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UNION

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To: Member countries of the Council of
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Council

Observers of the Council of
Administration and Postal Operations
Council

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Berne, 14 October 2021

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Reference: 3100(DIRCAB)1133

Subject: Registration for the 2021.2 Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council sessions (22–26 November)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to our invitation letter 3100(DIRCAB)1129 of 5 October 2021, please find below information regarding registration for, and participation in, the upcoming sessions of the Council of Administration (CA) and the Postal Operations Council (POC).

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, on 20 September 2021, the Swiss Government published new rules for entry to Switzerland and for people vaccinated abroad to access the COVID certificate that may be applicable to travellers from abroad. Information in this regard can be found on the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health website at www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home.html. Delegates intending to attend in person should pay careful attention to these requirements for their entry and stay in Switzerland.

i Registration of participants and practical information

All delegates from CA and POC members and observers wishing to participate in the sessions **remotely or in person** are required to register through the UPU's Event Management Platform (EMP), accessible at events.upu.int.

/ The guidelines for delegation registration for the sessions can be found in Annex 1, and the Registration User Guide can be accessed at:

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-(S0))

/ Practical information for delegates attending in person can be found in Annex 2.

Delegates from CA and POC members and observers who registered through the EMP for the 2021.1 CA/POC session (S9) and/or the Exceptional CA session of 30 June 2021 will not need to register again. For these

delegates, the EMP will automatically contact the accreditor of the member country or observer concerned, so that registrations currently saved in the system can be accredited again.

Delegates from CA and POC members and observers who have not registered previously via the EMP must, however, do so in order to be accredited.

Registration is compulsory for all delegates. The deadline for registration is 8 November 2021.

In view of the new rules published by the Swiss Government, member countries may participate in the sessions in either of the following ways.

ii On-site attendance

Given the current social distancing rules and other safety measures in place at the International Bureau (IB) in line with host country guidance, as well as the physical constraints of the meeting room, the following conditions will apply to the on-site attendance of CA and POC members and observers at this session:

- A CA/POC member attending the session in person may send a **maximum of two delegates** to the session;
- An observer attending the session in person may send **only one delegate** to the session.

iii Remote participation

Technical details relating to remote participation using the Zoom platform can be accessed at:

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-(S0))

Please note that you will receive a Zoom link via e-mail to join any meeting in which you have registered to participate. Alternatively, if you are registered and accredited, you can go to events.upu.int and click on the link to the scheduled meeting.

iv Interpretation costs

During the 2021.2 CA/POC sessions, simultaneous interpretation will be provided.¹ It should be noted that the cost of the interpretation services will be divided among the participating countries (CA/POC members and observers). Information on the choice of languages by UPU member countries at CA/POC meetings is contained in the relevant articles of the Rules of Procedure of the two bodies.

Accordingly, UPU member countries that are not members of the CA/POC but that will be participating as observers at the 2021.2 CA/POC sessions are asked to inform the IB, using the form provided in Annex 3, of the language(s) that they wish to use.

v Focal point for contact relating to the work of CA/POC bodies.

To facilitate communication between CA/POC members and the IB secretariat, all CA/POC members are asked to notify the secretariat of their focal point for contact relating to the work of the CA/POC bodies. To this end, please complete and return the form in Annex 4 **by 31 October 2021**.

Yours faithfully,



Bishar A. Hussein
Secretary General

¹ French, English, Arabic, Russian and Spanish.

Practical information for all participants in the 2021.2 Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operation Council (POC) sessions

Guidelines for delegation registration

1 With a view to facilitating the registration of member country delegations and other eligible participants for the 2021.2 CA and POC sessions, the International Bureau (IB) would like to remind all prospective participants of the following guidelines and step-by-step process for successful registration.

Step 1 – Notification to the IB of the responsible entity and accreditor and of the composition of the delegation (for member countries only)

2 The Event Management Platform (EMP) enables participants to register for all UPU meetings. It streamlines the registration process and helps to ensure that UPU member countries are represented at meetings by individuals duly authorized and empowered by their national authorities. These individuals are referred to collectively as the “delegations”.

3 In this connection, all member countries must provide: i) the name of the entity responsible for providing formal notification of delegates’ names (referred to as the “responsible entity”); and ii) the contact details of the person within the responsible entity who will act as accreditor on the EMP. Most member countries have provided this information in order to register for previous meetings and therefore already have a designated accreditor responsible for validating the registrations of their delegates for the meetings of the bodies of the UPU (Congress, CA and POC).

