

Report on Supply Chain Integration Working Group meeting

Report by the Co-Chairs (India and Japan)

1. Subject Report to the Congress on the Supply Chain Integration Working Group (SCI WG) meeting held on 31 st August 2022	References/Paragraphs §§ 1-18
2. Decision expected The Congress is invited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - take note of the report; - approve the scope and methodology of the SCI WG for 2023-2026. 	§§ 1- 18 § 9

I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of agenda

- 1 India, Co-Chair of the Supply Chain Integration Working Group together with Japan, the other Co-Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.
- 2 The meeting was attended physically and through VC by the Secretary General and Manager (Administration and APPU Affairs) from the APPU Bureau and delegates from different countries.
- 3 India presented the agenda which was duly approved.

II. Scope and methodology of the SCI WG

a. What the SCI WG covered 2017-2022

- 4 India briefly summarized what the SCI WG covered during the current Congress cycle, specifically giving an update of the UPU POC Committee 1 activities and the best practices in the area of the postal supply chain by APPU member volunteers.
- 5 This working group mirrors the work of Committee 1 of the Postal Operations Council (POC) of the Universal Postal Union which deals with the cross-cutting issues in operations, standards, documentation and electronic exchange of data for the international postal supply chain in coordination with other agencies and stakeholders. India and Japan co-chaired the Supply Chain Integration Working Group. There have been 5 meetings of the Supply Chain Integration (SCI) Working Group during the Congress cycle.
- 6 The work of POC Committee 1 was key to achieve goal 1 of the Istanbul World Postal Strategy- "Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure". The present report outlines the main results of the work carried out by the SCI WG over the past Congress cycle, updates of POC C1 and reports on the tasks assigned to it by the 12th APPU Congress and updates on POC sessions S0 and S1.

7 The WG took note of the report; and this report is submitted to the 13th APPU Congress.

b. Scope and methodology of the SCI WG from 2023-2026

8 India informed the Working Group that the new Chair(s) of the SCI WG would be announced under agenda item 23 of the Congress.

9 India proposed that the scope and methodology of the SCI WG be continued in the next cycle from 2023-2026, namely, to share updates of the UPU POC Committee 1 activities and to share best practices of APPU member countries in the postal supply chain on a voluntary basis.

10 India also highlighted that it would be beneficial for all the members if the Asia Pacific Postal College, APPC, updates its training activities and curriculum to remain relevant with the evolving supply chain activities.

11 The training activities of APPC have been aligned and would continue to be updated in accordance with the evolving activities concerned, including those in the UPU.

12 The WG endorsed the proposal.

III. Updates on UPU POC Committee 1 activities

13. A report on the UPU POC Committee 1, which met on 9th May 2022, was presented by Japan, the other Co-Chair of the SCI WG. The presentation is included in Doc 17 and it contains the following components:

- major outcomes of the standing groups under Committee 1, namely, Standards Board, Addressing Group, Customs Group, Transport Group and Postal Security Group; and
- progress made and outstanding issues related to Electronic Advance Data (EAD).

14. A brief summary is furnished as follows:

- The main mandate of the Standards Board (SB) was contained in Istanbul Business Plan (IBP) work proposal 005. SB was allocated nine deliverables and all were achieved by the end of 2017–2020 cycle.
- The main mandates of the Transport Group (TG) were contained in IBP work proposal 010. It was allocated a total of 11 deliverables. All were achieved by the end of the 2017–2020 cycle.
- The main mandates of the Postal Security Group (PSG) stem from the Istanbul World Postal Strategy and Istanbul Congress resolution C 17/2016. It was allocated a total of eight deliverables. All were achieved by the end of the 2017–2020 cycle.
- The main mandates of the Customs Group (CG) are contained in IBP work proposal 013. It was allocated a total of six deliverables. All were achieved by the end of the 2017–2020 cycle.
- The main mandates of the C 1 Addressing Expert Team were contained in resolution C 16/2016. It was allocated a total of eight deliverables. All were achieved by the end of the 2017–2020 cycle.

Updates after S0, November 2021 of POC, C1

POC Committee 1:

- Considered 4 proposals to amend the Convention Regulations;
- Noted the progress made on the activities of the Standards Board (SB);
- Approved the referral of the examination of the definitions of AO, small packets, bulky letters, LC and E format in the UPU Convention Regulations;
- Noted the progress made by the Customs Group and Postal Security Group;
- Noted the activities related to EAD;
- Approved the draft terms of reference for the UPU–Rail Forum, considering Japan’s proposed revision to the text;
- Noted what had been accomplished to date in advancing the goals and deliverables of the EAD roadmap;
- Noted the issues affecting the development and implementation of the global postal model for EAD for security purposes;
- Noted the further work needed for implementation of the global postal model and endorsed the continuation of work by the expert teams of the POC standing groups with a report to POC S1 in May 2022.

Updates after S1, May 2022 of POC, C1

POC Committee 1:

- Approved the terms of reference and endorsed the composition regarding reconstitution of the Addressing Group, Customs Group, and organization of their work.
- Approved the terms of reference regarding addressing and geographic information systems integration activities.
- Endorsed the revised terms of reference and deferred the endorsement of the composition of the WCO–UPU CC to the Plenary.
- Subsequent to the signing of the WCO–UPU cooperation agreement, it was agreed to hold a joint capacity-building conference in May or June 2023. Japan volunteered to host the conference.
- Approved sending of a questionnaire on electronic advance data (EAD) regulations to UPU member countries and designated operators.
- Decision deferred to Plenary regarding changes to the postal customs declaration forms – CN 22, CN 23 and CP 72.
- Endorsed the revised terms of reference and the composition regarding the reconstitution of the IATA–UPU Contact Committee.
- Approved the update to the IATA–UPU Framework for a Postal Service Agreement and guidelines.
- Approved the amendment to the Convention Regulations to make CARDIT messages (with AR flags) mandatory for destinations requiring EAD.
- Approved the basic airmail conveyance rate of 0.510 thousandths of an SDR per kilogramme of gross weight and per kilometre (0.510 SDR per tonne/kilometre) for 2023.

15. The Working Group took note of the presentation.

IV. Best practices in the APPU region

Vietnam's experience with a paperless air transport model

16. Vietnam Post shared their experience in implementing a paperless air transport model and EAD implementation, which was well received. The key highlights of the presentation were :
 - benefits, difficulties, challenges in and lessons learned from exchanging data to replace the paper CN38 delivery bill, and
 - current EAD exchange situation between Vietnam Post and Vietnam Customs as well as the roadmap for full implementation.
17. The Working Group took note of the presentation.

V. Any other business

18. No other matters were raised.

Co-Chairs of Supply Chain Integration Working Group: India and Japan
Represented by:
Prannoy Sharma – India
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