



**REPORT OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> EACO REGULATORY ASSEMBLIES HELD  
10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025, JUBA - SOUTH SUDAN AT RADISSON BLU HOTEL**

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 30<sup>th</sup> Assemblies of Regulators and the **1st Advisory Council** of the East African Communications Organization (EACO) took place from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025; under the theme: **Shaping the future of EAC through digital transformation**. The event was hosted by National Communication Authority (NCA), at Radisson Blu Hotel, Juba/South Sudan. The meeting was facilitated by the Republic of South Sudan. The attendance of the Regulatory Assembly included participants from South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, DRC, and Rwanda.

The Regulatory Assembly considered reports from the Committees and the Working Groups namely: - Legal & Constitutional Affairs Committee (LCAC), Human Resource Committee (HRC), Finance Audit & Risk Management Committee and the seven (7) Working Groups (WG1 – WG7).

The Assembly of Regulators noted implementation of Terms of reference (ToRs), challenges and recommendations presented by the Committees and Working Groups and adopted their recommendations as highlighted in this report.

## 2.0 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was officially opened by the Representative of Director General of NCA South Sudan – Hon. Geith Kon, Eng. Papiti Okwaci, who chaired the Assembly.

## 3.0 ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau was formed as follows:

Chairman (Rep)	Eng. Papiti Okwaci	NCA
1 <sup>st</sup> Rapporteur	Mr. John James Nelson	NCA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Rapporteur	Mr. Noel Gatera GATETE	RURA
Secretariat	Ms. Norah Sitati	EACO Secretariat

## **4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda for the 30th Assembly of Regulators was adopted and is attached as **ANNEX I.**

## **5.0 REMARKS OF THE OUT-GOING CHAIRMAN**

The outgoing Chairman of Regulatory Assembly, Director General of CA, Kenya, Mr. David Mugonyi's remarks were presented by Ms. Patricia Kerrets (The Deputy Director of Administration). Ms. Patricia thanked the South Sudan Regulatory Authority (NCA) for hosting the meeting, the EACO Secretariat and all EACO Working Groups & Committees, which through their joint effort progressed to achieve their tasks. The Out-going Chairman's remarks are attached as **ANNEX II.**

## **6.0 REMARKS OF THE IN-COMING CHAIRMAN.**

The Representative of the in-coming Chairman, DG, Geith Kon, Eng. Papiti Okwaci thanked the outgoing Chair, in particular for the impressive work done during his tenure and in the general the commitment of the Republic of Kenya for the achievement. After he took the role of chairing the meeting. The in-coming Chairman's remarks are attached as **ANNEX III.**

## **7.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS BY COMMITTEES AND THE WORKING GROUPS**

### **7.1 REPORT OF LEGAL & CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

#### **7.1.1. Noted 1:**

The following were noted from the presentation made by Mr. Kenneth Lexion SSEGUYA, the Vice Chair of LCAC:

- i) Reviewed the Rules of Procedure for EACO Organs to align with new Constitution
- ii) A provision was made to clarify on the responsibilities of the Chairpersons of Organs of EACO.
- iii) A provision was made on what should happen in the absence of Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons in meeting of Organs of EACO (including Board meetings)
- iv) Discussed that WGs /Committee are to develop a checklist on the progress of implementation of the completed documents and to review whether the provisions therein are still relevant or implementable.
- v) Reviewed an Application by Article 19 EA, for Observer-ship at EACO.

