

Dear Sir/Madam,

The designated operator of **LESOTHO**, Lesotho Postal Services, asks me to inform the designated operators of UPU member countries of the following:

"Lesotho has become a victim of the production and distribution of illegal stamps in its name, and it seeks the support and assistance of UPU member countries to combat this problem.

"Lesotho Postal Services takes this opportunity to confirm and underline that, in accordance with the national legislation of Lesotho and article 8 of the 2012 Universal Postal Convention, Lesotho Postal Services represents the sole official authority and only designated operator on the territory of Lesotho that is entitled to issue and circulate postage stamps in the name of Lesotho under the country's legislation.

"Lesotho Postal Services has recently discovered, thanks to the philatelic community, that a series of 30 sheets, involving 30 individual stamps, are being sold and distributed over the Internet as if they are stamps in the name of Lesotho. Lesotho Postal Services confirms that these are illegal issues and that they are not valid as evidence of the payment of postage, and it strongly denounces and condemns the designing, printing and selling of such illegal issues. This regrettable activity is causing moral and economic harm to our country. The unscrupulous individuals responsible for these acts are seeking to undermine our country's reputation and good name by circulating postage stamps which they claim have been issued by Lesotho. The annex contains a more detailed description of the illegal issues that, furthermore, have no link to Lesotho's culture and heritage.

"Lesotho Postal Services denounces these illegal issues in the strongest possible terms, and condemns the related reprehensible actions in accordance with article 11 of the 2012 Universal Postal Convention, as well as resolution C 26/2008 (Philatelic Code of Ethics for the use of UPU member countries) of the 24th UPU Congress.

"Consequently, Lesotho Postal Services is calling upon the cooperation, solidarity and support of all member countries of the Universal Postal Union and its bodies to prohibit the sale and circulation of the illegal stamps according to their own laws and regulations, as well as the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention, and to help Lesotho take all necessary and appropriate measures to bring the perpetrators of the illegal stamps to justice. The continued production and sale of illegal issues is a dangerous activity which is not only harming the philately and the reputation of the country concerned, but is detrimental to all countries and the wider postal sector."

Yours faithfully,

Murray Buchanan
Director of Economic and Regulatory Affairs

Annex 1

Illegal stamps in the name of Lesotho



Marie Curie, Famous People MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320534379531 end time May-24-10 122137 PDT) - **Starting Bid: US \$9.00** (Place Bid) - (EE Website 2)

Marie Curie, Famous People MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320459717051 end time Jun-05-10 124236 PDT) - **Price: US \$9.00 (Buy-It-Now) -7 avail / 7 sold** - (EE Website 2)



Marie Curie Famous People MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 9.00 (ca. £5.60) - 3 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231072074336 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Brigitte Bardot, Famous People MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220392838836 end time Jun-02-10 223757 PDT) - **Price: US \$4.95 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail / 2 sold** - (EE Website 2)



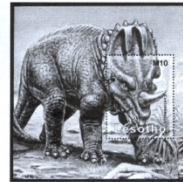
Brown Bear Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231335729792- Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Camel Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31)** - eBay Item Nr: 231347330524 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Chimpanzee Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31)** - eBay Item Nr: 371153199216- Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Dinosaur Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 371152444563 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Souvenir Sheets / Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 2)
Centrosaurus, Dinosaur, MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320456948769 end time May-31-10 025229 PDT) - **Price: US \$5.50 (Buy-It-Now) -5 avail** - (EE Website 2)



Beauceron Dog and Sheep MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320468488226 end time May-28-10 091906 PDT) - **Price: US \$5.50 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail / 1 sold** - (EE Website 2)



Boxer Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 390063766086 end time May-28-10 085231 PDT) - **Price: US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -5 avail** - (EE Website 2).



Saint Bernard Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 390136928697 end time May-28-10 090412 PDT) - **Price: US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -3 avail / 2 sold** - (EE Website 2).



