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Meeting on UPU CA Matters Working Group

Presentation by Pakistan (Chair)

Executive Council Meeting
Bangkok, Thailand
14 - 18 August 2023



Sequence of Presentation

- Opening Remarks by Chair
- Purpose of Working Group
- Brief Overview of Discussions in CA Session S-3
- Any Other Business



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, to coordinate with UPU and APPU on the CA decisions taken from time to time.

Coordination Committee for the Permanent Bodies of the Union



- The meeting was chaired by the Chair of the Council of Administration, Cote d' Ivoire.
- Council of Administration (CA) Session 3 (S3) was mainly used to approve all CA-related proposals to be tabled for the Extraordinary Congress (EC).
- Key objectives of the session:
 - Updating the work of various committees;
 - To organize the conference on postal regulation and focus on climate action in the postal sector.

Main Items of the Council of Administration Session



- Report of the Task Force on the Opening Up of the UPU to wider Postal Sector Players.
- 2023 Extraordinary Congress
- Conference on Postal Regulation
- Meetings of the CA Committees

CA Task Force on the Opening Up of the UPU to Wider Postal Sector Players



- The CA task force on the opening up of the UPU to Wider Postal Sector Players was Co-Chaired by Algeria and the United States of America.
- The Abidjan Congress adopted resolutions C 11/2021 and C 12/2021, which respectively instructed the Union's bodies to develop proposals aimed at :
 - Further reform and opening of the Union to wider postal sector players
 - To hold a fourth Extraordinary Congress (EC) in 2023 to examine those proposals.
- The resolutions adopted by the Abidjan Congress were converted into specific deliverables, which were in turn grouped into three major workstreams:
 - Workstream 1: institutional framework;
 - Workstream 2: products and services; and
 - Workstream 3: reform as a continuum.

Workstream 1: Institutional Framework



- Workstream 1 (WS 1) is focused on examining, and submitting to the EC, the structural and governance changes required in order to comply with the mandate of Congress resolution C 11/2021.
- The TF gained an understanding of the mechanisms through which other UN agencies integrate with private sector into their governance and decision-making frameworks.
- The conclusion was a consensus that the current CC (Consultative Committee) remains the most appropriate structure for engagement with wider postal sector players (WPSPs)
- WS 1 proposes certain amendments to the General Regulations for submission to the EC.

Workstream 2: access to products and services



- Workstream 2 (WS 2) centered on a technical review of the UPU's products and services, and sought to identify those which might be made accessible to WPSPs.
- The goal of WS 2 was to secure effective and timely WPSP access to those UPU products and services that could advance the Union's goal of facilitating communication among the people of the world.
- TF will develop a draft Congress resolution embodying the recommendations and conclusions of WS 2 for approval by the Extraordinary Congress (EC).

Workstream 3: reform as a continuum



- TF expressed the need to establish processes and structures which would ensure that reform is a continuous, ongoing process that does not end with the decisions of the EC.
- WS 3 will result in a draft resolution for the EC's consideration.
- The draft Congress resolution will state in detail the objectives of the future work on reform and recommend a post-EC timeline, work programme and institutional structure to support this work.
- The objectives of the future work on reform are expected to centre around ensuring that the UPU is fit for the purpose to support its key stakeholders and continually adapts to remain relevant to the evolving postal marketplace.

Extension of the task force mandate



- TF sought Plenary's approval for an extension in its mandate till EC is convened in accordance with Article 9.2 of the CA Rules of Procedure.
- The extension will allow the TF to complete its work and finalize the Congress proposals emanating from ongoing discussions on WS 2 and WS 3.
- The TF will submit a final set of proposals to the CA Chair for endorsement before submission to the EC.

Conference on Postal Regulation



- The IB made a presentation on the UPU conference on postal regulation held in May 2023 on the theme “Climate action by the global postal sector”.
- The conference consisted of two panel discussions:
 - Panel one discussed aligning sectoral activities with national and regional climate policies and regulations,
 - Panel two discussed exploring the opportunities presented by intergovernmental agency cooperation on climate policymaking and postal sector regulation, as well as raising funds to support climate action.
- The panel sessions were preceded by a keynote speech by Mr Abdallah Mokssit, Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).



