



PAN AFRICAN POSTAL UNION

**REPORT OF THE AFRICA SUPPORT COMMITTEE (ASC)
MEETING HELD FROM 28TH TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 2011,
AT MISTY HILLS HOTEL, IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH
AFRICA**

Johannesburg, South Africa

28th-30th November, 2011

1. INTRODUCTION

The Africa Support Committee (ASC) held its meeting from 28-30 November, 2011, at Misty Hill Hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa at the kind invitation of the Department of Communications of the Government of South Africa.

The ASC is a PAPU committee in charge of key UPU content issues.

2. PARTICIPATION

Burundi, Congo Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, SAPOA.

The following Members were absent: **Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Tunisia, Libya, COPTAC, and WAPOA.**

Cameroon sent an apology.

The following participated as observers:

- PAPU Member Countries: **Gabon, Mozambique, Namibia, Uganda;**
- **African Union Commission**
- **Universal Postal Union**

- Other Organizations and Countries: **APPU, Escher Group and Belgium.**

The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1.**

3. OPENING

During the opening ceremony the following speeches and remarks were made:

3.1 Director General of the Department of Communications of the Republic of South Africa Ms. Rosey Maboko Sekese who was also the Guest of Honour.

In her welcome remarks, the guest of honour:

- Traced ASC history from the time Kenya successfully won the bid to host the 24th Congress and the need for resource mobilization committee to facilitate the hosting of the congress;
- Requested participants to assess progress made in implementing the Nairobi Postal Strategy (NPS) to effectively prepare for the Doha Congress;
- Announced South Africa's bid for CA and POC seats at the Doha Congress calling for support from members;
- Emphasized the Government's recognition of postal services as a right of all its citizens even in disadvantaged areas and communities;
- Informed participants that no other organization in South Africa enjoys an outlet base in excess of 2,300 as the post and pointed out the need to safeguard consumer interests.

3.2. SECRETARY GENERAL OF PAPU

In her speech, the Secretary General of PAPU, Mrs. Rodah A. Masaviru:

- Expressed gratitude to the Government of South Africa for agreeing to host the meeting and the hospitality extended to all participants;
- Underlined ASC's mandate of handling key UPU content issues to safeguard African interests;
- Called on participants to come up with harmonized positions that will influence positive decisions for Africa at the Doha Congress.

3.3. AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION (AUC) REPRESENTATIVE

In his statement, the AUC representative Mr. Christian Minoungou:

- Challenged Africa to speak with one voice at the 2012 Doha Congress, while calling for frank debate to secure common positions;
- Wished participants a rich and fruitful deliberations

- Thanked South Africa for hosting the meeting.

3.4. UPU REPRESENTATIVE MRS. GLADYS MUTYAVAVIRI

In her statement, the UPU representative and Regional Project Coordinator for Southern and Eastern Africa Mrs. Gladys Mutyavaviri:

- Emphasized UPU's commitment towards the development of the African post indicating that the evolving communications environment calls for change in order to respond to customer needs;
- Observed that PAPU represents a significant one-fifth of UPU membership, hence the need to assert Africa's interests;
- Called on participants to embrace UPU's three dimensional strategic approach to shape the direction of the Doha Strategy and realize Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Available speeches are on the PAPU website.

4. INSTALLATION OF THE BUREAU

The standing Bureau was confirmed as follows:

Chairman	-	South Africa
Vice Chairman	-	Nigeria
Rapporteurs	-	1 st – Kenya
	-	2 nd – Republic of Congo

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME

The agenda was adopted as follows:

- a) Official Opening of the African Support Committee (ASC) meeting
- b) Installation of the Bureau

