

UPU International Bureau

Weltpoststrasse 4
3015 BERNE
SWITZERLAND

T +41 31 350 31 11
F +41 31 350 31 10
www.upu.int

Contact: Congress2025@upu.int

To:

- Union member countries

For information to:

- Designated operators
- Restricted unions

Berne, 15 May 2025

Reference: 2102(DPRM.PPRE.CCA)1044

Subject: 28th UPU Congress, 8 to 19 September 2025 – Registration information and procedures, and anticipated consequences of the potential adoption of certain Congress proposals concerning remote participation and accreditation of Union member country delegations

Dear Sir/Madam,

Through circular letter 2102(DPRM.PPRE.CCA)1036 of 10 April 2025, you were informed of the procedures for procuring the necessary powers (delegates' credentials) to take part in the 28th UPU Congress in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, including, as appropriate, the right to speak, vote, and sign the Acts of the Union.

Registration of Congress participants

Union member countries should provide the International Bureau (IB) with the contact details of their country's "accreditor". The accreditor is the focal point designated by a Union member country purely for the purpose of validating the registration of its delegates using the UPU's Event Management Platform (EMP); they should not be confused with the government official duly authorized to sign the credentials instrument on behalf of a Union member country (country delegates).

The EMP for the registration of all Congress participants can be accessed at events.upu.int. Registration for Congress will be open from 1 May 2025. Further instructions on registering on the EMP are provided on the dedicated Congress page of the UPU website at www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Congress.

Union member countries that have already appointed an accreditor for the validation of their delegates' registration during meetings of the Council of Administration and/or Postal Operations Council are not required to act; the EMP will automatically contact these persons to seek their approval for the registration of their country's Congress delegates.

Union member countries whose accreditor's contact details have changed, or whose accreditor needs to be replaced, or which have not previously appointed an accreditor at all are required to complete the form in Annex 1 and return it to the IB by e-mail (ca.secretariat@upu.int) **by 15 June 2025 at the latest**.

Please also note that, specifically for the purposes of the 28th UPU Congress, the accreditors are expected to validate the delegate registrations referred to above in strict accordance with articles 2 and 3 of the Rules of Procedure of Congresses (RoPC).

Visas

Delegates requiring a visa to enter the United Arab Emirates are invited to refer to the host country's Congress web page (upc28dubai.ae) for guidance. Delegates may also contact the host country at info@upc28dubai.ae for the processing of visas.

Importance of registering all Union member country delegates with credentials

Please note that the authorization of individual UPU member country delegates to take part in the 2025 Congress, i.e., to speak, vote and/or sign the Acts of the Union at Congress, whether through the electronic platform or in person, will be based on their respective powers as outlined in their member country's credentials instrument, which must be deposited in due and proper form as specified in article 3 of the RoPC.

It is therefore imperative that all Union member country delegates expected to take part in the Congress – i.e., speak, vote and/or sign the Acts of the Union (including heads of delegation, deputy heads of delegation, other delegates and attached officials) – be duly accredited and listed in the relevant credentials instrument to be deposited with the Credentials Committee and its secretariat by the member country concerned.

Critically, access to voting through the electronic platform will be made available only to those delegates entitled to vote on behalf of a Union member country.

Potential implementation of hybrid (physical and remote) attendance at the 28th UPU Congress

The current UPU legal framework precludes the holding of purely “virtual” meetings of Congress. Nonetheless, Congress may agree to adjust the RoPC in order to allow for its proceedings to take place in a “hybrid” form which would combine the requirement for physical convening of the Congress with the possibility of remote participation by representatives of Union member countries and observers (similar to what was adopted for the 2021 Abidjan Congress).

However, it must be noted that, prior to the implementation of any such hybrid solution, the Congress itself is required to convene physically in order to consider and, as the case may be, adopt the necessary adjustments to the RoPC with a view to allowing the Congress to continue its activities in a hybrid manner. A list of these proposed amendments will be published as part of the agenda of the first Congress plenary session scheduled for 8 September 2025.

Bearing the above information in mind, should they wish to vote on the first day of the Congress, Union member countries are invited to consider including in their credentials instruments diplomats (or other government officials) stationed in the host country of the Congress, so that these delegates may also exercise the right to speak and to vote on behalf of their respective countries.

Alternatively, Union member countries may arrange for a proxy to be lodged with another member country physically attending the Congress. It must be borne in mind that, as per article 3.5 of the RoPC, proxies are subject to the same formal requirements as are applied to credentials instruments.

We would like to remind you that it is imperative that Union member countries submit their draft credentials instruments to the IB for confirmation that the instruments are correctly prepared as soon as possible, with a view to having the finalized and executed instruments physically deposited in original form at the opening of the 28th Congress. Please contact the Credentials Committee secretariat at credentials@upu.int to discuss this option.

The IB will continue to work closely with the United Arab Emirates Government to help ensure the success of the 28th UPU Congress.

Should you have any questions, please contact the secretariat at congress2025@upu.int.

Yours faithfully,



Masahiko Metoki
Director General