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Meetings of the CA Committees

Committee 1: Governance and Management of the Union



- The meeting of Committee 1 was Co-Chaired by Kenya and Spain.
- The International Bureau (IB) presented the UPU's unaudited financial statements 2022.
- The Chair presented the request from the Dominican Republic for exceptional release from its debts in arrears and immediate lifting of automatic sanctions.
- The committee agreed to submit the proposals related to the revision of the annual ceiling of expenditure to the Extraordinary Congress.
- IB presented the status of the UPU building renovation project which was supported by the Committee 1.
- IB informed the committee that it would continue with the initiatives already taken to distribute the IB vacancy announcements as widely as possible in order to reach qualified candidates.
- The IB informed the committee that all of the deliverables for S3 had been completed.



Committee 2 (Postal Policy and Regulation)



- The Committee 2 was Co-Chaired by Canada and Egypt.
- The IB updated CA C 2 members on the progress of work on the review of the integrated postal reform, development plan (IPDP), postal reform guide and the development of postal reform training modules.
- Integrated Product Plan
- Integrated Remuneration Plan-Phase I Implementation Report
 - POC approved the report at its S3 session with the amendments mentioned in paragraphs 50 and 51 of POC 2023.1–Doc 4. CA C 2 also approved the report with the said amendments.
- Electronic advance data and monitoring of global regulatory measures that may affect the flow of mail
 - Concerns of member countries in relation to the implementation of ICS2.

Committee 2 (Postal Policy and Regulation) (Cont.)



- IB presented work done in relation to the report on the implementation of Congress resolution C 17/2021 and goals related to emission measurement, target-setting and carbon-neutral postal products.
- IB presented the UPU policy on gender equality and empowerment of women. Several members and observers took the floor in support of the policy and recognized the importance of gender equality and empowerment of women in general.

Committee 3 (Strategy, Postal Economics and Markets)



- The Committee was Co-Chaired by Uruguay and Zambia.
- Abidjan Postal Strategy and Business Plan
 - International Bureau (IB) presented a mapping of the current 133 work proposals of the Abidjan Business Plan against the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - IB reported that the UPU's current work proposals align, to varying degrees, with 15 of the 17 SDGs.
- UPU Strategy Implementation Report
 - IB presented the report, focusing on the current status of implementation of targets and deliverables based on actual figures.
 - During 2022, 74% of targets had been achieved, with certain exceptions.

Committee 3 (Strategy, Postal Economics and Markets) Cont.



- UPU official postal statistics
 - IB provided explanations regarding the nature of the postal statistics publication and the need for member countries to contribute to these statistics.
- Updates to the trends and drivers of international postal volumes
- Introduction of a new integrated publication plan in 2023
 - IB proposed the integration of the Postal Development Report and Postal Economic Outlook, and subsequent publication of a flagship report entitled “State of the Postal Sector”.
 - Committee took note of the document.
- UPU strategy 2026–2029 roadmap
 - IB presented an inclusive, consensus-driven roadmap to develop the UPU strategy for 2026–2029.
 - Committee took note of the document.

Committee 4 (Development Cooperation and Technical Assistance)



- Establishment of a task force on assistance and support for the postal sector of member countries in need.
 - The Council of Administration (CA), at its S1 session, adopted Resolution CA 3/2022.1 on “Assistance and support to the postal sector of countries in need”
 - In response to Resolution CA 3/2022.1, the IB reported to the CA S2 that 72 member countries of UPU have been affected by natural and technological disasters, regional conflicts and other emergencies over the last 10 years.
- “Urgent postal sector issues – Report on assistance and support to Ukraine and its postal sector”
 - Committee endorsed the submission of the draft annex to a Congress–Doc to the Plenary for approval, for further submission to the 2023 Extraordinary Congress.



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THANK YOU!