



REPORT OF THE 28TH EACO POSTAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 28TH JUNE, 2023, Bujumbura, Burundi.

1.0 Introduction

The East African Communications Organisation (EACO) held its Postal Assembly meeting on 28th June, 2023 at Royal Palace Hotel, Bujumbura, Burundi. The meeting had participants from Postal Corporation of Kenya (PCK), Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), Uganda Post Ltd (UPL), Uganda Communications Commission (UCC), Tanzania Posts Corporation (TPC), National Post Office of Rwanda (RNPO), Regie Nationale des Postes (RNP) and National Communication Authority (NCA).

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



List of participants -
Postal Assembly 202

2.0 Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by the outgoing Chairperson of EACO Postal Assembly Dr Celestin Kayitare, Rwanda National Post Office (RNPO).

He thanked members on the work done since the previous meeting in July 2021 held online where he was elected Chairperson of the Assembly.

3.0 Election of the Bureau

The meeting elected the Bureau as follows:

Chairperson : Pacifique Munyeshongore – Burundi
1st Rapporteur : Francine Ndayiragije - Burundi
2nd Rapporteur : Rogasiano Felix Andrea – South Sudan

4.0 Adoption of the agenda

The agenda proposed was adopted and herewith attached as **Annex 2**.



Agenda -Postal
Assembly - Day 3 on

5.0 Report of the outgoing Chairperson of the Postal Assembly

The report was presented by the outgoing Chairperson Dr Celestin Kayitare, Director General of Rwanda National Post Office. It highlights the key achievements and challenges in implementations of different actions. The report of outgoing Postal Assembly Chairperson is attached as **Annex 3**.



Report of Chairman
of Postal Assembly-J

6.0 Handover of the outgoing to the incoming chairperson

After the presentation of the report, the outgoing Chairperson handed over to the incoming Chairperson Mr. Munyeshongore Pacifique. He wished him success in the accomplishment of the next cycle of activities, he also thanked all the participants for their active contributions to put forward the effort for developing the postal sector.

The incoming chairperson thanked the outgoing Chairperson for the achievements and promised to work hand in hand with the whole team.

7.0 Presentation and demonstration of Gridcode Technology

The presentation was made by Victor Gbadeyan, Country Director, GridCode Technology (AKUTARI), Republic of Rwanda. He presented GridCode Technology as a simplified addressing, efficient route planning and its benefits.

The presentation is herewith attached as **Annex 4**.



Gridcode
presentation by Vict

8.0 Consideration of report of WG04 - Postal Service Development and Regulation

The WG4 was presented by the Chairperson of the Group Mr. Daraus Muhwezi Jim.

The entire report is herein attached as **Annex 5**.



WG4-Report-to-Ass
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9.0 Challenges

The following challenges have been faced:

- Budget constraints which affected the attendance of physical meetings by all members of WG4.
- Lack of commitment of some Working Group members.
- Inconsistency in attending WG meetings by members.
- Poor internet connectivity which affected online attendance of meetings by some members.

10.0 Recommendations

- 10.1 The need for all member Designated Operators to install the Global Monitoring System (GMS) to measure Quality of Service as a requirement of UPU for remuneration purposes
- 10.2 Each member country should set-up an e-commerce website where customers can sell and buy merchandise and for the post to do last mile delivery.
- 10.3 Each member state should implement the new UPU requirements regarding Electronic Advance Data (EAD), remuneration, quality of service and postal security certification.
- 10.4 All member countries should utilize the UPU Quality of Service Fund (QSF) to implement quality improvement related projects.
- 10.5 Each country should designate a permanent member of the WG4 to ensure continuity of participation and consistence.

11.0 Consideration of cross-cutting issues for submission to the Joint Committee

It was agreed that the following cross – cutting issues be forwarded to the Joint Committee:

- i. Addressing & Postcodes: Postal cannot succeed addressing system and cannot afford e-commerce without support.
- ii. Universal Service Fund (USF) to support postal services. In many countries, USF is under National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) and there is a need to contribute to the development of postal sector
- iii. Greening postal services: postal services not to affect the environment by using solar panels to manage e-waste,

- iv. The regulators present at the meeting were requested by the operators to support the digitization and transformation program for postal services aimed at supporting the delivery of Universal service in the postal sector. In response to the request the regulators present at the meeting urged operators to submit proposals for their consideration for support through USF.
- v. EACO Secretariat requested relevant working groups for involvement of Postal in Cyber security activities so as to cushion the Post from Cyber threats.
- vi. A Joint framework to be established to monitor and curb illegal cross border E- Commerce players
- vii. Develop a Framework for harmonization of postal security and risk management
- viii. Develop a Postal modernization strategy.

12.0 Conclusion

The Postal Assembly:

- a. Adopted the report of outgoing chairperson of the Assembly.
- b. Noted and adopted the progress report of WG4 on Postal and Courier Service Development and Regulation.
- c. Encouraged the WG4 to continue working on the tasks in progress and, to start the new activities in Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

13.0 Closing

The Chairperson of the Postal Assembly thanked all the participants for their achievements and encouraged them to continue improving. He thanked them also for their contributions during the Assembly meeting.

1st Rapporteur : Francine Ndayiragije

2nd Rapporteur : Rogasiano Felix Andrea

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Chairperson : Pacifique Munyeshongore

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