

THE POSTAL FORUM ORGANIZED ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION, HELD ON 18TH – 20TH JANUARY 2010 IN ARUSHA, THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

RESOLUTIONS ARISING FROM THE FORUM:

1. **Recognizing** the important role played by the postal sector in socio-economic development of member countries;

Noting the necessity to modernize postal services through deployment of ICT based products and services to cover all segments

of the population regardless of their location and economic status;

Considering the need to put in place appropriate infrastructure to deliver services that meet customers' expectations and accelerate development of the postal sector in Africa;

Aware of the posts' special role in the society as a trusted brand and a tool for cooperation and social integration;

The Forum calls upon Governments to prioritize the postal sector in the national development plans and support it through appropriate policies

in order to stimulate sustainable development.

- 2. Recalling** that the founders of the Pan African Postal Union had a noble vision to create an African organization to spearhead the development of postal services in the continent;

Appreciating the importance of the Pan African Postal Union as a forum for harmonizing the positions of member countries on the international arena in order to safeguard their interests;

Cognisant of the necessity to continue having a strong organization in terms of membership, active participation and meeting the necessary obligations;

The Forum encourages all African Union member states to join PAPU in line with the vision of the founding fathers to create a stronger postal network in Africa.

- 3. Noting** that modernization of the postal sector in Africa requires substantial capital investment involving the key stakeholders in the communications sector and the postal industry in particular;

Recognizing the existing support structures for the postal sector at the sub-regional, regional and international levels;

Aware that building of partnerships within the global postal sector and between the sector and regional economic communities and the banking industry is a critical factor in the realization of sustainable postal development;

The Forum calls upon the Pan African Postal Union, the African Development Bank and the African Union Commission to look into ways and means of putting in place appropriate infrastructure for deployment of e-services in the African postal network.

4. **Recognizing** that an address is a right for every citizen and an effective tool for defining a person's identity;

Considering that an effective postal service cannot be developed without a functional national addressing system that ensures on-time and accurate delivery of postal items and services;

Noting that an efficient postal network contributes to the improvement of delivery of a wide range of social services including emergency response, thereby enhancing quality of services and security of the citizens;

The Forum urges all PAPU members to take urgent measures to implement appropriate national addressing systems.

5. **Recognizing** the importance of deployment of modern communications technologies in the development of the

postal sector and improvement of quality of services;;

Aware of the positive role played by ICTs in improving the quality of services, they also create a gap between those who have access and those who do not have;

The Forum urges Governments to take necessary measures to ensure bridging of the digital gap between the information rich and the information poor segments of the society.

Done in Arusha on 20th January 2010.