

INTERREGIONAL FORUM ON SECURITY AS A KEY ELEMENT FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE

February 24-26, 2026

APPU Headquarters (111 Chaengattana Road, Lak Si, 2nd Floor) Bangkok - Thailand

AGENDA

Updated 02/02/2026

Tuesday, February 24, 2026		
SESSION 1: OPENING OF THE FORUM		
Hour	Topic	Responsible
09:00 – 09:10	Reception of participants.	
09:10 – 09:40	Opening and Welcome Ceremony of the Forum.	Master of Ceremonies: APPU Mr. Jan Bojnansky, Supply Chain Coordinator, Universal Postal Union (UPU) Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, Secretary General, Asian- Pacific Postal Union (APPU) Dr. Franklin Castro, Secretary General, Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (PUASP)
09:40 – 10:10	Group photo and coffee break	
10:10 – 10:20	General guidelines about the Forum. What has brought us together and what will be the dynamics of action?	Mrs. Dawn Wilkes, Global Security Program Manager, USPIS
SESSION 2: IMPORTANCE OF POSTAL SECURITY CERTIFICATION AND GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ITS SITUATION IN THE APPU AND PUASP REGIONS		
10:20 – 12:30	<u>General objective:</u> To thoroughly understand the role of the postal service as a contributor to national and global security, and to understand how a certified operator with robust policies in this area protects its employees, customers, shipments, and business. To analyze the UPU S58 and S59 certification status of APPU and PUASP designated operators. Opening by the Moderator: Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU	
	Ice breaker (KAHOOT) - The relevance of postal security to national and global security. Why operators should prioritize it in their management.	Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU Mr. Pablo Sagastume, Project Management Officer, UPU
	Postal Security Certification Status and Next Steps in the APPU Region.	Ms. Ariya Thongbai, Mr. Andrew Liunamel, Mr. Gaurav Saini, UPU Regional Field Experts for Asia-Pacific

	Postal Security Certification Status and Next Steps in the PUASP Region.	Mrs. Fernanda Pérez, Projects Manager, PUASP
	Overview of EAD requirements for postal security and customs clearance, including regional implementation status and the use of UPU tools (DGST, EAD Check, WNS and Trainpost).	Mr. Himesh Patel, USPS Mr. Jan Bojnansky, Supply Chain Coordinator, UPU Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU Mr. Pablo Sagastume, Project Management Officer, UPU
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break	
SESSION 3: Postal Security Tabletop Exercises: Best Practices and Compliance		
	<i>General objective: To strengthen participants' practical understanding of postal security requirements through tabletop exercises, enabling the identification of best practices, assessment of compliance gaps, and reinforcement of effective response and coordination mechanisms in line with UPU security standards.</i>	
	<i>Opening by the Moderator Mrs. Dawn Wilkes, Global Security, Program Manager USPIS</i>	
13:30 – 15:30	UPU S58/S59 Implementation of standards and characteristics of the certification process (section 5-6-7 and 9 of the norm).	Mr. Roberto Barahona, Postal Security Specialist, PUASP Mr. Andrew Liunamel, Field Project Expert, UPU
	Interactive tabletop exercises to review postal security scenarios, share best practices, and assess compliance with UPU security standards.	Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU Mrs. Dawn Wilkes, Global Security Program Manager USPIS Mr. Pablo Sagastume, Project Management Officer, UPU Mr. Roberto Barahona, Postal Security Specialist, PUASP Mrs. Ariya Thongbai, Field Expert, UPU Bangkok
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break	
	<i>General objective: To strengthen participants' practical understanding of postal security requirements through tabletop exercises, enabling the identification of best practices, assessment of compliance gaps, and reinforcement of effective response and coordination mechanisms in line with UPU security standards.</i>	
	<i>Opening by the Moderator: Mrs. Dawn Wilkes, Global Security Program Manager, USPIS</i>	
15:45 – 17:15	Interactive tabletop exercises (Part 2) to review postal security scenarios, share best practices, and assess compliance with UPU security standards.	Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU Mrs. Dawn Wilkes, Global Security Program Manager, USPIS Mr. Pablo Sagastume, Project Management Officer, UPU Mr. Roberto Barahona, Postal Security Specialist, PUASP Mrs. Ariya Thongbai, Field Expert, UPU
17:15 – 17:30	Quiz and Conclusions of the third session and closing of the day.	Moderator

