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Ms Sabine Warschburger

CCSA Secretariat

United Nations Statistics Division/DESA

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Two United Nations Plaza, DC2-1670

New York, NY 10017

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Berne, 09 February 2012

Subject: UPU's application for membership in the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities

Dear Ms Warschburger,

I would like to take this opportunity, in my capacity as Statistical Expert of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), to apply for membership in the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities.

As the second oldest international organization and specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), the UPU has collected and published statistical data since its foundation in 1874. The first edition of postal statistics appeared in 1875 and constitutes most probably the first international data collected and published by an international organization. Since then, the UPU has been collecting international postal statistics on a regular basis and holds today an invaluable series of postal statistics spanning over a period of 135 years.

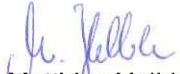
In the 1949 Agreement between the UN and the UPU, the two parties included Article VIII on statistical services stipulating in paragraph 1 that the UN and the UPU "agree to cooperate with a view to securing the greatest possible usefulness and utilization of statistical information and data." Furthermore, in paragraph 3 the UN recognizes the UPU "as the appropriate agency for the collection, analysis, publication, standardization and improvement of statistics within its special sphere, [...]."

In order to fulfill this mandate and in light of the long tradition of collecting statistical data, the UPU has always maintained a statistical service (currently located in the Economic and Regulatory Affairs Directorate). The statistical service is in regular contact with all 192 member countries and other international organizations and publishes a yearbook on postal statistics providing detailed data on the postal sector in UPU member countries.

Given UPU's longstanding commitment for statistical work, the UPU wishes to apply for membership in the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities. The UPU strongly supports the efforts of the Committee to promote interagency coordination and cooperation on statistical programs and consistency in statistical practices and development. The UPU fully endorses and accepts the mandate of the Committee and is strongly committed to contribute to its work and to attend its meetings on a regular basis.

Finally, I am pleased to express my professional commitment, in my capacity as Statistical Expert of the Economic and Regulatory Affairs Directorate of the UPU, to apply the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities in the statistical work of the UPU, in accordance with current UPU Rules and Regulations and other administrative issuances.

Yours sincerely,



Matthias Helble
Statistical Expert
Economic and Regulatory Affairs Directorate
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Universal Postal Union