and Postal sectors issues touching the region but also facilitated interaction and sharing of experiences among EACO members, its Partners as well as its Stakeholders.

As will be highlighted in the Congress report which will be circulated to you in due course, a number of decisions were arrived at its conclusion by the 23<sup>rd</sup> EACO Congress. Pending finalization of the Congress report, the Secretariat wishes to highlight and bring to your attention some of the key decisions below:

The 23<sup>rd</sup> EACO Congress:

1. Admitted five (5) new members that submitted application to join EACO, and these are:- VIASAT, Uhuru Media Group (Tanzania), TargeTV-E (Tanzania), AZAM/UTV, Azam Digital Broadcasting Limited (Tanzania);
2. Increased annual contribution for Regulators from US\$ 100,000 to US\$ 150,000 from the financial year 2019/2020;
3. Approved the Audited Financial Statement for 2017/2018;
4. Separate the Legal Committee from Human Resource Committee thereby realigning with the provision of Article 13 of the EACO Constitution;
5. Reviewed the term of the Executive Secretary that; The Executive Secretary shall be a citizen of a member state of EAC and shall serve a term of four (4) years, renewable once subject to satisfactory performance;

6. Member countries required to dedicate and facilitate its officers to the Committees and Working Groups for consistency and continuity;
7. To collaborate with Higher Learning Institutions in the region on new strategies of training such as introducing the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) where points and certificates are awarded to participants at each completed training;
8. There is need to have specialized packages to enable broadcasters to utilize existing telecom infrastructure in order to stream content because the future of broadcasting is internet based. Telecoms and broadcasters are encouraged to collaborate in order to have affordable and efficient communications;
9. Postal Corporations must embrace innovation in their products and business processes in order for them to take advantage of the emerging technologies such as Big Data, Artificial Intelligence Cloud Computing, Machine Learning amongst others, to grow revenues and revenue streams;
10. Members are required to invest in National Addressing and Postcodes to enable Postal Operators and couriers to deliver last mile service efficiently and effectively
11. Member countries to set up a team of experts in their respective countries to examine the impact of the proposed options on the mail operations in the light of the USA from Universal Postal Union and also EACO Member countries to join the PAPU Expert Group of Terminal Dues that has been formed and chaired by Egypt.
12. Regulators to undertake consumer awareness campaigns for customers on forced roaming. Operators should comply on implementation of the cross border frequencies coordination framework.
13. Regulatory Authorities, operators, government agencies and other stakeholders to migrate from IPV4 to IPV6 soonest. All actors are encouraged to develop strategies, action plans with timelines to have successful migration and report progress regularly.
14. The Regulators and Operators to enhance legal framework and technology to protect the communication industry from destructive and fraudulent innovations such as sim boxing, spoofing fraud. National regional security surveillance should be enhanced among the EACO member countries. Regulators and operators need to have solid collaboration to handle fraud cases.



I kindly urge all of you to appreciate the Congress decisions and look forward to your continued support in implementing those decisions which will contribute to the work of EACO and promote the communications sector in the East African Region.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Ally Simba**  
**Executive Secretary**



**CC:**

- Eng James Kilaba, Director General, TCRA & Chairman of EACO
- Members of the Executive Committee (All)
- Chairperson of EACO Assemblies (All)
- Chairperson of Committees and Working Groups (All)
- EACO Focal Point ( All)