

**TANZANIA ELECTED MEMBER OF THE POSTAL
OPERATIONS COUNCIL (POC) OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION
(UPU)**

Tanzania was elected to the seat of Postal Operations Council during the 26th Universal Postal Union congress held in Istanbul, Turkey on the 6th October, 2016. The Postal Operations Council is the technical and operational mind of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and consists of 40 member countries, elected during the congress, whereby African region has only Seven (7) seats.

The Postal Operations Council's work programme is geared towards helping Posts modernize and upgrades their postal products and services. It deals with the operational, economic and commercial aspects of the postal business. The body also makes recommendations to member countries on standards for technological, operational or other processes within its competence where uniform practices are necessary.

Benefits for Tanzania to join Postal Operations Council (POC) of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) are;

Continuation of Addressing and Postcode program will be possible because the country will participate in new development regarding standards and database management by effective participating in Addressing and Postcode group meeting.

To maintain the lead, role gained in postal sector reform and development by participating in postal cooperation group meeting.

To ensure country maintains good quality of service record by participation in quality of service user group and quality of service fund.

To continue getting appropriate remuneration for mail exchange between Tanzania and foreign countries by taking part in Terminal Dues group meeting.

Security standards will be maintained by utilising appropriate technology including Global Mail Monitoring System (GMS)

Election of Tanzania to the Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union has clearly demonstrated how the international postal family has confidence with the country. Implementation of reforms of the postal sector and national Addressing and Postcode system, the hosting of Regional Technical support centre for African's English

speaking countries by the Tanzania Government has also contributed to this success.

During the event only four countries of Sub Saharan Africa were elected to the council which are Tanzania, Kenya, Ghana and Senegal. The Universal Postal Union has 192 member countries.

Other countries elected to the Postal Operations Council are; Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Morocco, Netherkands, New zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United State of America and Uruguay.