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Hour	Topic	Responsible
SESSION 4: ILLICIT GOODS INTERDICTION AND DETECTION; INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS AND PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVES		
9:00 – 9:15	<i>Introduction Day 2</i>	
9:15 – 10:30	<i>General objective: To strengthen awareness of illicit goods detection and interdiction through INCB IONICS/GRIDS, private sector perspectives, and the WCO Synthetic Drugs Detection Project (SDDP).</i> <i>Opening by the Moderator: Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU</i>	
	INCB - IONICS and GRIDS Safe interdiction review.	Mr. Matthew Nice, Program Manager, International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
10:45 – 12:15	Advanced end-to-end practical exercise.	Mr. Matthew Nice, Program Manager International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)
12:15 – 13:15	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:15 – 14:00	Private Sector Perspective on Illicit Goods.	Mr. Kerry Manion, xxxxxx Mr. Valentin Dinca, xxxxxx
	Introduction to the Synthetic Drugs Detection Project (SDDP) WCO.	Mr. Froilán Blanco Technical Expert, World Customs Organization
14:00 – 14:45	Regional Challenges and Successes - round table / panel or ILEA presentation.	xxxxxxxxxxxx , TBC or International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA)
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:00 – 15:30	WCO-UPU Post-Customs cooperation framework and upcoming UPU regulations.	Ms. Mina Nakamura, Seconded Customs Expert, UPU
15:30 – 16:00	Technical Framework on Standards and Development.	Mr. Himesh Patel, xxxxxx , USPS
16:00 – 17:00	Quiz and Conclusions of the sixth session and end of the day.	<i>Moderator</i>

Thursday, February 26, 2026

Hour	Topic	Responsible
SESSION 5: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE; INTERAGENCY COOPERATION IN POSTAL SECURITY		
	<i>General objective:</i> To discuss interagency cooperation between the Post and other entities.	
	<i>Opening by the Moderator:</i> Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU	
9:00 – 9:10	Introduction Day 3	
9:10 – 10:10	The Tripartite MoU among the Customs General Administration of Mongolia, Mongol Post JSC, and the General Police Department. (online)	Mr. Bat-Erdene Gungaa, Customs Official of the Anti-Drug Smuggling and Anti-Money Laundering Division of the Customs General Administration of Mongolia
	MoU Argentina	Argentina TBC by Puasp
	DO's that have achieved success in working with Customs and Law Enforcement.	<i>Representatives from participating countries.</i>
10:10 – 10:25	Coffee/Tea break	
SESSION 6: REVENUE PROTECTION FOR DO's		
	<i>General objective:</i> To discuss revenue protection in the Post.	
	<i>Opening by the Moderator:</i> Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU	
10:25 – 12:00	Revenue protection, challenges and best practices.	Mrs. Kelly Shen, Revenue Protection Program Manager USPIS -
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break	
13:00 – 14:15	Revenue Protection tabletop exercise	Mrs. Kelly Shen, Revenue Protection Program Manager, USPIS -
SESSION 7: LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE		
	<i>General objective:</i> To discuss the concerns and future actions towards increase security and safety	
	<i>Opening by the Moderator:</i> Ms. Claire Perez Redondo, Director International Affairs and Bilateral Agreements, UPSP	
14:00 – 14:30	The new approach to security following Resolutions 8 and 9 of the Dubai Congress.	Mr. Jacob Gholson, Security Program Manager, UPU Mr. Sandeep KP, Consultant, APPU Mrs. Fernanda Pérez, Projects Manager, PUASP

14:30 – 15:30	INTERPOL and IIPCIC (International IP Crime Investigators College).	Mrs. Kirstine Pederson, INTERPOL
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Afternoon coffee break</i>	
15:45 – 16:25	Financing for postal security and key findings for success in the Postal Certification process.	Mr. Pablo Sagastume, UPU Mr. Sandeep KP, Consultant, APPU Mrs. Fernanda Pérez, Projects Manager, PUASP
16:25 – 16:55	Dubai Cycle C1 Focus Security across all working groups and systems (IATA, Dangerous Goods)	UPU C1 co-chair or Mr. H. Patel USPS UPU SC Coordinator J. Bojnansky UPU Security Program Manager J. Gholson
SESSION 8: FORUM CLOSING CEREMONY		
	<i>Opening by the Moderator: Mr. Jacob Gholson</i>	
16:55 – 17:30	Closing Ceremony & certificates	Mr. Jan Bojnansky, Supply Chain Coordinator, Universal Postal Union (UPU) Mrs. Claire I Perez Redondo, USPS Director International Affairs Dr. Franklin Castro, Secretary General, Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (UPAEP) Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, Secretary General, Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU)