

New Zealand – Candidate for POC



New Zealand has a track record of contributions to the POC and other bodies within the Union.

Unique Position of New Zealand

- Small, geographically remote, yet deregulated and highly liberalized postal market.
- Valuable experiences to contribute to the future work of the UPU and POC in developing responses and adaptations for our changing global postal business environment.

Goal

- Ensure fair and balanced outcomes for all UPU stakeholders, particularly in responding to the evolving requirements of sending and receiving customers of the Union's designated operators.



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Contributions in the Abidjan Cycle

- Active participation in POC Committee 2 Physical Services Development and E-Commerce Integration Group and Remuneration Integration Group as an observer.
- Co-leading Expert Team 4 on Remuneration implementation
- Member of the joint RIG + PSDEIG coordination group

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Contributions Beyond POC

- Vice-Chair of the Consultative Committee in Istanbul cycle, leading reform efforts to enable greater participation of wider postal sector players in the UPU.
- Represented Oceania-South Asia Region in the CA ad hoc group in the Istanbul cycle that reformed the POC structure based on regional representation.
- In the Abidjan cycle, as an observer to the Council of Administration (CA), NZ co-chaired the CA Committee 2 Task Force on Customs policy and regulatory issues.

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Role in the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU)

- Lead work on UPU parcels remuneration systems, Chaired Reform of the UPU and APPU working Group, and Chaired the E-Services and Markets Development Working Group.
- Active participant within the region, committed to its wider representation and success, with a strong focus on supporting the Pacific Island nations

Request for Support

- New Zealand seeks valuable support for its candidature for the Postal Operations Council (POC).



New Zealand – Congress Proposals

- ▶ Article 18 – Supplementary services – International Reply Coupon
- ▶ Proposals by Germany, Egypt, and Liechtenstein
- ▶ Supported by NZ (and others)
- ▶ Two versions:
 - ▶ 1. Retire the International Reply Coupon
 - ▶ 2. make the IRC an optional supplementary service, so that the service may be maintained between Designated Operators which wish to continue the service.



Conclusion and Proposals

- Conclusion:

We conclude that...

- the **demand** for the International Reply Coupon is **very low**
- and the number of **Designated Postal Operators selling** the IRCs is in **constant decline**
- because **the use case** for the International Reply Coupon **has disappeared**,
- but the **cost and effort** to maintain the processes and infrastructure for exchanging IRCs **is high**.



Conclusion and Proposals

- Proposals
 - As a consequence, the primary proposal is to discontinue the International Reply Coupon and remove it from the UPU Convention, with an entry into force date of 1 January 2027, making resources available for developing the postal services of tomorrow.
 - A secondary proposal is to make the IRC an optional supplementary service for designated operators that wish to continue using it.