

## **UPU CA Matters Working Group**

## Chair: Pakistan

Members:Australia, China, Iran, Japan,Korea, New Zealand, Pakistan,Sri Lanka, Viet Nam

## **Sequence**



- Opening Remarks by Chair
- Purpose of Working Group
- Brief Overview of discussions in CA Session S-9
- Presentation by China on Opening Up of UPU
- Presentation by Japan on in-person participation in 27<sup>th</sup> UPU Congress
- Any other business

2021

## **Purpose of Working Group**

To keep a track of Developments in the UPU Council of Administration meetings

To observe the implementation status of Decisions made at the UPU Congress and to coordinate with UPU and APPU on the CA decisions taken from time to time.

## Brief Overview of discussions in CA Session (S9

- Agenda-1: Adoption of agenda
- **Agenda-2:** Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the union
- **Agenda-3:** CA Management Committee
- Agenda-4: Postal Operations Council
- **Agenda-5:** Consultative Committee
- **Agenda-6:** Committee 1 (Finance, Human Resources and Governance)
- **Agenda-7:** Committee 2 (USO, Regulatory Affairs and Postal Regulation)
- Agenda-8: Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics)
- **Agenda-9:** Committee 4 (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)
- Agenda-10: Committee 5 (Cooperation and Development)



## Agenda Points of CA Meeting (continue)

- Agenda-11: Task force on the opening up of UPU to wider postal sector players
- Agenda-12: Updates on 27<sup>th</sup> Congress 2021
- Agenda-12a: Host Country preparations for the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress
- **Agenda-12b:** Substantive and logistical preparations for 27<sup>th</sup> Congress
- **Agenda-12c:** 27<sup>th</sup> Congress Implementation of Exceptional CA
- Agenda-14: Report on the activities of the CA 2017-2020
- Agenda-15: Dates of the next sessions of the Council of Administration
- Agenda-16: Report by IB on United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/295
- **Agenda-17:** Publication of Congress proposals

#### AGENDA-1 Council of Administration Plenary



• The meeting of Council of Administration Plenary was chaired by Turkey

• Chairs of different committees presented their reports

# AGENDA-2 Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the union

Turkey, as CA Chair, opened the 10th meeting and IB presented the agenda

#### **POC Issues**

- progress on activities since 2020;
- multilateral data-sharing agreement framework;
- Electronic Advance Data;
- Relating to the Standards Board and the Operations and Accounting Review Group;
- Relating to the Customs Group;
- Relating to the Physical Services Development, E-Commerce and Integration Group

#### **Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the union**

#### **POC Issues**

- Quality of Service Fund proposals for handling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on quality-linked remuneration schemes for letter post and parcel post;
- Recommendations and proposals of the Remuneration Integration Group
- Relating to the Quality of Service Group and Quality Link User Group;
- Relating to the Postal Payment Services User Group; and
- An update on the 2021 Congress.

#### **Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the union**

#### **CA** Issues

- Task Force on the Reform of the System applied to Contributions by Union Member Countries
- IB human resource management report
- Data collection and protection regulatory and policy issues;
- Updating of Congress–Doc 36 on the Integrated Remuneration Plan and Integrated Remuneration System
- Updates to the Abidjan Business Plan and the 2021 Action Plan;
- Trade facilitation and e-trade;
- Status of work on financial inclusion for 2021;

## **Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the union**

#### **CA** Issues

- Development cooperation achievements (2017–2020) and the Action Plan for 2021;
- Development cooperation policy for the Abidjan cycle
- Update on the work of the CA Task Force on Opening up the UPU;
- The Post4Health initiative;
- IB presentation on the preparations for the 2021 Congress
- POC Chair representative recommended benchmarking with the World Customs Organization (WCO) electronic voting system

## AGENDA-3 CA Management Committee



- CA chair (Turkey) attended in person while all members attended remotely
- IB gave overview:
  - **1.** Task force on the opening of UPU to wider postal sector players
  - 2. System applied to contributions by union member countries
  - 3. Preparation for the 27<sup>th</sup> UPU Congress
  - 4. Chairpersons of Committees 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 presented their work
  - 5. Vice Chair of Consultative Committee presented update on EAD, UPU/World Free Zones organizations initiative
  - 6. UN General Assembly resolution 73/295 was noted
  - 7. The proposal on gender equality was also noted

## AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council

- I. POC Chair (Japan) welcomed IB presented the agenda of plenary which was adopted.
- II. Report of POC Management Committee

Chairman presented the report. Plenary took note of it without comments.

# AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council Session



#### III. Committee 1 (Supply Chain Integration) issues

Presented by the Co-Chairs (USA and India), outcome was approval of:

- i. UPU Multilateral Data Sharing Agreement Framework;
- ii. updates to UPU standards;
- iii. Creation of two status P work items;
- iv. Amendments to the Transit Compendium;
- v. Basic airmail conveyance rate applicable from 1 January 2022; and
- vi. A total of 23 proposals to amend the Convention Regulations.

#### Reviewed and took note of:

- i. Level of EAD readiness, work accomplished in advancing goals of EAD roadmap;
- ii. International Airline Financial Statistics; and
- iii. Updated Draft Abidjan Business Plan work proposal relating to customs.
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# AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council Session



IV. Committee 2 (Physical Services and E-commerce) issues

Presented by Co-Chairs (China and France), outcome was the approval of:

- i. Proposed changes to Congress documents;
- ii. TOR for comparative study on UPU remuneration system in POC;
- iii. Proposal to set ILR for the DO of Jersey and the update to the Statistics and Accounting Guide;
- iv. Proposals for handling the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on quality-linked remuneration schemes for letter and parcel post; and
- v. Resolution on the Quality of Service Standards and targets for the QS Link and on the minimum performance requirements for the 2022 parcel ILR;

## AGENDA-4 <u>Postal Operations Council Session</u>



V. Committee 3 (Markets Development and E-Services) issues

**Co-Chair (Italy) presented:** 

- i. A new Abidjan Business Plan work proposal on a digitalized communications system for UPU
- ii. The publication of a report on the impact of COVID-19 on the digital transformation of postal services
- iii. Took note of the progress report on the strategic regional project on digital transformation and diversification of postal services, and the related digital readiness for e-commerce technical assistance tool described in the UPU E-Commerce Guide;
- iv. Noted the new design for the international reply coupon for Abidjan cycle; and
- v. Noted the updated Abidjan Business Plan work proposals for 2021–2025.

# AGENDA-4 <u>Postal Operations Council Session</u>



VI. Committee 4 (Postal Financial Services)

**Co-Chair (Russian Federation) presented:** 

- i. Noted the work done by the Postal Payment Services User Group (PPSUG);
- ii. Noted the work done in relation to a single invoice for PPSUG members and proposed next steps;
- iii. Endorsed the establishment of formal relations between the UPU and Western Union and between the UPU and Ria Money Transfer;
- iv. Noted the formation of an expert team on the future of the UPU's postal payment services and the role of DOs in postal financial services;
- v. Noted presentation giving information on the 'payments dialogue' webinars; and
- vi. Noted a presentation on the development and the status of activities relating to a proposed payment readiness for e-commerce methodology and tool aimed at supporting the role of Posts in e-commerce.

# AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council Session



#### VII. Quality of Service Fund (QSF)

Chair of the QSF Board, Ms Michaela George (United States), presented updates on Common Fund projects prioritized by the POC

- i. <u>QSF Report</u>
  - First project, on EAD data capture, approved for a budget of 2.84 million USD with 143 participating DOs, is nearing completion of phase 1.
  - Second project, on GMS Link development, with a budget of 1.1 million USD, is in the process of being approved by the Board.
  - IB agreed with the QSF Chair

## AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council Session



VII. Quality of Service Fund (QSF)

- ii. <u>Election of five members of the QSF Board</u>
  - POC Chair announced the names of four members elected to the QSF Board by an email ballot organized by the IB.
  - Fifth elected candidate, from Azerbaijan, formally withdrew from the QSF Board elections on 22 April 2021. "the Chair of the POC shall fill the vacancy of such Board Member temporarily until the next POC.

# AGENDA-4 <u>Postal Operations Council Session</u>



#### VII. Quality of Service Fund (QSF)

- iii. <u>Quality of Service Fund Common Fund billing</u>
  - Chair of QSF Board presented a report on management of Common Fund billing for 2020 and 2021 in response to the global impact on international postal mail volumes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic which was noted.
- iv. QSF Awards ceremony for projects evaluated in 2019 and 2020
  - Chair of the QSF Board announced and congratulated the following recipient countries on receipt of awards, which recognize DOs for their outstanding achievements in implementing quality of service projects:
    - For national projects: Argentina, Bhutan, Guyana, Peru, Serbia, Slovakia, Sri Lanka & Ukraine;
    - For multinational projects: Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Hong Kong (China), Iran (Islamic Rep.) and Ukraine.

