



WORKSHOP ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONIZATION OF AFRICAN GAMBLING STANDARDS

CONCEPT NOTE AND DRAFT AGENDA

THEME:

STANDARDS ENABLING INTRA-AFRICA TRADE UNDER THE AFCFTA –
ONE CERTIFICATE WORKING FOR YOU

DATES

24TH - 28TH AUGUST, 2026

VENUE:

SAROVA WHITESANDS BEACH RESORT AND SPA, MOMBASA



GAMBLING STANDARDS HARMONIZATION WORKSHOP 2026

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PART A: CONCEPT NOTE.

1. WORKSHOP BACKGROUND.

The Gambling Standards Workshop is a high-level stakeholder engagement forum established to support the development and harmonization of African gambling standards. The Workshop provides a platform for regulators, standards bodies, policymakers, industry representatives, technology providers, and other key stakeholders to engage in structured dialogue on the future of gambling regulation across Africa.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT AND RATIONALE.

a. Problem Statement

Despite the rapid growth of the gambling industry across Africa, regulatory, technical, and operational requirements remain fragmented among jurisdictions. Differences in licensing frameworks, technical and system requirements, responsible gambling measures, advertising standards, anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing controls create uncertainty for regulators, operators, technology providers, and investors.

This fragmentation increases the cost of compliance, limits interoperability, and can create regulatory gaps that are exploited by illegal operators. It also weakens cross-border cooperation on shared risks such as underage gambling, fraud, match-fixing, money laundering, and unfair marketing practices.



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b. Rationale

The development and harmonization of African gambling standards require broad stakeholder participation, technical collaboration and a common understanding of the objectives, processes, and expected outcomes of the initiative. Effective stakeholder sensitization and capacity building are therefore essential to ensure that regulators, national standards bodies, policymakers, operators, technology providers, and other key stakeholders are adequately informed and actively engaged throughout the standards development process.

The Gambling Standards Workshop has been convened to provide a structured platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and technical engagement on the development and harmonization of African gambling standards. The Workshop will promote collaboration, encourage the exchange of best practices, and generate practical recommendations to support the broader standards harmonization initiative.

3. WORKSHOP GOAL AND OBJECTIVES.

a. Overall Goal

To support the development and harmonization of African gambling standards that strengthen cross-border regulatory cooperation, promote responsible gambling, enhance consumer protection and market integrity, encourage innovation, and foster the sustainable growth of the gambling sector.



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b. Specific Objectives

1. Strengthen collaboration and strategic alignment among gambling regulators, National Standards Bodies, operators, consumers, and other key stakeholders on priority areas for the development and harmonization of gambling standards.
2. Build stakeholder awareness and technical capacity on the principles, processes, and benefits of developing harmonized gambling standards across Africa.
3. Promote responsible gambling and consumer protection by identifying common minimum safeguards for online and cross-border gambling markets, including measures to protect children and other vulnerable persons.
4. Provide a platform for gambling industry stakeholders to showcase innovative products, technologies, and services that support standards implementation, regulatory compliance, consumer protection, and market integrity.
5. Facilitate inclusive stakeholder participation by enabling consumers, National Standards Bodies, international standards organizations, policymakers, and industry representatives to contribute to the standards development process through consultations, technical sessions, and working group discussions.
6. Develop practical recommendations and an indicative roadmap to support the continued development, adoption, implementation, and coordination of harmonized gambling standards across Africa.



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PART B: DRAFT AGENDA.

This section presents the draft agenda for the Workshop, outlining the proposed programme structure, sequence of sessions, and indicative time allocations. The agenda is designed to provide a logical progression of discussions throughout the Workshop.

To achieve this, the programme integrates **Regulatory Presentations, Workshop Partner Presentations, moderated panel discussions**, and **technical sessions** focusing on practical pathways for the development and harmonization of gambling standards.

Collectively, these sessions are intended to promote a shared understanding of key issues, encourage stakeholder collaboration, and develop practical recommendations.

