

Berne, 5 May 2014

International Bureau Circular

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Mali - Illicit and authentic stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam,

The designated operator of **MALI**, Mali Post, asks me to inform UPU member countries of the following:

"Mali Post has noted that a high number of illicit stamps issued in the name of the Republic of Mali are being sold through various online shops, and that this has been going on for some time. The existence of these illicit issues and their circulation do serious harm to Mali's postal services, to the international community and to collectors.

"The negative publicity given to our country through the illegal postage stamps amounts to a serious attack on the moral, religious and economic integrity of the Republic of Mali; its postal service; and the Universal Postal Union as a whole. It is a serious and flagrant violation of the national legislation of the Republic of Mali, as well as article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention and the associated provisions of the Letter Post Regulations.

"On this occasion, Mali Post asks for the cooperation of the international postal community, as well as the postal sector, to help identify the creators and producers of the illicit issues, so that they can be denounced and punished.

"Mali Post wishes to remind interested parties, in particular collectors and other postal services, of the list of postage stamps officially issued by its services since 2002, when Mali became a member of the WNS, the UPU's worldwide stamp numbering system:

- Fight against HIV/AIDS (two stamps; date of issue: 10 January 2002).
- 23th Africa Cup of Nations (Football) MALI 2002 (two stamps; date of issue: 19 January 2002).
- Peulh Woman (one stamp; date of issue: 7 March 2003).
- Balaphon Festival (one stamp; date of issue: 7 March 2003).
- Songhoï Braid (one stamp; date of issue: 7 March 2003).
- Cliffs of Bandiagara (one stamp; date of issue: 7 March 2003).
- Having Tea in the Desert (one stamp; date of issue: 18 August 2005).
- Djenne Fair (one stamp; date of issue: 18 August 2005).
- A Drop of Water for Africa (one stamp; date of issue: 18 August 2005).

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- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (three stamps; date of issue: 18 August 2005).
- 23rd Summit of the Heads of State from Africa and France (three stamps; date of issue: 18 August 2005).
- World HIV/AIDS Day (one stamp; date of issue: 1 December 2008).
- Breastfeeding Our Children (two stamps; date of issue: 20 July 2009).
- 50th Anniversary of the Independence of Mali, Prelude (eight stamps; date of issue: 27 January 2010).
- 50th Anniversary of the Independence of Mali, Commemoration (two stamps; date of issue: 27 January 2010).
- 50th Anniversary of Sino–Mali Cooperation (one stamp; date of issue: January 2010).
- Serval Stamp (five stamps; date of issue: 11 January 2014).

"Consequently, any other postage stamps issued in the name of the Republic of Mali during the above-mentioned period must be considered as illicit."

Yours faithfully,

Juliana Nel Director of Markets Development