## **Agreed 1:**

The report was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX IV.**

### **7.2 REPORT OF FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (FARMC)**

#### **7.2.1. Noted 2:**

The following were noted from the presentation made by the Chair of FARMC:

- i) Reviewed the draft financial statements for financial year 2023/24 for submission to external auditors for auditing.
- ii) Reviewed the external auditors' report and Management letter and submitted to the EXCOM for approval in December 2024.
- iii) Reviewed the annual plan and budget review proposal and submitted to the EXCOM for approval in December 2024.
- iv) Reviewed the interim Internal Audit report .
- v) Conducted performance evaluation for Committees and Working groups for financial year 2024/25.
- vi) Conducted financial performance review for the period of eleven months up to May, 2025.
- vii) Reviewed the proposed annual plan and budget for 2025/26 for submission to the upcoming Board meeting.
- viii) Reviewed the report for appointment of external auditors for 2024/25 and 2025/26 audits for submission to the upcoming Board meeting.

#### **7.2.2 Recommendations:**

- a) The Regulatory Assembly was invited to note, consider and adopt the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee for financial year 2024/25.

#### **Agreed 2:**

The report was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX V.**

## **7.3 REPORT OF HUMAN RESOURCE COMMITTEE (HRC)**

### **7.3.1 Noted 3:**

The following were noted from the presentation made by Chair of the Human resource committee, Ms. Judith Amwiine:

- i) Reviewed the Human Resource Policy.
- ii) Carried out the recruitment of the next Executive Director
- iii) Coordinated the Training on Peering and Interconnection in the EA Region.
- iv) Coordinated the Spider/iPRIS capacity building programme for members.
- v) Drafted the staff satisfaction survey tool.
- vi) Coordinated the training of 2 staff on Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA & Power BI) – and Advanced Driving tools and protocols.

### **7.3.2 Challenges**

- i) insufficient staff budget to run the Secretariat
- ii) Understaffing in the secretariat
- iii) Slow pace of joining the EAC
- iv) Inconsistence participation for some members

### **7.3.3. Recommendations:**

- i) EACO members to continue encouraging their staff to participate in EACO activities especially in trainings, workshops and meetings
- ii) The Regulatory Assembly is invited to note, consider and adopt the HRC Report of July 2024 to June 2025.

### **Agreed 3:**

The report was adopted by the Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX VI.**

## **WG1: EACO COMMUNICATION SECTOR INDICATORS HARMONIZATION.**

### **7.4.2 Noted 4:**

The report of WG1 presented by Ms. Juliette Nirera, Chairperson, which included:

#### **The achievements**

- i) Review of the Telecommunications sector indicators and reduced them to 68.
- ii) The database is up to date with all Telecommunication indicators for Member States.
- iii) Broadcasting, Fiber Optic and Postal Indicators will be added to the Databank system and planned for implementation in FY 2025/2026.
- iv) Data collection, analysis and reporting was completed.
- v) The EACO Communication Statistics Report was available up to Quarter 2 of 2024/2025 (December 2024) with telecommunication indicators.

#### **7.4.2. Recommendations:**

- i) The ICT regulators to establish collaboration with the relevant agencies such as Central Bank for the case of Mobile Money.
- ii) The working group requires a minimum representation of two Representatives for each Member States to enable continuity of work and technical inputs in different parameters of the Sectors.
- iii) NRAs should allocate budget to sponsor their members to attend physical meetings.
- iv) EACO Secretariat to provide or to seek capacity building partnerships for Working Group 1 members in data analytics with Global Partners.
- v) EACO Secretariat to seek partnership with ITU, EGTI and EGH to align our regional indicators with the international standards.

#### **Agreed 4:**

The report of WG1 on was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX VII.**

## **7.4 WG2: ICT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, CONNECTIVITY SHARING AND DIGITAL INCLUSION**

**Noted 5.** The following was noted from the presentation by Esther J. Wanyana, the Chairperson of WG2.

- i) The ToRs for the working group for the cycle 2024-2025;
- ii) Status report on Type approval process in EACO Partner States
- iii) Concept note on the establishment of regional Type Approval Lab
- iv) Development of the regional broadband strategy
- v) Development of the Regional Digital Economy Strategy
- vi) Development of a concept note for the establishment of a Regional Clearing House
- vii) Preparation of the project proposal for establishment of a regional clearing house.
- viii) Identification and implementation of mechanisms to enable access and usage of ICTs by Youth, women and PWDs.