- c) Role of African Support Committee towards DOHA Strategy: South Africa;
- d) Status report on the Development of Doha Strategy – Input, Opportunity and Process: South Africa;
- e) An Address for Everyone - Key Lessons from ongoing Implementation: Tanzania;
- f) Proposal to amend Acts of the Union: South Africa;
- g) Role of Non-state Actors (Consultative Council) in the UPU: South Africa;
- h) Implementation of Integrated Postal Development Plan (IPDP) in Africa – Challenges and Opportunities: Universal Postal Union;
- i) e-Commerce Strategy at NamPost: Namibia;
- j) Initiatives taken on Development of e-Commerce: Egypt;
- k) Development of ICT-Based Products and Services: Botswana;
- l) Status of Implementation of the African Union (AU) study and ICT Ministers recommendations on the Development of the Postal Sector in Africa: African Union Commission;
- m) Development of the new Terminal Dues System; Marc Paingt Chairman, UPU Terminal Dues Group: Belgium
- n) APPU Regional Terminal Dues Presentation: Asia Pacific Postal Union;
- o) Future Terminal Dues System: Africa’s perspectives; PAPU and Egypt
- p) Counter Automation: Telecommunications infrastructure – Why? How? When?; Gabon;
- q) Development of ICT based products and services TIC?; Senegal;
- r) Escher’s Digital Postbox: ESCHER GROUP;
- s) Development of ICT Based Products and Services: Zambia;

- t) Highlights of the Africa Regional Regulators Forum, Cotonou 17-19 October, 2011: PAPU Secretariat;
- u) Regulation of Postal Services in South Africa by ICASA: South Africa;
- v) Proportional Representation in UPU Organs: PAPU Secretariat;

6. ROLE OF ASC TOWARDS DOHA CONGRESS-BY SOUTH AFRICA

The ASC Chairman gave an overview of the role of the Africa Support Committee towards the Doha Congress and:

- Outlined various levels on the status of development of the Doha Strategy;
- Stressed the need to understand indicators that will be measured in evaluating implementation status;
- Highlighted the need to present Program and Budget Impact (PBI) based proposals;
- Alerted participants on deadlines for proposals that must be observed by all members to avoid being locked out;
- Identified the need to specify lead countries that will spearhead agreed proposals.

7. STATUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOHA STRATEGY-BY SOUTH AFRICA

On the development of the draft Doha Postal Strategy (DPS), South Africa highlighted:

- The implementation levels as at Global, Regional and National fronts;
- The structure of DPS and business plan;
- Management of Congress resolutions and PBI statements aimed at aligning Congress resolutions with budget and Strategy;

- Key milestones and recommended steps in PBI management process;
- The proposal to ask Congress to mandate the Council of Administration to play a role in prioritization on the implementation of Congress Resolutions in view of inadequate resources;
- The procedure for submitting proposals to Congress.

Arising from the deliberations on the presentation the following observations were made:

- There was need to involve all stakeholders in development of addressing systems considering that it is an expensive venture stressing the fact that Government commitment is critical;
- Development of appropriate national addressing systems would be key for the development of e-commerce;
- Need for total support from member countries to develop national addressing system so as to support e-commerce development, among other essential government services.

8. AN ADDRESS FOR EVERYONE: KEY LESSONS FROM ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION BY TANZANIA

Highlights of the presentation included:

- The address initiative was a response to the Government Postal Policy of 2003 aimed at meeting changing customers needs, who now require home delivery;
- The policy which includes the establishment of a comprehensive address systems, among others, street names and numbering, among others;
- Implementation of a street-type addressing system with postcodes and the creation of a national address database;
- Project governance and management issues; need for ownership; cooperation by key stakeholders; need for advocacy and promotion;

physical implementation – project execution; need for cultural change and public support and more critically need for Government support.

The following issues emerged from the presentation:

- Need to involve additional stakeholders including electoral bodies, public utilities, private stakeholder organizations among others;
- Need to involve regulators in the project as a way of securing funding and coordination in a multi-stakeholder environment;
- Need to align NPS to national development programmes to ensure broad recognition, which is important in securing funding.

9. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED POSTAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IPDP) IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES; HOW DOES THIS EXPERIENCE INFORM AFRICA'S INPUT TO THE DOHA STRATEGY

The presentation highlighted objectives of reforms, Integrated Postal Development Plans and the postal sector reform in Africa as follows:

- The objectives of postal reform such as:
 - To develop an accessible, affordable and high quality universal postal service;
 - To establish a comprehensive National Postal Sector Policy; put in place an appropriate Legal and Regulatory Framework for the postal sector, in line with international best practices;
 - To develop a competitive market environment, enabling participation of commercial players;
 - To establish an efficient autonomous Designated Postal Operator in charge of providing universal postal services; modernization of postal services and diversification into a wider range of new innovative products and services; and
 - To assist in bridging the digital divide through use of appropriate ICTs

- Composition of Integrated Postal Development Plan that involves:
 - New approach to postal reforms;
 - Roadmap for postal reform and development;
 - Active involvement of all key stakeholders (Government, Regulator, Operators, etc) in the formulation and
 - Implementation of the plan as well as development of a master plan for reform of the postal sector
- Postal Sector reform in Africa, indicating that 21 countries had embraced IPDP out of 74 countries globally.

The following issues arose from the presentation:

- There was need to explore the possibility of harnessing synergies among players in the communication industry so as to avoid duplication of services particularly in the area of universal services and financial inclusion;
- countries that have adopted IPDP have registered varied successes and lessons can be learnt from them so as to ensure greater success;
- Many countries have taken deliberate actions to deregulate and liberalize the postal sector and therefore the postal sector should take advantage of the opportunities arising from these efforts;
- On requisite funding of postal development, it was stated that QSF Fund and other UN agencies are part of the sources which still needed to be exploited;
- There was need for countries to ensure that postal projects are incorporated in their respective national development plans in order to benefit from any possible financing from the Governments, UN agencies or other governmental donor agencies;

10. PRESENTATION ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: HIGHLIGHTS ON SUCCESS FACTORS BY UGANDA

The meeting noted the presentation on the overview of development of financial services as follows:

- Current Money Transfer Services in Uganda are:
 - Domestic electronic money transfer,
 - International Money Transfer and
 - Mobile Money Transfer (Domestic);
- Electronic money transfer introduced in December, 2009, in partnership with 3rd party Cash for Africa (Roraima) was web-based and supported by call centres in places without internet services;
- On mobile money transfer (domestic), Uganda Post is an agent of Uganda Telecom handling utility bills and airtime sales at all its departmental post offices. The services were introduced November, 2010;
- Challenges experienced in offering financial services :
 - Cash deposit requirements and license fees by Central Bank
 - Internet connectivity (cost and stability)
 - Unreliable electricity supply and intense competition from banks, telecoms, and transporters.
- Intended to diversify its financial services base by partnering with other providers as well as developing in-house options.

11. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF AU STUDY AND ICT MINISTERS RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POSTAL SECTOR IN AFRICA BY AFRICAN UNION (AU)

The presentation highlighted the following:

- The 2008 Ministerial action plan for implementing recommendations of the AU study had five objectives, namely:

- Implementation of in-depth reform of the postal sector;
 - Development of Public postal Operator (PPO);
 - Improvement and Development of Network & quality services;
 - Use of ICT and ;
 - Review and strengthening of PAPU;
- An overview of other declarations and decisions by Ministers responsible for postal services and Heads of state in Africa, towards supporting postal sector development in Africa;
 - Status of implementation of the action plan which reveals challenges such as insufficient collaboration from the stakeholders in the postal sector among others;
 - Urged meeting participants to own various decisions and include them in their respective strategies of advocacy at national and regional levels and share achievements in implementing the action plan.

Arising from the deliberations on the presentation, the following issues were noted:

- There was political will to support the development of the postal sector hence, there was need for the relevant actors to take advantage of this support;
- Urged the regional steering committees to actively participate in their activities;
- Urged countries to play their part in the implementation of the AU study recommendations as well as the action plan;
- Encouraged countries to embrace ICTs in order to improve their service delivery targeting a converged ICT environment;
- Noted with satisfaction that some countries had gone beyond the UPU recommendations and included ICTs and financial services in their definition of universal services.

