



UNIVERSAL  
POSTAL UNION

Berne, 23 February 2004

International Bureau Circular

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Morocco – Illegal issues of postage stamps  
in the name of the Saharan Republic

Dear Sir/Madam

The postal administration of **MOROCCO** asks me to inform you of the following:

"Our administration continues to deplore the fact that illegal postage stamp issues inscribed "République sahraoui" (Saharan Republic) or "Sahara Occidental" (Western Sahara) are still circulating on the international philatelic market, and being sold through various Internet sites and philatelic publications.

"We wish to stress once again that this supposed republic does not exist, and that all these postage stamps are illegal. The illegal issues of which we are aware are summarized in the annex.

"These stamps have been issued in contravention of the Universal Postal Convention and the Letter Post Regulations and are prejudicial to the integrity and sovereignty of our country. Consequently, we regard these illegal issues as null and void and therefore worthless for purposes of postal prepayment.

"The postal administration of Morocco would be grateful for any information leading to the identification of those responsible for these illegal issues so that appropriate action may be taken.

"We take this opportunity to confirm that the official postage stamps of Morocco are to be found on our site [www.bam.net.ma](http://www.bam.net.ma). and that any information about them is available from our philatelic bureau at the following address:

Division de la Philatélie  
Direction Courrier et Messagerie  
Barid Al-Maghrib (BAM)  
Boulevard Moulay Ismaïl  
10000 RABAT  
MOROCCO

E-mail: [philately@bam.net.ma](mailto:philately@bam.net.ma)

Tel: (+212) 37 70 46 21 or (+212) 37 70 99 34

Fax: (+212) 37 73 11 78"

The list of illegal postage stamps appears in the annex.

Yours faithfully,

K J S McKEOWN  
Director of Markets

**Annex of illegal postage stamps***Fauna and flora:*

- One souvenir sheet (with a face value of 200 ptas) and six individual stamps (with face values of 28, 29, 40, 68, 105 and 136 ptas) depicting various breeds of dog.
- One series of seven individual postage stamps each representing a different breed of dog (face values of 29, 40, 40, 60, 68, 105 and 105 ptas).
- One miniature sheet depicting camels and one postage stamp with a face value of 105 ptas.
- One series of two individual postage stamps depicting a man on a horse (the 17 pta stamp has a stag in the background and the 46 pta stamp highlights a horse).
- One series of two individual postage stamps each representing a different species of bird (the 28 pta stamp depicts an eagle and the 180 pta stamp depicts long-beaked birds).
- One series of five postage stamps depicting various desert cacti.
- One series of fourteen definitive stamps with a face value of 10 ptas each representing local fauna and flora.

*Sports and leisure*

- One series of five postage stamps each depicting a different chess player with a chess piece and each with a different face value.
- One miniature sheet and a series of five postage stamps on the theme of the 1996 Olympics.
- Another series of five postage stamps depicting various athletes from the 1990 Olympics.
- One miniature sheet depicting a football world cup.
- One miniature sheet depicting scenes from Ancient Egypt.

*Prominent figures*

- Three souvenir sheets commemorating various aspects of the life of the singer Elvis Presley. Each sheet contains one postage stamp with a face value of 200 ptas.
- One miniature sheet of nine postage stamps commemorating various aspects of the life of the singer Elvis Presley. The face values are 20, 29, 40, 58, 105, 136, 148, 163 and 175 pesetas respectively.
- Three souvenir sheets commemorating various aspects of the life of the actress Marilyn Monroe. The face values of these sheets are not known.
- One miniature sheet of nine postage stamps commemorating various aspects of the life of the actress Marilyn Monroe. The face values are 20, 29, 40, 58, 105, 136, 148, 163 and 175 pesetas respectively.

*Vehicles*

- One souvenir sheet (with a face value of 200 ptas) and six individual stamps (with face values of 28, 29, 40, 68, 105 and 136 ptas) depicting various types of firefighting vehicles.
- One souvenir sheet (with a face value of 200 ptas) and six individual stamps (with face values of 28, 29, 40, 68, 105 and 136 ptas) depicting various types of old cars.
- One series of four postage stamps each depicting a different sailing boat and each with a value of 20 ptas.
- One series of five postage stamps each depicting a different aircraft with a different face value for each.
- One series of five postage stamps on the theme of Galileo and space.