#### AGENDA-4 Postal Operations Council Session



#### **VIII...POST Group Report**

- Mr Cosimo Birtolo of Italy, outgoing Chair of the .POST Group (DPG), informed the POC that the DPG General Assembly was organized on 15 April 2021 in remote format
- Group was unable to reach the quorum required for conducting a formal meeting. Therefore, the 75 attending DPG members and observers informally discussed the progress of domain registrations, the cybersecurity protection program and new platform projects related to blockchain and crypto-stamps
- Due to urgency of the pending issues, the DPG Steering Committee instructed the IB to seek decisions from DPG members by e-mail ballot on the new membership application from the private sector organization, Ship2MyId, as well as approval of the budget and work plans and the election of the new seven-member Steering Committee for 2021–2025.
- These decisions were taken and approved by the majority of DPG members via e-mail ballot. The
  election of the new Chair and Vice-Chair of the DPG is being conducted by e-mail ballot, and the
  results will be communicated to the POC Chair.
- POC Chair thanked Mr Birtolo for his commitment to the .POST Group during his term as DPG Chair.
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#### **Postal Operations Council Session**



#### IX. POC work programme from the 2020 session up to the 27th Congress

- IB presented a report giving an overview and current status of the POC work
- POC took note of the report

#### X. UPU\*Clearing User Group report

 IB presented a report with operational and financial data for the UPU\*Clearing system for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020. The POC took note of the report.

#### XI. Report of the Telematics Cooperative

• IB gave a presentation setting out the achievements and future activities of the Telematics Cooperative. The POC took note of the presentation.

#### XII. Dates of the next POC sessions

IB presented a report, giving the following dates of the first two sessions (S0 and S1) of the POC following its constituent meeting to be held after the Abidjan Congress: – POC S0: 15 to 19 November 2021; – POC S1: 28 March to 1 April 2022.

#### XIII. Update on the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress

- The IB made a presentation on the legal, logistical, technological and other arrangements that would be required to host the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress with the possibility of remote representation.
- POC took note of the presentation.





- I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
  - Plenary meeting held under the chair of Mr. Walter Trezek of Ecommerce Europe and the vice-chair of Mr. Lindsay Welsh of New Zealand.
  - Deputy DG addressed and highlighted the important role played by the CC in the UPU's institutional architecture and UPU's future
- II. Report of the CC meeting held on 14 December 2020
  - The Chair presented the outcomes of the CC General Assembly and highlighted the key agenda issues;
  - CC roadmap 2020–2021, task force on opening up the UPU to wider postal sector players, CC priorities, CC membership applications and the financial status of CC.



**III.** Report of the CC Management Committee meeting on 6 April 2021

- CC MC considered a number of topics, including:
  - the joint work of the UPU and UNI Global Union.
  - 3 new prospects and 1 new application for membership of the CC.
  - Membership application of the Global Envelope Alliance (GEnA) had been approved by the UPU Director General.



- IV. Status report on webinars organized by the Consultative Committee
  - IB presented a report on webinars organized by the CC, based on the CC Roadmap 2020–2021.
  - E-Commerce pillar; a series of three webinars dedicated to the disrupted market environment resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- V. Update on the discussions of the task force on opening up the UPU to wider postal sector players
  - Belgium, Co-Chair s, informed the CC of the work of the task force and proposed the UPU's next steps towards its opening up



#### VI. Update on CC priorities

- IB pointed out regarding EAD that an increasing number of designated operators were exchanging ITMATT messages & sending PREDES messages, however, there were still critical issues to be resolved, linked to the UPU Global Postal Model and there is a need for global coordination
- Collaboration between UPU and WFZO. The project concept was approved
- UPU called for tenders for the procurement of project management office consultancy services on the use of postal services in the "parcelization" of trade in free zones

#### VII. UPU Guide to Postal Social Services

- IB gave a presentation on the UPU Guide to Postal Social Services.
- UPU has provided a platform for Posts to share their experiences of introducing new social services in response to COVID-19.
- UPU projects supporting Posts in offering new social and financial services. ASIAN-PACIFIC POSTAL UNION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

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#### VIII. Update on the Post4Health initiative

- The IB presented an update on the Post4Health initiative, which aims to leverage the postal network wherever possible to support vaccine distribution, to work in collaboration with other UN agencies, and to build a broader and longer-term program on Posts and health.
- France and Japan provided the seed funding for the initiative.



