

POSTAL NEWS

No. 114/2008

**Formulated by UNI-Japan Post in cooperation with UNI-Apro,
ASPEK Indonesia and SPPI**

- 1. Postal Service 'still relevant'. Oct 10, 2008.**
- 2. Nigeria: Why Nipost Adopts Nairobi Postal Strategy By Baba. Oct 10, 2008.**
- 3. Postal services 'suffer technology gap'. Oct 10, 2008.**
- 4. Postal services to grow by Sh1.4b. Oct 10, 2008.**
- 5. Postal Corporation records steady growth. Oct 10, 2008.**
- 6. CCK challenges Postal Corporation to adopt technology. Oct 10, 2008.**

1. Postal Service 'still relevant'

Published on: 10/6/08.

BARBADIANS have been told not to undervalue the Postal Service which has given substantial and valuable contributions to our society over the past 156 years.

Attorney-General Freundel Stuart made the point as he gave brief remarks at the service to mark Postal Week at the Abundant Life Assembly yesterday.

A wide cross-section of the postal service attended the service with Postmaster Joel Brathwaite and former Postmaster General Herbert Niles.

Stuart indicated that just 18 years after Emancipation, in 1852, the Barbados Postal Service was established and provided an integral service for Barbados businesses and much of the population during the 1950s, '60s and '70s who depended on remittances from relatives in Britain and the United States to better provide for their family.

He said in the face of advanced telephone technology, both fixed-lines and cellular, along with email and people opting to carry out themselves many functions previously done on the postal service, mail carriers were still very much needed by Barbadian society.

The Attorney-General mentioned that the high quality of service, reliability, honesty and consistency of the Barbados Postal Service saw many Barbadians still choosing the post office. He added that pensioners in Barbados still look forward to the postal officers' arrival in their neighbourhood.

In his sermon based on Proverb: 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it", Pastor Michael Holford exhorted the

congregation to elevate the joy of seeing to their children's spiritual growth to the same level as their academic and athletic growth.

The pastor asked the Attorney-General to convey his support of the uniform code and free bus rides for school children to Prime Minister David Thompson. But he cautioned that dress code and bus rides do not address the heart and root of the spirit of rebellion affecting our children and adults.

Holford said Barbadians, like the biblical Abraham, must command our children in the way of the Lord so that when the novelty of the free bus rides and the dress code wears off, the children would not revert to deviant behaviour. (KB)

000

2. Nigeria: Why Nipost Adopts Nairobi Postal Strategy By Baba

Daily Independent (Lagos)

10 October 2008

Posted to the web 10 October 2008

Innocent Oweh And David Agba
Abuja

Postmaster-General of the Nigerian Postal Service (NIPOST), Ibrahim Mori Baba, on Thursday stated that the need to improve on service delivery and meet global trends in postal administration has spurred the agency to adopt the Nairobi Postal Strategy (NPS).

He said the decision was a fallout of the 24th Congress of the Universal Postal Union held recently in Geneva, Switzerland, to chart a better course for strengthening the postage sector's future development.

Baba said this in Abuja while marking the 2008 World Post Day.

He added that NIPOST has equally gone into partnership with GALAXY Backbone, an internet connectivity company, to explore ways of boosting its operation through VSAT interconnectivity to over 1,500 postal outlets in the country.

"In our tradition of implementing recommendations and resolutions reached at the Universal Postal Union (UPU), especially in repositioning the post for greater contribution to socio-economic development, our administration embarked on a reform programme which is aimed at achieving efficient service delivery.

"It is also imperative to explain that the desire to strengthen the postal sector in order to make a greater contribution to the world economy.

"We intend to modernise our operations through computerisation and introduce an acceptable national addressing system which we hope will assist in facilitating efficient mail delivery and sustainable development," he added.

While highlighting various efforts of the agency in strengthening its operational capacity, he said NIPOST, through internally generated revenue, has been able to acquire over 30 mail delivery vans, including 250 motorcycles and 100 bicycles as well as 16 Peugeot cars in the last one year.

000

10.10.2008 @01:14 EAT

3. Postal services 'suffer technology gap'

By Consesa John and Irene Mchomvu

Tanzania postal services can be improved more if modern means of communication are applied, Postmaster General Deos Mndeme has said.

Speaking during the anniversary of the World Post Day, Mr Mndeme said that Tanzania Posts Corporation revenue has been rising and its current level is Sh. 20 billion.

Letters sent through the post office inside and outside the country reach 26 million yearly and that the number was rising yearly, he said.

"Post Office services are still needed in Tanzania although there is great competition from more recent means of communication.

The government needs to establish the use of mobile phones in the Post Office in order to widen those services," he further noted. The government is on the process of buying out Post Office debts so that the corporation loses weight and resumes a competitive conduct of service provision.

In his statement, the chairman of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Justice Buxton Chipeta said that this year's commemoration is based on clarifying and making dissemination of the message to the audience with ease on among other things the transportation of prohibited items through the postal system.

He mentioned some of the challenges that the postal sector is facing as globalisation, liberalisation, increasing competition from new services and technologies and the Extraterritorial Offices of Exchange (ETOE) which require solid policy and regulatory actions to address them.

Presenting his speech on behalf of Deputy Minister for Communication, Science and Technology Dr Maua Daftari, the Permanent Secretary Dr Naomi Katunzi said that currently the postal network of Public Postal Operator consists 400 postal outlets.

She said there is need for the government to think of expansion of the postal network not only to reach the rural areas but to offer innovative services applying emerging technologies.

"There is need to discover more avenues to expand on the use of ICT especially in the rural areas where the majority of our people live," she said.