12. STRATEGY FOR EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF PAPU MEMBER COUNTRIES IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UPU ORGANS

12.1. Development of the New Terminal Dues System By the Chairman of UPU Terminal Dues Project Group

The chairman, Mr. Marc Paingt gave an overview of the development of the new terminal dues system;

- In reaction, it was noted that there was limited awareness on the true implications of the terminal dues proposals with PAPU being called upon to increase awareness among its membership;
- It was noted that terminal dues being a complex issue requires clear understanding of the implication of transiting and emphasis on good accounting and costing models;
- The need for Africa to be represented at key terminal dues meetings was underscored;
- UPU was requested to explore possibility of providing statements in support of terminal dues payments as may be required for accounting purposes;
- Besides the UPU and France proposals on terminal dues, PAPU members were asked to determine whether there are other proposals that require study;
- Concerns were raised over the French model for not meeting the laid down principles of simplicity, cost-orientation and country specificity.

12.2. Presentation by the APPU-Asia Pacific Region by Alison Watson-Chair APPU

- The presentation gave the region's future Terminal Dues system and pricing proposals including classification with emphasis on minimization of cost increases over the period in a fair and transparent system;
- Noted that the APPU proposal meets the simplicity threshold

- Concerns were raised over declining IPKs (items per kilogram) and its negative impact on revenues for member countries and hence there is need for further independent studies on IPKs.

12.3. Africa's perspectives on the future terminal dues systems by PAPU and Egypt

PAPU

PAPU highlighted the following

- PAPU presentation highlighted Africa's position on future terminal dues system based on various interactions and country submissions to the Secretariat;
- Called for further study on classification of countries as those being upgraded may lose out on revenue;
- Observed that basing terminal dues on domestic tariffs may be unfavorable for the continent that largely has socially derived tariffs not based on costs;
- Concerns were raised over the two ETOEs operating in South Africa and the need to advise DPOs (designated postal operators) of dispatches made;
- Further observed that QSF should be retained to assist countries at least for another three cycles;
- African DPOs were urged to institute a reputable and reliable measuring system for quality of service;
- In conclusion, on-going terminal dues engagements require wider consultations to secure and enrich positions.

Egypt

Egypt focused on:

- Contributions based on imbalance methodology in a system that is simple, easy to implement and supports successful achievement of universal service;
- It was noted that postal services as an essential communications medium should not be subjected to the WTO's most favored principles.

13. PRESENTATION ON POSTAL FINANCIAL SERVICES BY GABON

- The presentation by Gabon provided a historical overview of the new self-sustaining Gabon post from 2007 following an era characterized by decline in mail volumes;
- Highlights were provided on the following:
 - Service diversification;
 - enhanced storage of data;
 - Development agency services;
 - post bank services;
 - Money transfers;
 - Modernization programmes and
 - Expedited mail courier services.

14. PRESENTATION ON POSTAL FINANCIAL SERVICES BY SENEGAL

Key issues in the presentation were:

- Operational systems of money transfers and savings bank and accounting;
- Enhance competitiveness through various strategies including quality of service, price and financial inclusion;
- All the systems are real-time.

15. PRESENTATION ON DIGITAL MAIL SOLUTION BY ESCHER GROUP AFRICA (PTY) LTD

The presentation highlighted the following:

- The company was formed in America in 1989 Its core business:
 - Branch automation,
 - Service based solutions, and
 - Digital postal mail, among others;
- Its technology is targeted at government and postal services and enables e-government services in education, health and agriculture;
- Offers plug-in service engine for business customers in bill payment and customer service among others.

The presentation was noted

16. PRESENTATION ON DEVELOPMENT OF ICT BASED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BY BOTSWANA

- The presentation was based on research done in 2009 which revealed that only 41% of the population had access to banking services;
- The strategic thrust of the post office is exhibited in product diversification, competitiveness, growth and sustainability;
- Has hosted a solution platform for e-post in a consolidated perspective;
- Has put in place strategic initiatives that include e-post portals of online services, e-government and e-commerce, mobile money, loyalty cards and prepaid utility bills.