IX. Update on CC membership applications

- The CC has 14 nongovernmental organization members. The secretariat has received one new membership application, from the Global Envelope Alliance (GEnA).
- Three prospects had been identified:
  - Consumers International;
  - CUTS International (Consumer Unity & Trust Society);
  - The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA).



#### X. Financial status of the CC

• The secretariat informed the CC as to the 2020 financial situation, including areas of contributions and operating costs.

#### XI. Any other business

• The Chair informed the members that the next CC General Assembly would be held during CA S0, scheduled to take place from 22 to 26 November 2021.

#### **Committee 1 (Finance, Human Resources and Governance)**

- I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
  - Co-Chairs (Malaysia) referred to a new item 9 on the draft agenda, added at the request of 22 Union member countries.
  - Committee 1 adopted the agenda as proposed in document.
- II. External audit report on UPU information technology governance
  - The Union's External Auditor, the Swiss Federal Audit Office, presented this report.
  - The committee took note of it.
- III. Report on governance, risk management and management of information systems
  - The committee took note of the report presented by the IB

#### **Committee 1 (Finance, Human Resources and Governance)**

IV. Report of the Ethics Office (CA C 1 2021.1–Doc 4)

- Report presented by the current UPU Ethics Office . The committee noted with appreciation the report presented.
- IB emphasized its zero tolerance policy against misconduct, especially any form of harassment.
- V. Report of the Internal Audit Committee (CA C 1 2021.1–Doc 5)
  - Committee took note of the report presented by the Chair of the Internal Audit Committee.
- VI. Asset valuation Financing of the building (CA C 1 2021.1–Doc 6)
  - The committee took note of the report presented by the IB

#### **Committee 1 (Finance, Human Resources and Governance)**

VII. Task force on Reform of System applied to Contributions by Union Member Countries

- Chair of this task force, Germany, presented the report.
- During presentation, Germany noted that minor adjustments might still be required in order to ensure legal & terminological consistency of those proposals.
- Committee 1 took note of the report
- Secretary General reminded that Congress resolutions C 29/2016 and C 4/2018 instructed the CA to prepare, for submission to the 27th Congress, a contribution model proposal that would guarantee the Union's long-term financial sustainability. However, he noted that the proposals presented to the committee would not guarantee the long-term financial sustainability of the Union.

#### **Committee 1 (Finance, Human Resources and Governance)**



VIII. International Bureau human resource management

- The committee took note of the report presented by the IB.
- IX. Request for project prioritization process
  - Spain introduced the document to instruct the IB to establish a prioritization process to be presented at the 27th Congress.
  - IB explained that a prioritization process had already been defined by the Doha Congress.
  - Spain asked for some time to study the content of resolution.
  - The committee took note of the explanation provided by the IB as well as Spain's request.

#### **<u>Committee 2</u>** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

- I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
  - Meeting held under the co-chairmanship of Belgium (Mr Jack Hamande) and Kenya (Mr Matano Ndaro).
  - Secretary General extended his welcome to the participants and stressed the important role of Committee 2 in the work of the CA.
  - The agenda as presented by the Co-Chairs was adopted.

#### **Committee 2** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

II. Conferences and webinars on postal policy and regulation: update

- IB summarized the conferences on postal regulation organized in Istanbul cycle.
- IB is planning to hold a new series of webinars relating to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic from the policy and regulatory standpoint.
- CA members and observers were invited to actively participate in the upcoming webinars

#### **Committee 2** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

- **III.** Flagship publication on global trends in postal regulation
  - IB presented a summary of the flagship publication on global trends in postal regulation, originally scheduled for launch at the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress in August 2020. Owing to the postponement of the Congress, a new chapter on the impacts of the pandemic on postal regulation and universal service will be added, to address the regulatory responses of member countries to COVID-19.
  - In this regard, IB will circulate a questionnaire on postal regulatory responses to the COVID-19 pandemic after S9. The publication will be launched at the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress in August 2021.

