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To: Union member countries
(governmental authorities)

For information:

Designated operators of Union
member countries

Regulatory authorities of Union
member countries

Restricted unions

Consultative Committee members

Berne, 13 June 2019

Reference: 2000(DPRM.RESU)1074

Subject: Formal invitation to the third UPU Extraordinary Congress in Geneva, Switzerland, and related information

Dear Sir/Madam,

At its 2019.1 session, the Council of Administration (CA) agreed to seek the approval of Union member countries, pursuant to article 15 of the UPU Constitution, for the convening of a third Extraordinary Congress in Geneva from 24 to 25 September 2019 to make decisions on the three options for a possible revision of E-format letter-post item remuneration before the end of this Congress cycle.

In accordance with that CA decision, a postal ballot was sent out under cover of a circular letter on 15 April 2019, to canvass the views of Union member countries on the possible convening of such an Extraordinary Congress (see document CA C 2 2019.1–Doc 8.Rev 1).

Under article 15 of the UPU Constitution, an Extraordinary Congress may be convened at the request or with the consent of at least two thirds of Union member countries (128 countries). As notified through circular letter 2100(DPRM)1073, 128 Union member countries have, through the postal ballot, already voted in favour of convening a Extraordinary Congress.

In accordance with articles 101 and 105 of the UPU General Regulations, I therefore have pleasure in inviting you to the third Extraordinary Congress, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 24 to 25 September 2019. Regarding the duration of the Extraordinary Congress, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that an additional half day on the morning of 26 September is also being proposed to enable the formal approval and signing of any Additional Protocol to the Universal Postal Convention by Union member countries. The Extraordinary Congress will be invited to approve the holding of an additional half day as part of the approval of the timetable and agenda of the meeting. Additionally, in accordance with the possibility outlined in article 13.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Postal Operations Council (POC), an extraordinary session of that Council will also be convened to consider and approve the required changes to the Regulations.

Therefore, in making your travel arrangements, I would invite you to ensure that you are present in Geneva from 23 to 26 September 2019, in order to anticipate the proposed additional half day for Congress on the morning of 26 September, as well as the extraordinary session of the POC on the afternoon of the same day.

The International Bureau has already launched its preparations for this important meeting. The third Extraordinary Congress will take place at the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG), whose state-of-the-art facilities will help to ensure the success of the Congress.

I trust that I can count on your participation in this important international event, and should be grateful if you could send the International Bureau written confirmation of your attendance. Further information will be available on the UPU website (www.upu.int/en/congress), where you will find links to:

- The proposed Extraordinary Congress timetable and deadlines for proposals and documents;
- Information on logistical matters (PaperSmart initiative, accommodation, visas, travel, etc.);
- Registration forms;
- News related to the third Extraordinary Congress.

I very much look forward to welcoming you to Geneva this September.

Should you have any questions, please contact:

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Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Bishar A. Hussein
Director General