

OOCUR: The Next Ten Years

Presented by: Collette Goode
Office of Utilities Regulation
Jamaica

Introduction

This presentation will examine:

- ❖ OOCUR's performance against its stated purpose/objectives
- ❖ the achievements of similar internationally renowned utility regulatory associations to ascertain what practices OOCUR can adopt
- ❖ areas of improvement for OOCUR in the context of the changes that have taken place in the regulatory environment

Overview

OOCUR was established 10 years ago with a vision to :

- Assist in the improvement of utility regulation in member countries;
- Foster development of transparent and stable utility regulation through autonomous and independent regulators; and,
- Foster cooperation among utility regulators.

OOCUR's Performance towards Objectives

Objectives	Activity towards the Objectives
Enhance the understanding of issues related to utility regulation	Conference themes and topics for research and presentation
Facilitate communication among members	Encouraging inter membership cooperation through staff attachments
Facilitate the sharing of information and experience among members	Thematic workshops and seminars (eg. customer service & administrative law)
Facilitate the sharing and exchange of expertise on regulatory issues through training, development and educational programmes	A number of training programmes organized – either singly or in collaboration with partners (PURC)

OOCUR's Performance toward Objectives (Cont'd)

Objectives	Activity towards the Objective
Provide advice on the establishment and enhancement of effective utility regulation	No structured mechanism developed
Undertake research on issues relating to utility regulation	Roaming study in 2006/7
Host an annual conference and such other conferences as necessary	Annual Conference held every year – Some special interest conferences held 2004 – 2006.
Take such other action as may be necessary or useful for the achievement of its objectives	

Other Regulatory Association's Performance

1. The National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC)
2. The West African Telecommunications Regulatory Assembly (WATRA)

NARUC's Performance

In fulfilling its mandate NARUC:

- ❖ Represents the interests of State public utility commissions before the three branches of Federal government and the Independent Federal agencies.
- ❖ Works closely with other related bodies such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to ensure that State perspective is considered in their proceedings.

NARUC's Performance

- ❖ Passes and adopts as the Association's policy, resolutions proposed by NARUC members.
- ❖ Writes letters and submits reports to Congress and the Federal government on relevant utility regulatory issues.
- ❖ Submits comments and pleadings to Federal courts on relevant issues.

WATRA's Performance

In fulfilling its mandate, WATRA, inter alia:

- ❖ Organizes and Coordinates Exhibitions, Fora, Development Workshops and Capacity Building Intervention Programmes for members
- ❖ Provides access to research data
- ❖ Provides opportunity to influence policy and regulatory decision.
- ❖ Contributes to regulatory strategies and policy formulations.

The “Take-aways”

- ❖ Organizational and leadership structure with well defined roles for each level
- ❖ Well established Administrative Team
- ❖ Active participants in the policy making process within their region
- ❖ Facilitate the training and development needs of members’ staff

Ten Years Onwards

In planning for the future, it is proposed that OOCUR should:

- ❖ Conduct a review of its organizational and leadership structure to determine:
 - are the roles clearly defined at each level
 - are the areas of responsibility appropriate for each level

Ten Years Onwards

With a revised, more robust organizational and leadership structure, it is envisaged that OOCUR would be better able to:

- ❖ actively participate in the policy making process within the region
- ❖ Facilitate the training and development needs of its members' staff

Ten Years Onwards

In planning for the future OOCUR also needs assess the relevance of its current objectives in the context of:

- The level of changes that have taken place in the sectors and the regulatory environment
- Whether the current objectives can assist its member agencies to address the new areas of focus



The End

Thank you