#### **Committee 2** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

- **IV.** Remuneration governance issues
  - 1. Review and update of Congress–Doc 36 and Congress proposals on the Integrated Remuneration System (IRS)
    - France (as one of the Co-Chairs of POC Committee 2) presented related Congress proposals which were approved at the POC session.
    - CA Committee 2 approved the proposed changes.
  - 2. Interpretation and implementation of article of the Universal Postal Convention
    - France presented document on the interpretation and implementation of Convention. After POC discussions, POC Committee 2 endorsed the proposal.
    - CA Committee 2 took note of the document

**Committee 2** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

- V. Data governance and protection (CA C 2 2021.1–Pres 5)
  - IB informed that POC S9 approved the UPU Multilateral Data Sharing Agreement Framework, dealing with the electronic exchanges of data of international postal activities.
- VI. Draft Abidjan Business Plan and 2021 Action Plan (CA C 2 2021.1–Pres 6)
  - IB presented the work proposals (WPs) related to C 2 responsibilities.
  - These included four WPs on the universal service obligation, policy and regulation;
  - five WPs on remuneration governance issues and the Integrated Remuneration Plan and Integrated Remuneration System (IRS); and
  - four WPs on the Integrated Product Plan.
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**<u>Committee 2</u>** (Universal Service Obligation, Regulatory Affairs & Postal Regulation)

#### VII. CA C 2: status of deliverables

• IB presented the status of deliverables showing three deliverables were completed.

#### VIII. Date of next meeting

- IB informed that next meeting will be held during CA SO, scheduled to take place from 22 to 26 November 2021.
- IX. Any other business
  - Co-Chairs closed the meeting by thanking all.

# **Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics)**

#### I. Introduction

• CA Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics) held its scheduled co-chaired by Australia and South Africa.

#### **II.** Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

- Co-Chairs welcomed the participants.
- Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General also welcomed and highlighted the importance of the work conducted throughout the 2017–2020 period by the committee.

## **Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics)**

#### III. Istanbul Strategy Implementation Report

- IB presented the Istanbul Strategy Implementation Report. COVID-19 had significantly impacted the last year of implementation of the Istanbul World Postal Strategy. The average percentage of completion of deliverables by both councils remained within target.
- Members took note of the document.

## **Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics)**

- IV. Abidjan Postal Strategy and Business Plan
  - COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the postponement of the Congress to August 2021, the period of consideration for the new strategy was extended to 2025, with 2021 being regarded as a transitional year.
  - Members took note of the document and approved the strategy and business plan for presentation to Congress.
- V. Work proposals of the Abidjan Business Plan
  - Members approved the document for presentation to Congress.

# **Committee 3 (Strategy and Postal Economics)**

#### VI. UPU postal statistics

- Co-Chairs pointed out, in spite of being primarily used as a data source, UPU postal statistics also make it possible to produce direct data products for the organization's membership. The Statistical Yearbook contains data sheets for 194 countries & territories, with different types of indicators on staff, post offices, delivery modes, revenue streams & other elements of postal activity.
- IB presented the latest developments on preparation of Statistical Yearbook.
- Members took note of the report.
- VII. Any other business
  - Co-Chairs thanked the members, observers and IB for their participation and contributions.
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**Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
  - Co-Chairs welcomed participants.
  - Secretary General emphasized the UPU's role in fostering financial inclusion and positioning the postal network as key infrastructure for facilitating e-trade in the e-commerce era in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.
  - agenda and the order of discussion were adopted.

II. CA C 4 2021 action plan and deliverables matrix

• IB presented the deliverables matrix based on the UPU Action Plan for 2021.

#### **Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- III. Trade facilitation Easy Export pilot projects by Posts: status updates and next steps
  - Morocco and Tunisia provided an update on the status of Easy Export implementation, and UPU trade facilitation projects in their countries.
  - Committee commended Morocco and Tunisia.
  - The Committee took note of the progress reports
- IV. E-trade
  - 1. ET4a projects status
    - eTrade Readiness assessments conducted jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by UPU. IB informed the committee of the next steps with regard to country-level assessments to be conducted in the coming months.
    - IB provided the details of projects implemented or to be implemented within the framework of eTrade for all.