17. PRESENTATION ON POSTAL SERVICES BY ZAMBIA

The presentation gave an overview on:

- Postal business that included mail, parcels , registers, box/bag rentals, money transfers and post bus;

- The current technology profile that includes data center, wide area network and GPRS services;
- Challenges faced that include costly technology, competition from courier operators, alternative low cost mobile money transfer services;
- How the emergent challenges are being addressed through its wide branch networks, enacting of flexible legislation, investing in technology and forging partnerships.

18. HIGHLIGHTS ON POSTAL REGULATORS FORUM IN COTONOU BY PAPU

PAPU gave an overview of the Forum of Postal Regulators of the Africa Region held in Cotonou, Benin in October, 2011, for the purpose of sharing experiences.

Some of the recommendations were:

- Need to develop postal development policies, legislation and regulatory regimes for sustainable development of the postal sector;
- Establishment of postal regulatory Authorities by 2013, in countries that are yet to do this;
- Revitalization and building capacities of existing regulatory authorities;
- Development of strategies to enable the postal sector offer quality, sustainable, affordable and reliable universal services that are adapted to local social and economic conditions;

19. PRESENTATION ON BEST PRACTICES IN REGULATION BY SOUTH AFRICA

The presentation by South Africa gave an over-view on:

- The history of Postal Regulation in South Africa,
- Legislative Framework,

- Market Structure and Licensing Framework, Mandate of ICSEA and its core activities and
- Challenges it faces in carrying out its mandate.

20. PRESENTATION BY EGYPT ON E-COMMERCE INITIATIVES

The presentation highlighted the introduction of e-commerce in Egypt and achievements so far realized. Some of the benefits envisaged in embracing e-commerce were given as:

- Expansion of marketplace at the national and internal levels;
- Lowering of barriers in the market place;
- Allowing customization of products as per customer specification transmitted through the web easily;
- Allowing-the customer to shop cheaper.

Challenges highlighted in the presentation as well as comments from the meeting included:

- Difficulty for people to shift from physical to virtual shop;
- Language barrier;
- Digital divide i.e. e-readiness;
- Not all post offices are connected electronically;
- Connectivity/bandwidth is limited.

PAPU was urged to explore the possibility of assisting countries to synergize their activities to ensure faster electronic connectivity within the region.

21. PRESENTATION BY UPU ON POSTAL FINANCIAL SERVICES

The presentation was meant to remind English speaking countries about the action plan adopted in a workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya, in September, 2011, on the Development of Financial Services in Africa.

These include:

- Appointment of National projects managers on money transfer services as well as putting in place project teams;
- Countries to come up with Business plans and related action plans;
- Countries to synchronize national plans with regional plans;
- Establishing sub-regional project management teams that will work with UPU regional offices;
- UPU and PAPU to assist countries in operationalizing their bilateral agreements in electronic money transfers.

Presentations can be found on the PAPU website.

22. COMMON POSITIONS TOWARDS DOHA CONGRESS

Expression of interests in elective positions in CA & POC

Members were advised to indicate their interests in various UPU organs and committees.

The following countries expressed their interest on the floor as indicated below:

Country	CA	POC
SOUTH AFRICA	1	1
NIGERIA	1	
TANZANIA	1	
UGANDA		1
EGYPT	1	1

22.1. Identification of countries that will lead on specific positions at CA & POC

The following UPU key content issues will be led by the following lead countries:

UPU Key Content Issues	Lead Countries
National Systems Addressing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOUTH AFRICA • TANZANIA • UGANDA
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOUTH AFRICA
Terminal Dues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIGERIA • EGYPT
Financial Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIGERIA
Reform of the Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMEROON
Geographical representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMEROON
ETOEs (Extra-Territorial Offices of Exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZIMBABWE
E-commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KENYA
GMS (Global Monitoring System)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOTSWANA

