



Postal Regulatory Commission  
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United States Department of State  
Assistant Secretary  
International Organization Affairs  
Washington, DC 20520-6319

August 19, 2016

The Honorable Robert G. Taub  
Acting Chairman  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Mr. Taub,

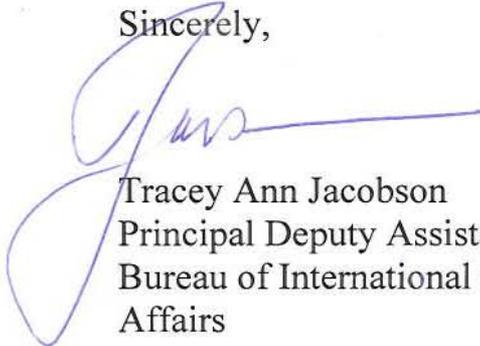
I am writing in response to your August 12 letter in which you state your intention to provide the Postal Regulatory Commission's (PRC) views under 39 U.S.C. §407(c) (1) by September 21 instead of the August 12 reply date you agreed to in your letter of April 14. We ask that you reconsider this proposed change. We initially agreed to a deadline of August 21, but please reply by August 26. In order for the Department of State to take the PRC's views into account, it is imperative that we receive this input in a timely manner.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Cook conveyed the Secretary's request for the PRC's views to you on April 1, providing ample time for the Commission to formulate a reply. The agreed August 21 response date was intended to ensure that the Department had at least 30 days before the 26<sup>th</sup> Universal Postal Congress to take into account the Commission's views as we prepare for the Congress.

As noted in your letter, the Council of Administration (CA) is meeting in Bern later this month to consider a response to the security challenges associated with the planned Universal Postal Congress venue of Istanbul, Turkey from September 20 - October 7. Although changes in the location and/or the date of the Congress are possible outcomes of the CA meeting, we continue to plan for Congress as currently scheduled. In the event that the Congress is not postponed, the Department would not have sufficient time to adequately incorporate the PRC's view statement if the Commission waits until after August 26 to provide it.

The Department looks forward to receiving the Commission's views by August 26 in order to begin to consider them on the timeline initially planned. Thank you again for your attention to this time-sensitive matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Jacobson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tracey Ann Jacobson  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of International Organization  
Affairs