



OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

PAPU/OTC/PPG/01/2026 - Doc No. 2

PROMOTION OF PHILATELY WORKING GROUP

21st JANUARY 2025 (VIRTUAL) TIME: 09:00 (GMT)

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROMOTION OF THE PHILATELY WORKING GROUP ACTION PLAN

1. Subject Status of Implementation of Working Group Action Plan	References/Paragraphs -Promotion of Philately Action Plan 2022-2025
2. Decisions Expected <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take note of the activities undertaken;• Adopt the Report;• Report to the Operations and Technology Committee.	-Operations and Technology Committee Action Plan 2025/2026

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Promotion of Philately Working Group (PPG) undertook several activities in implementation of its Action Plan for the period 2022-2025, which were reported to the 43rd Administrative Council (AC) Session.

Following **Decision No.02/PAPU/PC/X/2021** on Aligning the PAPU Programme of Activities with the UPU Programme of Activities taken during the 10th Ordinary Session of the PAPU Plenipotentiary Conference held on the 25th June, 2021 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, the current cycle and consequently the tenure of the PAPU Organs was extended to March 2026.

Given the foregoing and in line with the continuation of the Operations and Technology Committee's work, an Annual Action Plan for the period from June 2025 to March 2026 was prepared and approved by the 43rd Administrative Council.

2.0 MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

The following are the main philatelic activities that were undertaken during the 2025/2026 Financial year in implementation of the Operations and Technology Action Plan.

2.1 PREPARATIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF AN AFRICAN JOINT CRYPTO STAMP

Following the establishment of an Expert Team on the Issuance of Africa Joint Crypto stamp during the Working Group meeting in April 2025, the Team commenced its work and did the following activities:

- Creation of a WhatsApp Group for the Team;
- Re-hashing of the Terms of Reference;
- Adoption of guidelines on the collaborative issue provided during the African Philately Workshop held in November 2025.
- Held an online meeting to discuss modalities;
- Prepared a concept paper.

2.2 AFRICAN PHILATELY WORKSHOP

The African Philately Workshop was held on 21st November 2025 under the theme, “**Connecting Heritage with Technology: Africa’s Leap into Digital Philately**”. The Workshop aimed at providing a comprehensive platform for stakeholders to explore the vast potential of crypto stamps in promoting philately, enhancing security, generating revenue for postal operators, and fostering economic development.

The workshop, which was attended by over seventy (70) participants from twenty-two (22) Countries, was facilitated by Philately Experts from the Universal Postal Union and Ciphers.me, who delivered presentations on the theme.

The detailed report on the Conference is presented in **PAPU/OTC/PPG/01/2026/ Doc No. 3**.

3.0 MAJOR MILESTONES FOR 2022-2025

The Pan African Postal Union achieved the following milestones under the Promotion of Philately Working Group during the 2022-2025 cycle:

3.1 African Philately Conferences (APC) held:

No.	CONFERENCE	DATE	VENUE
1.	1 st APC	21-22 November 2022	Cape Town, South Africa
2.	2 nd APC	21-22 November 2023	Rabat, Morocco
3.	3 rd APC	5-6 March 2025	Virtual

3.2 Africa Joint Stamp Issue

No.	STAMP ISSUE	DATE	MEMBER STATES
1.	Commemorative Joint Stamp on the Commissioning of the PAPU Tower	August 2023	Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Zimbabwe

3.3 Digitalization of Philatelic Service

No.	DIGITALIZATION OF PHILATELY	MEMBER STATES
1.	Digital stamps- hybrid stamps with QR codes issued since 2021.	Tunisia
2.	NTF Stamps: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Africa's NTF issued by Côte d'Ivoire in 2022	Côte d'Ivoire, Botswana and Namibia
3.	Africa's first Crypto Stamp was issued in 2024	Ghana

3.4 Capacity Building Workshop

No.	TRAINING WORKSHOP	VENUE AND DATE
1.	Capacity-building Workshop organized in conjunction with the Universal Postal Union	23 rd November 2023 in Rabat, Morocco

The implementation status of the consolidated Action Plan for the Philately Working Group for the period 2022-2026 is presented in **Annex 1**.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Member States are encouraged to continue implementing outstanding activities until they are completed.

5.0 DECISIONS EXPECTED

The report is submitted for the Working Group to:

- Note the Activities undertaken;
- Adopt the Report;
- Table the Report before the Operations and Technology Committee.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2026

S/N	SUBJECT MATTER	MILESTONE	PERIOD	Done	WIP	Not done
PHILATELY						
1.	New trends and innovations in the philately business	i) Share information on the latest global trends and innovations in philately	Q1 2023			
		ii) Share information on new philatelic products on the market and on details on the World Association for Development of Philately (WADP)	Q1 2023			
		iii) Explore new markets for African philatelic products in partnership with other stakeholders	On-going			
		iv) Philately information feedback from Member States (Questionnaire)	Q2 2023			
2.	Digitizing the Philately Business	i) Share information on current digitalization trends in the industry	Q1 2022			
		ii) Explore digital stamp products on the market	On-going			
3.	Promotion of philatelic products	i) Promote philatelic products and activities on different platforms.	On-going			
		ii) Participate in joint stamp issues to promote African heritage and events	2024			
		iii) Organize stamp design competitions	Q3 2022			
		iv) Participation, by Member States, in philatelic activities organized by PAPU, UPU, fellow Members, and other Organizations. (meetings/workshops/conferences/exhibitions)	On-going			
4.	Illegal counterfeit and stamp issues	i) Share information on illegal and counterfeit issues	Q2 2023			
		ii) Craft strategies to eradicate illegal and counterfeit issues of African stamps	Q2 2023			
		iii) Review existing UPU regulations on illegal and counterfeit issues	Q3 2024			
5.	Sharing of best practices on Philately	i) Identify Member States excelling in the philately business to share experiences during workshops/ Committee meetings	Q2 2023			
		ii) Consider twinning and pairing of Member States	Q3 2024			

6.	Reviving Philately Business in Africa	i) Participation of more countries in the Working Group	Q 4 2022			
		ii) Feedback from Member States on philatelic activities (Questionnaire)	Q3 2024			
7.	Digitalization of Stamps	i) Coordinate the issuance of the African Joint Crypto Stamp	2026			
8	Capacity Building	i) Organize African Philately Workshop on Crypto Stamps	November 2025			