22.2. Guiding principles in respect of Africa's positioning at the Doha Congress

Key areas of focus were the following:

- Migration to the target system is not supported and would explore the content of France proposal as presented by TD Chair;
- Some countries have issues on classification of countries because they would lose out in terms of Terminal Dues and Quality of Service Fund;

- Direct access not to be supported for the transitions countries, it should remain optional;
- Maintain support for the African model presented by Egypt but also collaborate with other sub-regional groups after evaluating the impact of the various models

22.3. Proportional Representation in UPU Organs: PAPU Secretariat

The PAPU presentation highlighted the following:

- The need for proportional representation in UPU organs
- The need for consultations among each sub region to harmonize their positions
- Recommendation for candidature should be based on active and consistent participation in UPU meetings
- To be up-to-date with contributions

The meeting agreed that:

- Sub-Regions should consult and agree on their proposed candidates and submit their proposals to PAPU for circulation to the entire membership as well as to the other regions for support;
- The list be presented to the PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference for information and support;
- Member countries to reflect on better strategies to increase representation in POC.

23. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The report was adopted.

24. CLOSING

The meeting was officially closed by the Minister for Communications of the Republic of South Africa, Honourable Dina Pule. In her closing remarks she:

- Thanked UPU membership for giving Africa an opportunity to host the 24th UPU Congress which was to take place in Kenya;
- Acknowledged the admirable role Kenya is playing as the CA chair;
- Thanked the Secretary General for providing excellent leadership to PAPU in the male-dominated environment;
- Underscored that postal growth and development were key for Africa's economy;
- Cautioned that UPU should not be used as a vehicle or lever for the WTO.

**(JIM PARTERSON)
SOUTH AFRICA
CHAIRMAN**

.....
(RICHARD TONUI & MARTIN NGESE) (BRIGITTE OLGA MANCKOUNDIA)
KENYA CONGO REPUBLIC
1ST RAPPORTEUR 2ND RAPPORTEUR

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

The African Support Committee meeting of the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) was held at Misty Hills Hotel in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa on 28th–30th November, 2011.

The following Member countries and postal organizations participated: **Botswana, Burundi, Congo Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and SAPOA.**

The following Members were absent: **Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Tunisia, Libya, COPTAC, and WAPCO.**

Cameroon sent an apology.

The following participated as observers:

- PAPU Member Countries: **Gabon, Mozambique, Namibia, Uganda;**
- **African Union Commission**
- **Universal Postal Union**

- Other Organizations and Countries: **APPU, Escher Group Belgium.**

The opening ceremony was officiated by Ms. Rosey Maboko Sekese, Director General of the Department of Communications, Republic of South Africa.

The following ASC Bureau was installed:

Chairman	:	South Africa
Vice Chairman	:	Nigeria
1st Rapporteur	:	Kenya
2nd Rapporteur	:	Congo Republic

During the meeting, the Committee received and deliberated on the following presentations:

- Role of African Support Committee towards DOHA Strategy: South Africa;
- Status report on the Development of Doha Strategy – Input, Opportunity and Process: South Africa;
- An Address for Everyone - Key Lessons from ongoing Implementation: Tanzania;
- Proposal to amend Acts of the Union: South Africa;
- Role of Non-state Actors (Consultative Council) in the UPU: South Africa;
- Implementation of Integrated Postal Development Plan (IPDP) in Africa – Challenges and Opportunities: Universal Postal Union;
- e-Commerce Strategy at NamPost: Namibia;
- Initiatives taken on Development of e-Commerce: Egypt;
- Development of ICT-Based Products and Services: Botswana;
- Status of Implementation of the African Union (AU) study and ICT Ministers recommendations on the Development of the Postal Sector in Africa: African Union Commission;
- Development of the new Terminal Dues System; Marc Paingt Chairman, UPU Terminal Dues Group: Belgium
- APPU Regional Terminal Dues Presentation: Asia Pacific Postal Union;
- Future Terminal Dues System: Africa’s perspectives; PAPU and Egypt
- Counter Automation: Telecommunications infrastructure – Why ? How ? When ? : Gabon;
- Development of ICT based products and services; Senegal;
- Escher’s Digital Postbox: ESCHER GROUP;

