



**Draft Minutes of the**  
**Contact Committee CERP / European Commission**  
**Mainz, 04 September 2012 (12.30-13.30)**

**1. Approval of the agenda**

The Agenda was adopted without any modification.

**2. Information by the European Commission**

The representative of the European Commission provided information about the ongoing studies:

The "Study on the principles used to calculate the net costs of the postal Universal Service Obligation" (Frontier Economics) with the following objective:

The Directive puts forward a general framework for the calculation of net costs of the universal service obligation. Currently, a number of analytical and empirical approaches are developed for the calculation of net costs. However, all of these involve trade-offs and rely on different assumptions. Against this background, this study promotes the sharing of information on the different theoretical and empirical approaches that have been used or proposed for the calculation of the net costs of the Universal Service Obligation, and draws conclusions on their practical implementation.

The main deliverables are:

- An Overview of the current State of Play in the calculation of the net costs (what countries have calculated so far, how the methodologies have been applied in practice, what is the intention/ motivation of the USPs, NRAs for the years to come)
- An evaluation of the "relevant elements" of the net costs of the Universal Service Obligation identified in Annex I, as envisaged by previous approaches and a discussion on the principles guiding their quantification
- A Classification and Assessment of the Applied Methodologies proposed for the calculation of the Net Cost of the postal Universal Service Obligation (an identification of similarities and critical differences in the approaches)
- An assessment of the link of cost accounting principles and the net cost calculation
- An Identification of the critical data needed to undertake a net cost calculation exercise and an assessment of the readiness of the market players to implement and assess the various methodologies for the calculation of the net cost

The final deliverable will be published by the end of this year

The “Study on the State of Play of the EU parcel markets with a particular emphasis on e-commerce” with the following objective:

The Communication on E-Commerce has identified the delivery aspect as being one of the main obstacles to the development of e-commerce in Europe. The need to conduct primary research and analysis in this area is even more urgent, given the limited and fragmented information in the public domain on both the complex applicable regulatory regime on the delivery sector, and the on key economic data on delivery markets. In that sense, the study is not aiming at covering the whole spectrum of the e-commerce complexities, but neither does it intend to investigate exclusively the postal side of the delivery markets.

Therefore the purpose of the study can be defined as

- To investigate the delivery aspect of the –e-commerce value chain (with an emphasis on e-commerce driven delivery - data gathering, mapping the various markets etc.)
- To address the issue of interoperability of the e-commerce value chain with the various delivery channels; both in the context of properly addressing the needs of e-retailers and end-consumers.

The contract has just been signed (Copenhagen Economics).

The 1st workshop is planned for the 20/11/2012 (combined with the 2 on-going studies).

Further dates:

- ERGP Plenary – 22/11/2012 (Stockholm)
- Postal Users Forum – 16/11/2012 (BRU)
- PDC Plenary – 13/12/2012 (BRU)

### **3. 47th CERP Plenary in Cyprus, 8-9 November 2012**

The Chairman introduced the schedule of the meeting and the content and participants of the Forum discussion on 9 November 2012. The representative of the European Commission agreed to present the European regulatory matters as well as to give an overview on the state of affairs in ERGP.

### **4. CERP WG UPU**

The representative of the European Commission highlighted the valuable information provided by the CERP WG UPU in preparation of the Doha Congress. He informed the CERP members about a planned meeting of the Council Working Party regarding UPU Congress issues. He was informed that the next meeting of CERP WG UPU is scheduled for early March 2013 dealing with the preparation of the CA/POC meeting in April 2013.

### **5. CERP WG Policy**

The Chairman informed about the finalized surveys by the CERP WG Policy and that the final result will be subject to a report presented at the CERP Plenary in Cyprus.

### **6. CERP Newsletter**

The representative of the European Commission was informed about the content of the CERP Newsletter 2012/2 dealing with the interviews with the candidates for Director General and Deputy Director General of the UPU.

He agreed to contribute to the forthcoming CERP Newsletter 2012/3 giving a view of the European Commission on the UPU Congress results.

#### **7. Next meetings**

The next meeting of the Contact Committee will be fixed in the beginning of 2013.

#### **8. AOB**

None.

Bonn, 5 November 2012

U. Dammann  
CERP Chairman