



UNIVERSAL  
POSTAL UNION

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International Bureau Circular

**198**

Rwanda – Illegal postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam

The postal administration of **RWANDA** asks me to inform the postal administrations of UPU member countries of the following:

"The postal administration of Rwanda recently learned that several illegal postage stamp issues are currently on sale on various websites.

"The postal administration of Rwanda denounces and condemns these practices and recalls that illegal issues jeopardize not only the reputation of the Rwandan Post, but also philately as a whole. Moreover, the issue of these stamps constitutes a flagrant violation of national legislation on the production of postage stamps, and of article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention and Bucharest Congress recommendation C 26/2004.

"In this connection, we are counting on the initiatives taken by the Universal Postal Union and its bodies with a view to eradicating this phenomenon. We are also counting on our fellow administrations assisting us in identifying and bringing the perpetrators to justice. Finally, we are counting on our philatelic partners, who have always observed the regulations governing the issue of philatelic products and have never failed to notify administrations of irregularities in respect of certain issues.

"The postal administration of Rwanda would also inform the postal administrations of Union member countries that its last postage stamp issue was released on 21 November 2003, on the theme "Lutte contre le sida chez les enfants" (Fight against AIDS among children). All issues bearing a date after 21 November 2003 are illegal and should be treated as such."

Yours faithfully,

K.J.S. McKEOWN  
Director of Markets Development