



**DRAFT REPORT**  
**CERP Working Group UPU**  
**Mainz, 3 - 4 September 2012**

**Participants:** CERP Chairman, WG Chairman, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, United Kingdom

**Observers:** European Commission, UPU International Bureau, PostEurop

**1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**

The Chairman opened the meeting and the agenda was adopted.

**2. Report from the fourth meeting in Oslo 3 – 4 July 2012**

The report from the fourth meeting in Oslo 3 – 4 July 2012 was adopted by WG.

**3. Input from the International Bureau about the status of proposals and expected work during the Congress**

IB held a short presentation updating WG about the following issues:

- Situation of Congress Proposals
- Situation of candidates of the CA (Deadline: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2012)
- Situation of candidates of the POC (Deadline: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2012)
- Election and designation of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Councils' bodies
- Structure of the Councils for the Post-Doha Cycle – Recommendation proposals 49 and 50
- CA – supervision of all UPU work between Congresses
- Organization of POC
- Reservations at Congress – Rules and procedures (Deadline: 4<sup>th</sup> October by 5 pm for member countries to submit reservation-proposals to the International Secretariat, either in French or in English)
- Appeals at Congress – Rules and procedure
- Post-Doha Preparation – 1<sup>st</sup> working session of the CA and POC. Tentative Schedule:
  - CA
    - Dates: 3 – 5 April 2013 (later changed into 22 – 25 April)
    - Major issues: Approval of the P&B and Committee's start-up meetings
  - POC
    - Dates: 8 – 19 April 2013
    - Major issues: Draw-up of new sets of the Regulations and Committee's start-up meetings
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Further information can be found in Annex 1 which contains the full presentation provided by IB.

The question was raised whether Palestine will ask for membership of UPU (the question has been raised in other agencies)? IB responded that there was an application regarding this but the application has been withdrawn. However, IB has since then received several Arabic proposals that are yet to be translated and thus the issue might rematerialize.

IB had no news about the status of Qatar's processing of visa applications for Congress which were supposed to be delivered by end of August.

#### **4. UPU proposals Batches 4 and 5 – input from subgroup for discussion**

The subgroup presented a number of selected proposals from Batch 4 and 5 which were deemed of special interest for Europe and CERP members.

Some of the proposals led to discussion and it was suggested that the proposals should be studied further by each member. CERP members were kindly asked to submit their comments to the selected proposals to the Chairman at [egil.thorstensen@sd.dep.no](mailto:egil.thorstensen@sd.dep.no) within two weeks time at the latest.

#### **5. Other proposals of interest for governments and regulators**

In addition to the proposals presented by the subgroup the following proposals were briefly discussed by the WG:

Proposal 15.109.1 (Reimbursement of travel expenses)

Proposal 84 (Glossary of terms relating to quality management)

Proposal 20.7.1 Rev. 1 (Items for the blind)

#### **6. Information from PostEurop on the work with proposals**

PostEurop informed WG about the status of their preparatory work before Congress. So far PostEurop has received comments from about 20-25 of their members to Batch 1-5.

PostEurop had a meeting in Madrid in August where Batch 4 and 5 were discussed. It was noted that the topics discussed during PostEurop's meetings differ from the focus of WG. At PostEurop's meetings special attention has been given to proposals regarding the Convention, letter post and parcel post regulations.

The question was raised whether PostEurop has succeeded in achieving any common positions? PostEurop responded that there are split opinions to a lot of the proposals. Furthermore, since the process of finding a national position still is in process the operators' point of view might change when the national positions are finalized. Because of the limited time that is left it is uncertain if there will be any common positions.

PostEurop informed that they are not planning to hold another meeting before Congress to discuss Batch 6 which contains about 160 proposals.

### **7. Any European Common Position?**

The Chairman informed WG that less than 10 countries have expressed their views to Batch 1 – 5 so far. It was noted that this is not enough to achieve any common positions. The Chairman emphasized that responses from at least 25 countries are needed to be able to create a Common European position.

It was decided that the Chairman will send all CERP members the full list of proposals prepared by the subgroup with a 2 weeks deadline to respond as a last effort to find one or more common positions among CERP members. Furthermore, it was agreed that the list with positions and comments from the members will be made anonymous. Proposals which have not been decided upon yet may be left blank when submitting a response.

### **8. Cooperation during Congress**

CERP Chairman informed WG that several attempts have been made to book a meeting room during Congress but it seems to be no vacancy. It was suggested that CERP members may cooperate through e-mail during Congress.

### **9. Next meeting**

The meeting in Mainz is the last WG meeting in preparation before Congress. In the next cycle the first WG meeting will be held to prepare for the CA Plenary which is tentatively scheduled 3 – 5 April 2013 (later changed into 22 – 25 April). It was suggested that it would be constructive to hold a WG meeting a month in advance of the CA Plenary. It is likely that the next meeting will be held at the end of February or the beginning of March 2013.

More information will be provided as soon as a host country for the next WG meeting is confirmed. The Chairman invites WG members who consider hosting the next WG meeting in 2013 to contact him directly by e-mail to: [egil.thorstensen@sd.dep.no](mailto:egil.thorstensen@sd.dep.no)

### **10. Any other business**

CERP Chairman informed WG briefly about a project between CERP, IB and several African countries starting in December regarding the development of the postal sector in Sudan.

Poland informed WG that WG Policy shortly will send a questionnaire to CERP members on input concerning a 4<sup>th</sup> postal directive and would be grateful for CERP members' participation.

Deadline for registration for CERP Plenary is September 8<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Egil Thorstensen  
Chairman CERP WG UPU