

PPZ Rabat Roundtable – Recommendations and decisions

Report by CC Chair and CC Secretary

I. Background and recommendations

1 The UPU Consultative Committee's second round table on Postal Prosperity Zones (PPZ), held on 14 November 2023, as well as the site visit the following day to the Post Maroc exchange office in Casablanca and to the Chronopost installations, was a great success.

- The Consultative Committee (CC) has done everything possible to support Poste Maroc and Moroccan Customs, as well as its members.
- The time has now come for Poste Maroc to implement the PPZ initiative and start the project as soon as possible.

2 During this second PPZ round table, the "Report of the UPU Consultative Committee for the Moroccan Post – Postal Prosperity Zone 2023/Support for business-to-consumer (B2C) supplies by interconnected postal operators" was presented:

www.upu.int/UPU/media/wwwUpuIntUniversalPostalUnionAboutUpuBodiesConsultativeCommittee/ppz/keyDocuments/2023PpzReportMarocEn.pdf

Contribution of CC members and the UPU Postal Technology Centre (PTC)

3 CC members gave their opinion on how their solutions and applications would contribute to the PPZ model, in close collaboration with Poste Maroc and Customs.

4 The CC co-rapporteur for the "Freight and logistics" thematic chapter, Mr Lars Karlsson (Maersk), gave a comprehensive overview of current global developments and the needs of digitally interconnected cross-border trade.

5 The PTC Director, Mr Lati Matata, took stock of the UPU products and services available or even already deployed by Poste Maroc to serve the PPZ project in the future, supporting the interconnection of markets, customs and destination designated operators/Poste Maroc.

II. Summary of decisions

Capitalizing on what already exists

6 Building on existing UPU products and services available to Poste Maroc, electronic advance data (EAD) harmonized on a global scale (UPU/WCO Global Postal Model) must be used to interconnect electronic interfaces (marketplaces, websites, portals, sale of goods/merchandise to consumers in Morocco) directly to the Moroccan designated operator, to deliver e-commerce products to all citizens of Morocco.

Use of the S26 standard

7 Once a sale is made, a UPU S26 barcode ("Unique identification of postal items") linked to a commercial contract, as well as the Poste Maroc party identifier, will be applied to the shipment.

8 The EAD will be made available via Poste Maroc and Moroccan Customs to facilitate secure risk management, as well as the collection of import duties and fees.

9 The framework for cooperation between the pilot stakeholders will be formalized through a memorandum of understanding defining the roles and missions of each party in the deployment process.

10 The draft agreement between Poste Maroc and ADII, needed in order to better interconnect with Moroccan Customs' IT in order to facilitate the pre-completion of customs documents (postal customs clearance), as well as the pre-customs clearance of postal shipments after the management of digital risks, will be prepared.

11 The UPU S26 barcode, compliant with the ISO standard 15459 ("Automatic identification and data capture techniques"), facilitating freight and transport, will allow the control and management of all shipments directly linked to Poste Maroc via its UPU party identifier, as well as a sub-party identifier of the declared seller (electronic interface).

TangerMed: a partner of strategic choice

12 Free zones will be integrated into the project, acting as an interconnected warehouse infrastructure, facilitating possible storage of goods/merchandise closer to consumers in Morocco, under the supervision of Moroccan Customs and managed by Poste Maroc (bonded warehouses).

A project management office jointly managed by Poste Maroc and Customs

13 Participants in the second round table understood that the next step consists of Poste Maroc establishing its own project management office (BGP) dedicated to the implementation of the PPZ project in Morocco.

14 The BGP proposal to support this work was presented, and it was agreed that rapid implementation of the BGP and start-up of the project in January 2024 would be essential to the success of the PPZ pilot project in Morocco.

15 To ensure on-time implementation and start-up in January 2024, the next step would be for Post Maroc to formally accept the attached BGP offer, which will be financed by a third-party partner.

III. Conclusions

New volumes will arrive in the UPU postal network thanks to the PPZ project

16 The success of this pilot will demonstrate the seamless movement of postal items between cargo and postal supply chains, which represents a new opportunity for the UPU to strengthen its postal network.

17 The postal customs clearance procedures remain an advantage for postal mail, which should be strengthened through the provision of EAD, EDI messaging and the provision of customs revenue solutions (delivery duty paid).

18 The EAD and EDI messaging of the postal network allowing for "paper-free" customs clearance is a core advantage for cargo, which is only now developing legislation and procedures to allow for full data dependency for customs clearance procedures.

19 The total cost of customer fulfilment, in terms of time, taxes and handling procedures alike, remains the focus of commercial entities that wish to use the postal supply chain for international delivery.

20 The UPU is in a unique position to comply with national data protection requirements on data scarcity via EDI messages (e.g. CUSTIM, CUSRSP, ITMREF, REFRSP), where only the necessary data elements are provided to fulfil an action in the supply chain.

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CC Secretary: Alexander Thern-Svanberg