

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to International Bureau circular 127 dated 25 May 2009, **GEORGIA** wishes to remind UPU member countries of the following:

"Abkhazia and South Ossetia are regions situated within the internationally recognized borders of Georgia, whose territorial integrity is supported and fully recognized by the relevant United Nations resolutions [S/RES/1808 (2008)].

"The regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia have put into circulation illegal issues bearing the inscription "Republic of Abkhazia" in English, Russian and Abkhazian ("АԦԿԻԿԻ"), and "Republic of South Ossetia" in English and Russian. These illegal issues do not comply with the conditions for postage stamps set out in article 8 of the Universal Postal Convention, but are nevertheless sold as postage stamps on various websites.

"Georgia therefore officially requests that UPU member countries and their designated operators do not allow the dissemination of any information or articles regarding the above-mentioned illegal issues in stamp catalogues or the philatelic press, nor their placing on the market. Georgia also urges the designated operators of UPU member countries not to accept or process any correspondence bearing illegal issues issued by Abkhazia and South Ossetia, but to return any items bearing such illegal issues to their senders.

"Georgia trusts that the UPU, its member countries and their designated operators, the World Association for the Development of Philately and all other stakeholders will take all necessary steps to ensure that universally acknowledged international norms and principles are upheld."

Yours faithfully,

K.J.S. McKeown  
Director of Markets Development