



SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Report of the opening plenary session

Monday, 3 September 2018

In the chair: Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo, State Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia

Vice-Chair/Topic Leaders: China (People's Rep.), France, Kenya and the United States of America

A. Under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Council of Administration

1 Opening of Congress

Mr Kenan Bozgeyik (Turkey), Chairman of the Council of Administration, welcomed the participants and opened the plenary session of the second Extraordinary Congress.

2 Checking of the quorum

The CA Chairman then announced that 107 (including three proxies) of the Union's 134 member countries represented at the second Extraordinary Congress were present.

As there was a quorum, Congress was able to proceed to business.

3 Address by the CA Chairman

/ The address given by Mr Kenan Bozgeyik, CA Chairman, is reproduced in Annex 1.

4 Election of the Chairman of Congress

In accordance with article 6.1 of the Rules of Procedure of Congresses, the CA Chairman proposed that Ms Ubah Mohammed Hussien, Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, be appointed as Chairman of the Second Extraordinary Congress.

Ms Ubah Mohammed Hussien's appointment as Chairman of the Second Extraordinary Congress was approved by acclamation.

In the absence of Ms Ubah Mohammed Hussien, who was detained on urgent matters, Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo, State Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, chaired the opening plenary session.

B. Under the Chairmanship of the Chairman of Congress

5 Adoption of the agenda

Congress–Doc 3.Rev 1

The Chairman presented the agenda, which was approved without comment.

6 Address by the Chairman of Congress

/ The Chairman gave an address, which is reproduced in Annex 2.

7 Address by the Secretary General

/ The address given by Mr Bishar A. Hussein, Secretary General of Congress, is reproduced in Annex 3.

8 Approval of the appointment of the vice-chairs/topic leaders for the Congress and chairs and vice-chairs of the restricted committees

Proposal 07.Rev 1

In proposal 07.Rev 1, the CA designated, subject to approval by Congress, the countries prepared to assume the vice-chairmanships and topic-leader positions for the Extraordinary Congress, namely, China (People's Rep.), France, Kenya and the United States of America.

In the same proposal, the CA also designated, subject to approval by Congress, the countries prepared to assume the chairmanships and vice-chairmanships of the Congress restricted committees, namely, Tunisia (Chair of Credentials Committee), New Zealand (Vice-Chair of Credentials Committee), Poland (Chair of Drafting Committee) and Canada (Vice-Chair of Drafting Committee).

As no comments were made, the above-mentioned appointments were approved.

9 Approval of the appointment of the members of the restricted committees (Credentials and Drafting)

Proposal 07.Rev 1

In proposal 07.Rev 1, the CA designated, subject to approval by Congress, the countries prepared to participate as members of the restricted committees: Indonesia, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey as members of the Credentials Committee; and Algeria, Cameroon, France, and the United States of America as members of the Drafting Committee.

As no comments were made, the above-mentioned appointments were approved.

10 List of organizations invited to the Extraordinary Congress

Congress–Note 2.Rev 1

As no comments were made, the above-mentioned Congress–Note was approved.

11 Application of the system of automatic sanctions at the Extraordinary Congress

Congress–Doc 10.Rev 2

Congress–Doc 10.Rev 2 was presented. The list of member countries against which automatic sanctions were in force at 30 August 2018 was noted (22 member countries listed).

As no comments were made, Congress took note of Congress–Doc 10.Rev 2.

12 Scope of member country proposals to be brought before the Extraordinary Congress

Proposal 01

Proposal 01 stipulates that the Extraordinary Congress shall limit its discussions to only those proposals submitted to it by UPU bodies and member countries that relate specifically to four topics: UPU reform, the UPU contribution system, the UPU Provident Scheme, and the Integrated Product Plan/Integrated Remuneration Plan. The proposal also stipulates that any proposal pertaining to other topics shall not be considered unless Congress decides, by a majority of the member countries represented at Congress and having the right to vote, that the proposal concerns an urgent postal sector issue.

Some countries expressed their views that UPU remuneration should evolve towards full cost coverage and that proposals to the 2020 Congress should address this need. The Chair of Congress asked the Plenary to take note of the views expressed and suggested that the issues raised be considered at the plenary sessions on the Integrated Product Plan and Integrated Remuneration Plan.

The proposal was approved.

13 Allocation of Congress proposals and documents to the plenary sessions

Congress–Doc 1.Add 1

The Congress Chair presented Congress–Doc 1.Add 1, which contains a list of Congress proposals and documents and their proposed allocation to the plenary sessions.

As no comments were made, the proposed allocation was approved.

14 Statements

Mr Shakib Ahmad Shakir, Head of the Malaysian delegation made a statement.

For the Second Extraordinary Congress: Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo
On behalf of the Chair of Congress

Mr Bishar A. Hussein
Secretary General

Mr Siva Somasundram
Secretary



Speech by Mr Kenan Bozgeyik, Chairman of the Council of Administration, on the occasion of the second Extraordinary Congress, Addis Ababa, 3 September 2018

H.E. Dr Mulatu Teshome, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia,
Ms Ubah Mohammed Hussien, Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, Chair of the second Extraordinary Congress,
Distinguished Ministers,
Secretary General of Congress, Mr Bishar A. Hussein,
Dear Colleagues from the postal sector,
Dear Members of the Press,

I would like to welcome you all to the UPU's second Extraordinary Congress hosted by Ethiopia, one of the most important countries on the African continent, deemed the cradle of mankind.

I would like to convey my special gratitude to the Ethiopian government, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, and the Ethiopian Post for their great efforts to organize this successful Congress.

Also, I present my special thanks to all the UPU IB staff for their tireless work to prepare and realize this Congress, which will guide the future of the postal sector.

This continent has had important experiences and has witnessed major events forming the history of mankind. Unfortunately, the African continent, dating back 7 million years and hosting grand civilizations since the beginning of history, has experienced poverty and hardship despite its rich resources.

The development of the African continent is highly important for all of us. Every step taken for the development of Africa is towards a more prosperous future for mankind.

According to recent research, 80% of the post offices in Sub-Saharan Africa provide financial services in areas where banks do not provide any services. This means that the African people are building a close relationship with the postal sector when it comes to financial services.

