DRAFT AGENDA AND PROGRAMME

Launching Meeting of HIPSSA Project

Support for Harmonization of ICT Policies
in Sub-Sahara Africa

Addis Ababa, 11-12 December 2008

United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa (UNCC-AA), Ethiopia

The objectives of the meeting are:

1. To re-confirm their priorities with beneficiaries and define in which order they should be addressed
2. To agree on implementation steps and planning
3. To explicit which contribution is expected from each stakeholder
4. To assess similar projects and establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms between them
5. To set up an operational structure and define the appropriate procedures of project management

Session 1: Harmonization methodology	**Session 3: Agreement on content and methodology**	**Session 6:National implementation and capacity building**
Session 2: Subjects for harmonization		
Session 4: Cooperation requirements and mechanisms for participation	**Session 5: Agreement on implementation modalities**	

- Debates are moderated by Mr. Marcelino TAYOB, ITU Area Office for Southern Africa

- Secretariat is held by Mr. Jean-François LE BIHAN, HIPSSA Project Coordinator, ITU-D

- Speakers are required to comply with time constrains of simultaneous interpretation delivered by Mr. CRU and Mr. WOODWARD

Thursday, 11 December 2008	
0830 – 0900	**Delegates Registration at UN Security Room**
0900 – 0930	**Opening Ceremony** • Mr. Brahima SANOU, Head of International Telecommunication Union's Regional Office for Africa • H.E.M. Koen VERVAEKE, European Union Special Representative and Head of the European Commission Delegation to the African Union • H.E.M. Akossi AKOSSI, General Secretary of the African Telecommunication Union • Mr. Aboubakari BABA-MOUSSA, Director for Infrastructures and Energy, African Union's Commission
0930 – 1000	**Meeting objectives and HIPSSA project presentations** • Mr. Sandro BAZZANELLA, ITU-EC Project Manager, Projects & Initiatives Department, ITU-D • Mr. Jean-François LE BIHAN, HIPSSA Project Coordinator, Projects & Initiatives Dept., ITU-D
1000 – 1015	**Coffee Break**
1015 – 1100	**Session 1a: Presentations of past, ongoing and planned regional initiatives on harmonization of ICT policies, legislation and regulation, three regional case studies** • UNECA's initiatives in favor of ICT Policies Harmonization. Makane FAYE, ICT Principal Advisor, UNECA • Participative approach to raise private sector's awareness and insure support from political decision makers. Emmanuel KAMDEM, Telecom and ICT Responsible, ECCAS • Challenges of regional directives transposition into national law in West Africa. Raphael KOFFI, Telecom Advisor, ECOWAS • African Union's reference framework for harmonization of telecommunication and ICT policies and Regulation in Africa. Dr. Zouli BONKOUNGOU, Telecom Expert, AUC

1100 – 1200	**Session 1b: Roundtable discussion on lessons learned from case studies and appropriate methodology to be implement in HIPSSA project** • Pan-African vs. sub-regional issues: a Green Book paving the way towards cooperation between regional projects? • How to balance efforts between guidelines transposition and implementation? • Capacity building, a cross cutting issue on methodology and subject matters
1200 – 1330	**Lunch**
1330 – 1415	**Session 2a: Presentations of global trends in ITC regulation, open regulatory issues in the Africa region and specific regulators needs in terms of harmonization** • An international perspective of current evolutions in ICT regulation. Nancy SUNDBERG, Regulatory and Market Environment, ITU-D • Cross-border frequency management in Central Africa. Julien BARA, Permanent Secretary, ARTAC. • Harmonization of policies, legislation and regulations in Southern Africa. Isidoro da SILVA, Executive Secretary, CRASA • Perspectives from the private sector, the needs of internet service providers in terms of regulatory harmonization. Sheba KIMANI, Program Officer, AfrISPA
1415 – 1515	**Session 2b: Roundtable discussion on cross-cutting regulatory issues in Africa and regional needs for regulatory framework cyclical/regular update** • Impact of convergence on authorisation, licensing and scarce resources management • Encourage infrastructure development through sharing and universal access measures. • Best practices implementing cost models, financial and technical audits used as basis for institutional and human capacity building • How to allow a regional regulatory framework to cope with market and technological continuous evolutions? Create new directives or amend existing ones?
1515 – 1530	**Coffee Break**

1530 – 1630	**Session 3a: Agreement on priority areas for harmonization of ICT policies, legislation and regulation, their regional relevance and the different phases of implementations**
	• Summary of the participants presentations
	• Identifying and selecting the priority areas for the HIPSSA project at sub-regional level
	  o ICT competition policy, legal and regulatory frameworks
	  o Licensing and scarce resources management (numbering and frequencies),
	  o Universal access and universal service
	  o Interconnection and cross-border roaming
	  o Technical and financial auditing
	  o Pricing and costing models
	  o Dispute settlement
	  o Cyber-security
	  o Market data collection and information sharing
	• Constitution of a work group

1630 – 1800	**Session 3b: Work group session** • Preparation of the final communiqué

	Friday, 12 December 2008
0900 – 0930	**Summary of priority areas agreed on the previous day** • Mr. Jean-François LE BIHAN, HIPSSA Project Coordinator, Projects & Initiatives Dept., ITU-D
0930 – 1015	**Session 4a: Presentations of mechanisms for stakeholders' participation and ownership** • Discussion of role and competence of each REC in the field of ICT and lessons learned from past experience regarding decision and law making processes. REC or ITU representative (TBD) • Discussion of proposed information flows, decision making process and responsibilities for national and regional focal points. REC or ITU representative (TBD)

1015 – 1100	**Session 4b: Roundtable on cooperation requirements and mechanisms for adoption** • Stakeholders vs. HIPSSA management team commitment to support interaction between regional initiatives • Consultation procedures, validation workshops and statutory meetings calendar
1100 – 1115	**Coffee Break**
1115 – 1200	**Session 5: Agreement on project implementation modalities** • Terms of Reference of HIPSSA Steering Committee • Composition of Steering Committee • Levels of cooperation between sub-regional projects • Provisional calendar
1200 – 1330	**Lunch**
1330 – 1445	**Session 6: Focus on best practices for national appropriation of harmonized frameworks, national transposition challenges and expectations in terms of human and institutional capacity building** • Experience sharing among REC, regulators associations, national representatives, partner organizations and ITU
1445 – 1500	**Coffee Break**
1500 – 1600	**Presentation and adoption of final report and communiqué** • Mr. Sandro BAZZANELLA, ITU-EC Project Manager, Projects & Initiatives Department, ITU-D • Mr. Jean-François LE BIHAN, HIPSSA Project Coordinator, Projects & Initiatives Dept., ITU-D
1600 – 1630	**Final remarks and closing of the meeting** • Mr. Brahima SANOU, Head of Regional Area Office for Africa, ITU