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STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

4th-6th July 2022, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The second Strategy Committee meeting for the year was held in hybrid format from 4th to 6th July 2022 at Pullman Hotel in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It was Chaired by Uganda the 1st Vice-Chair of the Committee in the absence of the Chair, Tunisia.

2.0 OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson, Mrs. Agatha K. Mbabazize called the meeting to order and commenced the deliberations for the day. She welcomed everyone present for taking their time to attend the meeting either in person or virtually and called on participants to contribute freely during the meeting.

The following points were contained in her remarks;

- It was an honor for Uganda to Chair the meeting on behalf of Tunisia who was not available.
- She hoped that the Agenda would be smoothly done with the support of the Bureau and members
- She thanked delegates for their attendance and stressed that the success of the meeting would be dependent on their full participation
- She thanked the secretariate for enabling this event to take place especially in the preparation of documents, coordinating the Working Groups and Taskforces and general organization of the 40th PAPU Administrative Council session
- She further thanked the DRC government and the people for the warm welcome, facilities put at our disposal, general brotherliness and friendliness of the people which made us feel at home.

3.0 REMARKS FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL PAPU

The PAPU Secretary General welcomed all the delegates to the session and expressed his gratitude that the meeting had commenced despite some challenges. He hoped that we would get over the hurdles as soon as possible to ensure that the meeting goes on smoothly. He called upon participants to be more innovative so that we can move the Union forward. He wished the participants fruitful deliberations.

4.0 CONFIRMATION OF BUREAU

The Committee Bureau was confirmed as follows:

- Chairperson: Tunisia;
- 1st Vice Chairperson: Uganda;
- 2nd Vice Chairperson: Burkina Faso;
- Rapporteurs: Tunisia;
  Namibia;
- Secretariat: PAPU Secretariat.

5.0 Committee Member States -

The following are the members of the Committee: Algeria Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt Kenya, Malawi, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia.

5.1 Meeting Participation

The following Members States were Present: Botswana, Cameroon, Congo (Republic) Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania Uganda, Zimbabwe.

The detailed list of participants is attached to the report as **Annex 1.**

6.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The General Secretariat presented the Draft Agenda which was adopted without amendments after Malawi moved the motion and was supported by Kenya.

The adopted agenda is attached to the report as **Annex 2.**

7.0 REPORT OF Q1 2022 STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING

The General Secretariat presented the Q1 2022 Strategy Committee Report under **PAPU/ATC/SC/02/2022- Doc No.02** for consideration and noting by the Committee. Matters arising from the report were also presented for noting and guidance.

Highlights of the report were based on the Strategy Committee inaugural meeting which was virtually held from 15th to 17th March, 2022.

7.1 SALIENT ISSUES DISCUSSED DURING THE Q1 MEETING

The report focused on the following salient issues which were discussed and deliberated on during the Q1 meeting:

- Terms of Reference of the Committee;
- Consideration and Adoption of proposed Working Groups and Task Force;
- Review of the Rules of Procedure for Administrative and Technical Committees;
- Update Report on the implementation of Decisions and Resolutions of the10th Plenipotentiary; Conference and 39th Administrative Council;
- Presentation on partnerships and cooperation;
- Presentation on the Africa Postal Strategy;
- Presentation on the draft Programme of Action 2022/2023-2024/2025 of the Committee;
- Presentation on the Opening-up of the UPU;
- Presentation on Postal Digital Transformation;
    - Presentations of Tunisia on i) Logistics and Finance
    - Presentation by DRC Postal Transformation

7.2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORT

Matters arising from the Q1 Meeting of the Strategy Committee were discussed as follows:

