## THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



## WORLD POST DAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2024



Hon. Jerry William Silaa (MP)

MESSAGE FROM HON. JERRY WILLIAM SILAA (MP), THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON THE COMMEMORATION OF WORLD POST DAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2024

THEME: "150 Years of Enabling Communication and Empowering Peoples Across Nations".

I am grateful to deliver this message to the Postal Sector stakeholders and the public on this 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). Tanzania being one of the UPU Member countries, joins other countries to celebrate the World Post Day by creating awareness on the role of the Postal Sector to the community in their daily activities and its contribution to social and economic development.

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania joined this union in 1963 and has been vigorously pursuing Regional and International collaboration with other

International bodies and is pleased to join the international community to commemorate this important day. Tanzania is delighted to be connected to the global postal network as through the network goods and services can be delivered throughout the World.

We celebrate the UPU anniversary for its success in the enhancement of technological transformation at the level of international cooperation in mail exchange, capacity building, technical support for developing countries, and championing Postal Sector reform.

The theme of this year is "150 Years of Enabling Communication and Empowering Peoples Across Nations". This theme attractively summarizes the spirit and impact of the Postal Sector over the past century and a half. The theme also depicts an extraordinary progress in the realm of postal services and communication, a journey that has profoundly shaped our world.

In these 150 years of the Postal Sector, let us remind of the historical background of the services before digital communication came into our lives by which sending letters by post was the only option, and in cases where the message was urgent, the option was the telegram. It was this form of communication that revolutionized long-distance communication between rural and urban also unsaved areas while playing a very pivotal role in the socio-economic lives of citizens. Today, Postal sector still play a central role in our economy and society by enabling communication and empowering people across nations.

As a Minister responsible for the development of the Postal sector, I appreciate the success implementation of the National Postal Policy (2003) as well as Postal Regulation Framework in Tanzania. Looking ahead, we are in the process of reviewing our National Postal Policy to accommodate the vision of creating an enabling environment for service providers by embracing digitization to enhance innovation, international and cross-border e-commerce, and facilitate digital services for the public. The Government is committed to ensure that the Postal Policy is relevant in the digital era and guarantees quality postal services across the country as well as worldwide. Thanks to the capability, standards, rules, and regulations put in place to facilitate this.

Moreover, Tanzania is confident that the exchange of goods and services across borders and their delivery through the national postal network. The postal services are basic services serving the entire population. It also serves as an important medium of communication for e-business and e-services. The postal operators are global players in connecting people and businesses in several areas including but not limited to areas namely communications, trade, and exchanging information and ideas. For this matter, the Government through the regulator is ensuring services in the Postal Sector are efficient, reliable, and secured to all citizens regardless of their locations basing on national imperative.

Marking '150 years of the Universal Postal Union aims at the Postal Sector highlighting the success, opportunities as well as challenges not only to the UPU as an international body but also to Tanzania as a member of the Union. The Postal Industry should continue claiming its place in the changing communication landscape by embracing technology as it is an important factor for economic development in assisting in advancing sustainable human development.

As we celebrate this significant anniversary, we highlight the paces made in integrating digital technologies within the Postal Sector. Digital transformation has revolutionized how postal services operate, offering faster, more efficient solutions for sending and receiving mail, tracking small packets and parcels, and accessing financial services.

To conclude my message, the establishment of efficient and comprehensive postal systems across the Nations is important internationally as well as from a purely domestic viewpoint. Successful maintenance and progressive improvement of international postal service require the effective cooperation of all member countries of the Universal Postal Union. May I take this opportunity to assure you that we will tirelessly work with all stakeholders to make sure Tanzania remain a strong partner of the UPU.

I wish you a Successfully World Post Day, 2024