4 **Member countries are requested to verify that the information sent to the CA/POC secretariat regarding their designated accreditor for the previous CA/POC sessions is still valid.** Member countries that do not have a designated accreditor, or that need to communicate a change of accreditor, are asked to complete the form in Attachment 1 to this annex and return it to the CA/POC secretariat, as appropriate, as soon as possible. Please note that the IB must be notified of the nomination of the designated accreditor by the **competent governmental authority** of the UPU member country concerned, i.e. by the supervising ministry, department, embassy or permanent mission to the United Nations and other international organizations.

5 UPU member countries that have yet to complete this first step are kindly invited to do so without further delay.

Step 2 – Participant registration (for member countries, observers and ad hoc observers)

6 All delegates from CA and POC members and observers wishing to participate remotely in the session are required to be registered.

7 Delegates from CA and POC members or observers who registered through the EMP for the 2021.1 CA/POC session (S9) and/or for the Exceptional CA session of 30 June 2021 will not need to register again. For these delegates, the EMP will automatically contact the accreditor of the member country or observer concerned, so that registrations currently saved in the system can be accredited again.

8 Delegates from member countries or observers who have not registered previously via the EMP must, however, do so in order to be accredited.

9 If registrants encounter any difficulties during the registration process, they may consult the Registration User Guide, which can be accessed at:

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Council-of-Administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Le-Conseil-d-administration-(S0))

[www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/en/Events/Postal-Operations-Council-(S0))

[www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-\(S0\)](http://www.upu.int/fr/Events/Conseil-d-exploitation-postale-(S0))

10 Following registration, prospective participants will receive an e-mail stating that their registration has been received and is pending confirmation.

Step 3 – Participant registration validation by the accreditor (this step is required for confirmation of submitted registrations) (for member countries only)

11 Subject to the formal notification requirements referred to above, accreditors are officials named by the responsible entity of a member country as authorized to accredit the individual pending registrations of that organization's delegation members (see paragraphs 3 and 4 above).

12 As a first step, all accreditors must log in to the EMP and update their profiles. Once logged in to the system, accreditors will be able to review the pending registrations of their delegates (see step 2 above).

13 The accreditor must verify whether the person requesting registration is indeed a member of the organization's delegation. If not, the accreditor is expected to reject the person's registration request. Once the accreditor validates a registration request, the delegate concerned will receive an e-mail stating that his/her registration has been confirmed. Should the accreditor reject a request, the person concerned will receive an e-mail to that effect with the reasons for the refusal.

14 Please note that accreditors also attending the meeting must both register and accredit themselves.

15 Note that participants who are considered observers or ad hoc observers of the CA or POC (e.g. United Nations, restricted unions, Consultative Committee, international organizations) will be validated by the IB and will not be requested to provide the accreditor information referred to in step 1.

Step 4 – Doubts and difficulties encountered during the above processes

16 In case of any doubts or difficulties encountered during the processes described above, UPU member countries and observers are kindly invited to send an e-mail to one of the following addresses:

- For technical issues relating to the EMP: support.events@upu.int;
- For all other issues: ca.secretariat@upu.int and/or poc.secretariat@upu.int.

2021.2 Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) sessions

Form to be completed by the relevant government entity of the UPU member country concerned (e.g. ministry, department, embassy or permanent mission to the United Nations and other international organizations, etc.).

Please return the completed form to the International Bureau by **fax** (+41 31 350 31 10) or **e-mail** (ca.secretariat@upu.int) **by 8 November 2021 at the latest.**

Full name and title of person completing this form		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Full name of entity			
Position/title			
Address			
Tel.		Fax	
E-mail			
Date		Signature	

Accreditor (ministry, regulator, designated operator, head office of observers, etc.) responsible for notifying the International Bureau of delegates' names in advance of each Congress, CA and POC session:

Full name and title of individual		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Full name of accreditor entity			
Address			
Tel.		Fax	
E-mail			



Practical information for participants attending the 2021.2 Council of Administration (CA) and 2021.2 Postal Operation Council (POC) sessions in person

A. Reimbursement of travelling expenses

For the CA

Pursuant to article 110 of the UPU General Regulations, the representative of each of the members of the CA classified as developing or least developed countries participating physically in its meetings will be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of either an economy class return air ticket or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means, subject to the condition that the amount does not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket. The travelling expenses of officials accompanying the titular representative are to be borne by the member country concerned. If a member of the CA is represented by the same person or by different persons at meetings at the CA session and at meetings of its bodies sitting in the same place during the period preceding or following the session, the fare will be refunded only once.

