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To: The designated operators of Union
member countries

Berne, 26 March 2026

Reference: 0426(DPRM.PPRE.RDI)1026
Subject: Parcel remuneration rates for 2027

Dear Sir/Madam,

The purpose of this circular letter is to provide detailed information concerning the collection of domestic tariff data from designated operators (DOs) for the calculation and publication of the provisional parcel remuneration rates applicable in 2027, as provided for in article 33 of the Universal Postal Convention.

At its 28th Congress, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) decided to discontinue the inward land rate (ILR) system for parcels and to establish, with effect from 1 January 2027, a remuneration framework for parcels governed exclusively by article 33 of the Convention. Under this framework, parcel remuneration rates are determined on the basis of priority single-piece tariffs of equivalent domestic services, and the International Bureau (IB) is responsible for calculating the country-specific ceiling parcel remuneration rates.

The information to be notified, and the conditions applicable thereto, are set out in sections A, B and C of this circular letter.

A. Determination of country-specific ceiling parcel remuneration rates

Convention article 33 provides that, beginning with rates applicable in 2027 and thereafter, DOs shall provide the IB with the priority single-piece tariffs of equivalent domestic parcel services in force on 1 May of the year preceding the calendar year to which the parcel remuneration rates apply.

These domestic tariffs constitute the basis for the calculation of the country-specific ceiling parcel remuneration rates, in accordance with article 33.1.2.

The equivalent domestic service shall be a priority single-piece domestic parcel service and include tracking as part of the basic service. Where additional features (e.g. proof of delivery or insurance) are available, the notified tariff shall correspond exclusively to the basic tracked parcel service forming part of the standard domestic offering. The designated operator (DO) shall indicate for each of the weight increments whether the equivalent domestic service and tariff includes proof of delivery.¹ The calculation rules in article 33 shall apply to the calculation of the country-specific ceiling rates.

¹ Proof of delivery as defined in the proposals to amend the Convention Regulations that are consequential to the amendments arising from the decisions of the Dubai Congress. These proposals are contained in POC C 2 2026.1–Doc 7 (Annexes 9, 10 and 11) and envisaged to enter into force on 1 January 2027.

Collection of domestic tariffs

For the calculation of the provisional parcel remuneration rates applicable in 2027, DOs are kindly asked to provide the IB, by 1 May 2026, with the charges in national currency for the priority single-piece domestic parcel service (with tracking) in force on 1 May 2026, corresponding to the following weight steps: 250 grammes, 500 grammes, 1 kilogramme, 2 kilogrammes, 5 kilogrammes, 10 kilogrammes and 20 kilogrammes.

DOs that apply the equivalent charge for proof of delivery in the domestic service shall notify the IB of that charge, exclusive of any taxes, in force on 1 May 2026.

This information shall be provided by completing the form available at the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/DFS8SK8. When completing the survey, please select the option to receive a copy of your response. This will generate an e-mail containing a record of your submission. If you are unable to access the survey link, you can use the form available in Annex 1 and submit it via e-mail. This form is also available in electronic format on the UPU website at www.upu.int/en/parcels.

The following conditions shall apply:

- i At each of the above-mentioned weight points, the notified tariffs (in national currency or special drawing rights (SDR)) shall correspond to an available priority single-piece domestic parcel service of equivalent characteristics.
- ii The tariffs shall be exclusive of VAT or other domestic taxes.
- iii Where zonal tariffs apply in the equivalent domestic service, the mid-point rate shall be used. Domestic tariffs for non-contiguous zones shall be excluded for the determination of the mid-point rate, in accordance with Convention article 33 and Convention Regulations article 33-201.² Alternatively, the determination of the zonal tariff to be used may be based on the actual weighted average distance of inbound parcel-post items (for the most recent calendar year). If these conditions apply, the DO shall provide the relevant information on how the zonal tariffs have been determined.
- iv Where domestic tariffs are determined primarily by size or dimensions rather than weight, the equivalent charges corresponding to the seven weight steps listed above shall be provided in accordance with Convention article 33 and Convention Regulations article 33-201.²

On the basis of the domestic tariffs received, the IB will calculate the country-specific ceiling parcel remuneration rates in accordance with article 33 and will publish the parcel remuneration rates by circular no later than 1 July 2026.

Verification of domestic tariffs

To ensure transparency and consistency in the calculation of parcel remuneration rates, DOs shall provide verifiable source documentation supporting the notified domestic tariffs.

Such documentation may include:

- A direct link to the official website of the DO displaying the applicable domestic tariffs together with a screenshot of the tariffs as displayed on the website;
- An official tariff publication; or
- Equivalent documentary evidence enabling verification by the IB.

Consequences of non-notification

In accordance with Convention article 33, if the DO fails to notify the IB of the relevant tariffs, then the minimum rates provided for in paragraph 5 thereof shall be used instead of the domestic tariffs in determining the remuneration rates.

² Subject to the adoption of the proposals to amend the Convention Regulations that are consequential to the decisions of the Dubai Congress. These proposals are contained in POC C 2 2026.1–Doc 7 and envisaged to enter into force on 1 January 2027.

B. Optional self-declaration of parcel remuneration rates

In accordance with Convention article 33.1.3, DOs may notify the IB, **by 1 May 2026**, of a self-declared rate per item and a self-declared rate per kilogramme, expressed in local currency or SDR, that shall apply to parcels in the 2027 calendar year.

Please note that the self-declaration of parcel remuneration rates is optional. Where a DO does not notify self-declared rates, the country-specific ceiling parcel remuneration rates calculated by the IB shall apply.