However, she said that the government is working diligently to ensure that the postal services meet expectations of the majority of the vast communities.

"The ongoing implementation of new addressing and postcode project is aimed at easing some barriers faced by the postal industry in the country," she added.

000

4. Postal services to grow by Sh1.4b

Published on 10/10/2008

By James Ratemo

A study by the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) projects a Sh1.4 billion growth by 2012 in the postal sector.

The sector, says the report, attracted Sh806 million investments by close of last year due to increased investor confidence.

The size of the postal/courier market had grown to Sh6.6 billion last year up from Sh4.1 billion in 2002 with over 130 operators licensed by the regulator. The study says stiff competition has forced players to improve delivery of services.

Operational costs

"The prevailing cut throat competition in the sub sector has resulted in introduction of innovative product services, such as electronic money transfer, hybrid mail, and mobile or street collection points," said CCK Director General, Charles Njoroge.

He noted that United Nation's universal access to postal services is yet to be achieved.

According to Postmaster General Fred Odhiambo, the corporation currently has only one post office for every 35,000 Kenyans instead of the universal target of a unit for every 6,000 people.

"Our manual mail handling system contributes 70 per cent to our income, but consumes up to 65 per cent in operational costs. With automation, we could reduce costs by up to 45 per cent," said Odhiambo.

Information Minister, Samuel Poghiso said in a speech read during the World Post Day by senior Information Ministry secretary, Peter Alubale, that PCK would be eased out of business, unless it fully embraces modern technologies. The Minister called on PCK to take advantage of the Government's fibre optic project, being rolled out to all locations in the country to upgrade its service delivery standards and introduce new products. "Modernisation of postal services is a critical factor in the enhanced role of the post in the future development activities worldwide...without use of modern technologies like the Internet and mobile telephony, building a solid customer base and loyalty may remain forever elusive," he said. CCK, is in the process of acquiring an automatic mail quality measurement equipment to monitor standards in the industry in line with the international best practice.

Kenya's profile received a major boost this year following the election of Rhodah Masaviru as the head of Pan African Posta Union.

000

5. Postal Corporation records steady growth

Written By:Judith Akolo , Posted: Thu, Oct 09, 2008

The Communications Commission of Kenya - CCK is asking the Postal Corporation to move fast in modernizing its businesses.

A CCK Director, Stanley Kibe said despite continued growth in electronic transmission of information and data the postal and courier sector has continued to grow at a steady pace.

Speaking at the celebrations to mark the World Postal Day that also awarded the winners of the Postal Corporation essay competition, Kibe said a recent CCK study had shown that the postal and courier market grew from Ksh 4.1 billion in 2002 to Ksh 6.6 billion last year and is expected to expand to Ksh 17 billion by 2012.

"The postal market attracted investments totaling Ksh 806 million in 2007 and is projected to grow to Ksh 1.4 billion in four years," said Kibe.

A standard 7 pupil at Rock Mirror Academy in Langas, Eldoret scooped the first position in the essay competition to mark the World Post Day.

Jepchirchir Katwa won the overall prize of Ksh 50,000 for her winning letter on "Tolerance in Society".

The second position was taken by 11-year-old Naylee Nimesh of Oshwal Academy who won Ksh 35,000 while Joan Wanjiku of Bahati Girls in Nakuru took home the third prizeworth Ksh 20,000.

Jepchirchir in her award winning letter extols the virtues of acceptance of one another despite the racial or religious differences.

For Jepchirchir the displacement of her little friend Njeri from Langas in Eldoret during the height of the election violence is still hard to believe or accept and it was what pushed her into writing the award winning letter.

The Post Master General Fred Odhiambo admitted that indeed technological advancement is a threat to postal services but noted that the Corporation is upping its act in order to remain relevant to the needs in the market through an expansion strategy the Postal Corporation has put in place.

The Senior Deputy Director in the Ministry of Information and Communications Peter Alubale said growth in the postal and courier sector has helped many countries to bridge the digital divide as they work towards development in electronic communications.

"The current growth in technology is playing a complementary role in the postal sector and should not be seen as a way of doing away with postal communication," said Alubale.

He said remittances of billions of dollars from all over the world is being done through mail and therefore the growth potential is still evident.

©2008 Kenya

000

6. CCK challenges Postal Corporation to adopt technology

By Rebecca Wanjiku , IDG News Service , 10/10/2008

The Communications Commission of Kenya has challenged the Postal Corporation of Kenya to adopt technology or risk losing the market to more innovative competitors.

The PCK can use technology to leverage its position as a market leader by introducing new technology products, said Stanley Kibe, CCK director of frequency spectrum management.

New! Watch this Network World Webcast - Minimizing the Risk of Information Security Breaches: Best Practices for SOA Governance and Compliance - Live October 21

"PCK should take advantage of the fiber optic cable to upgrade its service delivery and introduce new products," he said.

In 2006, PCK introduced the electronic money transfer service known as Postapay in collaboration with a private company, but the deal has been dogged by controversy.

Postapay faces fierce competition from mobile services such as M-PESA by Safaricom and Sokotele by Zain. Telkom Kenya has also promised to introduce a money transfer services through the Orange brand.

"The ICT platform is today the cradle of many new and innovative postal products and solutions," said Fred Odhiambo, the postmaster general.

To improve competition, the CCK has licensed over 130 postal and courier operators.

The IDG News Service is a Network World affiliate.

000

Collected by Chairul Anwar, Bandung, Indonesia.

E-mail address : chairulanwar49@operamail.com, uyungchairul@plasa.com.