



UPU International Bureau

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To:

- Member countries of the Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council
- Observers of the Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council

Berne, 16 February 2026

Reference: 3100(DACAB)1007

Subject: Invitation to the Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council sessions (27 April to 8 May 2026)

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Chair of the Council of Administration (CA) and the Chair of the Postal Operations Council (POC), I wish to invite CA and POC members and observers to attend the regular 2026.1 CA and POC sessions (S1). The meetings are to be held at the UPU International Bureau (IB) in Berne from 27 April to 1 May 2026 (POC) and from 4 to 8 May 2026 (CA). Meetings of the POC user groups will take place in the week preceding the POC session (20 to 24 April). The timetable, provisional agendas and meeting documents for the CA and POC will be available on the UPU website at www.upu.int/en/Members-Centre.

i In-person and remote participation possibilities

CA and POC S1 will be held in hybrid format, with in-person attendance and the option of remote participation for members and observers unable to attend the sessions on site.

ii Registration of participants and practical information

All delegates from CA and POC members and observers wishing to participate in the sessions **remotely or in person** are required to register through the UPU's Event Management Platform, accessible at events.upu.int. Registration is compulsory for all delegates, and the registration platform will open on **23 February 2026**. The deadline for registration is **13 April 2026**.

/ The guidelines for delegation registration for the sessions can be found in Annex 1, and the Registration User Guide can be accessed at:

www.upu.int/en/events/council-of-administration-2026-s1

www.upu.int/en/events/postal-operations-council-2026-s1

/ Practical information for delegates attending in person can be found in Annex 2.

iii Voting

CA and POC members will authorize their delegates to vote in accordance with the CA and POC Rules of Procedure. In the event of an open vote, all CA and POC members attending either remotely or in person will be entitled to participate using the UPU's online electronic voting platform.

In the case of a secret ballot, only CA/POC members physically present will be entitled to participate in such a ballot, using electronic voting devices or traditional paper ballots. However, a CA/POC member participating remotely will be entitled to delegate its right to vote to the representative of another member of the CA/POC physically present in Berne, provided that it gives notice either in writing or orally at the meeting to the CA/POC Chair prior to the vote.

iv Interpretation costs

During the 2026.1 CA/POC sessions, simultaneous interpretation will be provided.¹ It should be noted that the cost of the interpretation services will be shared among the participating countries (CA/POC members and observers) in accordance with article 155.12 of the General Regulations. Information on the choice of languages by UPU member countries at CA/POC meetings is provided in the relevant articles of the Rules of Procedure of the two bodies.

/ Accordingly, CA/POC members and observers are asked to inform the IB, using the form provided in Annex 3, of the language(s) that they wish to use.

v Focal point for contact relating to the work of CA/POC bodies

To facilitate communication between CA/POC members and the IB secretariat, all CA/POC members are kindly requested to notify the secretariat of their focal point for contact relating to the work of the CA/POC bodies. We kindly ask you to complete and return the form in Annex 4 **by 20 March 2026**.

vi Submission by UPU member countries of questions to be discussed at CA and POC sessions

Pursuant to articles 15.3.2 of the CA Rules of Procedure and 16.3.2 of the POC Rules of Procedure, any UPU member country wishing to submit questions for discussion at this CA/POC session is required to send the relevant documents to the Secretary General at least six weeks before the opening of the session (**16 March 2026** for the POC and **23 March 2026** for the CA). Questions submitted to the Secretary General less than six weeks before the opening of the session may be considered only if the CA/POC so decides by a majority of the members present and voting and having the right to vote.

Yours faithfully,



Masahiko Metoki
Secretary General

¹ Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish.



Practical information for all participants in the 2026.1 Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) sessions

Guidelines for delegation registration

1 With a view to facilitating the registration of member country delegations and other eligible participants for the 2026.1 CA and POC sessions, the International Bureau (IB) would like to remind all prospective participants of the following guidelines and step-by-step process for successful registration.

Step 1 – Notification to the IB of the responsible entity and accreditor, and of the composition of the delegation (for member countries only)

2 The Event Management Platform (EMP) enables participants to register for all UPU meetings. It streamlines the registration process and helps to ensure that UPU member countries are represented at meetings by individuals duly authorized and empowered by their national authorities. These individuals are referred to collectively as the “delegations”.

3 In this connection, all member countries must provide: i) the name of the entity responsible for providing formal notification of delegates’ names (referred to as the “responsible entity”); and ii) the contact details of the person within the responsible entity who will act as country accreditor on the EMP. Most member countries have provided this information in order to register for previous meetings and therefore already have a designated country accreditor responsible for validating the registrations of their delegates for the meetings of the bodies of the UPU (Congress, CA and POC).