For the POC

In accordance with article 116 of the General Regulations, the representative of each of the member countries of the POC considered to be disadvantaged according to the lists established by the United Nations (i.e. least developed countries) and participating in the POC meetings will be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of either an economy class return air ticket or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means, subject to the condition that the amount does not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket. The travelling expenses of officials accompanying the titular representative are to be borne by the member country concerned. If a member of the POC is represented by the same person or by different persons at meetings at the POC session and at meetings of its bodies sitting in the same place during the period preceding or following the session, the fare will be refunded only once.

B. Privileges and immunities

During their stay in Switzerland, all the delegates of UPU member countries attending the session will enjoy the privileges and immunities outlined in article IV of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations concluded between the Swiss Federal Council and the Secretary General of the United Nations (dated 1 July 1946), which is applicable by analogy to the delegates of UPU member countries at conferences convened by the Union and during their journey to and from the place of meeting. (See the Agreement in the "Constitution and General Regulations Manual" on the UPU website via the following link: www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Acts#scroll-nav__8).

C. Visas

Measures in place to combat the global COVID-19 pandemic may change at any time. Delegates of CA and POC members and observers wishing to apply for visas to enter Switzerland should pay careful attention to the **new rules published by the Swiss Government for entry to Switzerland and for people vaccinated abroad to access the COVID certificate that may be applicable to travellers from abroad**. Information in this regard can be found on the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health website at www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home.html.

D. Accommodation for participants

A list of available hotels can be found on the Berne Tourism website at www.bern.com/en/where-to-stay. Authorized delegates of CA/POC members and observers may make their bookings directly through that website. Note also that the UPU has special rates with certain hotels. The International Bureau (IB) therefore recommends, when making reservations, that CA/POC members and observers indicate that they will be participating in UPU meetings.

Unfortunately, owing to difficulties experienced in the past, the UPU is no longer able to automatically reserve hotel rooms on behalf of CA/POC members and observers.

However, if for special reasons CA/POC members or observers are unable to make the required reservations at their chosen hotel, they may contact the Tourist Office of the City of Berne, located at the main station:

Tourist Information
Bahnhofplatz 10a
3011 BERNE
SWITZERLAND

Tel: +41 31 328 12 12
Fax: +41 31 328 12 77
Website: www.bern.com/en/home
E-mail: info@bern.com

E. Climate

Up-to-date information on weather conditions in Berne can be found at meteo.search.ch/3015-bern.

F. Venue of the session

As stated in the letter of invitation, the session will take place at the UPU headquarters building located on the outskirts of the city, at the following address:

Universal Postal Union
Weltpoststrasse 4
3015 BERNE

Tel: +41 31 350 31 11
Fax: +41 31 350 31 10
E-mail: info@upu.int

To get there, delegates can take the No. 8 tram, direction "Saali", as far as the "Weltpostverein" stop, located opposite the IB building.

G. Transport between airports of arrival or departure and Berne

Delegates coming by air will normally arrive in Switzerland at Zurich–Kloten or Geneva–Cointrin Airport. They then usually take the train to Berne. Current train timetables can be found at www.sbb.ch. That website is available in English, French, German and Italian.

H. Provisions concerning smoking at the International Bureau

You are reminded that smoking is prohibited on all IB premises, with the exception of the building's rooftop terrace (8th floor).



To: CA/POC Secretariat
Universal Postal Union
Weltpoststrasse 4
3015 BERNE
SWITZERLAND

Fax: +41 31 350 31 10
ca.secretariat@upu.int
poc.secretariat@upu.int

UPU member country (including non-members of the CA and POC invited as observers)
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The above CA/POC member or observer will be using the following language(s) of discussion during the 2021.2 CA/POC sessions and will bear the associated cost in accordance with article 18 of the CA Rules of Procedure/article 22 of the POC Rules of Procedure.

<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Russian
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic	

If no declaration is made, the above country will be automatically placed in the category deemed most appropriate, either according to its membership of a language group or on the basis of the language of discussion it has chosen in the past.

Sender		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Function/title			
Address			
Fax			
Date	Signature		



Focal point for participation in the work of CA/POC bodies

_____ [country name] is a CA member CA observer POC member
 POC observer, and the following person is the focal point for CA/POC information:

Full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Title	
Organization	
Mobile tel.	
E-mail	

Please send your response to the following e-mail address **by 31 October 2021**:

ca.secretariat@upu.int
poc.secretariat@upu.int