**Abstract**

**" Model policy framework on e-waste management in the East African region"**;

The regional body that comprises of the national ICT regulators, operators and service providers in the telecoms, postal and broadcasting subsectors realised the similar challenges of e-waste and its management in the region *(no adequate e-waste statistics, no existing policies, inadequate skills and infrastructure, lack of comprehensive awareness etc)*. As thus, the body established a task force on e-waste management.

The taskforce identified the need for sustainable and adequate e-waste management through defined frameworks *(e.g. harmonised strategies, policies and guidelines).* As such , the task force developed a model policy on e-waste management that will guide the the member countries in developing and implementing their specific e-waste policies.

The model policy  indicates the focus areas which require the governments' commitment  and adoption for effective e-waste management. These include;

* The legal and regulatory framework, i.e. governments to ensure that the  policies are articulate and dynamic by addressing the gaps in existing policies, putting in place standards that will control amounts of e-waste (importation of ICT equipment- used  or new), creating enabling environments for organisations and investors
* Institutional framework, i.e. realising that e-waste is a cross cutting issue that require multi-stakeholder involvement for effectiveness, the model gives guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the various institutions regarding e-waste like the Ministry of ICT, ministry of environment, ministry, regulatory agencies like environmental authorities, communications regulators, revenue authority etc.
* Guidance on the resources required for effective e-waste management - Human, finance and infrastructure.
* The private sector engagement in e-waste management, i.e. guidance on involvement of manufactures, traders, resellers, refurbishers, e-waste handlers etc and the need for strong collaboration, support and sensitisation of the same on e-waste related issues
* Consumers- guidance on governments' commitment to establish awareness frameworks for the consumers regarding e-waste management