



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

**2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, EASC/TC 066, PACKAGING**

**26<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2018**

**RWANDA STANDARS BOARD HEADQUARTERS,  
KIGALI, RWANDA.**

**REPORT OF THE MEETING**

EAC SECREATARIAT  
ARUSHA, TANZANIA

November, 2018

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**REPORT OF THE MEETING**

**1.0 Opening of the meeting**

The meeting was held at Rwanda Standards Board Headquarters, Kigali, on the kind hosting of Rwanda Standards Board (RSB). The meeting was attended by delegates from three Partner States of Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya.. The list of delegates is hereto attached as **Annex I**.

The secretariat of the TC received an apology from Burundi and Uganda.

**1.1 Constitution of the Bureau**

As provided for in the EAC Principles and Procedures for harmonization of standards, the meeting was chaired by Prof. Hellen Njenga from the

NwP Hellen Njenga

University of Nairobi while Mr. Peter Namutala of Kenya Bureau of Standards was the secretary, both from the Republic of Kenya.

### **1.2 Remarks by the Secretary of the Technical Committee**

The Secretary of the committee, Mr. Peter Namutala informed the meeting that there were six (6) committee draft standards to be harmonized. He called upon members to uphold the spirit of EAC in discussing technical issues.

### **1.3 Remarks by the Chairperson of the meeting**

Prof Hellen Njenga pointed out that the last harmonization meeting on packaging was held in Arusha where consensus was built on various draft Standards. She thanked the partner states who submitted comments as country consultation for making work easier for the TC.

Members were asked to focus on technical issues in the draft Standards and impress the spirit of regional integration. She urged the delegates to participate actively and wished all fruitful meeting.

### **1.4 Remarks from the host, Rwanda Standards Board (RSB)**

Ag. Division Manager of National Standards Division Mrs MUKESHIYAREMYE Athanasie, on behalf of the Director General, welcomed all delegates to Kigali. It was noted that Rwanda had committed to hosting six technical committees and Packaging was one of them. She urged the delegates to build consensus on the comments collated to allow the drafts to progress to the next stage. Delegates were requested to objectively discuss the standards while upholding the principle of consensus in standardization and note that the partner states are also members of ARSO. In addition, the members were reminded to adopt relevant international standards to enable products manufactured in Africa to penetrate international markets seamlessly. She specifically noted the need to balance between scientific principles and trade, noting that the primary goal of standardization of products is to ensure the safety of both the consumers and the environment.

## **1.5 Remarks from EAC Secretariat**

The EAC secretariat was not represented in the meeting.

## **2.0 Adoption of the agenda and working program**

The meeting adopted the agenda as circulated and hereto attached as **Annex II**.

## **3.0 Consideration and harmonization of the Draft East African Standards**

Six (6) Committee Draft Standards were presented to the meeting for discussion. The summaries of changes are hereto attached as **Annex III** and the revised version of the Draft East African Standards are hereto attached as **Annex IV**.

- a) **CD/K/09:2018** Paper and board food contact material — Specification
- b) **CD/K/10:2018** Packaging code-Ancillary materials — Desiccants
- c) **CD/K/11:2018** Paper Plates, Cups with lids for food packaging — Specification
- d) **CD/K/12:2018** Paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs — Determination of formaldehyde in an aqueous extract
- e) **CD/K/13:2018** Packaging — Flexible laminate tubes — Test methods to assess the strength of the side seam
- f) **CD/K/14:2018** Packaging code — Part 1: Packaging in glass

### **3.1 CD/K/09:2018** Paper and board food contact material — Specification

This Committee Draft standard was discussed with modifications as shown in **ANNEX III**.

- a) The secretariat to provide maximum permissible levels of Dioxins in consultation from other partner states.
- b) The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy.

### **3.2 CD/K/10:2018** Packaging code-Ancillary materials — Desiccants

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This Committee draft standard was discussed with modifications as shown in **ANNEX III**. The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy.

### **3.3 CD/K/11: 2018** Paper Plates, Cups with lids for food packaging — Specification

- a) The TC secretaries were requested to collect samples of paper plates and cups and test for the requirement of the Burst strength in accordance with ISO 2758 Standard. The test results shall be discussed in the editing /technical committee meeting to be convened by the EAC secretariat.
- b) The TC members were requested to search for appropriate test methods to determine the volume of the paper cups. The method should be sent to the secretariat before the sixty (60) days public review period
- c) The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy

### **3.4 CD/K/12:2018** Paper and board intended to come into contact with foodstuffs —Determination of formaldehyde in an aqueous extract

- a) The TC secretaries were requested to collect samples for paper and Board Packaging material and test for formaldehyde content as specified in **CD/K/09:2018 Paper and board food contact material —Specification** in accordance with **CD/K/12:2018** Standard. The test results shall be discussed in the editing /technical committee meeting to be convened by the EAC secretariat.

The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy

### **3.5 CD/K/13:2018** Packaging — Flexible laminate tubes — Test methods to assess the strength of the side seam

This Committee Draft standard was discussed with modifications as shown in **ANNEX III**. The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy

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### **3.6 CD/K/14:2018** Packaging code —Part 1: Packaging in glass

- a)** This Committee Draft standard was discussed with modifications as shown in **ANNEX (III)**.The draft was allowed to move to the next Stage of Public Review after agreed changes incorporated in the revised copy
- b)** The TC secretaries were requested to send the comments to the EAC secretariat using comments template before the next stage of technical/editing meeting to be convened by EAC.

### **3.6 Way Forward on the Draft Standards**

- a) The EASC/ TC/066-Packaging Secretariat to circulate the draft EAS for wider public review comments by 15<sup>th</sup>, December 2018.
- b) The EASC/ TC/066-Packaging Secretariat to inform other National TC Secretaries to notify the DEAS by 15<sup>th</sup>, December 2018.

## **4 Future work program**

The meeting proposed the following work items for consideration;

- a) Hermetic storage sacks- Specification
- b) Rigid, plastic hermetic storage grain silos — Specification
- c) Packaging -Flexible laminate tubes— Specification
- d) Glass packaging containers—Specification
- e) Packaging -Ancillary materials — Part 2: Packaging tape
- f) Packaging -Ancillary materials —Part 3: Adhesives

## **5 Recommendations**

The meeting resolved that:

- 1) Review of EAS 880 Waxed paper for packaging of confectionery — Specification in accordance with the procedures of the review of EAC Standards. Clause 6 Table 1 on heavy metal contaminants and organic pollutants, the columns for requirements Paper intended to**

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**come in contact with dry food stuff and column on Paper intended to come in contact with wet food and food with fatty surface were merged as one.**

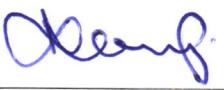
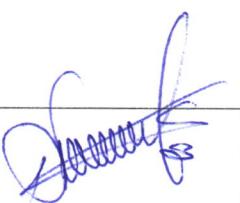
**The table to be arranged as done in clause 3.3.1 table 1 of CD/K/9/2018 Paper and board food contact material — Specification**

6. The next meeting to be held in February 2019 and the venue to be decided by EAC Secretariat.

## **7 Any Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned 1300. hours.

Signed on this 30<sup>th</sup> Day of November 2018 by Heads of Delegations.

		
<b>The Republic of Kenya</b>	<b>The United Republic of Tanzania</b>	<b>The Republic of Rwanda</b>
<b>Mr. Peter Namutala</b>	<b>Mr Henry G Msuya</b>	<b>Mr. MPORANZI Samuel</b>