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**FOURTH SADC DIGITAL BROADCASTING MIGRATION FORUM**

**INTRODUCTION**

Digital Radio and Television is revolutionizing the terrestrial broadcasting industry by enabling it to now provide new, innovative and value added services on a wide range of platforms. Gone are the days of analogue broadcasting content creation. Digital broadcasting content creating has proven to be more versatile, efficient and more cost-effective for content developers and broadcasters. The frequency spectrum gains of digital Television now creates opportunities for the participation of several broadcasters. Liberalization of this sector may result in the proliferation of broadcasters thereby creating competition in the industry.

The SADC ICT Ministers at their Meeting held in Swakopmund, Namibia on the 26th June 2009, resolved that the SADC Region shall migrate from analogue to digital broadcasting by the 31st December 2013, two years before the International ITU Analogue Switch Off (ASO) deadline of the 17th June 2015. The “SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration” clearly captures the common vision of our ICT Ministers for the SADC region having a smooth transition from analogue to digital broadcasting.

The SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration will guide and enable the SADC region as a whole to meet the international deadline. A smooth digital broadcasting transition in the SADC region can only be realized through a harmonized and concerted strategy. This will be achieved through SADC Member States spirit of collaboration, co-operation and solidarity. Nevertheless, all relevant stakeholders in the terrestrial broadcasting industry in the SADC region have an important and crucial role to play that will result in a smooth Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) broadcasting migration.

**SADC ROADAMP FOR DIGITAL BROADCASTING MIGRATION**

The SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration stipulates:

* Policymakers have a leading role in reviewing and developing national policies that would allow for an accelerated migration to digital broadcasting;
* ICT Regulators should be committed to setting regulatory and licensing frameworks that would be conducive for digital broadcasting service provision and assuring that there is coordination on cross border issues that will allow for interoperability;
* Broadcasters and operators are critical to the accelerated roll out of digital broadcasting networks and diffusion of the digital broadcasting service;
* Equipment manufacturers and vendors have a key role to assure key adherence to the required and approved standards of equipment and hindrance to dumping of e-waste of analogue broadcasting equipment into the region;
* Consumer rights groups commitment and involvement is critical to the provision of universally accessible digital broadcasting services and the inclusion of people with disabilities and special needs in the accessing the new broadcasting services; and
* SADC institutions and regional organizations including regional training institutions and consumer organizations have a critical role to determine and facilitate for a harmonious policy and regulatory approach that the SADC region should pursue to allow for economies of scale and human capacity development through shared knowledge and skills.

**INSTITUTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM**

The SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration shall be implemented through an all inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement and collaboration. Furthermore, in order to ensure timely implementation of DTT migration, the SADC Region is encouraged to create the following institutional arrangements:

* National Inter-Ministerial Committee;
* Establish national (DTT migration) project management offices (capacitated with dedicated resources);
* National and regional multi-stakeholder forums;
* SADC Regional DTT Broadcasting Migration Implementation Steering Committee; and
* Establish a Regional DTT migration Desk.

The latter is a Regional Project Management Office (PMO), situated at the SADC Secretariat that will monitor and assess the implementation of the SADC DTT Action Plan, as well as assist Member States on challenges faced with the implementation of the SADC Roadmap at national level.

**OBJECTIVE, GOALS AND TARGETS**

Based on the regional (SADC Roadmap for DBM) and international agreements (GE06) on the migration of digital broadcasting goals and targets, the targets set in this Roadmap could be taken into account in the establishment of the national targets, considering the different national situations:

* To develop harmonized technical specifications for digital broadcasting equipment and Set Top Boxes (STB);
* To develop harmonized frequency band plans for the provision of the digital broadcasting services;
* To determine a harmonized process for awarding the digital dividend;
* To develop a harmonized licensing framework;
* To determine a harmonized switch off date;
* To ensure equal participation of all stakeholders and include consumer participation to the migration process;
* To ensure effective and adequate human capacity development in digital broadcasting; and
* To ensure that all the existing SADC Citizens having access to analogue broadcasting services to have access to digital broadcasting;

**SADC DTT FORUMS**

Thus far a lot of work has been undertaken in the SADC Member States in the area of Digital Migration. It may also be possible that some Member States may still be lagging behind in meeting the SADC December 2013 ASO date.