- Development of ICT Based Products and Services: Zambia;
- Highlights of the Africa Regional Regulators Forum, Cotonou 17-19 October, 2011: PAPU Secretariat;
- Regulation of Postal Services in South Africa by ICASA: South Africa;
- Proportional Representation in UPU Organs: PAPU Secretariat;

At the end of the proceedings the Committee made the following key decisions :

- **Representation to the POC and CA**

- Sub-Regions to consult and agree on their proposed candidates for membership to the UPU POC and CA, and submit their proposal to PAPU for circulation to the entire membership as well as to the other regions of the world for support.
- The list will also be presented to the PAPU plenipotentiary Conference for information and support

- **Guiding principles in respect of Africa's position on the future Terminal Dues System at the Doha**

- Migration to the target system not supported and would explore;
- The Terminal Dues Chair to avail the France proposal and the outcomes of the Paris meeting for study.
- No objection to classification of countries for the purpose of Terminal Dues and Quality of Service Fund;
- Direct access not to be supported for the transition–countries, it should remain optional;

- Maintain support for the African model presented by Egypt but also collaborate with other sub-regional groups after evaluating the impact of the various models.
- Lead Countries

The table below lists UPU key content issues against the lead countries

UPU Key Content Issues	Lead Countries
National Addressing Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOUTH AFRICA • TANZANIA • UGANDA
Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOUTH AFRICA
Terminal dues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIGERIA • EGYPT
Financial services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIGERIA
Reform of the union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMEROON
Geographical representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMEROON
ETOE (extra-territorial offices of exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZIMBABWE
E-commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KENYA
GMS(Global Monitoring System)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOTSWANA

A vote of thanks was addressed to the authorities of the Republic of South Africa by Botswana.

Done in Johannesburg, on 30th November, 2011

VOTE OF THANKS

The African Support Committee, meeting in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa, from 28th to 30th November, 2011 ;

Having noted with gratitude and satisfaction the support received from the Authorities of the Republic of South Africa by PAPU General Secretariat towards the organization of the African Support Committee “Forum on Sharing of Experiences and Bench marking on Best Practices”;

Recognizing the conducive and tranquil environment that characterized the deliberations, a clear testimony of the host country’s recognition of the future of the post in the continent, the exemplary commitment of the Republic of South Africa in piloting the affairs of the African Support Committee, as well as spearheading the development and integration of African Posts;

Appreciating the effectiveness and efficiency with which the Chairman of the African Support Committee conducted the proceedings of this meeting;

Noting the unflinching support of both the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Management and staff of the Department of Communications of South Africa;

Expresses its profound gratitude to the Authorities of the Republic of South Africa, for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all the delegates and other participants;

Hereby conveys its sincere and deep gratitude to His Excellency, Jacob Gedleyihlekisa ZUMA, President of the Republic of South Africa, The Government, The Minister of Communications, Her Excellency, Ms. Dina PULE as well the entire citizens of the Republic of South Africa.

Done in Johannesburg, South Africa on 30th November, 2011

AFRICAN SUPPORT COMMITTEE, 28-30 NOVEMBER 2011, Misty Hills Hotel

	NAME	SURNAME	DESIGNATION	COUNTRY	CONTACT NUMBERS	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Rodah A.	Masaviru	SG PAPU	Tanzania		sg@papu.co.tz
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3	Marc	Paingt	D: IR	Belgium	32 4995 68007	marc.paingt@bfeov.co.bw
4	Cornelius	Ramatlhakwane	Exec: Business Dev	Botswana	267 713 25555	cramatlhakwane@botswpost.co.bw
5	Edwin	Makhupe	National Ops Manager	Botswana	267 712 90852	emakhupe@botswpost.cobw
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