### **7.5.1 The challenges and proposals**

- i) Poor and inconsistent attendance by members and low turn up for meetings.
- ii) Minimal private sector participation in working group meetings.
- iii) The absence of succession planning for WG membership.
- iv) Conflicting priorities for members leading to delayed completion of assigned documents.

### **7.5.1 Recommendations**

- i) WG2 requested the Assembly to NOTE and ADOPT the progress made during the 2023-2025 cycle;
- ii) Note the new WG2 activities commencing in the next FY 2025/2026;
- iii) Provide any guidance deemed necessary to ensure effective and efficient performance of Working Group

### **Agreed 5.**

The report of WG2 was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX VIII.**

## **7.6 WG3: ICT APPLICATION, CONSUMER PROTECTION ISSUES AND CYBERSECURITY**

### **Noted 6:**

The following were noted from the presentation by Mr. Unguec Stephen Kang, Vice-Chair of WG 3: -

- i) Development of a harmonized child online protection and safety framework.
- ii) Development of model guidelines for consumer protection for digital financial services.
- iii) Development model guidelines for Quality of Service for data.
- iv) Development of a framework for assessment of member countries Cybersecurity Capacity Maturity (CCM).
- v) Development of a regional strategy for coordination and management of cyber security.
- vi) Establish framework for collaboration among the national CERTs in the region.

### **7.6.1 Challenges faced by the WG3**

- i) Lack of sufficient representations by subject Matter Experts in the Working Parties.
- ii) Irregularity in attending the WG3 meetings.
- iii) Lack of budget to run the necessary workshops.

### **7.6.2 Recommendations**

- i) Member countries to adopt the strategy/policy documents and recommendations from the working group;
- ii) Member countries to consult adequately before the working group meeting and collect inputs to the documents in elaboration;
- iii) Each country/NRA to encourage operators to attend working groups meetings;
- iv) The EACO Secretariat continues to communicate approved guidelines from WG3 to the member states.

### **Agreed 6.**

The report of WG3 was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX IX**.

## **7.7 WG4: POSTAL & COURIER SERVICES DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATIONS**

### **Noted 7:**

The following were noted from the presentation made by Chairperson of Working Group 4:

- i) Development of model guidelines for harmonization of postal and courier security;
- ii) Development of harmonized strategy for Addressing and Post code;
- iii) Development of postal e-commerce strategy including the cross-border facilitation framework.

### **7.7.1 Challenges**

- i) Delay in provision of inputs to draft documents by some members;
- ii) Budget constraints which affected the attendance of physical meetings by all members of WG4;
- iii) Inconsistence in attending WG 4 meetings by members; and
- iv) Insufficient participation by designated postal operators.

### **7.7.2 Recommendations**

- i) EACO Members and partners to consistently attend the working group meetings in order advance WG4 initiatives.
- ii) EACO Members and partners to assign dedicated staff to all Working groups in particular WG4.
- iii) Working Group 4 members to be proactive on the tasks assigned in order to complete WG4 tasks within the set timeframes.
- iv) NRAs to explore the option of sponsoring designated postal operators in attending WG physical meetings.
- v) Benchmarking with other countries or regions on best practices, emerging technologies and innovative initiatives on postal services development.

### **Agreed 7:**

The report of WG4 was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX X**.

## **7.8 WG5 BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENT, SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT AND MEDIA SERVICES REGULATIONS.**

### **Noted 8:**

The following were noted in the presentation by the Chair of WG5, Dut Chol:

Documents ready for adoption during the 30<sup>th</sup> assemblies

- i) EACO Model Policy and Regulatory Framework for Spectrum Management.
- ii) EACO Broadcasting Policy.
- iii) EACO Framework on the Authorization and Use of Maritime Frequencies Maritime Mobile Services Identities (MMSI) and Call Signs.
- iv) Harmonized Guidelines for Broadcasting content.
- v) EACO Regional Framework for Cross-Border Frequency Coordination.
- vi) Mechanism for Frequency Coordination for Mobile Services.
- vii) East Africa Radio Frequency Spectrum Allocation Plan.