The African postal financial services initiative, aiming at maximum efficiency, is continuing to study ways to provide Africa with more appropriate charges for money transfers.

I believe that this Congress will help fully integrate African postal operators in our Union and will provide important contributions for their development processes.

Dear Colleagues,

We are the most important actors of the postal sector – a sector with great historical and cultural significance for mankind. The postal sector has made tremendous efforts throughout history in order to satisfy the communication needs of the people in the best and most effective manner. Despite certain challenges due to changing conditions resulting from technological advancements, the sector was maintained by keeping pace with the requirements of the age, and postal services have been provided for everybody all around the world.

The Universal Postal Union, constantly analyzing the status of the postal sector and taking precautions against probable risks and also converting the challenges of change into opportunities, updates its strategies regularly in this direction.

The first steps of the digital era were taken by Generation X, whose members sent letters to each other. Generation Y used the e-mail service first, then seized the technological change and used it to their advantage both professionally and privately. Generation Z, the youngest generation, are looking upon a different world.

This new generation, which we can call a “digital generation”, is made up of millions of young people who enjoy renewed postal services and use digital technology intuitively.

This digital transformation, creating both challenges and opportunities for postal operators, makes responding to the changing demands of individual and corporate customers of our sector a necessity and also makes the diversification of services inevitable.

We took the first step in this direction with the Istanbul World Postal Strategy that we adopted at the 26th UPU Congress, shaping our strategic action plan in accordance with our strategic aim.

Our new strategy involves integrating postal networks, enhancing collaboration and improving e-commerce – forming a clear picture of our future vision.

Decisions taken jointly by UPU members with a view to profound changes in the operation of our Union and the postal sector placed heavy responsibility on my shoulders personally, since these decisions were taken in my country under my chairmanship.

Now, in Ethiopia, the heart of Africa, we are sure that very important steps of great importance for the postal sector will be taken in this direction, at this second Extraordinary UPU Congress.

Dear Colleagues,

We are responsible not just for improving the postal sector, but also for providing permanent services for our world.

In accordance with the vision of the Istanbul World Postal Strategy in which the postal sector is seen as an enabler of inclusive development and an essential component of the global economy, that strategy document makes reference to the 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Our Union supports the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which include ending poverty and famine in the world, combating climate change and building sustainable living places.

We are now experiencing a new period in which the African continent is receiving the attention it deserves in the international arena, with its cultural and historical influences, as well as its human resource potential. Development of Africa from an individual and social perspective creates unique opportunities for both the continent and the whole world.

I strongly believe that – as at the Istanbul Congress – at this Congress in Ethiopia, distinguished members of the UPU will strengthen the Union through their joint decisions.

I am honoured, on behalf of my country Turkey, that joint decisions taken at the Istanbul Congress will see fruition and be further refined in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, one of the ancient cultural centres of Africa.

I would like to thank once again the Ethiopian government and the Ethiopian Post for hosting the Congress under the auspices of the Ethiopian Ministry of Communication and Information Technology. I wish all of you success during the Congress.



Opening speech of Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo, State Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, on behalf of the Chair of Congress, Addis Ababa, 3 September 2018

Your Excellency Mr Bishar A. Hussein, Director General of the International Bureau of the UPU,
Your Excellency Mr Kenan Bozgeyik, Chairman of the Council of Administration,
Honourable Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates of member countries,
Dear Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you to chair today's afternoon session.

During the 26th Congress, practical and important agendas were set for you to deliberate on at this second Extraordinary Congress. Five reform-related agendas were well honed. As they have been repeated by speakers and presenters before me, I will bypass listing the titles.

I hope our discussion on these matters will be fruitful and bring observable change to the UPU, so that it will have an impact on the development of member countries, resulting in the improvement of the life of nations around the globe.

With this in mind, the participants here will consider the issues carefully; our diligence and considerateness is of paramount importance to the outcome of the second Extraordinary Congress.

I wish to call on all participants for their cooperation in assisting me as Chairman to complete our work within the stipulated time frame. I wish to request the distinguished delegates to try to keep the debates within the confines of the items of the agenda.



Address of Mr Bishar A. Hussein, Secretary General of the Second Extraordinary Congress, on the occasion of the opening plenary session, Addis Ababa, 3 September 2018

Your Excellency, the President of the Republic of Ethiopia,
Honourable Ministers,
Ambassadors,
CEOs of Posts and Regulatory Organizations,
Heads of Delegations,
Representatives of the African Union,
Respected Observers,
Chairman of the CA,
Chairman of the POC,
Distinguished Delegates,
Dear Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

I welcome you all with great pleasure to this historic Extraordinary UPU Congress, being held this week in the historic city of Addis Ababa, and hosted by the hospitable people of Ethiopia. The only other Extraordinary Congress of the Union was held in Berne, Switzerland in 1900 – 118 years ago.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the International Secretariat and the entire UPU family, I want to convey our deepest gratitude to the Government and postal and regulatory authorities of Ethiopia for hosting this historic event and meeting all its attendant costs. In addition, I want to express my appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality you have accorded to all the delegates in your beautiful country.

The International Bureau Secretariat has worked tirelessly since the Istanbul Congress to provide the member countries with all the technical and professional support for the work of the Union bodies, and has prepared all the necessary documents for this Congress in record time.

I want to pay tribute to the Chairman of the CA, Mr Kenan Bozgeyik, the Chairman of the POC, Mr Masahiko Metoki, and the chairs and co-chairs of all committees, ad hoc groups and task forces, together with the member countries, restricted unions and observers, who have all contributed immensely to the work before you. Last but not least, I want to thank the Deputy Director General, the senior management of the International Bureau and the entire IB staff for their hard work and a job well done.

Your Excellencies,

Why are we gathered here this week, and what is the outcome we desire?

The 26th UPU Congress held in Istanbul in October 2016 decided that we would hold an Extraordinary Congress in 2018 to address some specific but fundamental topics for which some members requested more time to build a consensus. We have all worked hard over the last year and a half to try to build this consensus. We have conducted many studies and tried hard to accommodate all views from all regions and individual countries. I am optimistic that the proposals before you this week incorporate the views of the majority of the member countries, and I hope that we can all find common ground to conclude them here in Addis Ababa. I wish to underline the fact that the five items on your agenda are crucial to the future continuity and sustainability of this Union.

