

Doc No: EACO/TA22/15-1

21ST EACO CONGRESS/ REPORT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF TELECOM OPERATORS

1. Introduction

The Telecom Operators Assembly was held from 22nd – 23rd June 2015 in Kampala, Uganda. The Assembly was opened by the representative of the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. Peter Ngota of Tanzania Telecommunications Company Ltd (TTCL) who welcomed members to the 22nd Assembly of Telecom Operators. The Chairperson thanked the outgoing bureau for the job well done and wished the Assembly members fruitful deliberations. (See details of Assembly members present at the 22nd Assembly attached as Annex 1)

1. Election of the Bureau

The Assembly discussed the above item and agreed as follows:

1. Mrs. Georgina Kugonza Musisi was appointed Chairperson of the Assembly of Telecom operators (Uganda)
2. Mr. Ibrahim Bbosa was appointed as 1st Rapporteur (Uganda)
3. Mrs. Claudine Sugira was appointed as 2nd Rapporteur (Rwanda)
4. Adoption of the agenda and programme

The Assembly discussed the above item and noted that agenda item 6g (HR Committee) and 8 (Presentation by Multimedia University) was not to be presented.

The Assembly agreed as follows:

1. Adopted the agenda and programme as revised (Annex 2)
2. Report of the Chairperson

The Assembly received and noted the report of the outgoing Chairperson (see Annex 3 hereto for the detailed report).

The Assembly agreed as follows:

1. Adopted the report of the outgoing Chairperson as presented.
2. Consideration of matrix on status of implementation of decisions of the 21st Assembly of Telecom Operators held in June 2014 in Arusha

The Assembly received and considered the action matrix of the implementation status of the decisions taken at the last assembly (see Annex 4 hereto for the detailed updated matrix).

The Assembly made the following recommendations: -

1. The EACO Secretariat would resend the letters requesting Members to formally confirm their contributory units.
2. Members would provide their physical contact details to the EACO Secretariat and ensure that updates are sent the EACO Secretariat in the event of any changes thereto.
3. Members would send the details of their respective Regulatory Unit Heads and other focal point persons (if any) to the EACO Secretariat.
4. The EACO Secretariat would going forward send bi-annual formal notification requests to the Members for purposes of updating the details of their Regulatory Unit Heads and focal point persons.
5. Members would adopt online meetings/discussions to complement the physical meetings.
6. The EACO Secretariat would ensure that Members are given at least three (3) weeks’ prior formal notification before any scheduled activity requiring their participation.
7. The EACO Secretariat would send Members a copy of the annual calendar to enhance their preparation and participation in scheduled activities.
8. The EACO Secretariat would submit the Members’ recommendations to the EAC Heads of State Forum to consider the adoption of a harmonized approach to treatment of taxes and levies for ICT services across the EACO Member States.

1. Presentation of the reports of the Working Groups
   1. WG11: Spectrum Management (Presented by Deogratius Bizindavyi)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG11.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG11’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG11’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 11 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG10 : E-waste Management and Environment ((Presented by Ooro Juma)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG10.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG10’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG10’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 10 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG7: Telecom Numbering and Internet Resources Planning, Allocations and Governance ((Presented by Eng. James Kilaba)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG7.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG7’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG7’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 7 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG3 : ICT Service Transactions and e-Applications ((Presented by Vincent Ngundi)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG3.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG3’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG3’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 3 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG5 : IP Networks, Standards and Cyber security ((Presented by Ronald Bakakimpa)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG5.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG5’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG5’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 5 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG8 : Communications Services Pricing and Industry Analysis ((Presented by Dr. Twinemanzi)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG8.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG8’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG8’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 8 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015
  1. WG2 : Infrastructure Development Connectivity and Digital Inclusion ((Presented by Peter Ulanga)

Members noted the findings and recommendations contained in the summary report presented by the Chairperson of WG2.

Key Concerns

Members raised the following key concerns:

* That whereas the EACO Secretariat communicated that a soft copy of the WG2’s detailed report had been posted on the EACO website for Members’ reference, Members had not had an opportunity to internalize the content of the detailed Report
* There was need for Members to make an informed decision about the WG2’s report

Recommendations

Members made the following recommendations:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairperson of WG 2 on the report by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015

1. Presentation by Avanti – Delivery of Broadband Services via Ka-Band Satellite System” – A perspective on WRC – 15 Agenda Item 10 Spectrum of 5G/IMT and Satellite”

Members noted Avanti’s presentation. (See Annex 5 for the detailed Presentation)

1. Telecom Operators Assembly’s Request

The Congress is requested adopt the recommendations of the Assembly which briefly are the following:

* That the EACO Secretariat adopts a requirement that Working Groups share their draft detailed reports with the Telecom Operators’ Assembly at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Telecom Operators’ Assembly.
* The Assembly members be afforded thirty (30) days to internalize and give feedback and comments to the EACO Secretariat with copy to the Chairpersons of WG11, WG 10, WG7, WG3, WG5, WG8 and WG2 on the respective reports by 5.00 p.m. (EA time) on July 23, 2015.
* That the decision to adopt the reports presented by the Chairpersons of WG11, WG 10, WG7, WG3, WG5, WG8 and WG2 be deferred to the next Congress.

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| Mr. Ibrahim Bbosa | Mrs. Claudine Sugira |
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| 1st Rapporteur (Uganda) | 2nd Rapporteur (Rwanda) |

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| Mrs. Georgina Kugonza Musisi |
| …………………..………………….. |
| Chairperson  Assembly of Telecom Operators |

ANNEX 1 : LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ANNEX 2 : AGENDA AND PROGRAMME



ANNEX 3 : REPORT OF THE OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON OF THE TELECOM ASSEMBLY



ANNEX 4 : MATRIX ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS OF THE 21ST ASSEMBLY OF TELECOM OPERATORS HELD IN JUNE 2014 IN ARUSHA



ANNEX 5 : PRESENTATION ON DELIVERY OF BROADBAND SERVICES VIA KA-BAND SATELLITE SYSTEM – A PERSPECTIVE ON WRC-15 AGENDA ITEM 10 SPECTRUM FOR 5G/IMT AND SATELLITE