4 As observers’ and ad hoc observers’ registration will be validated by the relevant IB secretariat, these organizations do not need to designate an accreditor.

5 **Member countries are requested to verify that the information sent to the CA/POC secretariat regarding their designated accreditor for the previous CA/POC sessions is still valid.** Member countries that do not have a designated accreditor, or that need to communicate a change of accreditor, are asked to complete the form in Attachment 1 to this annex and return it to the CA/POC secretariat, as appropriate, as soon as possible. Please note that the IB must be notified of the nomination of the designated accreditor by the **competent governmental authority** of the UPU member country concerned, i.e. by the supervising ministry, department, embassy or permanent mission to the United Nations and other international organizations.

6 UPU member countries that have yet to complete this first step are kindly invited to do so without further delay.

Step 2 – Participant registration (for member countries, observers and ad hoc observers)

7 All delegates from CA and POC members and observers wishing to participate in the session **remotely or on site** are required to be registered.

8 Delegates from CA and POC members and observers who registered through the EMP for the 2025.2 CA/POC session (S0) will need to register again using their UPU account. For these delegates, the EMP will pre-complete the registration form with their personal data and will automatically contact the accreditor of the member country or observer concerned, so that registrations currently saved in the system can be accredited again.

9 Delegates from member countries or observers who have not registered previously via the EMP must, however, do so in order to be accredited.

10 If registrants encounter any difficulties during the registration process, they may consult the Registration User Guide, which can be accessed at:

www.upu.int/en/events/council-of-administration-2026-s1

www.upu.int/en/events/postal-operations-council-2026-s1

11 Following registration, prospective participants will receive an e-mail stating that their registration has been received and is pending confirmation.

Step 3 – Participant registration validation by the accreditor (this step is required for confirmation of submitted registrations) (for member countries only)

12 Subject to the formal notification requirements referred to above, country accreditors are officials named by the responsible entity of a member country as authorized to validate the individual pending registrations of that organization's delegation members (see paragraphs 3 and 4 above).

13 As a first step, all accreditors must log in to the EMP and update their profiles. Once logged in to the system, country accreditors will be able to review the pending registrations of their delegates (see step 2 above).

14 The country accreditor must verify whether the person requesting registration is indeed a member of the organization's delegation. If not, the country accreditor is expected to reject the person's registration request. Once the country accreditor validates a registration request, the delegate concerned will receive an e-mail stating that his/her registration has been confirmed. Should the country accreditor reject a request, the person concerned will receive an e-mail to that effect with the reasons for the refusal.

15 Please note that country accreditors also attending the meeting must both register and validate themselves.

16 Note that participants who are considered **observers or ad hoc observers** of the CA or POC (e.g. United Nations, restricted unions, Consultative Committee, international organizations) **will be validated by the IB and will not be requested to provide the accreditor information referred to in step 1.**

Step 4 – Doubts and difficulties encountered during the above processes

17 In case of any doubts or difficulties encountered during the processes described above, UPU member countries and observers are kindly invited to send an e-mail to one of the following addresses:

- For technical issues relating to the EMP: events@upu.int;
- For all other issues: ca.secretariat@upu.int and/or poc.secretariat@upu.int.

2026.1 Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) sessions

Form to be completed by the relevant government entity of the UPU member country concerned (e.g. ministry, department, embassy or permanent mission to the United Nations and other international organizations, etc.).

Please return the completed form to the International Bureau by e-mail (ca.secretariat@upu.int and/or poc.secretariat@upu.int) **by 20 March 2026 at the latest.**

Full name and title of person completing this form		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Full name of entity			
Position/title			
Address			
Tel.			
E-mail			
Date		Signature	

Country accreditor (ministry, regulator, designated operator, head office of observers, etc.) responsible for validating delegates' registration in the EMP for each Congress, CA and POC session:

Full name and title of individual		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Full name of accreditor entity			
Address			
Tel.			
E-mail			



Practical information for participants attending the 2026.1 Council of Administration (CA) and Postal Operations Council (POC) sessions in person

A. Reimbursement of travel expenses

With reference to International Bureau (IB) circular 74/2022 regarding the procedure for travel expense reimbursements to eligible delegates attending the CA and POC sessions, please note the following:

For the CA

Pursuant to article 110.1 of the UPU General Regulations adopted at the 2025 Congress in Dubai, one representative of each of the member countries of the Council of Administration classified as developing or least developed countries according to the lists established, respectively, by the Council of Administration and the United Nations shall be entitled to reimbursement of the price of an economy class return air ticket and/or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means. The amount reimbursed for travelling by rail or by any other means shall not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket. The same entitlement shall be granted to the representative of each member of its committees or other bodies when these meet outside Congress and the sessions of the Council.