Proposals on these subjects have been circulated to you online for some time now, and will also be presented to you here for discussion and for you to make an informed decision.

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4.9.2018

The Istanbul Congress adopted the following five resolutions:

Resolution C 28/2016 – Organization of Extraordinary Congress in 2018

This resolution directed the holding of an Extraordinary Congress in 2018 to address various issues relating to the current and future world postal strategy, as well as any urgent postal sector issues. The resolution has been fulfilled today through this assembly.

Resolution C 27/2016 – Management of the work of the Union – Reform of the UPU

The Istanbul Congress decided to establish an ad hoc group led by the People's Republic of China to study and advise on the reform of the Union and submit its conclusion to the CA before further consideration by the Extraordinary Congress in 2018. This was done, and the proposal is now being submitted for your deliberation and decision at this Congress.

The resolution also instructed that a review of the Extraordinary Congress should be presented to the 2020 Congress to determine whether the mid-term Congress is desirable as a permanent UPU event in the future. I am optimistic that the lessons we learn from this Extraordinary Congress will be fundamental in making this decision.

Resolution C 29/2016 – Reform of the system applied to contributions by Union member countries

The Congress instructed the CA to prepare, for submission for the Extraordinary Congress, an alternative contribution model proposal to guarantee the Union's long-term financial sustainability. The proposal is now on your agenda, and will be dealt with comprehensively tomorrow.

Resolution C 31 – Future sustainability of the Union's Provident Scheme

The Istanbul Congress instructed the CA, with the support of the International Bureau, to present to this Extraordinary Congress the result of the study on the continued stability and sustainability of the Union's Provident Scheme. This work, led by the United States of America, has now been concluded after wide consultations, and the proposals will be presented on Wednesday. I want to commend the United States for their steadfast leadership. Viable options will be discussed to resolve the problems of the Scheme.

Resolution C 15/2016 – Integrated Postal Plan implementation

The 26th Congress instructed the Postal Operations Council to carry out a comprehensive review on the optional and mandatory supplementary services, with recommendations made to this Congress. This has been a lengthily debated subject, which pitted the interests of the exporting and importing countries of small packets, which were hitherto classified within the letter category. The importing countries want the small packets reclassified as parcels in order to receive commensurate compensation for their delivery. I am hopeful we will be able to resolve the debate at this Congress.

The resolution also instructed the POC to address the associated Integrated Remuneration Plan.

The IPP will help UPU members to develop a fully integrated portfolio of physical products. In turn, the IRP will respond to changes to the UPU product portfolio, and will modernize, rationalize and integrate the UPU remuneration systems.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in a nutshell, the above-mentioned resolutions provide the relevant mandate and scope of activities for this Extraordinary Congress.

I wish to conclude by reiterating that these important topics that I have outlined are crucial to the future sustainability of this Union. The decisions you make here in Addis will go a long way in determining the future direction and sustainability of the Union. I am hopeful that your decisions will take us to the next level in developing the Post and the Union.

Ministerial Conference

Within the Congress schedule, 6 and 7 September have been reserved for a high-level forum where ministers responsible for Posts will have an opportunity to express the views on the future strategy direction of this Union and the postal industry. We look forward to informative and lively discussion sessions. The outcome of this ministerial conference will lay the beacons on the road to the Côte d'Ivoire UPU Congress in 2020 and beyond.

Concerns of fragile states

Even though all proposals are of utmost importance, I wish to declare here that my heart and sympathy goes to the developing and less developed countries and small island states, many of which are not here with us today either because they are under sanctions, or because they are suffering from crippling debts which they cannot afford to clear. Some could not even afford to travel here for financial reasons. Consequently, these countries lose their privileges and rights to participate fully in the activities of the Union.

I wish to pose some fundamental question to all of you members:

- How true are we to the universal principles of the UPU as a single postal territory?
- For how long do these countries have to face exclusion from the Union's activities?
- For how long should they bear a financial burden beyond their means to be a member of this Union?
- When will they ever repay their crippling debts, some of which have been outstanding for decades?
- What is the remedy to the plight of these countries?

I want to exhort members of this Union to consider and address the plight of these countries as we review the future contribution model of the Union tomorrow. The current system does not address cases of countries that cannot be with us simply because this is beyond their reach. As a result, they are excluded from the Union's activities. We should come up with a system of contribution classes that addresses such cases for inclusion.

In addition, we need to address the outstanding debts. Some of these debts will not and cannot be recovered. It is high time we considered this issue with a view to resolving it conclusively. Most importantly, we need to look for a sustainable way of bringing these members back in order to complete our global network. We need all of us.

Can we have a fresh start for these countries?

Apart from the inability to pay, some of these countries cannot play any role in our Union affairs. I have in mind small least developed islands in particular, and other marginal economies in general.

I am sure you can find ways of correcting this situation. Then and only then can we proclaim and say we have achieved our universal objective of a single postal territory envisaged by the founding fathers of this Union and the inclusivity agendas of the United Nations. It is my earnest hope that you will consider and support my proposal.

Your Excellencies,

In conclusion, I want to remind all of us that the decision of the 26th Congress was quite clear. Decisions have to be taken on all the topics on your agenda, and I hope this will be the case.

The decisions you take this week will have a big effect on the future of our Union. I have seen a very positive spirit as we have been preparing for this Congress. Let us be guided by the same spirit and take the right decisions that will take this Union to the next level.

Thank you for your attention.

SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Report of the plenary session on reform of the Union

Monday, 3 September 2018, 16.00–21.00

In the chair: Ethiopia (represented by Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo)

Vice-Chair/Topic Leader: China (People’s Rep.) (represented by Ms Hongtao Gao)

Secretariat

- Mr Mutua Muthusi, Secretary
- Ms Xiaoli Fu, Assistant Secretary
- Ms Akshaya Shivkumar, Expert

Proxies

Vanuatu was represented by Australia.

Liechtenstein was represented by Switzerland.

1 Opening of the meeting

The Chairman of Congress (Ethiopia) opened the meeting.

