



POSTAL OPERATIONS COUNCIL

Committee 1 (Supply Chain Integration)

Addressing Group

Report of the last meeting held on 12 April 2013

Report by the Chairman

(Agenda item 2)

1 Subject	References/paragraphs
Report of the last meeting held on 12 April 2013.	§§ 1 to 11
2 Decision expected	
Take note of this report.	§ 12

I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 1.Rev 1)

1 The 2013.1 meeting of the POC C 1 Addressing Group (AG) was held in Berne on 12 April 2013. The meeting was opened by the Chairman and the Director General of the International Bureau (IB), both of whom emphasized the importance of addressing in attaining the goals of the Doha Postal Strategy. The agenda and order of discussion were approved without comments or changes. The main conclusions of the meeting are presented below.

II. Report of the Addressing Group's meeting on 17 February 2012

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 2)

2 The AG took note of the report of the meeting held in Berne on 17 February 2012.

III. Reports by the Addressing Group teams of experts

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 3)

3 The AG noted the oral reports given by the three teams of experts on the progress of their work since the last meeting. Based on the reports, a member of the Consultative Committee (CC) reminded countries of the importance of accurate, updated addresses for marketers, and of the role the UPU could play as a reference for businesses. In addition, South Africa requested clarification on why Uganda was omitted from the list of countries with approved S42 templates. The IB explained that only countries approved since February were listed in the document, while Uganda and others were included in the annex.

IV. Congress resolutions

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 4 and Doc 5)

4 Resolution C 48/2012 was presented, including the minor changes to Congress proposal 23.Rev 2 proposed by the United States of America. The AG's four main areas of work were also defined.

5 Resolution C 82/2012 was summarized, and the AG was reminded of the outstanding role played by the Special Ambassador, Ms Anna Tibaijuka, the Tanzanian Minister of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, who presented the draft resolution at Congress. Thanks were also extended to the countries that intervened at Congress. A paper by the United States Postal Service's Office of the Inspector General, describing the economic benefits of a postcode,¹ was also mentioned by a member of the CC as an interesting source of information.

V. Organization and functioning of the AG and programme of activities for 2013–2016

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 6)

6 The new organizational structure of the AG and the programme activities for the 2013–2016 cycle were presented and approved without change.

7 Expressing his disappointment about the lack of funding provided for an international change of address (ICOA) system, one CC member noted that the barrier to this system's development was not technical, but financial. It was noted that it might be easier to secure funding for an ICOA system once a feasibility study had been carried out.

8 The Southern Africa Postal Operators Association (SAPOA) proposed that the IB provide a global picture of the addressing status of countries in order to help countries obtain funding and take concrete steps forward. Tanzania (United Rep.) agreed with SAPOA and thanked the S42 committee for approving its addressing template.

VI. Project to provide download access to the S42 templates of member countries

(POC C 1 AG 2013.1–Doc 7)

9 The IB presented the main elements of the proposed project. It was recommended that the publication method of S42 templates be changed so that they could be downloaded from the UPU website. It was also recommended that the responsibilities and resources for the development and maintenance of templates be re-examined. No changes were suggested.

VII. Presentation on the provision of addressing data

10 The IB gave a presentation on the importance of the provision of addressing data and its concerns about data quality, data maintenance and the regularity of updates and data access provided by countries.

VIII. Any other business

11 Cameroon gave a statement on its willingness to become an active member of the Group. A member of the CC informed the AG of an ongoing private-sector addressing project in India, while another thanked the Chairman for hosting an important addressing standards meeting in Jeddah.

IX. Decision expected

12 The Group is invited to take note of this report.

Berne, 5 September 2013

Ali Bakheet
Chairman

¹ The Untold Story of the ZIP Code, USPS Office of the Inspector General 2013, report No. RARC–WP–13–006.