

# PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION



**E-POST, PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POSTAL  
FINANCIAL SERVICES IN AFRICA**

## **OPENING OF THE E-POST PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES IN AFRICA COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **1.1 Participation**

**1.1.1 Present:** Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, UPU and PAPU.

**1.1.2 Absent:** Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sudan, Tunisia and Zambia.

**List of participants :** The list of participants is attached as **Annex .....**

### **2.0 Installation of the Bureau**

The following Bureau was installed:

**Chairman** : **South Africa**  
**Vice-Chairman** : **Burkina Faso**  
**Rapporteurs 1<sup>st</sup>** : **Uganda**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>** : **Mali**

### **3.0 Remarks by the Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed all the members and wished them successful deliberations. He then proceeded to open the meeting.

### **4.0 Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented below:

1. Opening remarks by Chairman.
2. Installation of the Bureau.
3. Adoption of the Agenda and work programme.
4. Review of the report of the meeting held in Livingstone, Zambia on 10-12 January 2011 and matters arising.
5. Status of implementation of the programme of activities 2010/2011 by PAPU.
6. Presentation on action points in the programme of action.
  - Separation of postal financial services accounts from operational accounts by PAPU.
7. Update on the E-post Africa project by PAPU.
8. Development of postal financial services.
  - Brief on Burkina Faso Conference on development of postal financial services in Africa by PAPU.
9. Programme of activities for 2011/2012.
10. Recommendations to the Council.
11. Any Other Business.

12. Date and venue of the next meeting.
13. Adoption of the report.
14. Closing.

## **5.0 Matters arising from the minutes of the report of the meeting held from 10-12 January 2011 in Livingstone, Zambia**

The meeting took note of the progress made in addressing matters arising since the last meeting.

### **6.0 Status of implementation of programme of activities 2010/2011 by PAPU**

PAPU presented the status report to the committee and member countries were asked to share their experiences.

The respective member countries present made suggestions to PAPU in regard to the implementation of the action programme for 2011/2012 as follows:

- There is need to have specific timelines to the actions to be implemented such that they are measurable within the cycle of the year.
- Member countries were urged to provide comprehensive contact details of persons who will be responsible for the questionnaires sent by PAPU for consistent responses.
- There is needed to be more specific on the kind of activities that we want to do within the cycle of a year and not just adopt a wish list.
- The need for member countries to review and validate the list of local experts to be identified by PAPU.
- The need for PAPU to explore other ways in which member countries can participate effectively in committee meetings without flying them.

A detail of the programme of Action for 2011/2012 is attached as **Annex ...**

### **7.0 Presentation on the separation of Postal Financial Services accounts from operational accounts by PAPU**

The meeting took note of the progress made in addressing the separation of postal financial services accounts from operational accounts.

Member countries expressed the need to institute whatever measures that are required to ensure sufficient and instant availability of funds to customers, especially in the rural areas.

### **8.0 Update on the E-Post Africa Project by PAPU**

PAPU presented the status of implementation of the above project to the Committee and informed members that a more detailed presentation will be made by RASCOM during the 30<sup>th</sup> Ordinary session of PAPU Administrative Council from 11 – 13 July 2011, Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.

Member countries noted that one of the reasons for not volunteering to participate in the pilot project could be that the costs presented by RASCOM are rather high.

Member countries urged PAPU to look at other options of providing the service in consideration of the emerging technologies and advancements made in recent years so that a more cost effective way of connectivity is sourced.

Member countries also noted that there is need for internet connection to be assured first before e-post succeeds bearing in mind that many member countries do not have reliable internet connections.

## **9.0 Development of Postal Financial Services**

The meeting took note of the progress made by PAPU in addressing the development of Postal Financial Services since the last meeting in Burkina Faso, February 2011.