1.1	**Consideration and Adoption of Proposed Working Groups** The two (2) Working Groups and one (1) Task Force created by the Committee have since commenced their work. Reports of the Working Groups had been tabled during this meeting. The Committee will submit the Terms of Reference of the Working Groups and Task Forces to the Administrative Council for noting and confirmation.
1.2	**Review of the Rules of Procedure for Administrative and Technical Committees** The Committee's comments on the Rules of Procedure for Administrative and Technical Committees will form part of the future work of the Policy and Legal Harmonization Working Group under the Policy and Regulation Committee (PRC).
1.3	**Disaster Risk Management Framework** The Draft Disaster Risk Framework which was crafted was presented by the DRM Working Group Chairman to the Committee for adoption before consideration and approval by the 40th Administrative Council.
1.4	**The Africa Postal Strategy** The African Postal Strategy was updated after the UPU Abidjan Congress as directed by the 10th Plenipotentiary Conference and also further refined to take account of the Regional Development Programme for Africa.
1.5	**Opening-up of the UPU** A questionnaire to elicit information on priority areas for Opening up the UPU is under compilation. This is because the General Secretariat needs to benchmark on the one from UPU as requested by the Task Force Meeting. The UPU questionnaire is yet to be circulated. However, Members were encouraged to submit their views to the General Secretariat even outside the questionnaire.
1.6	**Update on the 39th Administrative Council Outcomes** A consolidated status of implementation of the 39th Administrative Council, 10th Plenipotentiary Conference and the 39th Extra Ordinary Session of the Administrative Council outcomes for the Union were presented under document **PAPU/ATC/SC/02/2022 - Doc No.6.** The status of implementation will be integrated into the General Secretariat Report to be submitted to the 40th Administrative Council Session from 12th to 14th July, 2022

8.0 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM) WORKING GROUP MEETING REPORT

The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Working Group, chaired by Mr. Mogale Maenetja of South Africa presented its Report through its Chairperson for their meeting held virtually on 15th June 2022. The report presented under document **PAPU/ATC/SC/02/2022- Doc No.03** covered the following main issues:

a) Terms of Reference of the Working Group;
b) Consideration and adoption of the Working Group Action Plan;
c) Consideration and adoption of the Disaster Risk Management Model Framework

The Committee adopted the report and approved the Working Group Action Plan as well as the Disaster Risk Management Model Framework.

8.1 Recommendations

The report contained the following recommendations which were considered and adopted by the Committee:

a) Malawi and Mozambique should come up with a Model DRM Model Framework to be considered by the Strategy Committee;

b) The Team working on the Model DRM Framework should tap into the knowledge and experience of the Chairperson who has expert knowledge in the field;

c) Member States need to benchmark on each other's experience even though they have different geographical and geological conditions.

The Disaster Risk Framework is attached herewith as **Annex 3.**

9.0 TASK FORCE ON THE OPENING UP OF THE UPU TO THE WIDER POSTAL SECTOR PLAYERS (PTF) MEETING REPORT

The Task Force on the Opening Up of the UPU to the Wider Postal Sector Players (PTF) which is chaired by Mrs. Pauline Bikay of Cameroon held its inaugural meeting virtually on 7th June 2022. During the Task Force meeting, the main issues on the agenda were discussed and deliberated on as indicated in the subsequent section.

9.1 The main issues tabled and discussed

The following salient issues were deliberated during the meeting:

- Terms of Reference of the Task Force;
- Consideration and adoption of the Task Force Action Plan;

9.2 Recommendations

The report contained the following recommendations which were considered and adopted by the Committee as follows:

a) The General Secretariat is tasked to solicit priority areas on the Opening up matter and share it with the Members by benchmarking on the UPU questionnaire to be circulated soon;
b) Member States are called upon to provide more views on the Opening up of the UPU even beyond the questions in the Questionnaire.

The Committee was encouraged to always align their resolutions with the UPU Strategy Congresses.

10.0 INVESTMENTS AND PROJECTS WORKING GROUP (IPG) VIRTUAL MEETING REPORT

The Investments and Projects Working Group (IPG) is chaired by Mr. Ofentse Mabote of Botswana. The Working Group (IPG) was created by the Strategy Committee during its virtual meeting which was held from 15th to 17th March, 2022.

The Working Group held its inaugural meeting virtually on 15th June 2022 during which the Agenda was discussed and deliberated on as indicated in the subsequent section of this report.

