



STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION (PAPU) ON THE YEAR 2024 WORLD POST DAY COMMEMORATIONS.

"150 Years of Enabling Communication and Empowering People Across the Nations"

On this significant occasion of World Post Day commemorations, we join the world in celebrating the milestone 150 years of fostering communication and empowering individuals and communities across the globe. The postal sector has played an indispensable role in bridging distances, enabling human connections, and driving socio-economic progress within our communities. The sector has remained unwavering in its mission to ensure that every person, no matter their location, has access to reliable means of communication, thereby narrowing the effects of geographical and spatial gaps.

In Africa, the story of the existence of postal services is one of resilience and progress. We are proud that since inception, the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) has been connecting Africa with itself and to the rest of the world, ensuring that communication remained accessible to citizens in every corner of the continent. With over 26,000 postal outlets across the continent's 54 countries, the postal network in Africa serves a population of 1.3 billion people, providing essential services in the urban, peri-urban and rural communities.

Today, the African Posts are making strides in digital transformation to keep the post vibrant and serving the emerging digital economies. The collaboration between PAPU and the key postal stakeholders like UPU and sub-regional postal bodies, in Africa and beyond, has been further strengthened by the partnerships concluded with fintech companies and other technology solution-providers. These Partnerships ensure that Designated Operators in Africa can meet the evolving demands of our globalized world catalyzed by technological innovations and disruptions. Our efforts, as a sector, extend beyond traditional postal services as it includes e-commerce, digital financial services, e-government services and trade facilitation which are potential massive contributors to the socio-economic development of our continent.

The Post remains committed to contributing towards the attainment of the UN SDG goals as well as the African Union Vision 2063 by improving the lives of African citizens through provision of services that alleviate poverty and hunger; create employment and contribute to the economic and social development of countries. Indeed, through collaboration with key stakeholders, like the UPU, we continue to contribute towards the addressing of critical global issues such as climate change, money laundering and financing of terrorism, counterfeit goods and cyber security while adapting seamlessly to new technologies.

As we join hands with the UPU to celebrate 150 years of enabling communication and empowering people, we re-affirm PAPU's mission of creating a Single Postal Territory in Africa. The African Post is ready to embrace the future, together with our global partners, to ensure that the postal sector continues to be a key driver of connectivity and empowerment for all in the digital era.

Together, let us honor the legacy of the postal system and look forward to a future where the Post will continue to connect nations, empower people, and enable communication across the world.

Long Live African Post!

Long Live Africa!

Dr. Sifundo Chief Moyo
SECRETARY GENERAL

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1st October 2024