During the Third SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum held in Luanda, Angola the following were accomplished:

* Recorded the status of SADC Member States on the implementation of the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration;
* Revised the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration;
* Formulated a DTT Action Plan with times lines so as to ensure that all SADC Member States undertakes a smooth DTT transition and meet the SADC agreed ASO date and the time lines;
* Proposed a mechanism to implement the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration and time lines;
* Developed the TOR for the setting up of the SADC Regional DTT Broadcasting Migration Implementation Steering Committee; and
* Discussed the setting up the DTT Broadcasting Migration Special Desk at the SADC Secretariat with secondment of DTT Experts from Angola and South Africa.

The Fourth SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum will access the progress made on the implementation of the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration and set up the SADC Regional Implementation Steering Committee so it can commence its work. Conversely, one very important aspect, is for the Maputo forum to relook at the proposed times line of the DTT Migration Action Plan. The forum will if necessary debate on any new challenges that may hinder the progress of DTT migration and also initiate discussion on the digital dividend. Finally, this forum aims are re-energizing Member States on the task at hand, provide for a platform to network with colleagues, share experiences and also tap solutions and ideas from this pool of DTT Experts that will be participating in the Fourth SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum.

This forum will also establish the Regional Implementation Steering Committee so that they may start their work on some of the issues that were raised in the Third DTT Forum, namely to finalise the technical specifications for the low cost STB, look at solutions resolving RF interference between MS sharing borders (eg. Using an MOU) and also commence work on the digital radio (audio) broadcasting (T-DAB and DRM) standard for the SADC region. In addition, the forum will also explore how to quickly set up the DTT Broadcasting Migration Special Desk at the SADC Secretariat with secondment of DTT Experts from Angola and South Africa.

The SADC Digital Broadcasting Migration Forum targets Senior Government Officials, SADC ICT/Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities, Equipment Manufacturers, Consumer Rights Groups and other relevant Stakeholders in the broadcasting industry.

I look forward to a successful DTT forum that will facilitate important and instrumental deliberations and resolves to ensure that all SADC Member States are ready for Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting transition.

SADC Secretariat August 2012

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME**

**FOURTH SADC DIGITAL BROADCASTING MIGRATION FORUM**

**27TH – 30TH AUGUST 2012**

**INDY VILLAGE CONGRESS HOTEL & SPA, MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE**

**DAY ONE**

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**Arrival**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **08:30 – 09:00** | Arrival and Registration | Host Country – Mozambique |

**SESSION 1: SADC DTT BROADCASTING MIGRATION IMPLEMETNATION STEERING COMMITTEE (1ST MEETING), 27th AUGUST 2012**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **09:00 – 09:15** | Session Chair Remarks | SADC Chair |
| **09:15 – 10:30** | Inauguration of the SADC DTT Broadcasting Migration Steering Committee and its Organisation of Work | SADC Secretariat |
| **10:30 – 11:00** | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **11:00 – 12:30** | Organisation of Work (Continued) | SADC DTT Broadcasting Migration Implementation Committee  |
| **12:30 – 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |  |

**SESSION 1: TRI-PARTITE DTT BROADCASTING MIGRATION STRATEGY, 27TH AUGUST 2012**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **14:00 – 14:10** | Session Chair Remarks | SADC Chair |
| **14:10 –14:35** | Presentation of the status of DTT Broadcasting Migration in COMESA | COMESA Representative |
| **14:35 – 15:00** | Presentation of the status of DTT Broadcasting Migration in EAC | EAC Representative |
| **15:00 – 15:30** | Discussion on a Tri-Partite DTT Broadcasting Migration Implementation Strategy | SADC Member States, COMESA and EAC Representatives  |
| **15:30 – 16:00** | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **16:00 – 17:30** | Formulation of a proposal for a Tri-Partite DTT Broadcasting Migration Implementation Strategy | SADC Member States |