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## **Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- 2. <u>E-commerce readiness suite</u>
  - IB informed the committee of the status of e-commerce readiness suite (DRE/PRE). The objective of complete suite is to guide member states and their designated operators (DOs) in order to reach optimal readiness for e-commerce, as outlined in the UPU E-Commerce Guide available on the UPU website
  - The digital readiness for e-commerce (DRE) methodology aims to enhance postal digital capabilities and encourage Posts to use all available UPU tools to implement digital solutions. The objective of the payment readiness for e-commerce (PRE) diagnostic toolkit is to understand Posts' existing payment solutions and identify additional capabilities needed to achieve PRE.
  - Committee 4 commended the initiatives of the UPU in relation to eTrade for all, and for its success in mobilizing resources for e-trade projects.
  - The committee took note of the presentations.

#### **Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- 3. UPU cybersecurity policies supporting digital transformation initiatives
  - IB informed the committee of the UPU's cybersecurity policies and associated activities within the scope of work relating to the .POST domain.
  - Since the entry into force of the agreement with ICANN in 2012, extensive work had been undertaken across six areas:
    - registration of secure domain names and websites;
    - anti-abuse domain monitoring;
    - cybersecurity policies;
    - compliance monitoring;
    - skills development;
    - the Cyber Incident Response Team.
  - Committee 4 took note of the presentation.

### **Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- 4. Other UPU trade-related partnerships and initiatives (CA C 4 2021.1–Pres 4d)
  - IB presented four trade-related initiatives in which the UPU has been involved at different levels.
  - Collaboration between the UPU and the World Free Zones Organization (WFZO), seeking to explore opportunities for DOs to establish an office of exchange within national free zones that are members of the WFZO.
  - A pilot project between Morocco Post and the TangerMed Free Zone was being set up to validate the concept.
  - African Union E-commerce Initiative
  - Pacific E-commerce Initiative
  - EU4Digital initiative.
  - The committee took note of the presentations.

#### **Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

#### V. Financial inclusion: status of work for 2021 – Technical assistance, research & advocacy

- IB informed the committee, the status of work for 2021 in terms of technical assistance, research & advocacy. UPU in partnership with sector partners delivered multiple webinars focused on the postal financial inclusion advocacy agenda.
- IB urged member countries to respond to the Global Panorama survey which is an essential advocacy tool to demonstrate the added value of Posts in financial inclusion & it helps the IB to mobilize funds for future technical assistance projects.
- Committee congratulated IB for the efficiency with which the projects were managed and implemented, and thanked the donors for their support for the financial inclusion program.
- Committee took note of the report.

**Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

- VI. Innovation agenda: Futureproofing the Post Study on the use of distributed ledger technologies (DLTs) and blockchain for the postal sector
  - IB presented the status of a flagship study on the potential uses of blockchains and distributed ledger technologies for the postal sector. Financed by Japan, this study would assess the potential use of DLTs in postal logistics and postal financial services, with three pilot projects to be designed for future implementation. The work is expected to start in May 2021.
  - IB concluded its presentation by inviting interested member countries to contact the financial inclusion team in order to identify, fund and support additional research and technical assistance in this regard.
  - The Committee congratulated the IB and took note of the presentation.

**Committee 4** (Trade Facilitation, Postal Financial Inclusion and E-Trade)

#### VII. CA C 4 2021: Status of deliverables

- IB shared the status of implementation of the various deliverables associated with the 2021 Action Plan work proposals relevant to the committee's mandate. The overall situation was positive, with almost all deliverables on track.
- Out of 16 deliverables, 13 had already been completed and 3 were under way.
- The Committee took note of the report.

## **Committee 5 (Cooperation and Development)**



- Committee 5 Chair Japan & Costa Rica after checking on the quorum proceeded.
- The agenda was adopted without change.
- II. Development cooperation achievements, 2017–2020
  - IB gave presentation to inform the committee, the final results arising from the development cooperation policy for 2017–2020 and concrete impact of activities carried out with execution rate for all development & cooperation projects of 100%
  - Due to COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the IB's Development & Cooperation Directorate (DCDEV) adapted implementation from physical to remote deployment methods.
  - Committee 5 took note of the excellent results arising from the development cooperation policy 2017–2020.

## **Committee 5 (Cooperation and Development)**



- In 2021, 15 projects are programmed, 13 of which have already been launched. The related activities are in progress.
- Committee 5 congratulated the IB and the DCDEV, and took note of the progress made on action plan for 2021.

#### **IV. Development cooperation policy for the Abidjan cycle**

- CA will present the new development cooperation policy before Abidjan Congress. Due to Pandemic of 2020, the policy needs to be adapted in line with the 2021–2025 Abidjan Business Plan.
- Committee 5 was also informed by the IB about modifications to be made to draft.
- Committee 5 took note of the modifications to be made, and approved the submission of the amended Congress–Doc 15 to the Abidjan Congress.

