



## Secretariat

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## INFORMATION CIRCULAR No. 6

**Subject: First Day of Issue – 4 February 2005**  
**“60th Anniversary of the United Nations” and**  
**“Vienna Definitive Stamp”**

**60th Anniversary of the United Nations**

1. To commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) is issuing on 4 February 2005 three stamps and three souvenir sheets illustrating the UN General Assembly at Headquarters. The stamps are hand-engraved by the world famous stamp designer, Czeslaw Slania of Sweden.



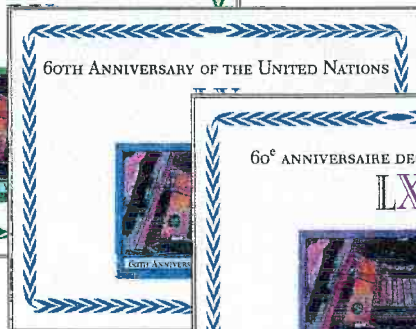
2. The United Nations was established on 24 October 1945 by 51 countries committed to preserving peace through international cooperation and collective security. Throughout its 60-year history, the United Nations has played an integral part in shaping global events through its humanitarian and peace-keeping activities.



3. In 1945, representatives of 50 countries met in San Francisco at the United Nations Conference on International Organization to draw up the United Nations Charter. Those delegates deliberated on the basis of proposals worked out by the representatives of China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States at Dumbarton Oaks, United States in August-October 1944. The Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 by the representatives of the 50 countries. Poland, which was not represented at the Conference, signed it later and became one of the original 51 Member States.



4. The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, when the Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and by a majority of other signatories. **United Nations Day** is celebrated on 24 October each year.



5. To date, 191 countries are members of the United Nations. When States become Members, they agree to accept the obligations of the UN Charter, an international treaty that sets out basic principles of international relations. According to the Charter, the UN has four purposes: to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations; to

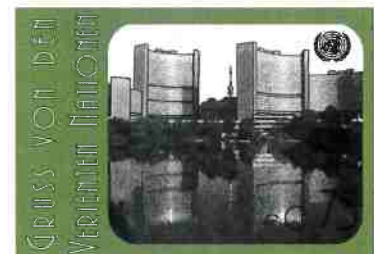
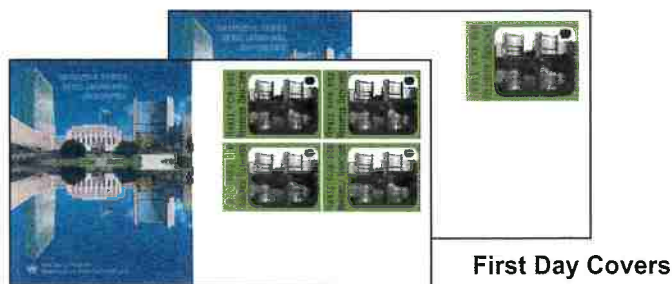
cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights; and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations.

6. The United Nations is not a world government and it does not make laws. It does, however, provide the means to help resolve international conflicts and formulate policies on matters affecting all of us. At the UN, all the Member States — large and small, rich and poor, with differing political views and social systems — have a voice and a vote in this process.
7. The United Nations has six main organs. Five of them — the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Secretariat — are based at UN Headquarters in New York. The sixth, the International Court of Justice, is located at The Hague in the Netherlands.



### Vienna Definitive Stamp

8. On 4 February 2005, UNPA will issue a new Vienna hologram definitive stamp in the denomination of € 0,75. The stamp depicts the Vienna International Centre. This is the second holographic stamp issued by UNPA. The first was a 70-cent definitive stamp of the United Nations Headquarters complex, issued in March 2003.



9. Staff members and mission personnel wishing to procure these stamps and first day covers can obtain them from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m. on 4 February 2005 at the UNPA sales counter at door 6 of the Palais des Nations.
10. 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.

(Signed) **Bertrand Juppín de Fondaumière**  
Director, Division of Administration