



Secretariat

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR No. 46

Subject: First Day of Issue – 20 October 2005
“Food for Life”

1. On 20 October 2005, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA), in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), will issue a set of six commemorative stamps on the theme “Food for Life”.
2. WFP is the United Nations front-line agency in the fight against global hunger. As the world’s largest humanitarian agency, WFP provides food aid to an average of 90 million people, including 56 million children in more than 80 countries. Its operations aim to save lives in refugee crises and other emergencies; improve nutrition and quality of life of the world’s most vulnerable people at critical times in their lives; enable development by helping people build assets that benefit them directly and promoting the self-reliance of poor people and communities.



3. Each year on 16 October, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) celebrates World Food Day in commemoration of its founding on that

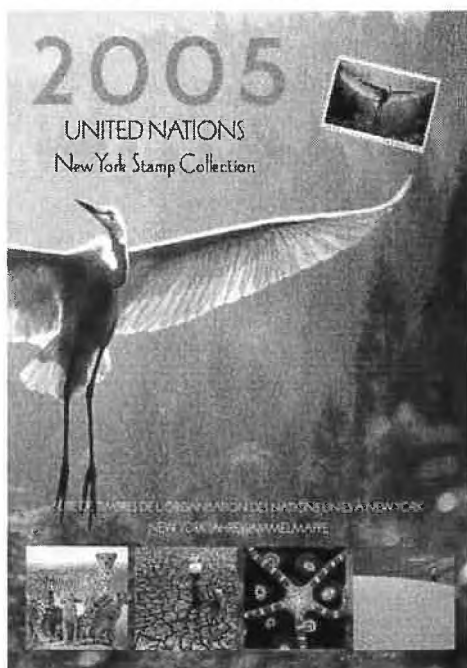
day in 1945 in Quebec City, Canada. The aim of World Food Day, proclaimed in 1979 by the Conference of FAO, is to heighten public awareness of the world food problem and



strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. In 1980, the General Assembly endorsed observance of the Day in consideration of the fact that "food is a requisite for human survival and well-being and a fundamental human necessity".



4. The New York, Geneva and Vienna Annual Collection folders of single mint stamps and souvenir sheets issued in 2005 will also be released on 20 October 2005. The albums are printed in full colour, and they provide background information on each issue in English, French and German. Profiles of each artist are also included. The mint stamps and souvenir sheets are not affixed inside the albums, although spaces and mounts are provided for this purpose. The Geneva and Vienna annual collection folders are also available with the stamps affixed and cancelled.



5. Permanent mission personnel and staff members wishing to procure these stamps, first day covers and annual folders can obtain them from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on 20 October 2005 at the UNPA sales counter at door 6 of the Palais des Nations.
6. Staff members are encouraged to use United Nations stamps on their personal mail. By doing so, these miniature messengers of peace can inform thousands of unseen people of the goals and activities of the United Nations.

(Signed) Hany **Abdel-Aziz**
Officer-in-Charge, Division of Administration