

Berne, 21 March 2016 International Bureau Circular Namibia – Illegal issues

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Dear Sir/Madam,

The designated operator of **NAMIBIA**, Namibia Post Ltd., asks me to inform the designated operators of UPU member countries of the following:

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

"Thanks to the philatelic community, Namibia Post Ltd. recently discovered that a series of eight minisheets on the theme of the 2018 World Cup in Russia is being sold and distributed over the Internet as stamps produced by Namibia Post Ltd. (see Annex 1).

"Namibia Post Ltd. confirms that these illegal issues are not valid as evidence of the payment of postage. The UPU strongly denounces and condemns the designing, printing and selling of such illegal stamp 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 Namibia.

"Consequently, Namibia Post Ltd. 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 in accordance with their own laws and regulations, as well as the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention, and to help Namibia to 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 harming not only 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 Regulation, Economics and Markets

Annex 1













