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**OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (OTC)
24th, 28th AUGUST 2023 ARUSHA, TANZANIA**

REPORT ON THE JOINT STAMP ON INAUGURATION OF PAPU TOWER

1. Subject Report on the Joint Stamp on Inauguration of PAPU Tower	References/Paragraphs PAPU Action Plan 2022-2025
2. Decision Expected <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take note of the Report	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The PAPU Tower building is the new Headquarters for Africa’s continental body, the Pan-African Postal Union, a specialized agency of the African Union that is responsible for coordinating postal development in Africa. The PAPU Tower is a joint venture project between PAPU and the United Republic of Tanzania (represented by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), where financing is 60% by PAPU and 40% by TCRA. The building, which has been under construction since 2020, will be commissioned on 2nd September 2023.

In line with the consolidated PAPU Action Plan for 2022-2025, the Union has a leeway to participate in joint stamp issues to promote African heritage and events. To that effect, the Promotion of Philately Working Group established a Task Team to propose Annual Themes for joint stamp issues. The Task Team proposed the issuance of a joint commemorative Stamp to mark the commissioning of the PAPU Tower by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Further to the above, StampsDaq offered to issue a crypto stamp on behalf of interested Member States to mark the event. The cost of issuing the crypto stamp would be borne by StampDaq and its Partners, and a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of the crypto stamps would be donated to PAPU.

2.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROMOTION OF PHILATELY ACTION PLAN

2.1 Issuance of a Joint Stamp to Commemorate the Commissioning of the PAPU Towers

The Philately Task Team met on 12th June 2023 to propose and discuss the modalities of issuing a joint commemorative stamp to commemorate the commissioning of the PAPU Tower. During its meeting held on 19th June 2023, the Working Group endorsed the proposals and agreed on the following:

- i) The Theme for the joint stamp issue: “***PAPU Joint Stamp on Commissioning of the PAPU Tower***”;
- ii) The stamp will feature the PAPU Tower photo juxtaposed with an emblematic place, national, or natural artifact of choice of each participating Member State;
- iii) The Working Group assigned experts from Botswana, Morocco, Nigeria, and South Africa with the task of crafting Terms of Reference (ToRs), including specifications on the issuance of the stamp;
- iv) Member States should engage their designers with the guidance of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) and specifications provided;
- v) The General Secretariat would send out a Circular Letter requesting Member States to indicate their willingness to participate in the joint stamp, among others;
- vi) Expression of interest to participate in the physical joint stamp would then be sent to the General Secretariat;
- vii) 1% of the proceeds from the sale of the physical stamp issue would be donated to PAPU General Secretariat in;
- viii) The General Secretariat would send separate communication for Member States to express willingness to participate in the issuance of crypto stamps.

2.2 General Secretariat Circulars

Given the foregoing, the General Secretariat issued a circular on 28th June 2023 under **REF: PAPU/CL/GS/OT/H/042** to facilitate the issuance of the joint stamp to Member States providing Designated Operators with the following information:

- a. Brief Literature on the PAPU House Project;
- b. PAPU Joint Stamp Terms of Reference;
- c. PAPU Towers Photos and logo;
- d. Participation Form.

On 13th July 2023, another circular under **REF: PAPU/CL/GS/OT/H/043** was issued for Member States to express interest in issuing a crypto stamp in collaboration with StampDaq to commemorate the same.

3.0 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST RESPONSES

- a) Seven (7) Designated Operators expressed interest in participating in issuing the physical stamp, namely; Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania, Senegal, and Zimbabwe. The PAPU Commemorative Joint stamps will be launched by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, on 2nd September 2023.
- b) Five (5) Designated Operators expressed interest in issuing the crypto stamp. These were Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe.

4.0 DECISION EXPECTED

The Committee is requested to take note of the report and encourage other Member States to participate in future joint stamps issues.