The Workshop will be delivered over **Five (5) days** as follows:

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY
Arrival Day	Sunday, 23 August 2026	Delegate Arrivals
Day One	Monday, 24 August 2026	Workshop and General Assembly
Day Two	Tuesday, 25 August 2026	Workshop and General Assembly
Day Three	Wednesday, 26 August 2026	Workshop and General Assembly
Day Four	Thursday, 27 August 2026	Workshop and General Assembly
Day Five	Friday, 28 August 2026	Workshop and General Assembly
Departure Day	Saturday, 29 August 2026	Delegate Departures



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ARRIVAL DAY:

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST 2026



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ARRIVAL DAY	SUNDAY, 23 rd AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
ALL DAY	ARRIVALS AND PICKUPS Arrival and reception of all delegates with visa facilitation and airport transfer arrangements coordinated by the KEBS/ARSO Central Secretariat.	KEBS /ARSO	ALL DAY



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DAY ONE:

MONDAY 24TH AUGUST 2026



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DAY ONE	MONDAY, 24 TH AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
10: 30 AM - 11: 00 AM	COFFEE / TEA		30 Min
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	THE ISO-ARSO ENHANCED COOPERATION AGREEMENT / THE KIGALI AGREEMENT SIGNED ON 9TH OCTOBER 2025 – THE IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP. Session Highlights 1. The ISO-ARSO Enhanced Agreement. 2. The Strategic Benefits of the Agreement. 3. Strategies for implementation in line with the two priority Annexes - Annex I – Guidelines for standards development, adoption, and regional harmonization and Annex II – Licensing and copyright protection framework. Moderator: Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana, Secretary General, ARSO and Sergio Mujica, Secretary-General, ISO. Open/Overview presentation: ISO and ARSO Discussants: All delegates (Open Session)	ISO /ARSO	1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
12:00 PM - 01:00 PM	THE ARSO STRATEGIC PLAN 2027-2032 Review of the proposed Strategic Mission, Vision, Goals, Objectives and Activities. Session Highlights 1. From 2022-2027 Strategic Plan to 2027-2032 Strategic Plan, milestones and challenges. 2. 2027-2032 Strategic direction and roadmap in the context of key Global and Africa's Development Policies like the SDGS 2030, Agenda 2063, the AfCFTA Agreement and the African Quality Policy. 3. The Strategic Mission, Vision, Goals, Objectives and Activities and outcomes 4. The implementation Plan including partnerships and collaborations. Moderator: Ms. Nadine Umutoni, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, ARSO/PAQI Coordinator.	ARSO	1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
	Open/Overview Presentation Ms. Thabisa Mbungwana, Standardisation Professional and Divisional Head: Strategic Relationship Management at City of Tshwane, South Africa. Ms. Susanah Munyiri, Senior TBT Advisor AfCFTA & PAQI, AfCFTA Secretariat. Ms. Ludovica Ghizzoni, Advisor on Enterprise Value Chain, ITC		
01:00 PM - 02:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK		1 Hour
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	ISO STRATEGIC WORKSHOP: Discussions on digital evolution and business transformation. Session Highlights 1. Digital evolution and business transformation, and the African perspectives.	ISO	1 Hour



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	2. The Smart Standardisation and digitalization: Why the need for SMART standards and benefits. 3. The IEC/ISO SMART Standards Programme. 4. Implications to Manufacturers/Companies, Regulators Standard developers End users and to the Standardisation Experts and standards developers. 5. Opportunities and challenges for the ISO members Moderator: ISO Official Open/Overview Presentation: ISO Official.		
3:00 PM - 5:30 PM	EXHIBITION VISIT (Self-Guided)	ARSO	2 Hours 30 Min
05:30 PM - 06:00 PM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min



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DAY TWO:

TUESDAY 25TH AUGUST 2026



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DAY TWO	TUESDAY, 25TH AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
09:00 AM - 09:15 AM	OPENING REMARKS BY THE GAMBLING AUTHORITY OF KENYA. Speaker • Representative – Gambling Regulatory Authority of Kenya	GAMBLING AUTHORITY OF KENYA	15 Min
09:15 AM - 09:30 AM	OPENING REMARKS BY THE KENYA BUREAU OF STANDARDS Speaker • Representative – Kenya Bureau of Standards	KENYA BUREAU OF STANDARDS	15 Min
09:30 AM - 09:45 AM	WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE AFRICAN ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION. Speaker • Representative - ARSO	ARSO	15 Min
09:45 AM - 10:05 AM	OFFICIAL OPENING AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY ISO Speaker • Representative - ISO	ISO	20 Min



