

Dear Sir/Madam,

AFGHANISTAN informs the designated operators of Union member countries of the following:

"The designated operator of Afghanistan has discovered the existence of illegal postage stamps issued in its name and circulating abroad without prior authorization from the Afghan authorities.

"These stamps have been issued in contravention of the Universal Postal Convention. The stamps are prejudicial to the cultural identity of Afghanistan and have a political character.

"As such practices could harm the image of our country and the philatelic sector, we would ask you to kindly bring the matter to the attention of stamp collectors, catalogue editors, and all the relevant authorities, in order to prevent the purchase, sale or collection of these illegal stamps.

"In case of doubt as to the origin of postage stamps, please contact the designated operator of Afghanistan."

Yours faithfully,

K.J.S. McKeown
Director of Markets Development