### **7.8.1 Challenges**

- i) Inconsistency in attendance of physical meetings.
- ii) Delay in delivering draft documents by responsible Member states.
- iii) Limited responses from Member States on draft documents developed by activity coordinators.
- iv) Conflicting priorities for WG5 members between regular work within their administrations and work of EACO.

### **7.8.2 Recommendations**

- i) EACO to consider reviewing their current regulatory standing considering the benefits of similar regulatory framework and structures that would make harmonization of regulations and strategies.
- ii) EACO to identify areas of interest in terms of responsibilities such as chairs and vice chairs at the various ITU-R study groups and express interest in a timely manner.
- iii) To review the existing mobile cross border frequency coordination mechanism in the next cycle taking into account the newly established continental agreement on the same (HCM4A).
- iv) EACO to establish a Working Group on Space Issues based on the proposed concept note.

### **Agreed 8:**

The report of WG5 was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX X**.

## **7.8 WG6: COMMUNICATIONS NUMBERING PLANS, IP ADDRESSING, SERVICES PRICING & INDUSTRY ANALYSIS**

### **Noted 9.**

The following were noted in the presentation by Mr. Frankline Makokha; Chair of WG 6 according to ToRs of WG 6: -

- i) Develop guidelines for M2M and IoT Identification.
- ii) Identify best practices for Management of Numbering Resources in the Region.
- iii) Identification of Numbering Resources for additional Emergency and Common User Services.
- iv) Develop a regional Tariff Tracker for communication services and Products in the Region.

### **7.8.1.Challenges**

- i) Poor attendance and inconsistency in attendance by members and low turnout for meetings.
- ii) Delay in delivering draft documents by responsible Member states and Conflicting priorities for WG6 members between regular work within their administrations and work of EACO.
- iii) Inaccurate data from stakeholders during data collection using questionnaires.

### **7.8.2.Recommendations**

- i) Member States to appoint at least three members to each working group, considering all areas handled by the working group.
- ii) Working Group Members to be facilitated to concentrate on the work of EACO.
- iii) Enhance stakeholder awareness on the importance of EACO work  
Member states to facilitate members of WG 6 to participate in ICANN and AfriNIC-organized meetings, both virtual and physical.

### **7.8.3.Agreed 9.**

The report of WG6 was adopted by the Regulatory Assembly and is attached here with as **ANNEX XI**.

## **7.9 WG7: E-WASTE MANAGEMENT & GREEN ICTs**

### **Noted 10.**

The following were noted from the presentation made by Philip Apiu, member, WG7:

- i) The Working Group continued to enhance awareness on E-waste through workshops.
- ii) EACO Regional Steering Committee (RSC) on E-waste management.
- iii) E-waste survey to establish current E-waste status in the region.
- iv) The WG7 developed a framework for collection and validation of E-waste data.
- v) The WG7 is harmonizing the framework for management of ICT counterfeit gadgets within the region, reviewing the existing framework on the management of Counterfeit Gadgets and identify gaps within the EACO member states.
- vi) The WG7 is developing a concept note on regional E-waste recycling and management facility.
- vii) Generate revenue through partnerships on E-waste Management
- viii) Development of a framework for implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for E-waste management
- ix) Green ICTs information Paper and the development of its Framework to guide member states in greening their organizations.
- x) The WG7 will continue to participate in activities related to Green ICTs at the regional and international levels.

