

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2025****APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET)****Memorandum by the APPU Bureau**

<b>1. Subject</b>  Endorsement of the APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET)	<b>References/ Paragraphs</b>  § 1 to 5
<b>2. Decisions expected</b>  The EC is invited to:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- take note of the document</li><li>- endorse the APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET)</li><li>- approve the Terms of Reference of the Expert Team</li></ul>	    § 1 to 5 § 4 Annex 1

**1 Introduction:**

- 1.1 Postal regulations are evolving rapidly across the world, driven by changes in market dynamics, technological innovations, digital transformation, sustainability imperatives, and shifting customer expectations. Within the Asia-Pacific region, many APPU member countries are actively working on updating their postal regulatory frameworks to respond to these emerging challenges and opportunities.
- 1.2 While a large part of APPU's and APPC's activities have focused on improving postal operations, there is now a clear need to extend targeted support to ministries and regulatory authorities in ensuring that they are well-equipped to navigate regulatory reform, promote competition and innovation, and safeguard universal service obligations.
- 1.3 The APPU-UPU collaborative project on Postal Regulatory Reforms in the Asia-Pacific Region (2024–2025) highlighted the pressing need for continuous engagement, knowledge exchange, and technical support on regulatory matters across APPU member countries. This was strongly reinforced during the regional workshop held in Hanoi, Vietnam, where member representatives agreed on the value of establishing a dedicated Expert Team on Postal Regulations within APPU.

## 2 Objectives

2.1 The APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET) aims to serve as a support body and a collaborative platform that:

- Monitors and studies ongoing postal regulatory changes in the Asia-Pacific and beyond.
- Provides updated regulatory information and insights to APPU members.
- Offers technical guidance to countries undergoing regulatory transformation.
- Represents the collective voice and trends of APPU members in global and regional platforms.
- Suggests suitable policy initiatives and disseminates best practices to the APPU Executive Council and its members.

## 3 Activities undertaken:

3.1 In line with the discussions during the workshop in Hanoi, the APPU Bureau had invited the participation of Experts in the APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team. In line with the information contained in the letter and the nomination form, member countries have nominated experts to the Team.

3.2 Membership in the Postal Regulations Expert Team is still open to all APPU member countries. Member countries are invited to nominate more than one expert to the team, if desired.

## 4 Proposal:

4.1 It is proposed that the APPU Executive Council formally endorse the creation of the Postal Regulations Expert Team under the APPU framework as a support body, with the following provisions:

- The team will be composed of nominated experts from APPU member countries, with countries encouraged to nominate more than one expert if desired.
- The detailed operational framework, scope, and responsibilities of the team will be guided by the attached Terms of Reference (ToR) (Annex 1).
- The team will be supported by the APPU Bureau, which will coordinate its activities, organize periodic meetings, and ensure outcomes are reported to the Executive Council.
- The Expert Team's outputs may include organizing conferences, publishing study reports, providing policy recommendations and updates to members, and representation in relevant international or regional dialogues.
- Member countries are invited to actively participate and engage their nominated experts in the activities of the team.

## 5 Next Steps:

- The APPU Bureau will consolidate nominations received and communicate the initial meeting schedule to the team.
- The Postal Regulations Expert Team will begin its work under the leadership of Chair/ Co-Chairs, with an annual update provided to the Executive Council.
- The Executive Council will review the progress and recommendations of the team at its subsequent sessions.

## **Terms of Reference (ToR)**

### **APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET)**

#### **1. Purpose**

The APPU Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET) is established to serve as a support body to the APPU member countries, focusing on regulatory matters relevant to the postal sector. The team will facilitate knowledge sharing, monitor regional and global regulatory trends, assist countries undergoing regulatory changes, and help position the APPU community effectively in international regulatory discussions.

#### **2. Scope of Work**

The Postal Regulations Expert Team shall undertake the following:

- Monitor and analyze key regulatory developments within the Asia-Pacific region and globally.
- Provide timely updates and information to APPU member countries on emerging regulatory issues, trends, and best practices.
- Offer technical assistance and expert advice to member countries undertaking postal regulatory reforms.
- Prepare study reports, policy briefs, or recommendations for the APPU Executive Council when requested.
- Support APPU's representation in global and regional postal regulatory platforms, ensuring that the region's interests and perspectives are effectively conveyed.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration, capacity building, or joint initiatives among APPU members to strengthen regulatory frameworks.

#### **3. Membership**

- The Postal Regulations Expert Team will comprise nominated experts from APPU member countries.
- Member countries are encouraged to nominate one or more experts with substantial experience in postal regulation, policy development, or related legal frameworks.
- The APPU Bureau will maintain the official list of nominated experts and act as the coordinating body.
- Based on the request from the Expert Team, the APPU Bureau may seek the assistance of subject matter experts.

#### 4. Organization and Functioning

- The Postal Regulations Expert Team will operate under the overall supervision of the APPU Executive Council.
- Meetings of the Expert Team will be convened periodically, either virtually or in person, as needed.
- Sub-groups or task forces may be established within the team to address specific regulatory themes or assignments.
- The APPU Bureau will provide necessary administrative and technical support to facilitate the activities of the team.

#### 5. Reporting and Accountability

- The Postal Regulations Expert Team will report its key findings, recommendations, and activities to the APPU Executive Council.
- Any formal recommendations or outputs intended for broader dissemination will be submitted to the APPU Bureau for circulation.

#### 6. Duration and Review

- The Postal Regulations Expert Team is established as a support body and will remain in operation until otherwise decided by the Executive Council.
- The terms, membership, and functioning of the Postal Regulations Expert Team may be reviewed periodically by the Executive Council to ensure relevance and effectiveness.