Conditions applicable to self-declared rates

DOs wishing to apply self-declared parcel remuneration rates shall observe the following conditions:

- i The self-declared rates shall be expressed as both a per-item and a per-kilogramme rate, either in local currency or SDR. Alternatively, a DO may self-declare a per-item rate only. In all circumstances, the minimum rate per item shall be not less than 0.500 SDR or the equivalent thereof in the domestic currency.
- ii At the weight point of 4.652 kg, the revenue calculated on the basis of the self-declared rates shall not exceed the maximum revenue calculated in accordance with Convention article 33.2 and 33.3 (see point iii below).
- iii Maximum revenue: At the average weight of 4.652 kg, the revenue calculated on the basis of the self-declared rates shall not exceed the combined revenue that is based on the calculation of the following two components:
 - a 25% of the revenue calculated on the basis of the ceiling rates (see section A above);
 - b 75% of the revenue of calculated on the basis of the 2026 ILRs (as modified in accordance with the calculation rules in Convention article 33) provided in columns 3 (Col 3) or 6 (Col 6) in table 1 of Annex 2, as applicable.³
- iv In accordance with Convention article 33.3, where the revenue in (iii) above is more than 20% above the revenue of the prior year (i.e. the revenue as provided in Col 3 or Col 6, as applicable) then the revenue of the previous year (provided in Col 3 or Col 6, as applicable) increased by 20% shall substitute the maximum revenue in (iii) above. This revenue is provided in Col 4 or Col 7, as applicable, in table 1 of Annex 2.
- v In accordance with Convention article 33.3, where the revenue in (iii) above is more than 10% below the revenue of the previous year (provided in Col 3 or Col 6, as applicable) the revenue of the previous year (provided in Col 3 or Col 6, as applicable) decreased by 10% shall substitute the maximum revenue. This revenue is provided in Col 5 or Col 8, as applicable, in table 1 of Annex 2.
- vi In accordance with Convention article 33.5, where the maximum revenues calculated in (iii) (iv) and (v) above result in a revenue calculated for a parcel item at 4.652 kilogrammes that is lower than the revenue calculated for the same item at the same weight on the basis of the minimum global rates of 4.560 SDR per item and 0.448 SDR per kilogramme (corresponding to a revenue of 6.644 SDR for a 4.652 kg parcel), then the latter revenue shall be used as the maximum revenue substituting the revenues in (iii), (iv) and (v) above.
- vii At the weight point of 4.652 kg, the self-declared rates shall not exceed the revenue calculated at the same weight point on the basis of the maximum revenue in (iii) and adjusted according to (iv), (v) and (vi) above.
- viii DOs from countries or territories classified in group C (see Annex 3) may substitute the maximum revenue in (iii) through (vii) above with the revenue provided in Annex 3 – subject to the fulfilment of the conditions set out in section C below.
- ix DOs may self-declare their remuneration rates at any level lower than the revenue in (v) above.
- x Where self-declared rates are expressed in local currency, the IB shall convert them into SDR and shall publish the resulting rates by circular no later than 1 July 2026.

³ In accordance with Convention article 33.2.5, in principle, the revenue in Col 6 shall be used (revenue minus the amount of 1.200 SDR). The revenue in Col 3 shall be used if the domestic tariffs (section A) are inclusive of proof of delivery.

Conditions applicable to supplementary rates for delivery in non-contiguous zones

In accordance with Convention article 33, where the domestic tariffs for a parcel weighing 4.652 kilogrammes with delivery to the non-contiguous zones were excluded from the calculation of the ceiling rates, the destination DO may apply a supplementary rate to its self-declared rates for items delivered to these zones:

- i The self-declared supplementary rate shall be per-item only, expressed in local currency or SDR.
- ii The self-declared supplementary rate shall not be higher than the difference between the ceiling revenue at the worldwide average parcel weight of 4.652 kilogrammes determined under section A, and the revenue based on domestic tariffs at seven weight points for parcel delivery to a non-contiguous zone.
- iii The number of non-contiguous zones for which supplementary rates can be collected shall not exceed three.⁴
- iv DOs shall provide domestic charges applicable to parcel delivery for each non-contiguous zone, together with the postcode ranges applicable for those zones.

C. Special provision for designated operators of countries in group C

In accordance with Convention article 33.4, a DO of a country classified in group C may substitute the maximum revenue calculated in section B above with the revenue provided in Annex 3, provided that the relevant competent authority with oversight for the DO confirms in writing by no later than 1 May 2026 that the domestic tariffs (see section A) are not set in relation to costs.

Such decision shall be communicated in writing to the IB by 1 May 2026, together with a confirmation from the competent authority of the country, as required under article 33.4.

Where this option is exercised, the DO concerned may self-declare its parcel rates resulting in a revenue, at 4.652 kg, that does not exceed the relevant revenue provided in Annex 3.

DOs are kindly requested to ensure that all required information is complete, accurate, and submitted to the UPU International Bureau **by the prescribed deadline of 1 May 2026**.

For further guidance and information on the changes to the UPU remuneration systems from 2027, a recorded webinar is available on the UPU website at www.upu.int/en/parcels. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to address them to the Remuneration Development and Integration Expert, whose contact details are provided at the top of this letter and on the first pages of Annexes 1 and 2 and 3.

Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,



Siva Somasundram
Director of Policy, Regulation and Markets

⁴ Subject to the adoption of the proposal contained in POC C 2 2026.1–Doc 7. Annex 44 at the 2026.1 POC session (S1). This proposal is consequential to the decisions of the 28th Congress.