



PRAIA DECLARATION

Africa Postal Leaders Forum

Praia, Cabo Verde | 25–27 February 2026

We, the Chief Executive Officers and Managing Directors of Designated Postal Operators, regulators, government representatives, regional unions, private sector partners, and development stakeholders gathered at the Africa Postal Leaders Forum in Praia, Cabo Verde, from 25 to 27 February 2026, under the theme:

“Consolidation and Convergence: Priorities for a Modern and Interoperable African Postal Network,”

reaffirm our shared commitment to accelerating the transformation of Africa’s postal sector.

Recognizing that:

- The postal network remains one of Africa’s most extensive and trusted infrastructures, capable of delivering inclusive digital, financial, logistics and government services to urban and rural populations alike.
- Digital transformation, interoperability, and data-driven operations are essential to integrating Africa into global logistics, e-commerce and digital trade ecosystems.
- Structured addressing, standards compliance, and digital infrastructure constitute the foundation of a modern and competitive postal ecosystem.
- Reliable, visible, and seamless cross-border logistics are critical to supporting continental trade and the objectives of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- Transformational leadership and institutional renewal are decisive factors for navigating the digital era and ensuring the long-term sustainability of postal operators.
- Youth leadership and intergenerational dialogue are essential to building resilient and future-ready postal institutions.
- Postal financial services and postal banking can play a strategic role in financial inclusion, savings mobilization, and economic resilience.
- Partnerships with governments, regulators, development partners, and the private sector are critical to mobilizing investments and fostering innovation.

We affirm that:



- Africa’s postal sector must evolve into an interoperable, technology-enabled network supporting digital economies and inclusive growth.
- Posts are strategic national infrastructure and should be integrated into national digital transformation strategies.
- Cooperation and regional collaboration are essential to achieving operational efficiency and economies of scale.
- Leadership renewal and capacity building are central to sustaining transformation.

Accordingly, we commit to:

- Accelerating Digital Transformation
- Strengthening Operational Excellence and Interoperability
- Advancing Financial Inclusion and Postal Banking
- Promoting Transformational Leadership and Institutional Renewal
- Empowering Youth and Building the Leadership Pipeline
- Expanding Partnerships and Resource Mobilization
- Enhancing Cyber resilience and Digital Identity and Trust

We call upon:

- Governments to integrate postal development into national digital and economic strategies.
- Regulators to establish enabling policy and regulatory frameworks.
- Development partners and financial institutions to support investments in postal modernization.
- Designated postal operators to adopt bold and transformational leadership methods, strengthen governance and accountability, accelerate digital transformation, improve service reliability, and foster a culture of innovation and customer-centric service.
- The UPU and regional unions to continue providing technical assistance, capacity building, and coordination support.

We further resolve to:

Develop and implement a Praia Action Plan (2026–2029) to guide the transformation of Africa’s postal sector and contribute to the Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa and Agenda 2063.

Done in Praia, on 27 February 2026