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Reference: 2150(DPRM.URS)1050

Subject: Preparations for the 27th Congress following its postponement

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to circular letter 2009(DIRCAB)1039, announcing the postponement of the 27th Congress to be held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (Rep.), I am now writing to clarify certain procedures concerning the preparations for that Congress, in particular the submission of Union member country proposals and the presentation of candidacies for membership of the Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC).

Deadlines for submission of proposals by Union member countries

Acts to be revised by the 27th UPU Congress

Through circular letter 2150(DPRM.URS.REG)1001, Union member countries were informed of the deadlines for submission of proposals. Please find in Annex A a copy of that circular letter for your reference.

In that regard, and in the context of the postponement of the 27th Congress, it should be noted that the new dates and associated revised schedules for that event have yet to be determined, given the still-evolving situation with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consequently, as the first and second deadlines (10 February and 10 April 2020) have already passed, the third deadline of **10 June 2020** for the submission of member country proposals remains unchanged as outlined in the circular letter.

Accordingly, Union member countries that were intending to submit proposals of substance before the deadline of **10 June 2020** are requested to still do so in accordance with article 138.1.4 of the General Regulations.

Nevertheless, given the circumstances and in view of the existing formal requirements, it is possible that further extensions may be considered in terms of the final deadlines for amending existing proposals and/or submitting new proposals, once the new dates for Congress are set, so as to help member countries continue with their substantive preparations for the Congress.

Acts to be revised by the Postal Operations Council

The deadlines for the adoption of the Convention Regulations and Postal Payment Services Regulations by the POC in the six months following Congress, as outlined in circular letter 2150(DPRM.URS.REG)1001, will remain unchanged.

Deadlines for presentation of candidacies for the Council of Administration and the Postal Operations Council

International Bureau circular No. 2 of 6 January 2020 invited interested Union member countries to present their candidacies for the CA and POC in advance. A list of the candidacies officially received to date by the International Bureau appears in Congress–Doc 19 and Congress–Doc 22, which will be regularly updated and then finalized during Congress.

Please note that Union member countries are invited to present their candidacies for the CA and POC as early as possible, but **no later than one week before the election date** based on the Congress timetable (which will be published once the new Congress dates are confirmed). Following that deadline, the Congress secretariat will publish the final list of candidates for seats on the CA and POC.

For Congress documents, proposals and information notes, please visit the UPU documentation centre at www.upu.int/en/resources/documentation-centre/about-documentation-centre.html.

The International Bureau will continue to monitor the situation in coordination with the Ivorian authorities, and inform Union member countries about the revised Congress dates once the host government is in a position to confirm that such an event can be held safely on its territory.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Bishar A. Hussein
Director General