2 Checking of the quorum

A check on attendance showed that there was a quorum, with 122 countries present.

3 Handover of meeting to Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Congress Chair handed over the meeting to China (People’s Rep.), Vice-Chair/Topic Leader (henceforth “the Chair”) to lead discussions on the topic.

4 Address by the Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Chair extended her thanks to the Government of Ethiopia for the excellent organization of the Second Extraordinary Congress and offered a warm welcome to all delegations.

5 Adoption of the agenda

Congress–Doc 3.Add 1.Rev 1

Congress adopted the agenda with no changes.

6 Reform of the Union

a Report by the CA

Congress–Doc 6

As the presenter of the document on UPU reform, South Africa provided an overview of the work of the Ad Hoc Group on Reform, resulting in the CA recommendations to Congress on the key pending issues related to UPU reform. Congress took note of the document.

b Procedures concerning the election of member countries to the CA and POC

Proposal 15.112.1 (§ 1)

As there were no objections, proposal 15.112.1 (§ 1) was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 05

After discussion, it was decided to consider the sentence “Election of members of the Postal Operations Council shall be based on the ranking order of votes obtained within each geographical region” as part of agenda item 6d.

As there were no objections, proposal 05 (apart from the sentence above) was adopted by consensus.

c Changes to the Acts

Proposal 10.1.1

As there were no objections, proposal 10.1.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 10.8.1

As there were no objections, proposal 10.8.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 10.18.1

As there were no objections, proposal 10.18.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.103.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.103.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.104.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.104.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.105.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.105.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.106.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.106.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.107.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.107.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.108.1

Japan proposed minor amendments to the wording of paragraph 1 of the proposal:

1 At its constituent meeting, which shall be convened and opened by the Chairman of Congress, the Council of Administration shall elect four Vice-Chairmen from among its members ~~(with the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen being member countries from each of the five geographical groups of the Union)~~ and draw up its Rules of Procedure. The Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen shall be member countries from each of the five geographical groups of the Union.

As there were no objections, proposal 15.108.1 was adopted by consensus with the amendment.

Proposal 15.109.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.109.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.110.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.110.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.112.1 (§§ 3 and 5)

As there were no objections, proposal 15.112.1 (§§ 3 and 5) was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.113.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.113.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.114.1

Japan proposed minor amendments to the wording of paragraph 1 of the proposal:

1 At its first meeting, which shall be convened and opened by the Chairman of Congress, the Postal Operations Council shall choose from among its members a Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen ~~(with the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen being member countries from each of the five geographical groups of the Union)~~, and the Committee Chairmen/Vice-Chairmen/Co-Chairmen, and draw up its Rules of Procedure. The Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen shall be member countries from each of the five geographical groups of the Union.

As there were no objections, proposal 15.114.1 was adopted by consensus with the amendment.

Proposal 15.115.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.115.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.116.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.116.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.117.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.117.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.123.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.123.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.127.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.127.1 was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 15.130.1

Owing to differing opinions from the floor, the proposal was taken to a vote, with a quorum of 123 member countries. The results were 78 for, 33 against and 11 abstentions.

Proposal 15.130.1 was therefore adopted.

Congress took note of requests from members for the CA to continue examining the subject of time requirements for document production.

Proposal 15.138.1

One member country was not in favour of proposal 15.138.1; however, it was adopted.

Proposal 15.144.1

Japan proposed minor amendments to the wording of paragraph 2 of the proposal:

2 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1, decisions on amending the Acts of the Union which are adopted between Congresses shall not take effect until at least three months after their notification. However, this time ~~limit~~ requirement shall not apply to any amendments to the Regulations which are adopted following the drawing up of the new Regulations but still prior to their entry into force as per paragraph 1.

As there were no objections, proposal 15.144.1 was adopted by consensus with the amendment.

Proposal 15.152.1

As there were no objections, proposal 15.152.1 was adopted by consensus.

d Composition and functioning of the POC

Owing to differing opinions in the room, the Chair recommended that a vote be taken on whether or not CA proposal 15.112.1 (§ 2) would be discussed before proposal 15.112.2 from Turkey and Greece.

The results were 72 countries for, 31 against and 9 abstentions. CA proposal 15.112.1 (§ 2) was therefore considered first.

15.112.1 (§ 2)

Owing to differing opinions in the room, the proposal was put to a vote, with a quorum of 119 countries. The results were 64 countries for, 48 against and 7 abstentions.

Since the number of countries voting for the proposal was below the required threshold (minimum 68 supporting), the proposal was rejected.

15.112.2

Owing to differing opinions in the room, the proposal was put to a vote, with a quorum of 119 countries. The results were 75 countries for, 35 against and 9 abstentions.

Proposal 15.112.2 was therefore adopted by Congress.

Proposal 05

Based on the adoption of proposal 15.112.2, the text in proposal 05, discussed under agenda item 6b, was proposed to be amended as follows:

Election of members of the Postal Operations Council shall be based on the ranking order of votes obtained within each geographical region, subject to the renewal requirements outlined in the General Regulations.

As there were no objections, proposal 05 was adopted by consensus with the amendment.

7 Any other business

Congress took note of the fact that some countries had difficulty using the electronic voting system. The Chair provided these countries with the opportunity to express their vote orally. The technical team was asked to conduct a check of the voting system.

For the second Extraordinary Congress:

Hongtao Gao
Chair

Mutua Muthusi
Secretary

Xiaoli Fu
Assistant Secretary



SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Report of the plenary session on the contribution system

Tuesday, 4 September 2018 (9.00–12.00 and 14.00–18.00)

In the chair: Ethiopia (represented by Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo)

Vice-Chair/Topic Leader: Kenya (represented by Mr Ndaro)

Secretariat

- Vladyslav Dubenko, Secretary
- Siham Houhou, Assistant Secretary

Proxies

Vanuatu was represented by Australia.

Liechtenstein was represented by Switzerland.

Grenada was represented by Guyana.

1 Opening of the meeting

The Chairman of Congress (Ethiopia) opened the meeting.

As problems with the electronic voting system had arisen during the session on reform of the Union, the International Bureau's Director of Logistics took the floor to explain how the system worked, and asked each member country to test it. This enabled the operational procedure to be clarified.

