



Draft Minutes of the CERP Steering Group meeting
Brussels, 24 August 2011 (10.00-13.00)

1. Approval of the agenda

The CERP Chairman welcomed the members of the Steering Group to the first meeting in this composition.

The Agenda was approved without amendments.

2. Activities of the Working Groups

Both Working Groups have not met so far. Working Group Policy will hold its first meeting on 14-15 September 2011 in Warsaw and Working Group UPU will meet on 12-13 October 2011 in Vienna.

Both Working Groups will include in their agenda the appointment of their vice-chairs. The Steering Group discussed about possible candidates. The Working Group Chairs will contact the relevant members.

Furthermore the adoption of their draft work programs and the question of the possibility to establish project teams will be dealt with.

3. Preparation of the 45th CERP Plenary in Montreux, 27 October 2011

The invitation for the forthcoming Plenary meeting has been circulated already. The deadline for hotel reservations has passed while the deadline for formal registration is still open until 22 September 2011. A reception is planned for Wednesday, 26 October 2011 and on 27 October 2011 the Swiss hosts have invited for a social event. Until 22 August more than 40 participants from 20 member countries have registered.

The draft Agenda was discussed in detail.

It was decided that the secretariat will prepare a short description of the tasks and responsibilities of the foreseen "CERP Task Force Communication" so that members who are interested to participate in this work may better understand which matters they are going to work with.

Concerning the forum the Steering Group agreed on the topic “What are the main interests of European policy makers and regulators concerning the 2012 UPU Congress in Doha and are there any concrete proposals that should be launched?”. Possible items to be discussed are terminal dues, the reform of the union and the role of UPU regarding electronic services. The participants foreseen shall be from a ministry, a regulator, the IB of the UPU, the Consultative Committee of the UPU, PostEurop and the European Commission. Regarding the moderator the Chairperson will contact relevant candidates.

4. UPU

The chair gave an overview of recent activities of CERP in the UPU context.

Two projects are in the pipeline. End of August 2011 a one-week mission to Swaziland performed by CERP members from Germany and Lithuania will take place. Furthermore a workshop with COMESA performed by CERP members from Germany, Serbia and Slovenia was planned for mid September 2011 (this workshop was however postponed).

A draft resolution regarding the further strengthening of cooperation between the UPU and restricted unions has been circulated, where amendments proposed by CERP has been included. Furthermore a questionnaire on the evaluation of development cooperation projects under the UPU framework asking for details regarding the basic structure of restricted unions from the UPU ad hoc group on evaluation has been answered by the CERP secretariat.

The Steering Group discussed how a MOU between CERP and the UPU, as discussed in the previous CERP Plenary, could be initialized. The chair will contact the IB in this matter with the aim of organizing a discussion during the forthcoming CA.

Recently the chair has received an invitation from the International Bureau of the UPU to participate in a regional conference in Kiev on 6-7 September 2011 regarding the support of countries in Europe and the CIS region in strengthening the postal reform process and moving it forward. CERP was asked to hold a presentation regarding postal sector reform process in Europe. Due to a very short notice no member of the steering group was able to participate.

5. PostEurop Plenary 12-13 October 2011 in Istanbul

The chair has received an invitation to attend the next PostEurop Plenary in Istanbul, where amongst others on 12-13 October 2011 a round table on the UPU Doha strategy is organized. The chair will participate.

On this occasion the chair will try to organize a meeting with representatives of PostEurop and the CERP Steering Group (Contact Committee) to be held during the UPU CA session in November this year.

6. Future CERP Plenaries

For 2012 Plenaries are foreseen in Serbia (spring) and Cyprus (autumn). Until now there are no candidates for the following plenaries in spring 2013 and spring 2014. The secretariat will distribute a request for candidature indicating the list of plenaries held until now.

7. Contact Committee CERP/EC

The draft agenda for the Contact Committee meeting between CERP and the European Commission was adopted with the amendment that under the point AOB information about the future dates on meetings organized by the European Commission (PDC and workshops) shall be requested.

8. Next Steering Group meeting

The Steering Group agreed to hold its next meeting on any of the days from 25-27 January 2012, depending on a suitable date for a meeting of the Contact Committee with the European Commission, preferably in Brussels.

Bonn, 7 September 2011

Ulrich Dammann
CERP Chairman