10.1 The main issues tabled and discussed

The following salient issues were deliberated during the meeting:

a) Terms of Reference of the Working Group;
b) Consideration and adoption of the Working Group Action Plan;

The Committee adopted the report and the Working Group's Terms of Reference and Action Plan. These are attached to this report as **Annex 4 and 5,** respectively.

10.2 Recommendations

The report contained the following recommendations which were considered and adopted by the Committee:

a) The Union should invest in Money Markets which render a higher rate of return than fixed deposits;
b) The Union should ensure that the new PAPU building is optimally utilized to earn meaningful revenue for the Union
c) The Relocation Plan presented should be refined and implemented to enable an orderly transition from the old building to the new Head Office Building.
d) All the Union's revenue such as settlement of arrears and advance payment of mandatory contributions should be invested into interest earning portfolios.

The recommendations will be submitted to the Administrative Council as part of the Strategy Committee Resolution for adoption.

11.0 UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 39TH ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, 10TH PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE AND THE 10TH EXTRA ORDINARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OUTCOMES

The General Secretariat presented a report under **PAPU/ATC/SC/02/2022- Doc No.06** giving an update on the Implementation of the 39th Administrative Council, 10th Plenipotentiary Conference and the 10th Extraordinary PAPU Administrative Council Outcomes. The report was submitted for the Committee to note the Status of implementation of Decisions, Resolutions and Recommendations on Strategy issues for subsequent submission to the 40th PAPU Administrative Council for noting and guidance.

The Committee noted the Status Report which will be integrated into the General Secretariat's report to be presented during the Administrative Council Plenary to be held from 12th to 14th July, 2022.

12.0 STRATEGY COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN FOR 2021/22-2024/25 CYCLE

The General Secretariat presented the Committee Draft Action Plan under **PAPU/AC/SC/02/2022 – Doc No.8** for consideration and adoption by the Committee. The Working Group Action Plan is a consolidation of the Working Groups' and Task Force's Action Plans to ensure effective coordination of the work of the Committee throughout the cycle.

The Action Plan was adopted by the Committee for presentation to the 40th Ordinary Session of the PAPU Administrative Council and appears as **Annex 6** to this report.

13.0 THE THEME OF THE PAN AFRICAN POST DAY CELEBRATION FOR THE YEAR 2023

13.1 The General Secretariat presented the theme of the Pan African Post Day Celebration for 2023 under PAPU/AC/SC/02/2022 – Doc No.8 for consideration and adoption by the Committee in line with Resolution **N°03/PAPU/CA/85** adopted on 18th January 1985 in Harare, Zimbabwe, and approved by PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference during its 2nd Session held in 1988 in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Further to that, during the 10th Plenipotentiary Conference in Victoria Falls Zimbabwe in June, 2022, four themes were adopted for cerebrating the day each year for the period 2022-2025.

13.2 In view of the foregoing, the General Secretariat informed the meeting of the theme below in line with the aforementioned directives:

"The Post: An established promoter of cross-border e-commerce in Africa"

13.3 The Pan African Post Day that will be celebrated on 18th January 2023 under this topical theme which is in accordance with Africa's identified priorities for this Congress Cycle, 2022-2025, notably the commitment to deliver innovative, integrated, and inclusive solutions.

13.4 Given the importance of this day, it is expected that the PAPU Member States will hold celebrations to mark this day by organizing a "**Customer's Day**" which will afford them an opportunity to interact with their customers and discuss this theme.

14.0 DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date and venue of the next meeting of the Strategy Committee will be communicated by the General Secretariat once consultations with the Chairperson are finalized.

The Working Groups' and Task Force's meetings will also be organized during the course of the year, 2022.

15.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AOB)

There was no other business discussed under this Agenda item.

16.0 ADOPTION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee adopted the report and the Draft Resolution which is herewith attached as **Annex 7** for submission to the 40th Administrative Council for approval.

17.0 CLOSING