## **10.0 Programme of Activities for 2011/2012**

The member countries adopted the action programme of 2010/2011 for 2011/2012 with a few exceptions since many of the actions were continuous. However PAPU was urged by member countries to have specific timelines for each action to allow for ease of monitoring and evaluation within the cycle of a year. A detailed action programme for 2011/2012 with some additions is attached as an annex.

## **11.0 Recommendations**

- Encourage governments of member countries on the recommendations made to provide strong commitment in supporting postal administrations in the development and improvement of e-post and financial services.
- PAPU to engage our partners on how they can facilitate member participation in committee activities.
- Member countries to adhere to the timelines given within which to have questionnaires returned to PAPU, maximum of 3 months.
- PAPU to circulate the list of local experts by August 2011.
- Continue to implement the Committee's Action Programme for 2011/2012, attached.
- PAPU to indicate appropriate timeframes for the implementation of the action programme instead of putting continuous activities.
- Member countries to ensure that there is an enabling legislative framework to allow for cross border financial transactions.
- PAPU to explore further options of providing a more cost effective way of connectivity taking into consideration the emerging technologies, the landing of undersea optical fibre cables on Africa's coastline and advancements made in recent years, including the use of mobile technology.
- Member countries to provide comprehensive contact details of persons who will be responsible for the questionnaires sent by PAPU for consistent responses.
- The need for PAPU to explore other ways in which member countries can participate effectively in committee meetings without flying them.
- PAPU should make greater use of the website to keep members informed of progress of the implementation of the programme of action, and to make meeting documents available prior to meetings.

## 12.0 Adoption of Report

The report was adopted

**ANDREW NONGOGO**

**Chairman**

**South Africa**

**SALAM SANFO**

**Vice-Chairman**

**Burkina Faso**

**ANDREW KAWEESA**

**1st Rapporteur**

**Uganda**

**DJIBRIL TRAORE**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Rapporteur**

**Mali**

### **Annex**

#### **Action program for 2011/2012**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action to be implemented</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Expected results</b>
1.	Expedite action on the arrangement with RASCOM for the use of RASCOM satellite.	PAPU	Continuous	Implementation report presented by PAPU.
2.	PAPU is directed to identify the persons from member countries who are responsible to the questionnaires.	PAPU/Member countries	By October 2011	A register of all member country contact persons circulated and posted on the website.
3.	Provide report on status of donor support for infrastructure development.	PAPU	By January 2012	Report available by date indicated.
4.	Present a report detailing status of implementation regarding liaison with World Bank on financing of IT projects in member countries.	PAPU	By January 2012	Report available by date indicated.
5.	Urge member countries to create special business units for sustainable development of financial services.	Member countries	Initial report of status of implementat	Status of implementation report circulated to members

			ion by August 2012	by date indicated.
6.	Member countries to separate accounts of postal financial services to ensure availability of customers' money.	Member countries	Initial report of status of implementation by August 2012	Status report of implementation circulated to member countries by date indicated.
7.	PAPU to monitor those members that have utilized the train-post and evaluate their progress.	PAPU	By January 2012	Report of members having utilized the trainpost programme and an indication of the programmes undertaken.
8.	Resist and desist exclusivity agreements so as to engender competition.	Member countries	Continuous	
9.	Measuring to know whether financial services are growing/expanding within the African continent.	PAPU	1 <sup>st</sup> report required by August 2012	Report expected.
10.	Circulate the list of local experts to member countries.	PAPU	August 2011	Register of local experts to be made available to member countries.
11.	Remind Governments on the recommendations made.	PAPU	December 2011	Communication to member countries expected by date indicated.
12.	PAPU to ensure the evaluation of the implementation of recommendations emerging from the Burkina Faso meeting.	PAPU	August 2012	Evaluation report expected.
13.	PAPU to review the structure of the questionnaires to ensure that there are specific categories i.e. Government, Regulators, Operators.	PAPU	Continuous	Commencing with the next questionnaire, the categories will be separated.

The Administration Council is requested to consider and approve the recommendations of the Committee and the programme of action 2011/2012.