

Afghanistan

Current postal regulatory landscape

National legislation

- Name of the act/law/rule: Postal Law (1974) and Postal Regulation (1976)

Coordinating body for postal policies

- Name of the coordinating body/ministry/committee/agency: Minister of Communication and Information Technology
- Level (Ministry or other): ministry
- Website: www.mcit.gov.af www.apra.gov.af

Regulatory authority

- Name of the coordinating regulator: Afghanistan Postal Regulatory Authority, (APRA)
- Covered Areas: policy and regulation, Licensing, controlling and inspecting, pricing, USO implementing, postal addressing, and some other functions based on its responsibilities

Licensing body

- Agency/authority responsible for issuing postal service operation licences to postal service operators: Afghanistan Postal Regulatory Authority (APRA)
 - Licensing/registration mandatory for all entities providing postal services in Afghanistan;
 - Any postal service provider wishing to operate in Afghanistan must register with APRA and obtain the required licence before commencing operations.

Universal service obligations

- Products and services covered by universal service obligation: Not defined
- Is there a plan to define the Universal Service Obligation? The new USO policy drafted and it's in the legal cycle process
- Name of the universal service provider providing USO: Afghan Post
- Status of the universal service provider providing USO: Government Enterprise

Financing of universal service obligations

Is there a well-defined procedure for financing the universal service provider: Yes

According to the requirements of Afghanistan, 13% of the gross revenue of postal service licensees is collected to finance the universal service provider.

How does the government support the Universal Service Provider in your country: The government provides subsidies to support the universal service provider.

Quality requirements

Based on postal license contents licensee must provide good quality speedy postal service for in and out bound service.

Grievance redressal

Name of the body/organization designated for grievance redressal: each licensee must have customers care center based on postal license, and also there is a customer care service stationed in APRA as well.

Price regulations

- Name of the body that regulates the price of postal products and services: Afghanistan Postal Regulatory Authority

Taxation

- Are postal products and services liable for taxation: Yes
- 13% tax from gross revenue of postal service products

Cross-border regulations

- Are there clear regulations regarding the import and export of items through the postal channel: Yes
- The following authorities are stakeholders in the cross-border postal exchanges: Afghanistan custom authority, Ministry of commerce
- Threshold value regarding import duties: around 20,000 Afghani
- Is there any national legislation mandating electronic advance data for cross-border transfer of items: Not yet