### **7.9.1. Challenges**

- i) Countries are at different levels on e-waste management;
- ii) Low awareness levels on matters of e-waste;
- iii) Constrained financial resources in implementing infrastructure for e-waste management;
- iv) Slow pace in reviewing the existing e-waste laws; policies, regulation and guidelines to reflect the current environment and formulation of new ones;
- v) Inadequate representation of service providers/operators (broadcasters) in wg07 meetings;
- vi) E- waste surveys not fully carried out
- vii) Counterfeit Gadgets Management is still a challenge

### **7.9.2. Recommendations:**

- i) Countries to enact various laws, regulations, guidelines and standards on E-waste management

- ii) Member States to consider allocating a budget for E-waste management in order to conduct more awareness and fund E-waste management projects.
- iii) Member states to continue with the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional E-waste Management Strategy, 2022– 2027 while sharing experiences and success stories.
- iv) Member states to devise mechanisms for getting E-waste from the Government and its institutions for proper disposal.
- v) There is need to have more experts on Green ICTs and Counterfeit Gadgets management in WG07.
- vi) Countries to undertake surveys to collect E-waste data for decision-making.
- vii) EACO member organizations to continue supporting the participation of their staff in WG 07, ITU-T and ITU-D study groups related to E-waste.

### **Agreed 10.**

The Assembly adopted the WG7 Report and is attached here with as **ANNEX XII.**

## **8.0. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES OF THE REGULATORY ASSEMBLY**

These are as follows:

- i. EACO members to continue encouraging their staff to participate in EACO activities especially in trainings, workshops and meetings.
- ii. Minimal private sector (operators/partners) participation in Working Group meetings.
- iii. The absence of succession planning for WG/Committees membership. Therefore, Countries to appoint at least 3 officials to participate in the Working Groups and Committees.
- iv. Each country/NRA to encourage operators to attend Working Groups meetings.
- v. NRAs to explore the option of sponsoring designated postal operators in attending WG physical meetings.
- vi. Benchmarking with other countries or regions on best practices, emerging technologies and innovative initiatives on postal services development.
- vii. NRAs should allocate budget to sponsor their members to attend physical meetings.

## 9.0 SUBMISSION OF REGULATORY ASSEMBLY REPORT

This report is hereby submitted to the Advisory Council for consideration and approval.

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**Eng. Papiti Okwaci**  
CHAIRMAN, 30<sup>th</sup> EACO Regulators Assembly

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**Eng. John James Nelson**  
First Rapporteur / NCA

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**Mr. Noel Gatera GATETE**  
Second Rapporteur / RURA

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**Ms. Norah SITATI**  
LM/HRA, EACO Secretariat

### **ANNEXES**

#### **ANNEX I**



COMMUNICATION  
OF THE OUTGOING C

#### **ANNEX II**



REMARKS BY  
IN-COMING CHAIR - I

#### **ANNEX III**



REPORT OF LCAC TO  
ASSEMBLIES - JUNE 2

#### **ANNEX IV**



Presentation of the  
HRC to the Regulator

#### **ANNEX V – Report of FARM**



FARM Committee  
report for the Financ

## **ANNEX VI – Report of WG1**

WG1 Presentation  
-30th ASSEMBLIES.docx

## **ANNEX VII – Report of WG2**

WG2\_Report\_at\_EAC  
O\_30TH Assemblies.docx

## **ANNEX VIII - Report of WG3**

Report of WG3 - to  
EACO 30th Assemblies Juba-South Sudan.pptx

## **ANNEX IX - Report of WG4**

WG4-Report-to-Asse  
mbles-Meetings June 2025.docx

## **ANNEX X - Report of WG5**

Report of - WG5  
-Presentation Assemblies Rev Dut June 2025.pptx

## **ANNEX XI - Report of WG6**

Report of WG6 -  
EACO slides - to 30th Assemblies.pptx

## **ANNEX XII - Report of WG7**

REPORT OF  
WORKING GROUP 07 TO THE ASSEMBLY OF REGULATORS JUNE 2025 JUBA-SOUTH SUDAN -fina.docx