## **Committee 5 (Cooperation and Development)**

- V. Sustainable development
  - UPU Guide to Postal Social Services to be launched and would be available online on the social services webpage.
  - UPU participated in the UN SUN Environmental Inventory and achieved carbon neutral status for 2020. The OSCAR campaign for 2020 was also successfully conducted.
  - Post4Health Facility was launched in March 2021 aimed at mobilizing Posts to help address the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and also aims at developing the role of Posts in the health sector.
  - CA Committee 5 took note of the three presentations.

# **Committee 5 (Cooperation and Development)**

#### **VI. Any other business**

- Japan made a presentation on the amendment to the MOC between the UPU and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) of Japan.
- Director General IB thanked Japan for its generous contribution.
- Committee 5 took note of the presentation.

#### **VII. Results of the meeting**

- Committee 5 has completed two of the four deliverables to be achieved by S9.
- The two ongoing deliverables concern 2021 activities, the results of which will be reported in future sessions.

#### CA task force on the opening up of the UPU to wider postal sector players

#### ... The presentation by China on the subject will cover all the points on it...

#### AGENDA-12A

## Update on host country preparations for the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress

- Cote d Ivore (Rep) being host country to the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress has shown its full commitment and preparedness for holding physical 27<sup>th</sup> Congress of UPU.
- Plan B is also in place and arrangements have been made to shift to Hybrid mode if travel restrictions due to Covid-19 makes it impossible for delegates to attend the event.

#### AGENDA-12B

Update on Substantive and logistical preparations for 27<sup>th</sup> Congress

CA in its exceptional session in October, 2020 decided:

- To maintain Abidjan as Host City of 27<sup>th</sup> Congress.
- Endorse the request of Cote d Ivoire to reschedule the event for August 2021.
- Mandated DG IB to keep on monitoring with Ivorian Govt. the situation and submit report on arrangements required to host 27<sup>th</sup> Congress and the possibility of virtual representation as Plan B.

## AGENDA-12C

27<sup>th</sup> Congress – Implementation of Exceptional CA



Secretary General Report for arranging Hybrid Congress:

- Legal, Logistical and Technological arrangements for holding a hybrid Congress are in place.
- In case due to Covid-19, Congress cannot be held in usual manner, arrangements are in place for holding Hybrid 27<sup>th</sup> Congress in Abidjan.

Update on Congress-Doc9 (Report on the activities of the CA 2017-2020

International Bureau issued a detailed report on the activities of the Council of Administration 2017-2020 for presenting it before the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress.

The report covered all the activities done by the CA Istanbul Cycle period. From constitution of different committees, assignment of tasks and the approval of tasks accomplished during the period.

# Dates of the next sessions of the Council of Administration

#### Introduction:

• As per Article 108.2 of the General Regulations, CA shall meet twice a year, or additionally on an exceptional basis as per Rules of Procedure.

#### **Constituent Meeting of CA:**

 CA constituent meeting in Abidjan will be held on the evening of 26<sup>th</sup> August and the afternoon of 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021. POC will also meet on the same evening and afternoon in Abidjan.

## **Dates of the next sessions of the Council of Administration**

Dates of Sessions to be approved for the 2021.2 and 2022.1 sessions of CA:

- The following dates are proposed for 2021.2 (S0) and 2022.1 (S1) sessions of CA
  - CA S0: 22 to 26 November 2021
  - CA S1: 4 to 8 April 2022
- IB will provide the new members of CA elected at Abidjan Congress, all the information for preparation of the first CA sessions.

## Issuance of United Nations General Assembly resolution 73/295

The UN Resolution 73/295 affirms that Chagos Archipelago forms an integral part of Mauritus.

**CA Plenary:** 

- Took note of this document.
- Took note of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295;
- Endorse the submission to the 27<sup>th</sup> Congress of a proposal of general nature.

## AGENDA-17 Publication of Congress proposals



21 Countries presented draft resolution CA XX/2021.1

- IB to publish all Congress documents and Proposals prepared by CA or POC after 2021.1 CA and POC session.
- IB to issue Circular regularly on the Congress Proposals submitted and not yet published on UPU website with the reasons for non-publication.

# **Thank You**