



UNIVERSAL
POSTAL UNION

Berne, 7 July 2008

International Bureau Circular

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Madagascar – Illegal postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam

The postal administration of **MADAGASCAR** wishes to inform the postal administrations of UPU member countries of the following:

"We have recently been informed of the existence of several illegal issues of postage stamps in the name of Madagascar on the following themes: famous people, history of the American cinema, history of erotic art, fauna, flora, transport, prehistoric animals, etc.

"We utterly condemn such activities, which damage our reputation and image, particularly in that some of these illegal issues are of an obscene nature and contrary to Malagasy cultural values.

"The postal administration of Madagascar denounces and condemns such practices and recalls that illegal issues not only harm the reputation of the Malagasy Post, but also that of the philately services of other Universal Postal Union member countries.

"These stamps are issued in flagrant violation of the provisions of article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention and of Bucharest Congress resolution C 51/2004, aimed at protecting and safeguarding the image of a country and its postal service conveyed by postage stamps.

"The postal administration of Madagascar is counting on other postal administrations to help it combat this scourge by prohibiting the circulation of illegal issues on their territories.

"We recall that the postage stamps issued by Madagascar since 2002 can be viewed on the Universal Postal Union's WNS site."

Yours faithfully,

K.J.S. McKEOWN
Director of Markets Development