2 Checking of quorum

A check on the attendance showed that, with 115 countries present, a quorum had been reached.

3 Handover of meeting to Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Chairman of Congress handed over to Kenya, Vice-Chair/Topic Leader, to lead the discussions on the topic.

4 Adoption of the agenda

Congress–Doc 3.Add 2.Rev 1

Two changes to the order of discussion were proposed by the Vice-Chair:

- Item 11, “Statements”, would be dealt with immediately after item 5, “Address by the Vice-Chair/Topic Leader”, at the request of Australia, Nauru and Tonga.
- Item 8 would be dealt with before item 7, since amendments to the Acts (Constitution and General Regulations) should precede proposals of a general nature.

Pro
7.9.2018

The second proposed change was not accepted by certain countries, leading the Chairman to put this question to a vote. With 115 member countries voting, there were 57 votes in favour, 55 against and three abstentions.

Congress adopted the agenda with the two changes proposed.

5 Address by the Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Ethiopian Government for the excellent organization of this second Extraordinary Congress, and welcomed all the delegations. He recalled the importance of overhauling the UPU contribution system to ensure the viability of the Union and the long-term financial planning of member countries. In addition, he thanked the special task force formed in line with Istanbul Congress resolution C 29/2016, which had worked hard to come up with a new, fair model capable of achieving a consensus among member countries.

11 Statements

A statement was made by Australia on the financial difficulties faced by small island developing states with a population under 200,000, which were subject to sanctions. Tonga and Nauru also made statements along similar lines; they regretted this unfortunate situation which prevented them from taking part in the discussions. The postal revenue of these two member countries was less than the amount of the annual contribution billed by the UPU. The three member countries appealed to Congress to find a fair solution.

6 Reform of the system applied to contributions by Union member countries

Congress–Doc 5.Rev 1

Malaysia presented the CA report on reform of the contribution system. It provided an overview of the work done by the special team, which led to the submission by the CA to Congress of a contribution model, including the fundamental principles, the protection framework, the calculation mechanism and the recommendations for implementation of this new model during the transition period. The task force was warmly thanked by the Plenary for the work carried out, but differences of opinion emerged in the discussion of the results of this report. Congress took note of the document.

8 Reform of the system applied to contributions by Union member countries – Changes to the Acts

Before the presentation of the proposals to amend the Acts of the Union, France stressed the importance of dealing with the proposals on implementation of the new contribution system as described in Congress–Doc 5.Rev 1, namely general proposal 09 and proposals to amend the Acts 10.21.1 and 15.150.2.Rev 1, as a single package, without any amendments.

Some members said they wished to see a general consensus for the adoption of this set of proposals, without the need for a vote. Given significant differences of opinion in the room, the United States of America called for an adjournment (procedural motion) to enable member countries to consult. Objections were raised to this motion. The Chairman therefore put the United States' request to a vote. With 129 members present, the results were as follows: 37 countries in favour, 75 against and 14 abstaining. The motion was therefore rejected.

New Zealand proposed an amendment to proposal 09 to consider whether the current system of automatic sanctions and minimum contribution levels unreasonably prevents universal participation in the Union, particularly for developing countries with small populations and small island developing states, and whether alternative arrangements may be necessary to allow currently sanctioned countries to regain full rights to participate in the Union. Owing to technical limitations in the translation and publication process, the Plenary decided to reflect this point in its report instead.

France's proposal to present the package of proposals for adoption without amendment was ultimately approved by the Plenary. In the absence of consensus, the Chairman recommended moving to a vote, as provided for in the General Regulations. Before the vote, France made a statement and requested that it be included in the report of this plenary (see Annex 1).

As the package of proposals being voted upon included an amendment to be made to the Constitution (10.21.1), two-thirds of Union member countries with the right to vote (114) would need to adopt it. With 124 member countries present, the result was 50 votes in favour, 48 against and 25 abstaining.

As the number of countries voting in favour of the proposal fell short of the required threshold (a minimum of 114 in favour), proposals 09, 10.21.1 and 15.150.2.Rev 1 were rejected.

Proposal 15.150.1.Rev 1

This proposal was an amendment to § 1 of article 150 of the General Regulations on contribution classes, aimed at providing the Union with stable cash flow. Given divergent opinions in the room, the proposal was put to a vote. With 126 members present, the quorum was achieved. The results were as follows: 91 in favour, 18 against and 18 abstentions.

Proposal 15.150.1.Rev 1 was therefore adopted by the Congress.

Australia requested an amendment to proposal 15.150.1.Rev 1, to include an additional contribution class dedicated to small island developing states with a population under 200,000. Amended proposal 15.150.3 was presented at the plenary session on 5 September. The number of member countries required for approval was 117.

Proposal 15.150.3 was adopted by consensus.

7 Reform of the system applied to contributions by Union member countries – Proposals of a general nature

Proposal 06.Rev 1

General proposal 06.Rev 1, relating to the submission by the CA to the 27th Congress in 2020 of a proposed contribution model guaranteeing the long-term financial viability of the Union, was adopted by consensus.

Proposal 09

See item 8.

9 Regulation of member countries' contributions

Proposal 15.146.1

As no objections were raised, proposal 15.146.1 was adopted by consensus.

10 Any other business

No other business was raised.

For the second Extraordinary Congress: Matano Ndaro (Kenya)
Chair



Declaration by France

“1 The French delegation would have been very happy to join in a consensus on the adoption of proposal 09 prepared by the task force.

2 As it appears that this consensus unfortunately cannot be achieved, France believes that the study on a new contribution system should be carried forward, with a view to possible adoption by the Abidjan Congress in 2020.

3 France feels that having recourse to a vote for the adoption of a system of mandatory contributions does not conform to best practice and the tradition of the United Nations. Consequently, if the decision is ultimately taken to move to a vote, the French delegation will leave the room and will not participate.

4 The French delegation wishes to state that the envisaged vote cannot have, either as its aim or as its effect, a change to the current system and, in particular, that any provisional application of this system, were it to be adopted prior to ratification by all member countries, would be illegal.

5 The French delegation therefore expresses its full reservations regarding the acceptance by its authorities of this system, were it to be adopted.”

SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Report of the plenary session on the UPU Provident Scheme

Wednesday, 5 September 2018, 9.00 to 12.00

In the chair: Ethiopia (represented by Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo)

Vice-Chair/Topic Leader: United States of America (represented by Mr Joe Murphy)

Secretariat

- Mr Vladyslav Dubenko, Secretary
- Ms Siham Houhou, Assistant Secretary

Proxies

Vanuatu was represented by Australia.

Liechtenstein was represented by Switzerland.

Grenada was represented by Guyana.

1 Opening of the meeting

The Chairman of Congress (Ethiopia) opened the meeting.

2 Checking of the quorum

A check on the attendance showed that, with 117 countries present, a quorum had been reached.

3 Approval of the report of the plenary meeting on 3 September 2018

Congress–Report 1

As no comments had been received by the Secretariat within the regulation period of 24 hours provided for in article 22.4 of the Rules of Procedure of Congresses, the above-mentioned report could be regarded as final.

The report was approved.

4 Handover of meeting to Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Chairman of Congress handed over to the United States of America, the Vice-Chair/Topic Leader, to lead the discussions on the topic.

5 Adoption of the agenda

Congress–Doc 3.Add 3

The Vice-Chair proposed to add under agenda item 7 general proposal 13, which was an amendment to general proposal 10, on the sustainability of the UPU Provident Scheme.

Congress adopted the agenda with the proposed amendment.

6 Address by the Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

The Vice-Chair thanked the Chairman of Congress and the Ethiopian Government for the excellent organization of the second Extraordinary Congress, and the member countries for entrusting the chairmanship of the Task Force and vice-chairmanship of this Congress to the United States. He also thanked the members of the Task Force for their active participation, and in particular Spain (Vice-Chair of the Task Force).

7 Future sustainability of the Provident Scheme

Congress–Doc 7 and proposals 10 and 13

The United States presented the CA report on the future sustainability of the Union's Provident Scheme. A summary of the study done by the Task Force on means of guaranteeing lasting stability and viability for the Provident Scheme was presented. This study led to the submission by the CA to Congress of a package of recommendations and measures designed to provide stability not only in the short term but also in the long term, to ensure the future sustainability of the Provident Scheme.

Following this presentation, on behalf of the International Bureau, the Assistant Secretary General informed the Congress of two important elements relating to the measures proposed in the report:

- The reduction in the guarantee threshold from 85 to 80% was unacceptable, both to the Swiss supervisory authority for provident schemes and to the auditors, since this measure would further increase the leverage of the guarantee, which had already proven not to be enforceable;
- The results of the audit report for 2017 expressed concerns about the financial position of the Union, caused primarily by underfunding of the Scheme, putting the long-term functioning of the UPU at risk. The high level of debt of certain debtor countries should also be noted. This being so, the Union's cash reserves alone, without the support provided by the member countries' guarantees, were not sufficient to cover the funding deficit shown in the actuarial report.

In addition, Switzerland expressed reservations regarding the drop in the guarantee threshold, for the same reasons as were raised by the Assistant Secretary General. It also stressed that this measure neither helped to resolve the problem of deficit, nor boded well for the start of negotiations with the UNJSPF. A different option needed to be considered.

The Vice-Chair recalled that the proposed solution was certainly not optimal, but it did reflect the constraints of member countries, which were not prepared to pay in additional resources to make up the deficit. The only solution was therefore to use Union resources to stabilize the Scheme and, in the longer term, to join the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. Several member countries took the floor to support the proposals made in Congress–Doc 7.

The Task Force was congratulated by the Plenary on its work. Congress took note of the document.

The Vice-Chair proposed that members first consider proposal 13, which included an amendment to proposal 10 requested by Spain. This amendment involved adding an instruction to the CA “to establish a task force charged with studying the different options, advising on the negotiations with the UNJSPF, and submitting its conclusions and recommendations to the 2020 Congress”. The Legal Adviser also requested a minor amendment to the text during the plenary session, to be reflected in proposals 10 and 13, as follows:

“Initiation of negotiations with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF), with a view to achieving the Union’s participation in the UNJSPF and, to the extent possible, the migration of active and retired Provident Scheme members into the UNJSPF, without prejudice to the acquired rights of such members or to the responsibility of the Director General with regard to the formal conclusion of such negotiations on behalf of the Union.”

There were divergent opinions in the room concerning the setting up of a working group to study new options. The Secretary General recalled that the current situation of the Provident Scheme was such that a realistic solution needed to be found rapidly, without prejudice to the acquired rights of staff members. A number of member countries took the floor, in particular Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, France, Kenya, Malawi, Spain, Switzerland and Uruguay, to express the importance of, and their commitment to, respecting the rights of personnel and their acquired rights, while finding a solution to the issue of the long-term sustainability of the Provident Scheme.

Spain again took the floor to reassure the Plenary that the further study of different options referred to in proposal 13 did not imply any measures that would adversely affect the rights of personnel and their acquired rights.

The Vice-Chair put proposal 13 to a vote. With 125 member countries present, there were 100 votes in favour, 15 against and seven abstentions.

Proposal 13 was therefore adopted by Congress with the amendment suggested by the Legal Adviser.

8 Any other business

No other business was raised.

9 Statements

Representatives of the following countries made statements of a general nature:

- Mr Katsuya Watanabe, Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan;
- Mr Nasser Al Dada, Head of Delegation, Syrian Arab Rep.

The texts of these speeches are available on the UPU website.

For the second Extraordinary Congress: Joe Murphy (United States of America)
Chair



SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Report of the plenary session on the Integrated Product Plan (IPP), Integrated Remuneration Plan (IRP) and urgent postal sector issues

Wednesday, 5 September 2018

In the chair: Ethiopia (represented by Dr Mebratu G/mariam Kallo)

Vice-Chair/Topic Leaders: China (People's Rep.) (represented by Ms Hongmei Dong) and France (represented by Mr Jean-Paul Forceville)

A. Under the chairmanship of the Chair of Congress

1 Opening of the meeting

The Chair opened the plenary by welcoming all the participants and mentioning the important subjects that were to be discussed.

2 Checking of the quorum

A check on attendance showed that there was a quorum, with 127 countries present. As there was a quorum, Congress was able to proceed to business.

