

150th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) was founded in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland, and is one of the oldest international organizations in the world. In 1948, it became a specialized agency of the United Nations in the field of traffic communications and transport, dedicated to providing technical support and establishing a platform for cooperation among postal organizations around the world.

Over the years, the UPU has expanded from 22 member countries to 192 member countries, making it the largest postal network in the world. The UPU has always adhered to its objectives: (1) to organize and improve international postal services, and to promote international cooperation and development in this field; (2) to link the world through postal services so as to promote international cooperation in the cultural, social and economic fields.

With the rapid advancement of technology, governments and postal operators are continually innovating and improving the postal service system to meet public needs. As the main platform for cooperation among postal services, the UPU provides a multilateral framework for ongoing initiatives to improve and optimise services, enabling member countries to respond to the rapidly changing postal market.

The 16th General Assembly of the UPU, held in 1969, designated October 9 as "World Post Day", with a view to enhancing public awareness of the postal industry, as well as recognizing postal organizations and postal workers around the world for their contribution and service to the community. Every year on October 9, postal administrations in member countries organize a variety of activities to celebrate World Post Day through various initiatives.

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the UPU, Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau issues a set of two commemorative stamps. The stamps are designed in the form of illustration, using the red and blue of the official logo of the 150th anniversary of the UPU, consisting of a grid of light and dark squares that symbolize the earth's longitudes and latitudes. The dove is the main motif of the stamp, representing a messenger of peace. The different colours of the postman's delivery bags carried by the doves represent the colours of different postal services around the world, reflecting the fact that since its establishment, the UPU has been fostering global connectivity and contributing to international cooperation and sustainable development.

Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau
Translation: NextVector Consultants Ltd.