For the POC

In accordance with article 116.1 of the General Regulations adopted at the 2025 Congress in Dubai, one representative of each of the member countries of the Postal Operations Council classified as least developed countries according to the list established by the United Nations shall be entitled to reimbursement of the price of an economy class return air ticket and/or first class return rail ticket, or expenses incurred for travel by any other means. The amount reimbursed for travelling by rail or by any other means shall not exceed the price of the economy class return air ticket.

B. Privileges and immunities

During their stay in Switzerland, all the delegates of UPU member countries attending the session will enjoy the privileges and immunities outlined in article IV of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations concluded between the Swiss Federal Council and the Secretary General of the United Nations (dated 1 July 1946), which is applicable by analogy to the delegates of UPU member countries at conferences convened by the Union and during their journey to and from the place of meeting. (See the Agreement in the "Constitution and General Regulations Manual" on the UPU website via the following link: www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Acts#scroll-nav__8).

C. Visas

If official confirmation of participation in sessions of the CA and POC is required in order to obtain a visa, one will be provided by the Event Management Platform (EMP). To obtain this confirmation, please complete the visa-related fields in the EMP. Once a registration is validated by the relevant country accreditor or IB staff, the visa letter will automatically be generated and sent by e-mail to the delegate.

D. Accommodation for participants

A list of available hotels can be found on the Berne Tourism website at www.bern.com/en/inform/accommodations. Authorized delegates of CA/POC members and observers may make their bookings directly through that website. Note also that the UPU has special rates with certain hotels. The IB therefore recommends, when making reservations, that CA/POC members and observers indicate that they will be participating in UPU meetings.

Unfortunately, owing to difficulties experienced in the past, the UPU is no longer able to automatically reserve hotel rooms on behalf of CA/POC members and observers.

However, if for special reasons CA/POC members or observers are unable to make the required reservations at their chosen hotel, they may contact the Tourist Office of the City of Berne, located at the main station:

Tourist Information
Bahnhofplatz 10a
3011 BERNE
SWITZERLAND

Tel: +41 31 328 12 12
Fax: +41 31 328 12 77
Website: www.bern.com/en/home
E-mail: info@bern.com

E. Climate

Up-to-date information on weather conditions in Berne can be found at meteo.search.ch/3015-bern.

F. Venue of the session

As stated in the letter of invitation, the session will take place at the UPU headquarters building located on the outskirts of the city, at the following address:

Universal Postal Union
Weltpoststrasse 4
3015 BERNE

Tel: +41 31 350 31 11
Fax: +41 31 350 31 10
E-mail: info@upu.int

To get there, delegates can take the No. 8 tram, direction "Saali", as far as the "Weltpostverein" stop, located opposite the IB building.

G. Transport between airports of arrival or departure and Berne

Delegates coming by air will normally arrive in Switzerland at Zurich–Kloten or Geneva–Cointrin Airport. They then usually take the train to Berne. Current train timetables can be found at www.sbb.ch. That website is available in English, French, German and Italian.

H. Provisions concerning smoking at the International Bureau

You are reminded that smoking is prohibited on all IB premises, with the exception of the building's rooftop terrace (8th floor).



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poc.secretariat@upu.int

UPU member country (including non-members of the CA and POC invited as observers)
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The above CA/POC member or observer will be using the following language(s) of discussion during the 2026.1 CA/POC sessions and will bear the associated cost in accordance with article 155.12 of the General Regulations. Please return the completed form to the International Bureau by e-mail (ca.secretariat@upu.int and/or poc.secretariat@upu.int) by **20 March 2026** at the latest.

<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Russian
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Arabic	

If no declaration is made, the above country will be automatically placed in the category deemed most appropriate, either according to its membership of a language group or on the basis of the language of discussion it has chosen in the past.

Sender		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Function/title			
Address			
E-mail			
Date	Signature		



Focal point for participation in the work of CA/POC bodies

_____ [country name] is a CA member/ CA observer/ POC member/
 POC observer, and the following person is the focal point for CA/POC information:

Full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Ms
Title	
Organization	
Mobile tel.	
E-mail	

Please send your response to the following e-mail address(es) **by 20 March 2026**:

ca.secretariat@upu.int
poc.secretariat@upu.int