Proxies

Vanuatu was represented by Australia.

Liechtenstein was represented by Switzerland.

Grenada was represented by Guyana.

3 Handover of meeting to Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders

The Chairman of Congress handed over the meeting to the Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders to lead discussions on Part B of the agenda.

B. Under the Chairmanship of the Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders

4 Address by the Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders

The Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders made opening remarks recalling the importance of the IPP and IRP, both of which aimed to develop a fully integrated portfolio of physical products with adequate and competitive remuneration systems.

5 Adoption of the agenda

Congress–Doc 3.Add 4.Rev 1

One of the Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders presented the agenda and the order of discussion, which was approved with minor amendments.

6 Updated Integrated Product Plan (IPP) and Integrated Remuneration Plan (IRP) 2019–2020

Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1

a Integrated Product Plan (IPP)

The IPP (Part I) and IRP (Part II) of Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1 were presented to members to provide them with a holistic overview of the product-related recommendations along with the associated remuneration response as follows:

Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1 (Part I)

Australia presented Part I of Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1 on the IPP. The document had five product-related recommendations for consideration by Congress.

b Integrated Remuneration Plan (IRP)

Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1 (Part II)

Spain presented Part II of Congress–Doc 8.Rev 1 on the IRP. The three phases of IRP development were presented. Spain started by presenting Phase I on the impact of IPP Phase I (classification – documents vs goods) on remuneration, then presented Phase II on the remuneration responses to the IPP's product-related recommendations, and finally presented Phase III on the implementation of the IRP and the development of the Integrated Remuneration System (IRS).

Congress took note of the two-part report and also took note of the work carried out to update the IPP and the work carried out to develop a proposal on the IRP.

c Amendments to the Acts

Proposal 20.17.1

Australia presented proposal 20.17.1, submitted by the POC, which aimed to add items for the blind to the category of letter-post items containing goods.

The proposal was approved by consensus.

Proposal 20.17.2

Australia presented proposal 20.17.2, submitted by the POC, which aimed to add M bags to the category of letter-post items containing goods.

The proposal was approved by consensus.

Proposal 20.18.1

Australia presented proposal 20.18.1, submitted by the POC, which aimed to make the tracked delivery service mandatory.

Chile then made a proposal to consider the product (20.18.1) and related remuneration proposals (20.28.1 and 20.28.2) together as a package.

Chile's proposal to consider the product and related remuneration proposals together was put to the vote and was rejected (18 in favour, 103 against, four abstentions, and four no votes).

Proposal 20.18.1 was then put to a vote and was rejected (41 in favour, 79 against, four abstentions and three no votes).

Proposal 20.28.2

Italy submitted proposal 20.28.2 regarding the introduction of additional payments for tracked items, which was an amendment to proposal 20.28.1.

Proposal 20.28.2 was put to a vote and was rejected (30 in favour, 87 against, four abstentions and one no vote).

Proposal 20.28.1

Chile submitted proposal 20.28.1 on the introduction of additional payments for tracked items. The United States of America proposed amendments to the proposal, which were rejected by Chile.

Proposal 20.28.1 was put to a vote and was rejected (38 in favour, 78 against, seven abstentions and three no votes).

Proposal 20.18.2

Australia presented proposal 20.18.2, submitted by the POC, which aimed to discontinue the fragile parcels service.

The proposal was adopted by consensus.

d Implementation of the Integrated Product Plan

Congress–Doc 8.Add 1

Australia presented proposals 02 and 03, both of which concerned the future implementation of the updated IPP.

Brazil then presented proposal 12, which was an amendment to proposal(s) 02 and/or 03.

During the discussions on the three proposals, the Netherlands took the floor to submit a motion on a point of order. More specifically, the Netherlands suggested that proposal 12 was a new proposal and not an amendment to an existing one.

To allow the member countries to decide if proposal 12 was a new proposal, the matter was put to a secret vote (71 in favour, 29 against, 16 abstentions and four no votes); proposal 12 was therefore rejected.

After a number of delegations took the floor to speak both in favour and against both proposals 02 and 03. It was decided to proceed to a vote. As proposal 03 was considered to be farthest from the status quo, proposal 03 was voted on first.

Proposal 03 was therefore put to a vote and was approved (85 in favour, 30 against, four abstentions and three no votes). Proposal 02 therefore lapsed.

e Integrated Remuneration Plan

Congress–Doc 8.Add 1

Spain presented proposal 04, which concerned the implementation of the IRP for the development of the IRS to be proposed to the 2020 Congress.

Argentina then presented proposal 11, which was an amendment to proposal 04.

After some discussion, with members speaking for and against the proposals, Germany proposed an amendment to proposal 11. After further discussion, the session was suspended so that the co-authors of proposal 11 and other interested members could discuss and agree on a compromise proposal.

The compromise proposal was displayed on screen and was explained by the IB.

/ The attached proposal was then approved by consensus.

7 Handover of meeting to the Chair of Congress

The Vice-Chairs/Topic Leaders handed the meeting back to the Chairman of Congress to lead discussions on Part C of the agenda.

C. Under the Chairmanship of the Chair of Congress

8 Approval of the report of the plenary sessions on reform of the Union

Congress–Report 2

The report was presented and approved.

9 Urgent postal sector issues – Amendment to Convention article 39 and consequential proposals

Proposal 19.19.1, Proposal 20.38.1, Proposal 20.39.1

Norway presented the three proposals. Following deliberations, Congress was asked if it agreed to open discussion on the proposals.

The question was put to a vote and was rejected (45 in favour, 66 against, and 7 abstentions).

10 Any other business

There was no other business.

11 Statements

A statement was made by Mr Emery Okundji Ndjovu, Minister of Posts, Telecommunications, New Technologies of Information and Communications of Dem. Rep. of the Congo.

