

## **AICEP – 35 Years of Converging**

Established in 1990, AICEP – International Association of Portuguese-Speaking Communications is an international, scientific and technical non-profit, non-governmental association. Its goal is to promote closer relations among its members so as to contribute to the harmonisation, development and modernisation of communications in Portuguese-speaking countries and regions through knowledge transfer, training, and development cooperation.

It was visionary at the time that the AICEP integrated communications operators, whether postal or telecommunications, demonstrating a clear vision of convergence and complementarity between both sectors of the industry. It was also visionary when it congregated its members according to language and cultural proximity instead of geographic criteria.

It subsequently innovated upon realising that in the development of communications, there is a very strong, complex and interactive relationship between operators and regulators, which despite being different are still complementary entities in the field of communications.

In addition, in keeping up with the dynamism and strategic development of the communications industry, which cannot be dissociated from contents, the AICEP, in its continued pursuit of innovation, incorporated “Contents” (television) in May 2013, thus strengthening and consolidating its role as a representative association that is increasingly inclusive of the different areas of communications in the Portuguese-speaking world.

With extensive training and cooperation plans for development, and chaired by CTT – Correios de Portugal, the AICEP is a space for convergence and the only global association that brings together postal, telecommunications, contents and regulators, with the mission of promoting and supporting the sustainable development of communications in the Portuguese-speaking world. Given the importance of the AICEP in the Portuguese-speaking world, not only due to its past which pays homage to all of us, but also in its current role as an instrument to promote unity among people, a vehicle of culture and as a tool for business and diplomacy, CTT – Correios de Portugal celebrates on the occasion of AICEP’s “35 Years of Converging” by issuing commemorative stamps as part of its official philatelic plan for 2025.

With this great opportunity, the idea was shared with several Portuguese-speaking countries and regions, to which CTT – Correios de Portugal extended the request that this anniversary should be commemorated with postage stamps issued by the respective countries and regions. As a result, the designated postal operators of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde and Macao decided to join this philatelic commemoration, taking the form of a joint issue among Portuguese-speaking countries and regions, which is released at the formal opening session of the XXXII AICEP Lusophone Forum of Communications 2025 in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

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