



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

**13TH EAC MEETING OF THE EAST AFRICAN TESTING
TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

*NAURA SPRINGS
ARUSHA, TANZANIA
4th to 5th MAY, 2009*

REPORT

EAC SECRETARIAT
Arusha, Tanzania
May, 2009.



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**13TH EAC MEETING OF THE EAST AFRICAN TESTING
TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

**04th – 05th May 2009
NAURA HOTEL
ARUSHA, TANZANIA**

REPORT OF THE MEETING

**1.0 OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE
AGENDA**

1.1 Introduction

The meeting was held in accordance with the calendar of the EAC activities on the period May 2008– May 2009 and was attended by delegates from Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania. The Committee noted with concern the continued absence of representation from Burundi in the meeting. The list of delegates is hereto attached as ***Annex I***

1.2 Opening of the meeting and Election of Bureau

Mr. Philip Nzaire, Rwanda Bureau of Standards chaired the meeting while Mrs. Kezia Mbwambo of Tanzania Bureau of Standards was the rapporteur.

The meeting was addressed Mr. Tobias Diergardt, the acting PTB Project Coordinator, where he reported that Mr. Stefan Wallerath had gone on a one year leave. He requested for the usual cooperation from the subcommittee.

The meeting was also addressed by the EAC Principal Standards Officer, Mr. Willy Musinguzi. He informed the meeting that the EAC Secretariat was organizing national consultative workshops to be held in the respective partner states for awareness of SQMT activities. He requested the contact persons to prepare presentations regarding their subcommittees activities including available publications.

1.3 Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented and is hereto attached as

Annex II.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 12TH EAC TESTING TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN KIGALI, RWANDA ON 28th – 30th OCTOBER 2008

2.1 PT Providers

- ◆ RBS has identified Mr. Antoine Mukunzi as the contact person for Regional PT schemes for Rwanda.

2.2 Working Documents for TTSC

The following documents were adopted during the last meeting of the EAC SC:

- ◆ TTSC Structure
- ◆ Terms of Reference
- ◆ Procedures for TTSC

These documents were forwarded to the EAC Principal Standards Officer for printing and issuing.

2.3 Certified Reference materials

2.3.2 KEBS reported that the information on the existing list of CRMs required for PT schemes was now available from NIST. KEBS was requested to forward the list to PTB for procurement and copy the same to the TTSC contact persons in the other partner states.

2.4 Training

- 1 The respective NSBs have identified nominees for the training on chemical disposal scheduled to be held from 16th to 18th June 2009 in Arusha Tanzania. PTB will facilitate the training.
- 2 Training for the preparation of Reference materials a has not been done.
- 3 Training on Servicing & Maintenance of equipment is to be offered by Jomo Kenyatta University and Technology. Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) had contacted the University and secured a proposal for the training which was still being evaluated.

2.5 Proficiency Testing (PT)

- 1 The modalities of payment of the participation fees of US\$ 100 per PT matrix still remained a challenge.
- 2 The joint PT evaluation workshop was held on 5th February 2009 in Arusha, Tanzania.
- 3 The last EAC PT round received participation from non EAC members like Malawi, Madagascar, Mauritius and Ethiopia

2.6 The 12th EACSC meeting

The EAC Website has not been updated and the TTSC needs to be more pro-active.

2.7 Subcommittee work plan 2008-2009

2.7.1 Attachment trainings

Two staff from RBS were attached to KEBS laboratories.

2.7.2 The study tour for the EAC TTSC

Tour to NLA/SABS/CSIR/SANAS to benchmark the activities of the subcommittee and to understudy the establishment and running strong National Fora was yet to be undertaken.

2.7.3 Training on safe method of disposal of chemicals and obsolete equipment

This had been scheduled to be held in 16th to 18th June 2009 in Arusha.

2.7.4 Training on Statistical Quality Control

This was done during the evaluation workshop from 2nd to 3rd February 2009, in Arusha, Tanzania.

2.7.5 Training on chemical metrology

Further Regional awareness was carried out in December 2008, in Mombasa, Kenya where an organic working group was proposed and recommended to be presented to the EASC for adoption.

Chemical metrology being a new concept in the region, the sub-committee recommended that the awareness programmes should be continued.

2.7.6 Update of the laboratories capability

RBS was reported to have started the process of collecting information using the Regional Questionnaire.

2.7.7 Working Group on Safe disposal of Obsolete

TOR were developed and NSBs had already appointed contact persons to handle the issue.

2.7.8 Stockpile of waste from Laboratories

Preliminary national surveys had been carried out and data forwarded to PTB.

2.7.9 Popularization of the EAC SQMT Web portal

Refresher training of web editors had been scheduled for June 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya.

3.0 WORK PLAN FOR 2009-2010

The meeting considered the plan of action for the year 2009-2010 and proposed it for adoption by the EASC.

The plan of action is hereto attached as **Annex III**.

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT ON EVALUATION OF THE 3rd ROUND OF THE EAC PT SCHEME AND TRAINING WORKSHOP HELD IN ARUSHA, FEBURUARY 2009

The meeting reviewed and adopted the activity plan attached to the report. The plan is hereto attached as **Annex IV**

The subcommittee recommended that the EAC Principal Standards Officer finalize and print the EAC PT Brochure. The same should be uploaded onto the EAC SQMT web portal.

EX-PT samples will be available for sale to laboratories for quality control purposes at a cost of US\$ 50.

Although the working group had recommended that only those laboratories that confirm participation with payment should receive samples, the Sub-committee, however recommends that laboratories which confirm participation should receive samples but only those who paid should receive reports.

5.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REGULATIONS FOR DESIGNATION OF LABORATORIES

The committee reviewed the draft regulations and the first draft is attached as **Annex V**

6.0 Any other Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.