

Berne, 31 August 2020 International Bureau Circular Nigeria – Illegal philatelic issues

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Dear Sir/Madam.

The designated operator of **NIGERIA**, Nigerian Postal Service, wishes to inform the designated operators of all other UPU member countries of the following:

"Nigerian Postal Service has discovered that the following illegal philatelic issues are being sold online in various countries in the name of Nigeria:

- "Team F1 2013" series (57 miniature sheets of nine stamps);
- "Mushrooms" series (one miniature sheet of five stamps);
- "Pope John Paul II" series (one miniature sheet of five stamps);
- "Reformation 500th Anniversary" (one miniature sheet of four stamps);
- "Space" series (30 miniature sheets of one, two and four stamps);
- "Sports FIFA and Olympics" series (24 miniature sheets of one, two and four stamps).

"Images of all these illegal issues are is available on the UPU website at www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/Activities/Philately-IRCs/Philatelic-circulars.

"Nigerian Postal Service confirms that, in accordance with the national legislation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and article 6 of the Universal Postal Convention, Nigerian Postal Service is the sole official authority and only designated operator in the territory of Nigeria authorized to issue and circulate postage stamps in the name of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

"Nigerian Postal Service strongly denounces and condemns the designing, production, printing and selling of such illegal issues, and confirms that these illegal issues are not valid as evidence of payment of postage. Furthermore, such illegal issues should not be purchased for any other purpose, such as collecting, and should not in any way be associated with Nigeria. This regrettable activity is causing moral and economic harm to our country and is undermining our country's reputation and good name.

"Nigerian Postal Service is calling for the cooperation, solidarity and support of all UPU member countries and its bodies to prohibit the sale and circulation of these illegal issues on their territories in accordance with their own laws and regulations."

Yours faithfully,

Jean-Alexandre Ducrest Director of Logistics