

RECORD OF THE 6TH MEETING OF EACO WORKING GROUP 1 ON ICT POLICY & REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS HARMONIZATION FROM 31ST OCTOBER 2016 TO 4TH NOVEMBER 2016, ARUSHA, TANZANIA

1. List of Attendees

Refer to **Annex 1**.

2. Opening of the Meeting

The 6th meeting of EACO Working Group 1 on ICTs Policy and Regulatory Frameworks Harmonization (WG1), was held in Arusha, Tanzania; from 31st October 2016 - 4th November 2016, with a welcome remark by the Chairperson, Ms. Fortunata Mdachi.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted after amendment as per **Annex 2**.

4. Appointment of Rapporteurs

Ms. Lyn Cheronon and Mr. Andrew Otim agreed to be rapporteurs of the meeting.

5. Communication from the Liaison Manager

Mr. Kessy presented the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the WG1 and the progress made in achieving the same. He noted the urgent need to create synergy regionally and internationally on licensing issues in order to address key issues such as emerging technologies, non-discriminatory principles and net-neutrality among others.

6. Brief on Assembly of regulators in June 2016

Ms. Lyn Cheronon took the meeting through the presentation that the WG1 made during to the Assembly of Regulators meeting in Kigali, Rwanda in June 2016 which included highlights on the existing policy and regulatory frameworks review, proposed EAC ICT policy and regulatory frameworks, implementation strategy, outstanding work, challenges and recommendation.

7. Status of implementation of the TORs of the Working Group 1

Discussions were held on the progress made in achieving the ToRs and it was noted that the Working Group had largely accomplished its work save for the presentation of the Model Policy and Regulatory frameworks to stakeholders for validation.

8. Review of Documents

8.1 Draft EAC Model ICT Policy

The meeting reviewed the Draft EAC Model ICT Policy Framework and

included issues on ICT and consumer protection and disaster management.

Attached hereto as **Annex 3** is the reviewed Draft Model EAC ICT Policy Framework.

8.2 Draft EAC Model Regulatory Framework

The draft EAC Model Regulatory Framework was reviewed by correcting the following parts: establishment of NRAs, licensing, universal services and access, tariff regulation, e-waste management and complimentary services.

Attached hereto as **Annex 4** is the reviewed Draft Model ICT Regulatory Framework.

8.3 Monitoring and implementation strategy

The WG 1 noted that the relevant stakeholders required to implement the frameworks had been identified. However, the roles of stakeholders, measures and timeframe for implementation of the various parameters and reporting mechanisms had not been included and decided to develop a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation strategy.

Attached herein as **Annex 5** is the draft Monitoring and Evaluation strategy.

9. Preparation for the Stakeholders forum

In preparation for the scheduled Stakeholders forum to validate the Model Policy and Regulatory frameworks, the WG1:

(a) Agreed as follows:

- (i) The LM/RA to review and circulate the draft Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy to the WG 1 Members by 9th November, 2016;
- (ii) the EACO Secretariat progresses the consultation process by sending the draft frameworks and strategy to EACO members for comments by 30th November 2016;
- (iii) comments from stakeholders to be received by 13th January 2017;
- (iv) the Secretariat to consolidate the comments by 13th February 2017 and circulate the same to the WG 1 members for their study in preparation for the forum;
- (v) Stakeholders' forum to be held from 1st to 2nd March 2017.

It was recommended that the Secretariat should encourage the regulators to share the frameworks with their respective national stakeholders to ensure wider inputs into the documents.

The templates for stakeholders' inputs are attached herein as **Annexes 6A and 6B**.

(b) Developed Powerpoint presentations on the draft model Policy and Regulatory Frameworks that the group would be making during the forum. The said presentations are attached herein as **Annexes 7 and 8**.

(c) Prepared a list of invitees and draft programme for the forum which is attached as **Annexes 9 and 10**.

10. Next WG 1 meeting

It was agreed that the WG1 will meet on 28th February 2017 to prepare for the scheduled stakeholders' forum and subsequently on 3rd March 2017 to incorporate the stakeholders' inputs into the draft model Policy and Regulatory frameworks.

11. Any Other Business

WG 1 noted difficulty in getting information /assistance from the LM/RA due to parallel WG meetings and recommended that in future, EACO coordinators should not be involved in more than one meeting during the same dates.

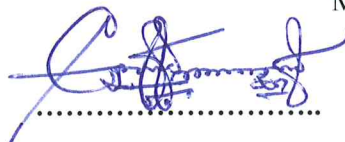
12. Closure of the Meeting

The meeting was closed by the Chairperson of the Working Group. She thanked the members for their participation, valuable contributions and wished everyone who was travelling a safe journey.

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Ms. Fortunata Mdachi
Chairperson

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Ms. Lyn Cheron
Rapporteur 1

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Mr. Andrew Otim
Rapporteur 2



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Mr. Godliving Kessy
EACO LM/RA
Counselor, WG01

Annex 1: Attendance List

Annex 2: The Agenda

Annex 3: EACO Draft Model ICT Policy

Annex 4: Model ICT Regulatory Framework

Annex 5: Monitoring and evaluation strategy

Annex 6A: Template for stakeholders' Comments on Draft EACO ICT Model Policy Framework

Annex 6B: Template for stakeholders' Comments on Draft EACO ICT Regulatory Framework

Annex 7: Powerpoint presentation on Model ICT Policy Framework

Annex 8: Powerpoint presentation on Model Regulatory Framework

Annex 9: List of invitees

Annex 10: Programme for Stakeholders Consultative Forum