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
10: 05 AM - 10: 15 AM	GROUP PHOTO SESSION A brief official photograph will be taken to commemorate the opening of the Summit, featuring the Guest of Honour and key partners.	ALL DELEGATES	10 Min
10: 15 AM - 10: 30 AM	ARSO PRESENTATION Topic: An Overview of the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO) and Its Role in Developing Harmonized Gambling Standards Across Africa Speaker: Representative - ARSO	ARSO	15 Min
10: 30 AM - 11: 00 AM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min
11: 00 AM - 11: 15 AM	ISO PRESENTATION Topic: An Overview of the International Organization for Standardization and Its Role in the Development of International Standards for the Gambling Sector Speaker: Representative - ISO	ISO	15 Min



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
11: 15 AM - 11: 30 AM	EAST AFRICA REGULATORY PRESENTATION – KENYA Topic: An overview of the gambling regulatory framework in Kenya. Speaker: • Representative – Gambling Regulatory Authority of Kenya	KENYA	15 Min
11: 30 AM - 11: 45 AM	EAST AFRICA REGULATORY PRESENTATION - UGANDA Topic: An overview of the gambling regulatory framework in Uganda Speaker: • Representative – National Lotteries and Gaming Regulatory Board of Uganda	UGANDA	15 Min
11: 45 AM - 12: 00 PM	EAST AFRICA REGULATORY PRESENTATION – TANZANIA Topic: An overview of the gambling regulatory framework in Tanzania Speaker: • Representative – Gaming Board of Tanzania.	TANZANIA	15 Min



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
12: 00 PM - 12: 15 PM	AFRICAN IGAMING ALLIANCE Topic: An Overview of the African iGaming Alliance and the Role of Gambling Operators in the development and harmonization of gambling Standards. Speaker: Peter Emolemo Kesitilwe – Chief Executive Officer, African iGaming Alliance	AiA	15 Min
12: 15 PM - 01: 00 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Topic: African Gambling Regulatory Landscape – Common Challenges and Priority Areas for Standards Development. Speakers: • Representative – Gambling Authority of Kenya • Representative – National Lotteries and Gaming Regulatory Board of Uganda • Representative – Gaming Board of Tanzania. Moderator • Representative – African iGaming Alliance	KENYA UGANDA TANZANIA AiA	45 Min
01: 00 PM - 02: 00 PM	LUNCH BREAK		1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
02: 00 PM - 02: 20 PM	GAMING COMPLIANCE INTERNATIONAL Topic: To be provided Speaker: Stephen Aupy - Director of Business Development, Gaming Compliance International	GCI	20 Min
02: 20 PM - 02: 40 PM	CITY ST GEORGES UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Topic: Online Self-Exclusion - Recommended Code of Practice Speaker: Dr. Margaret Carran - Associate Professor at City St George's, University of London.	CITY ST GEORGE'S UNIVERSITY OF LONDON	20 Min
02: 40 PM - 03: 00 PM	CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION Topic: Role of Standards and Conformity Assessment in Ensuring Product Quality and Safety Speaker: Representative – ARSO	TBC	20 Min



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
03: 00 PM - 03: 20 PM	TESTING AND CERTIFICATION PRESENTATION Topic: The Role of Testing Laboratories and Certification Bodies in Ensuring Compliance with Gambling Standards Speaker: Testing Laboratories / Certification Bodies	TBC	20 Min
03: 20 PM - 04: 05 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Topic: Developing Responsible Gambling Standards for Africa: Lessons from Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania Moderator: To be confirmed Speakers: • Representative – Gambling Authority of Kenya • Representative – National Lotteries and Gaming Regulatory Board of Uganda • Representative – Gaming Board of Tanzania • Representative – African iGaming Alliance	TBC	45 Min
04: 05 PM - 04: 25 PM	PRESENTATION Topic: To be confirmed Speaker: To be confirmed	TBC	20 Min



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04: 25 PM - 05: 10 PM	PANEL DISCUSSION Topic: To be confirmed Speakers: To be confirmed	TBC	45 Min
05: 10 PM - 05: 30 PM	ROADMAP FOR DEVELOPING AFRICAN GAMBLING STANDARDS Topic: The Way Forward: Establishing a Framework for the Development and Harmonization of African Gambling Standards Speaker: ARSO / AGRA	ARSO	20 Min
05: 30 PM - 06: 00 PM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min



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DAY THREE:

WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST 2026



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DAY THREE		WEDNESDAY, 26TH AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION	
08:00 AM - 10:30 AM	WORLD BANK SEMINAR ON THE WORLD DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2025 “STANDARDS FOR DEVELOPMENT” SESSION HIGHLIGHTS. 1. The World Development Report 2025 “Standards for Development” – Overview. - Standards as “hidden infrastructure” shaping productivity, market access, and trust. - The importance of matching ambition with capacity 2. Standardisation as a Tool for Development: Productivity, Market Access, and Sustainability. - How standards support upgrading, competitiveness, and domestic market performance. - The growing role of standards—including voluntary sustainability standards—in addressing global public goods (e.g., climate, biodiversity) 3. Making Standards Work in Practice: Capacity, Inclusion, and System Design.	WORLD BANK	2 Hours. 30 Min	



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
	- Challenges in Africa: compliance costs, limited quality infrastructure, and uneven participation. - The role of tiered approaches, maturity models, and partial certification schemes in enabling gradual upgrading and broader inclusion. 4. Public and Private Standards: Complementarities, Tensions, and Coordination. - The rising importance of private standards and buyer - driven requirements. - Risks of fragmentation (“spaghetti bowl”) vs opportunities for benchmarking, alignment, and mutual recognition. - What public systems (NQI, regulation) and private standards can work together. 5. Strategies and Partnerships to Strengthen Standardisation Systems in Africa. - Building quality infrastructure and regional cooperation. - Aligning with the Africa Quality Policy		



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	• Opportunities for collaboration across governments, bodies, development partners, and the private sector. Moderator: Ms. Esther Ngari, MD KEBS, ARSO Council. Open/Overview Presentation: Xavier Gine, “Director, World Development Report 2025” and Lead Economist, Finance and Private Sector Development Team of the Development Research Group, World Bank. Discussants: 1. Dr. Xavier Giné - Lead Economist, World Bank. 2. Mr. Sergio Mujica - Secretary-General - ISO 3. Mr. Raymond Murenzi - Director General, Rwanda Standards Board (RSB), Rwanda. 4. Mr. Aka Kouassi - Chief Technical Advisor, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). 5. Ms. Khanyi Mashimbye - Manager, Intra-African Trade and Export Development (Creative and Cultural Industries), African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). 6. Senior Government Representative - Republic of Kenya.		
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	TEA / COFFEE BREAK		30 Min



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 32ND ARSO GA EVENTS / ARSO WEEK 2026. Welcoming Remarks: Ms. Esther Ngari – Managing Director, KEBS. Welcoming Remarks: Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana, ARSO Secretary General. Remarks: Mr. Sergio Mujica, SG, ISO. Key note address by: Honorable Guest of Honours, AUC Key Note Address: By Mr. Kebapetse Botsile –President, ARSO. Key Note Address and Official Opening: His Excellency Hon. Prof. Kithure Kindiki, EGH, Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya. Launch of the Sustainability and circular Economy standards. Vote of Thanks - Master of Ceremony: KEBS.	ARSO	1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
12:00 PM - 01:00 PM	HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION SESSION: “STANDARDS ENABLING INTRA-AFRICA TRADE UNDER THE AFCFTA - ONE CERTIFICATE WORKING FOR YOU” Session Highlights 1. The Status of intra-African and Global Trade in Africa. 2. Challenges of different standards and Conformity Assessment Procedures as Technical Barriers to Trade in Africa and in context of SMEs market Access. 3. The need for One Certification and Quality Mark – Addressing Africa’s challenge and bottleneck of different Certification procedures through the ARSO Quality Mark and Certification Scheme. 4. Benefits of harmonized standards and Conformity 5. Assessment Procedures in promoting Trade and Service delivery and the AfCFTA Opportunities under the TBT Annex 6. 6. Role of Trade and Industry Ministries in policy initiatives to promote Conformity Assessment systems.	ARSO	1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
	Moderator: Dr. Hermogene - Secretary General, ARSO. Discussants: 1. Mr. Botsile Kebapetse - President, ARSO 2. Mr. Sergio Mujica - Secretary General – ISO 3. Senior Official - AfCFTA Secretariat 4. Hon. Minister - H. E. Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, CBS, Cabinet Secretary - Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry 5. Ms. Lena Dargham - Secretary General, RNF (Réseau Normalization et Francophonie).		
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK		1 Hour
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	EXHIBITION VISIT (Self-Guided)	ARSO	1 Hour
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	AFRICAN DAY OF STANDARDISATION Session 2 - Arso Conformity Assessment Programme Theme: “Strengthening Africa’s Quality Infrastructure: The Strategic Role of Conformity Assessment in Trade and Sustainable Development”.	ARSO	1 Hour



