

Dear Sir/Madam,

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB).

The International Bureau is therefore inviting the designated operators of UPU member countries to include in their 2010 or 2011 stamp programme one or more stamps and philatelic products marking this event.

Each participant country is free to issue such stamps according to its own schedule during the 2010/2011 period, and may decide independently on the illustration theme for its issue. Guidelines have been drawn up for use of the logo, slogan, images and related communications.

The Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity has informed the UPU that it is willing to assist countries planning stamp issues with the necessary formalities.

The guidelines and further information are available from:

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
Re: International Year of Biodiversity
Logo Review Board
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
MONTREAL, QC
CANADA H2Y 1N9

Fax: +1 514 288 65 88
E-mail: IYB2010@cbd.int

Designated operators planning to issue one or more special stamps are kindly requested to inform the International Bureau, and to send specimens of the products concerned. The International Bureau is willing to help designated operators resolve any problems. The contacts in such cases are:

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Director of Markets Development
Universal Postal Union

Tel: +41 31 350 31 23
Fax: +41 31 351 02 66
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Or

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Yours faithfully,
K.J.S. McKeown
Director of Markets Development