12 Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission for Postal Regulation (CERP) and the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU)

Representatives of the European Commission for Postal Regulation (CERP) and the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

For the committee:

Hongmei Dong
Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

Jean-Paul Forceville
Vice-Chair/Topic Leader

Wendy Eitan
Secretary

Altamir Linhares
Secretary



SECOND EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Proposal of a general nature

11

Amendment to proposal 04

ARGENTINA

Resolution

Integrated Remuneration Plan (2019–2020)

Congress,

Taking note
of the work carried out by the CA and the POC since 2017 to develop the Integrated Remuneration Plan,

Recalling
the integrated remuneration principles as contained in Istanbul Business Plan work proposal 024, approved
by the 26th Congress through resolution C 24/2016,

Recalling also
that the 26th Congress, through work proposals 024, 026 and 027, instructed the CA and the POC to acceler-
ate actions to modernize and integrate the UPU's remuneration systems,

Recognizing
the need to minimize the effects of distortions created by the current systems and to ensure that proposals are
developed for an integrated remuneration system in which the UPU remuneration systems are better aligned
and rationalized and which responds to any modifications to the UPU portfolio of physical products (letters,
parcels and EMS) brought about by the Integrated Product Plan,

Emphasizing
the importance of the modernization, rationalization and integration of the UPU remuneration system to unlock
the growth potential of UPU services in the e-commerce market,

Acknowledging
that a comprehensive analysis of the existing remuneration systems has shown a need to make adjustments
to the remuneration of items containing goods,

Encouraged
by the significant progress made since the 26th Congress, resulting in an Integrated Remuneration Plan which
identifies concrete areas in which better alignment, integration and rationalization of the remuneration systems
can be achieved,

Convinced
that the implementation of the Integrated Remuneration Plan in Phase III (2019 and 2020) will result in pro-
posals to the 27th Congress that are beneficial to achieving the objective of an integrated, modern and forward-
looking remuneration system,

Decides

to adopt the Integrated Remuneration Plan, to enable the continuation of work and studies with a view to developing a proposal for an Integrated Remuneration System to be proposed to the 2020 Congress,

Instructs

the Postal Operations Council and Council of Administration to ensure that work on the modernization, rationalization and integration of the UPU remuneration systems continues at an accelerated pace by:

- implementing all of the activities contained in the Integrated Remuneration Plan presented in Part II of Congress–Doc 8, namely in paragraphs 30 to 35 and in accordance with the timeline in paragraph 36, to ensure that implementation of the Integrated Remuneration Plan will result in proposals for an Integrated Remuneration System to be proposed to the 27th Congress in 2020;
- developing proposals in accordance with the product portfolio and on the basis of the product specifications of all basic and supplementary services, as well as for the services that can be added on to the basic services or supplementary services (add-ons);
- ensuring that all proposals of an Integrated Remuneration System adhere to the integrated remuneration principles adopted by the 26th Congress and contained in Istanbul Business Plan work proposal 024;
- developing a mandate to implement all proposals for an Integrated Remuneration System in the next work cycle, including the application of the methodology, the calculation of the effective rates and maintenance of guides, manuals and accounting procedures;
- developing work proposals to the 27th Congress in 2020 for a mandate to continue the work on the further development of the Integrated Remuneration Plan and the Integrated Remuneration System through modernization, rationalization and integration,

the Council of Administration to:

- monitor the work done by the Postal Operations Council on the development of the Integrated Remuneration System and ensure that, in accordance with the attributions of the Council of Administration as contained in article 107 of the General Regulations, the associated proposals for the 2020 Congress are in accordance with the integrated remuneration principles adopted by the 26th Congress and contained in Istanbul Business Plan work proposal 024;
- review and develop the integrated remuneration principles to be proposed to the 27th Congress in 2020 to guide the work on the development of remuneration systems during the next Congress work cycle,

the Postal Operations Council to:

- develop proposals for an Integrated Remuneration System, including associated proposals to amend the Convention and Regulations, to be proposed to the 27th Congress in 2020;
- ensure that such proposals respond to the requirements of the product portfolio and the product specifications defined in the Integrated Product Plan;
- review the remuneration of basic services for items containing documents and develop proposals for the period of validity of the Abidjan Congress Acts (2022–2025);
- review, for all mail flows, the remuneration of items containing goods, ~~in particular the remuneration of parcels through the inward land rates system and the remuneration of bulky letters (E) and small packets (E) through the terminal dues system,~~ and develop proposals that will result in better alignment between and rationalization of the two remuneration systems in the Abidjan Acts period;
- explore options that will lead to a more equitable, competitive and cost-based model, in particular within the lightweight item segment below 2 kilogrammes;
- undertake a comprehensive review of the remuneration of value-added services (tracked, registered and insured services) on the basis of the product specifications associated with the new product portfolio, and develop proposals for appropriate remuneration for the Abidjan Acts period;
- develop, on the basis of the conclusions of the study on the costs of handling returned undeliverable letter-post items, proposals for the remuneration of such services, and present proposals to the 27th Congress in 2020;

- continue the work on the transition of countries classified in group IV for terminal dues and Quality of Service Fund purposes, including the development of a proposal to ~~maintain the same level of existing participation~~ prevent negative impacts on group IV countries;
- review the provisions governing the link between ~~the remuneration of items containing documents~~ terminal dues and the performance evaluation and quality of service with respect to bonuses and penalties, as well as applicable standards and targets;
- examine and develop proposals tending to continue improving or establishing the governance of the link between the remuneration of items containing goods and the performance evaluation in relation to quality of service with respect to bonuses and penalties, as well as applicable standards and targets;
- revise all operational, statistical and accounting procedures relevant to the proposed modifications to the UPU remuneration systems,

Further instructs

the International Bureau to:

- implement the Integrated Remuneration Plan;
- carry out the studies provided for in the work assigned to the CA and POC;
- support the work assigned to the CA and POC;
- undertake, in coordination with the restricted unions, the organization of regional round tables to familiarize all countries and/or regions with the proposals for an Integrated Remuneration System,

Invites

member countries to:

- support the implementation of the Integrated Remuneration Plan, in particular by responding to studies in support of proposals on a modern, forward-looking integrated remuneration system (see table 3 of Part II of Congress–Doc 8), and provide accurate information in a timely manner;
- take active part in the development of proposals for an Integrated Remuneration System;
- take active steps to invest in a modernized, rationalized and integrated remuneration system,

Also invites

the restricted unions to lend their support to the development of e-commerce within their regions.

Reasons. – See Congress–Doc 8.

Supported by. – Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep.).