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
	Session Highlights. 1. Overview of global trends and best international practices in conformity assessment and their role within quality infrastructure systems. 2. The ARSO Conformity Assessment Programme in the context of the World Trade Organization / WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement and the African Continental Free Trade Area: implementation status, strategies, challenges, and benefits to Member States. 3. The ARSO Quality Mark as a “One Certificate” model: enabling market access and facilitating intra-African trade under AfCFTA. 4. Promoting Supplier’s Declaration of Conformity and mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures as tools for reducing technical barriers to trade and advancing the One Certificate approach. 5. The role of national and regional conformity assessment bodies, and collaboration opportunities with African Union Pan African Quality Infrastructure institutions ions and Regional Economic Communities (RECs		



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TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
	Moderator: Eng. James Kasigwa – Executive Director, UNBS. Open/Overview Presentation: Reuben Gisore, Director, ARSO Discussants: 1. Abdourahamane Ndione, DG, ASN, Senegal. 2. EAC representative. 3. KENAS Official. 4. PTB-Germany. 5. COTECNA		
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	AFRICAN DAY OF STANDARDISATION Session 3 – Eco Mark Africa Certification and the Voluntary Sustainable Standards (VSS). Theme: “Aligning Standards, Certification, and Trade Policy with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals to Accelerate Sustainable Industrialization and development in Africa” Session Highlights 1. Overview of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with emphasis on Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	ARSO	1 Hour 30 Min



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	2. The role of Voluntary Sustainable Standards (VSS) and eco-certification in enabling sustainable trade and industrial transformation in Africa. 3. Eco Mark Africa Certification Scheme: value proposition, certification process, and current implementation status. 4. Aligning Eco Mark Africa with global regulatory frameworks (e.g., EUDR): implications for climate change mitigation, low-carbon transitions, and biodiversity conservation. 5. Made in Africa (MiA) Certification: opportunities and barriers for SMEs in accessing sustainable certification and participating in green value chains. 6. Need for standards aligned to the UN SDGs 2030, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the African Union Protocol Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa (ADP), to facilitate equal access to products, services, and digital accessibility		



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	Moderator: ANOR Cameroun Official, ARSO Council. Open/Overview Presentation.: ARSO Sustainability Standards benchmarking study - The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Official. Discussants 1. ARSO COCO, Chairperson 2. Nathan Singambwa, CEO, ZABS, Zambia 3. Inable 4. IACO 5. The International Institute for Sustainable Development 6. ECOS		
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min



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DAY FOUR:

THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST 2026



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DAY FOUR	THURSDAY, 27 th AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
08: 00 AM - 10: 30 AM	32ND ARSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING Based on General Assembly Normal Agenda	ARSO	2 Hours 30 Min
10: 30 AM - 11: 00 AM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min
11: 00 AM - 01: 00 PM	32ND ARSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING Based on General Assembly Normal Agenda	ARSO	2 Hours
01: 00 PM - 02: 00 PM	LUNCH BREAK		1 Hour
02: 00 PM - 05: 30 PM	32ND ARSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING Based on General Assembly Normal Agenda	ARSO	3 Hours 30 Min
05: 30 PM - 06: 00 PM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min



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DAY FIVE:

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST 2026



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DAY FIVE	FRIDAY, 28 th AUGUST 2026		
TIME	PROGRAMME ELEMENT	PARTNER/S	DURATION
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	ARSO – AGRA CONSULTATIVE MEETING Closed door Strategic discussions between ARSO and AGRA on the implementation pathway for the development and harmonization of African gambling standards. (Invite Only)	ARSO/AGRA	1 Hour 30 Min
12:00 PM - 01:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK		1 Hour
01:00 PM - 05:30 PM	INDUSTRIAL VISITS /TOURISM EXCURSION The Kenya Bureau of Standards to update on the venue and logistics	KENYA BUREAU OF STANDARDS	4 Hours 30 Min
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 Min



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DEPARTURE DAY:

SATURDAY, 29 AUGUST 2026

Delegate check-out, airport transfers, and departures. Workshop Secretariat to provide logistical support to ensure smooth departure arrangements.

- END OF WORKSHOP -