Malinois Belgian Shepherd Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 390063761298 end time May-28-10 083953 PDT) - **Price: US \$4.95 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail / 1 sold** - (EE Website 2)
Malinois Shepherd Dogs MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.39) -2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 371144868194 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Souvenir Sheets - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Miniature Schnauzer Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320392791893 end time May-28-10 084025 PDT) - **Price: US \$5.95 (Buy-It-Now) -5 avail** - (EE Website 2)



Miniature Schnauzer Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 320392792533 end time May-28-10 084226 PDT) - **Price: US \$5.95 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail / 1 sold** - (EE Website 2)



Newfoundland Dog MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220389575314 end time May-28-10 074247 PDT) - **Price: US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -8 avail / 7 sold** - (EE Website 2)



West Highland White Terrier Dogs MNH S S stamp eBay - **Price: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31)** - eBay Item Nr: 231337832832 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)
West Highland White Terrier Dogs MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220389566494 end time May-28-10 072405 PDT) - **Price: US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail / 1 sold** - (EE Website 2)



Fox Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231347361707 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Block / Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Frog Common Toad Amphibians MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.32)** - eBay Item Nr: 371145566961 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Hedgehog Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca.£4.27) /1 avail /2 sold** - eBay Item Nr: 370900283424 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Koala Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231346513710 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



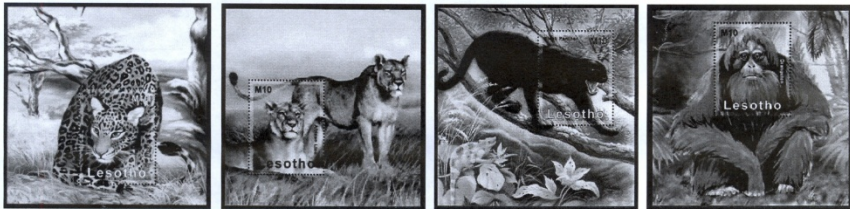
Insects, Scarabeus sacer, Beetle MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 390063608872 end time May-27-10 225112 PDT) - Price: **US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -5 avail** - (EE Website 2)

Insects, Rhinoceros Beetle, Butterfly MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220389424966 end time May-28-10 001042 PDT) - Price: **US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -5 avail/3 sold** - (EE Website 2)

Insects Flowers MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 371145639232 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Insect MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.39) /3 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231347330519 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Insects, Lucanus Cervus, Beetle MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220389425294 end time May-28-10 001217 PDT) - Price: **US \$6.95 (Buy-It-Now) -6 avail /2 sold** - (EE Website 2)



Leopard Wild Big Cats Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31)** - eBay Item Nr: 231347307379 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Souvenir Sheets / Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Lions Animals Wild Big Cats MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.32)** - eBay Item Nr: 371153219704 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Black Panther Animals Wild Big Cats MNH S S stamp eBay - **Sold For: US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.60)** - eBay Item Nr: 370708500372 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Orangutan Monkey Wild Animals MNH S S stamp ORAN04 eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231345162528 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Souvenir Sheets / Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)



Octopus Sea fauna MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31)** - eBay Item Nr: 231337051470 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Emperor Penguins, Birds MNH Stamp S-Sheet - eBay (item 220384695253 end time Jun-19-10 005107 PDT) - Price: **US \$5.95 (Buy-It-Now) -4 avail/1 sold** - (EE Website 2)

Green Turtle Reptiles MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.39) /3 avail** - eBay Item Nr: 231347360740 - Descr: Item specifics: Condition: Unused - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)

Zebra Wild Animals MNH S S stamp eBay - Price: **US\$ 7.00 (ca. £4.31) /2 avail** - eBay Item Number: 371136550965 - Descr: Item specifics: Seller notes: "Unused MINT"/ Type: Souvenir Sheets - Seller assumes all responsibility for this listing - (EE Website 1)