

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2023**

**APPU VISION TO GUIDE TREATY DEVELOPMENT**

**(Document prepared by the APPU/UPU Reform Working Group)**

1. Subject	References/paragraphs
Informing the EC on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the purpose and the process undertaken to develop the proposed vision</li> <li>- the proposed vision</li> </ul>	§§ 2-3  §§ 4
<b>2. Decisions expected</b>  The EC is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>note</b> the purpose and the process undertaken to develop the proposed vision</li> <li>- <b>adopt</b> Resolution 02 to endorse the vision</li> </ul>	§§ 2-3  Resolution 02

**1. Purpose of document**

1.1 This document has been prepared to:

- (i) set out the need for a vision;
- (ii) explain the steps undertaken to date to develop the proposed Vision; and
- (iii) present the proposed vision for consideration and approval.

**2. Purpose of vision**

2.1 The APPU/UPU Reform Working Group (Working Group) was tasked by the 2022 Bangkok Congress with continuing to review and enhance the Union and its governing documentation across five axes of study – financial, legal, organisational, directional, and capability and capacity.

2.2 As identified in Resolution C2/2022: Continuation of the review of APPU governing documentation in the 2022-2026 cycle, and Supporting Document 24.9 from the Bangkok Congress, there is significant uncertainty with the current Acts of the Union. Among other responsibilities, the Working Group has been tasked to come up with solutions to amend the Acts in 2026 that resolves these uncertainties in a manner that minimises future amendments.

2.3 Guidance from member countries about their expectations from a revised treaty framework was necessary to complete the review and prepare revisions for the 2026 Congress that meet the above tasking, in addition to supporting further work across the broad areas of focus requested by Congress.

2.4 Members have also expressed the wish to ‘get this done right’ to ensure the Union takes advantage of this opportunity and works to minimise future amendments where possible. This means taking an expansive and future-thinking approach, rather than focussing only on

implementing past decisions. A vision is needed to guide this work.

### **3. Steps to date**

- 3.1 On 22 February 2023 the Working Group met at its constituent meeting and agreed to the development of a guiding 'vision' for this purpose, which can be referenced back over coming years during the detailed and technical discussions to develop the new Acts.
- 3.2 The Chair considered the published APPU vision, objectives and values on the APPU website, and drafted a starting point for consideration by the Working Group.
- 3.3 The Working Group considered this starting point and provided suggestions and feedback for incorporation. The Working Group further agreed to consult with the wider APPU membership.
- 3.4 On 30 March 2023, the Bureau issued APPU Circular No.4 to commence consultation with the APPU membership on the vision. No comments were received from this wider consultation so the draft vision was endorsed by the Working Group with a minor amendment as suggested by one member.
- 3.5 On 28 June 2023, the Working Group met to consider and approve the final text of the vision to be considered by the Executive Council. Further amendments to points 1, 2 and 3 of the vision were incorporated.

### **4. The vision**

- 4.1 The vision is contained at Resolution 02 below.
- 4.2 The functions set out in the Resolution are already present in the framework of the APPU to varying degrees. In this regard, the purpose of the vision is not necessarily to guide the APPU into new functions; rather, the purpose is to clarify for the Working Group what outcomes must be achieved through the Bangkok Cycle reform work, notably the Review of Governing Documentation.
- 4.3 If the vision is endorsed, it needs to be incorporated into the Review of Governing Documentation and other Working Group activities. The details of this implementation are included at EC 2023 Doc 13.5. The purpose of the vision is not to limit activities being undertaken by the APPU during the Bangkok cycle.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Proposal of a general nature

02

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### APPU/UPU REFORM WORKING GROUP

#### Resolution

#### APPU vision to guide treaty development

##### The Executive Council,

**noting** the requirements of resolution C2/2022: Continuation of the review of APPU governing documentation in the 2022-2026 cycle,

**aware** that guidance from member countries about their expectations from a revised treaty framework is necessary to develop proposals for the 2026 Congress and support further work across the areas of focus requested by Congress,

**decides** that the work of reforming the Union should be informed and guided by the preferences and vision of the membership for the APPU; and

**endorses** for that purpose, that the vision of member countries is that the APPU should function as:

1. a forum to inform and engage members on international postal challenges and opportunities, that takes forward the decisions from Universal Postal Union meetings, and forges regional consensus on common interests,
2. a facilitator and organiser of cooperation between postal operators, ministries, regulators, and wider postal sector players to build relationships and address common challenges, and to promote active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest,
3. a knowledge centre to share information, services and solutions to support member countries in the region,
4. a representative and advocate for regional positions at the Universal Postal Union or other fora on behalf of the membership, particularly members who have the most difficulty in participating,
5. an advocate on behalf of its membership at the Universal Postal Union for postal development,
6. a centre of excellence for education and capacity-building, including through a dedicated training function, and
7. a financially sustainable organisation, guided by best-practice governance and a strong legal framework.