

CONFIRMATION OF RTCAP ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper is confirmation for the APPU membership of the activities and funding arrangements for the RTCAP (formerly the RSCAP) in Singapore.
- 1.2 The paper has been prepared following a funding inquiry in 2009 at which time it was agreed by the parties involved (i.e., the Chariman and the Director of the APPU Bureau) that an update could be used.

2. Background to Establishment of RSCAP

- 2.1 The Regional Support Centre for Asia and Pacific (RSCAP) was established by the UPU on 1 April 1995 in Singapore to provide a supportive organization structure for the UPU's Telematics Project. RSCAP was thus an extension of the EDI Development Unit and represented a decentralization of the UPU's Telematics Project. The broad role of RSCAP was to give effect to the UPU's telematics development and implementation programme at the regional level.
- 2.2 As far as funding for RSCAP was concerned, the 7th APPU Congress held in Singapore in September 1995 decided to establish a Special Activities Fund to finance extra-budgetary activities and to provide resources in an expedient manner. At the time of setting up the Fund, the RSCAP was a key intended beneficiary. The Singapore Congress called upon the Executive Council to design the rules on the operations of the Special Activities Fund.
- 2.3 The 1996 APPU EC held in Manila approved the Revised Draft Regulations on the Administrative and Financial Management of the Special Activities Fund. A key Article (i.e., Article 4) is reproduced below.

Article 4

Execution of Special Activities

1. The APPU Executive Council shall determine those activities which are to be the subject of funding from the APPU Special Activities Fund. The budget for such activities shall also be agreed by the Executive Council.
2. The APPU shall not continue any activity (project, programme or supplementary activity) beyond the scope of the available funding.
3. The Chairman of the Executive Council acting with the APPU Director are hereby authorised to act in any appropriate manner to protect the interests of postal administrations which have contributed to the Special Activities Fund, including the stopping of any programme, project or supplementary activity.
4. The APPU Central Office may, within its regular budget, provide for recovery of the costs of administering the Special Activities Fund.

3. Reorganisation of RSCAP Consequent Upon UPU PTC Opening a New Global Support Centre in Montevideo

- 3.1 In 2007, the UPU PTC started the reorganization of its support services and a Global Support Centre (GSC) in Montevideo was established. The Centre became operational in April 2008 and it took over providing the hotline support services that the RSCAP had provided up until April 2008.
- 3.2 With the establishment of the GSC, the residual tasks for the RSCAP were in the form of technical expertise and assistance to countries on PTC solutions (IPS, IFS). In particular, this technical support might comprise deployment of experts, follow-up and training missions for the PTC in the region, and there might also be other activity undertaken. In conjunction with this change of activities the RSCAP was renamed to reflect its predominant technical focus i.e., RSCAP became the Regional Technical Centre for Asia Pacific (RTCAP).
- 3.3 The Regional Technical Centre concept (and its impact of changing the focus from service support to technical support (from RSCAP to RTCAP)) was tabled at the APPU EC in Hanoi in 2008. During the discussion the PTC agreed with APP to introduce an operational improvement i.e., in order to assist the coordination of missions between APP and PTC, RTCAP was put under the operational control of the APP Office Manager in Singapore (simply because the APP and RTCAP staff were working alongside each other).
- 3.4 The 2008 APPU EC agreed that the only change for the RTCAP (apart from the focus changing to technical support) was the daily operational control. Any other aspect, including funding of activities remained the same.
- 3.5 The change in operational control at the RTCAP became effective on 1 January 2009.

4. Comment

- 4.1 Notwithstanding the move of some functions of the former RSCAP to the Global Service Centre in Montevideo, the RTCAP in Singapore is still involved in activity for the UPU PTC.
- 4.2 Further, the RTCAP continues to receive funding from the APPU Special Activities Fund.

5. Action Required

The confirmation of activities and funding is for information purposes.