



ASIAN-PACIFIC POSTAL UNION

Our Ref. 02/6/92 (24)-VS/kp

23 February 2024

APPU members:

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan,
Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji,
India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR,
Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar,
Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan,
Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa,
Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka,
Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Vietnam

Dear APPU Members,

This letter addresses the matter concerning the Asia Pacific Post (APP) Cooperative and seeks your valuable input on the necessity of organizing an APPU Extraordinary Congress in 2024 to address the challenges faced by the Cooperative. Your attention is invited to the discussions during the APPU Executive Council meeting in August 2023 regarding the future of the APP Cooperative. Please refer to EC 2023 Doc 13.7 and the minutes of the 2023 Executive Council meeting for the details.

Since the August 2023 meeting, the APPU Bureau has maintained communication with the Chair of the APP Cooperative Management Board (CMB) to monitor progress on the subject. Discussions were also initiated within the Working Group formed to explore relocation possibilities with any potential host country. However, as of January 2024, we have been informed of personnel changes within the Cooperative office, and the APP Cooperative office continues to operate from Singapore. The APP has also outlined a methodology for hiring staff for the office.

While there is a temporary solution, the APP wishes to continue with the initial proposal to hold an APPU Extraordinary Congress in 2024. The proposal in its current format aims to amend the Acts of the Union to incorporate the provision for user-funded bodies. It has also been conveyed that immediate relocation may not be possible, and any future decision will depend on the decisions within the APP and Executive Council's deliberations.

During the Executive Council meeting in August 2023, while some members appreciated the urgency of the matter, a few members also expressed concerns about the timing of the APPU Extraordinary Congress in 2024 (especially considering the upcoming UPU Congress in 2025 and the APPU Congress in 2026 and hence additional procedural workload involved in attending the Congress, as well as the formal procedures that countries will need to follow for ratification/ approval in the event of a potential treaty amendment). While the APPU Bureau and Cambodia, the host country for this year's meeting, are prepared to assist in the process of organizing the Extraordinary Congress, we are seeking the consent of the APPU member countries for this arrangement in accordance with the Acts of the Union.

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Article 10 of the APPU Constitution mentions- *"An extraordinary Congress may be held at the request or with the consent of at least two-thirds of the member countries. Unless it is unavoidable, this session should be held in conjunction with the Executive Council meeting."* Therefore, the Extraordinary Congress will only be held if at least 22 member countries express their consent. Currently, there are no other specific proposals or issues to be addressed during the proposed Extraordinary Congress. However, in case there is consent, it would be appropriate for member countries/ working groups to come up with other matters of importance to be discussed during the Extraordinary Congress, in accordance with the Acts of the Union and Rules of Procedure of the Congress.

We request that member countries complete the attached form, Annexure A, to indicate their consent. To ensure seamless planning for the event, please submit the filled Annexure A to the Bureau at **kwanjai@appu-bureau.org** by 11 March 2024. If a member country does not respond by the specified date, it will be construed as no consent from that member. Please note that the response from individual countries will be confidential and only the final result of the consultation will be informed by the Bureau to the member countries.

If the required majority consents, the Extraordinary Congress will be held in conjunction with the 2024 Executive Council meeting from 12 to 16 August 2024. In case the required majority does not consent, any potential treaty amendment will be deferred for consideration at the next APPU Congress.

We look forward to receiving your response **by 11 March 2024**. If you require any further information, Ms. Kwanjai Kajornwuttideth, Manager Administration and APPU Affairs, may be contacted at **kwanjai@appu-bureau.org**.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours faithfully,


Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh
Secretary-General

