

**Purposes of the Study: “Guidelines for African Countries on establishing conformity assessment test labs in the Region”**

**The Guidelines shall include**

- i) Process required**
- ii) Situation in the Region and Economical analysis**
- iii) Financing opportunities**
- iv) Collaboration mechanisms**
- v) Best practices**
- vi) Reference Recommendations**

**Tasks to be accomplished shall include the following:**

- 1. To collect information from Countries from Africa on the need of building testing labs for conformance and interoperability testing of equipment and system**
- 2. To collect information on existing testing labs and their areas of activities in the ICTs field**
- 3. To collect views on opportunities to establish type approval testing labs in the countries and to implement Mutual Recognizing Agreements / Arrangements for ICTs products.**
- 4. To identify the criteria and characteristic to establish accredited Bodies/Labs in the Regions for Type Approval/Homologation based on rules and recommendation, best practice (e.g. ISO/IEC/CASCO toolbox, guides and standards such as ISO/IEC 17011 and 17025) internationally used to issue conformity testing certifications as necessary,**
- 5. To advise on technical and economical steps to be followed to build Testing Labs according to the identified criteria and characteristics outlined in ISO/IEC 17025**
- 6. To consider the involvement of other international funding and training organization where applicable**
- 7. To Propose MRAs reference documents for mutual recognition of conformity assessment of telecommunication equipment and systems in consultation with recognized agencies/associations/bodies that could advice and coordinate MRAs at Regional level also contributing to populate the ITU database of conforming and/or interoperable products**
- 8. Acquire elements from International experience of testing center creation from other organizations for an optimal strategy of standardization and testing organization procedure**
- 9. To cooperate with ITU-T in the search of available test suites from any SDO and to send inputs to the Study Groups top consider the development of new test suite**
- 10. To explore the possible role of International telecommunication**

- testing centers (ITTC) Unified and test network solutions for Region (equipment requirements, special requirements to services and QoS); ITTC's operational procedure The typical work plan for build ITTC; Structure of ITTC includes testing lab facilities, technologies and equipment to be tested, personal to be trained*
- 11. Estimate of Impact and cost penalty due to lack of unified d work program for Region (regional specific requirements, methodology of testing)**
  - 12. With the assistance from the African Telecommunication Union, identify and propose the possible location of the Test Centre(s)**
  - 13. To identify the roadmap and guidelines in accordance with the environment for NGN test centre project document and the roll out plan.**
  - 14. Evaluation of economical impact on:**
    - creation of test centers according to established criteria (geographical distribution, existing labs and technologies to be tested,**
    - creation of capacity building opportunities**
    - costs of human, material and instrumental resources**
    - costs of maintenance and periodical activities (e.g. calibration)**
    - others**