



Opening-up the UPU to wider postal sector players



The meeting on “Opening-up of the UPU to wider postal sector players” was organized by APPU for the members online on 24 February 2021 at 13:00 hours (Bangkok time).

The meeting was opened by APPU EC Chair, Dr Behzad Eghbalkhah, Board of Directors of the National Post Company of the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with the Vice-Chair, Mr Yutaka KITAGAMI, Director, Postal Services Policy Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications from Japan and the Secretary General of APPU, Mr LIN Hongliang. The meeting was attended by 92 participants from APPU members via Zoom.

After welcomed by the Chair, Mr LIN was invited to give the opening remarks. In his opening remarks, he expressed his appreciation to the five members regional task force of UPU, namely, Australia, China, Japan, Singapore and Vietnam for their hard efficient work in preparation for the meeting.

He said UPU had to be opened up like the other intergovernmental organizations like ITU had opened up. There was no way to make everyone happy, we needed to identify benefits that would be accepted by members and the other stakeholders when making changes, and we could not lose sight of the fact that APPU members were very diversified.

Ms Rebecca RUSH of Australia represented the regional task force began the presentation of this important topic, complemented by the task force members, Mr HU Changsong of China, Mr Kazuhisa MOTOYAMA of Japan, Ms Ruth WONG of Singapore and Ms DANG Thi Thuy of Vietnam. Followed by the presentation from the members, Ms Sofi Soeria Atmadja of Indonesia and Ms Fatemeh Etezadi of Iran.



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The key points discussed in the meeting were:

- New membership categories to cover the full range of stakeholders in the wider postal sector
- Stakeholders allocation to different membership categories according to their type
- Rights and obligations defined for each membership category
- Eligibility to access different products and services according to the membership category
- Annual fees and payments for accessing UPU products and services for new membership
- New organization structure with two councils: an Executive Council for governmental and regulatory matters, and a Business Council for business matters
- Overarching principles as basis for opening-up
- Progressive timeline and review the impact in different stages of opening-up

Current proposals



	The most Progressive		Converging			Traditional
Sponsor	Indonesia	IB	Germany	CC	Japan	Post Europ
Membership categories	Member countries, Sector members	Member countries, Sector members, Associate members	Member countries, Dos, Other stakeholder	Member countries, Dos, Non state actors	Member countries, Dos, Sector members, Associate members	Status quo (Member countries and Dos)
Organization structure	CA POC	EC(Member countries) BC(Sector members & Associate members)	CA(Member countries) POC(Dos) WSC(Other stakeholder)	CA(Member countries) POC(Dos) CC(Non state actors)	CA(Member countries) POC(DOs) CC(Sector members & Associate members)	Status quo(CA & POC) Agree to transform the CC
Rights and Obligations of member countries	Status quo	Status quo	Status quo	NSAs are not exercising a mandate and function under a governmental authority.	Status quo	Status quo
Rights and Obligations of DOs	eligible to join the UPU as sector members (the same with private sector) Share the same rights and obligations with wider postal sector players.	Eligible to join the UPU as sector members (the same with private sector) Enjoy the exclusive rights and obligations to join the USO committee of BC. Share the other rights and obligations with private sector	Maintain the exclusive rights and obligations of Dos in the POC, which will not accept other stakeholders as its members. Eligible to join the WSC as its members.	Maintain the exclusive rights and obligations of Dos in the POC, which will not accept other stakeholders as its members. Not eligible to join the CC as its members.	Maintain the exclusive rights and obligations of Dos in the POC, which will not accept other stakeholders as its members. Not eligible to join the CC as its members.	Status quo
Rights and Obligations of Private sector	eligible to join the UPU as sector members (the same with DOs) Share the same rights and obligations with DOs.	eligible to join the UPU as sector members (the same with DOs) Not eligible to join the USO committee Share the other rights and obligations with DOs.	Eligible to join the WSC as its members. Have access as observers to CA and POC related meetings	The new CC would contribute to decisions through a new institutional instrument (Opinions) Able to make direct proposals to Congress Eligible to all the CA and POC standing groups and task-forces, but limited in case of exceptional cases.	Concentrate on formulating rules on how to open and utilize the international postal network, at the stage of structural opening, rather than to discuss the specific operational and detailed service conditions together with DOs	Have little chance to join the UPU in short term.

Most of the members expressed their concerned about the impact to the Universal Service Obligation (USO) after opening up and the distinct definition of the rights and obligations between the designated operators, non designated operators and new sector players.

APPU members were encouraged to read the document and the proposals from different groups. Be well prepared for and willing to engage in the discussions in the next CA meeting in April 2021. UPU would decide what proposals would be submitted to the 27th Congress and vote on the options at the 27th Congress scheduled for August 2021.

The meeting was closed by MR LIN on behalf of the Chair with the appreciation of the manner the members participated in the meeting in which interventions and presentations were clear and to the point, and the special thanks for the strong support and the assistance from KITAGAMI and the colleagues from the Bureau.

The meeting ended at 15:30 hour.



Upcoming APPC IOTP Workshops

Due to the travel restriction caused by COVID-19 pandemic, APPC is conducting 6 IOTP workshops online in the first quarter of 2021 which are supported by UPU and funded by China.

The IOTP workshops for March 2021 are:

Last Mile Delivery and Fulfilment (LMDF)	8 to 12 Mar 2021
Quality Management for Service Excellence (QMSE)	8 to 12 Mar 2021
Strategy to adapt in the "New Normal" (SNN)	15 to 19 Mar 2021
Setting Service Standards (SSS)	15 to 19 Mar 2021



Upcoming APPC Courses

The upcoming training courses for March to April 2021 are:

Parcel & Logistics Management (PLM)	1 Mar – 26 Mar 2021
Operations Management (OMC)	1 Mar – 26 Mar 2021
Transformation of Postal Organization (TPO)	26 Apr – 7 May 2021
Strategy Formulation & Execution (SFE)	26 Apr – 7 May 2021



Update of 27th Universal Postal Congress



Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the UPU's Exceptional CA has agreed to postpone its 27th Universal Postal Congress. The event will now be held from 9 to 27 August 2021 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

The CA also agreed to review progress of the Congress in their forthcoming meetings, including in April 2021. If CA by 30 June 2021 concludes the event cannot be held in Abidjan due to Covid-19 restrictions then it will be moved to Switzerland.

For update and further information, you may access the following link.

<https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Congress>

Update of APPU contact number

APPU has consolidated its contact phone numbers to +66 2 573 3831 / +66 2 573 7282

You will be greeted by an automated voice message, press the number and speak to the respective staff of APPU / APPC / RTCAP.