**SESSION 1: OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY, 28th AUGUST 2012**

**DAY TWO**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **09:00 – 10:15** | Official Opening Ceremony |
| **10:15 – 11:00** | **Photo Session and Tea/Coffee Break**  |

**SESSION 2: DTT FORUM – STATUS OF SADC ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **11:00 – 12:30** | Member State presentations of progress in the implementation of the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration made since last meeting | SADC Member States |
| **12:30 – 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |  |

**SESSION 3: DTT FORUM – STATUS OF SADC ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **14:00 – 15:30** | Member State presentations of progress in the implementation of the SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration made since last meeting (Continued) | SADC Member States |
| **15:30 – 16:00** | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **16:00 – 16:45** | Assessment of Regional Initiatives for Analogue to Digital Broadcasting | ITU |
| **16:45 – 17:30** | Global Status of the Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting Television and Audio | ITU |

**DAY THREE**

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**SESSION 4: REVIEW OF SADC ROADMAP ACTION PLAN TIME LINES, 29th AUGUST 2012**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **09:00 – 09:10** | Session Chair Remarks | SADC Chair |
| **9:10 – 09:50** | HIPSSA Activities | ITU |
| **9:50 – 10:30** | Financing the DTT Roll-Out |  |
| **10:30 – 11:00**  | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **11:00 – 12:30** | Review of SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration Action Plan Time Lines | SADC Member Status |
| **12:30 – 14:00** | **Lunch Break** |  |

**SESSION 5: REVIEW OF SADC ROADMAP ACTION PLAN TIME LINES AND DISCUSSIONS**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **14:00 – 14:30** | Presentation on Frequency Management issues regarding the Deployment of DTT (Re-assessment of HCMA Project and Cross Border Issues) | CRASA |
| **14:30 – 15:00** | Presentation of managing DTT harmful interference | ITU |
| **15:00 – 15:30** | Presentation on GE06 Frequency Coordination | SADC Secretariat |
| **15:30 – 16:00** | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **16:00 – 17:30** | Finalisation of SADC Roadmap for Digital Broadcasting Migration Action Plan Time Lines | SADC Member States |

**DAY FOUR**

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**SESSION 6: DIGITAL DIVIDEND, 30th AUGUST 2012**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **09:00 – 09:10** | Session Chair Remarks | SADC Chair |
| **9:10 – 09:50** | Presentation on what is Digital Dividend? | ITU |
| **09:50 – 10:30** | Presentation on the importance of Digital Dividend harmonisation | ITU |
| **10:30 – 11:00**  | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **11:00 – 11:30** | Presentation on present, emerging and future broadband technologies and potential uses | ITU |
| **11:30 – 12:00** | Presentation on Digital Dividend Case Studies (any preliminary tests in rural Africa?) and Socio-economic analysis for the SADC Region | SADC Member State |
| **12:00 – 12:30**  | Presentation on Technical Standards, Coverage Planning tools using DTM and Interference management | Private Sector Companies |
| **12:30 – 14:00**  | **Lunch Break** |  |

**SESSION 7: DIGITAL DIVIDEND, DISCUSSIONS AND DECLARATIONS**

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| **Time** | **Programme Item** | **Responsible Person/MS** |
| **14:00 – 14:45** | Presentation on the WRC-12 outcomes in relation to Digital Dividend for the SADC Region (How does SADC benefit?) | Chair of WRC-12 SADC Group |
| **14:45 – 15:30** | Two breakaway group discussions on recommended way forward and time line on the development of a SADC Harmonised Digital Dividend Plan | SADC Member States |
| **15:30 – 16:00** | **Tea/Coffee Break** |  |
| **16:00 – 17:00** | Presentation of breakaway sessions and consolidation of findings | SADC Member States |
| **17:00 – 17:15** | Reading and Presentation of the Forum Communiqué | SADC Secretariat |
| **17:15 – 17:30** | Closing Address | Host - Mozambique |