



Secretariat

ST/IC/1995/66
11 October 1995

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: "50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS" STAMPS AND PRESTIGE BOOKLETS
AND THE 1995 ANNUAL COLLECTIONS FOLDERS

Commemorative stamps

1. The last set of United Nations stamps for 1995 will be issued on Tuesday, 24 October on the theme "50th Anniversary of the United Nations". The issue will consist of three different sheets of 12 stamps showing a montage of the peoples of the world. The face value of the United States-denominated sheet will be \$3.84 (illustrated on the back page), the Swiss franc sheet will be \$3.16 and the Austrian schilling sheet, \$3.75. (The Swiss and Austrian denominations are subject to fluctuation in exchange rates.) The stamps were designed by Ben Verkaaik (Netherlands) and they are his first stamps for the United Nations.

2. The full sheet of 12 stamps is the selling unit for this issue.

First day covers

3. Due to the mini-sheet format of the issue, first day covers for each United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) office will be available only as a set of two jumbo covers with the upper 6 stamps and centre strip affixed to one cover and the lower 6 stamps with attached selva affixed to the other.

Prestige booklets

4. In addition, on 24 October, UNPA will issue its first prestige booklets. The three booklets, one for each of the offices of UNPA, will each contain 12 stamps in United States (illustrated opposite), Swiss or Austrian denominations as appropriate. These stamps are based on the same designs as the full sheets of stamps. In addition to the stamps, these multi-page booklets include a beautifully illustrated history of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The booklets are priced at \$3.84, \$3.16 and \$3.75 respectively, subject to fluctuating exchange rates.

Annual collection folders

5. The New York, Geneva and Vienna annual collection folders of single mint stamps issued in 1995 will be released on 24 October 1995. Please note that the 1995 "Endangered Species" stamps are not included in these folders, but are contained in their own special album.

General information

6. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first day covers on the UNPA official first day jumbo cachets ONLY.

7. The new stamps, prestige booklets, annual collections and hand cancellations can be purchased by members of delegations and staff members from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on 24 October 1995 ONLY at the UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building. However, for the convenience of collectors who are not able to purchase their stamps at this location, a temporary UNPA sales counter will be established in the lobby of 304 East 45th Street from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 24 October, Wednesday, 25 October and also on Thursday, 26 October. There will be no outposted UNPA sales counter in the Secretariat Building on 24 October.

8. Staff members are encouraged to use United Nations stamps on their personal mail. By doing so, these miniature messengers of peace can educate unseen thousands of people to the activities and goals of the United Nations.