Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) Validation Workshop for EAC Region

EACO | East African Communications Organisation

TYPE APPROVAL/HOMOLOGATION PROCESS IN BURUNDI

**Laico Regency Hotel
Nairobi, Kenya
October 23rd, 2015**

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ARCT – BURUNDI

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I. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ARCT

ARCT = **A**gence de **R**égulation et de **C**ontrôle des **T**élécommunications

➢Administrative Public Establishment with legal personality

➢Created under Decree No. 100/182 of September 30th, 1997 concerning the Statutes of ARCT.

➢became operational in June 1998 with the appointment of the first Chief Executive Officer and Board of Directors

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I. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ARCT

Administrative chart

Presidency of The Republic of Burundi

Board of Directors

HEAD OFFICE

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT:
- **Standardization, Networks and Services**
- Frequency Management;
- IT;
- Studies and Development

ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCE & HR DEPARTMENT:
- Financial and Accounting
- Tariff Supervision and Competition
- Legal Affair and Consumer Protection
- Human Resources and Logictics.

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I. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ARCT

Administrative chart

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

Service of Standardization, Networks and Services

CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of TERMINALS:
✓Management of mobile terminals connected to public networks;
✓Type Approval of telecom equipments;
✓Verification of compliance of equipment with national and international standards.

STANDARDIZATION:
✓ QoS;
✓ Numbering Resources
✓ VAS
✓ etc.

II. HOMOLOGATION PROCESS

II.1 Generality

❑ LOW AND REGULATIONS ON TYPE APPROVAL

➔ *DECREE LAW No. 1/011 OF September 4th, 1997 RELATING THE PROVISIONS ORGANIC ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN BURUNDI*

CHAPTER VII: TERMINAL EQUIPMENT

Article 27: The purchase of approved terminal equipment is free. However they can not be connected to a public network without the prior approval by ARCT. This approval is required in all cases for radio facilities, whether or not intended to be connected to a public network. The accreditation is to ensure compliance with essential requirements and interoperability

Article 28: ARCT specifies the approval procedure including the specific conditions under which such approval is issued. It sets the conditions under which is published technical specifications of terminal equipment and the conditions for their connection to the public network.

Article 29: Terminal equipment or facilities subject to approval mentioned in Article 27 can not be manufactured for the domestic market, imported for release for consumption, held for sale, sold, distributed gratuitously or for consideration, connected to the public network or be advertised if they were'nt the object of approval. Any subsequent change must be approved.

II. HOMOLOGATION PROCESS

II.1 Generality

❑ Why Type Approval?
  ➢ To protect
      - population health;
      - public safety;
      - environmental protection;
  ➢ To ensure
      - interoperability
      - the proper use of the radio spectrum

❑ The approval of telecom equipments must be requested in the following cases:
    - Manifacturing,
    - Import;
    - Personal use;
    - Temporaly use;
    - Possession for sale;
    - Distribution ;
    - Publicity.

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II. HOMOLOGATION PROCESS

II.2 Requirements

The file required for the application for approval includes:

❑ **Administrative documents**
- An application letter for approval adressed to the CEO of ARCT
- An accreditation application form duly completed

❑ **The technical documentation** of the equipment to be approved. It determines the interfaces contained in the equipment and all its features
a sample of the equipment to be approved + its user manual, which allows to know the principle of operation of the equipment

❑ **Evaluation test's reports** of the compliance of radio characteristics, electromagnetic compatibility requirements, and electrical safety requirements of the equipment issued by recognized laboratories (accredited) suc as IEEE, FCC, ETSI,ITU, …

❑A letter from the equipment manufacturer or manufacturer's representative

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II. HOMOLOGATION PROCESS

After studying the case, an evaluation report is established.
This report consists of:
-Generality (presenter of the equipment, the manufacturer, type of material)

- Presentation of equipment to be approved (characteristic of the technology used by the equipment, technical specification of the equipment and comments)

- Conclusion (favorable or unfavorable)

In case the study is successful, a certificate of homologation (a decision of the ARCT) is issued for five (05) years renewable.

Note that there are three categories of classification of terminals approved according to the nature of the equipment and its power (Ref. to Annex of Decree No. 100/97 of 18 April 2014 laying down the operating conditions of electronic communications sector)

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III. DAILY ISSUES

ARCT has neither platforms nor laboratory for approval of equipment. The processing of registration application files boils down to a study of the technical documentation, the user manual and the equipment test reports provided by the applicant.

ARCT lacks of enough qualified personnel in the field of accreditation / certification of equipment

Buying a platform or setting up an approval laboratory and strengthening staff capacity remains blocked by the budget, since ARCT has no managerial autonomy .

What ARCT/BURUNDI will stand to gain from C&I program?

ARCT/BURUNDI will stand to gain a lot from the benefits of a C&I program if it were fully adopted and implemented in the region, especially in the area of capacity building of its staff to achieve its objectives in the approval of telecommunications equipment , without necessarily investing a fortune in manpower and systems.

THANK YOU