The United Nations was established at the United Nations Conference on International Organisation which took place in San Francisco, USA, from 25 April to 26 June 1945. Since then, membership of the United Nations has risen from 51 to 179 states. Zimbabwe joined on 25 August, 1980.

The Charter provides a framework for international co-operation on an unprecedented scale. Its signatories are legally committed to the aims of eradicating war, promoting human rights, maintaining respect for justice and international law, promoting social progress and friendly relations among nations, and using the UN as a centre to harmonize their actions in order to attain these ends.

The six main organs of the UN are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

The head of the Secretariat is the Secretary-General, whose term of office is five years. The sixth occupant of the post, Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt, took office on 1 January 1992.

The organisation has played a pivotal role in world affairs over the last five decades. With the demise of the Cold War, the United Nations, like each of its member states, faces the challenge of coping with the rapid and momentous changes taking place.

35c: Health

The World Health Organisation (WHO) came into being in 1948 on 7 April, which has been adopted as World Health Day. Since 1977 its priority has been "Health for All by the Year 2000". To attain the aim of the best possible level of health for all people, WHO works with governments and populations on primary health care. WHO helps countries develop their health infrastructures, and promotes research related to all aspects of health. It is involved in the fight against childhood diseases, tropical diseases and AIDS.
$1.15: Environment

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the world's largest multilateral source of grant funding for development co-operation. It works with governments and NGO's on environmental aspects of development, providing finance and technical support in 11 African countries via the Africa 2000 project. Africa 2000 helps community-based NGO projects in their efforts to conserve scarce natural resources. UNDP also promotes networks for the exchange of useful information, and provides assistance for government environmental policy making.

$1.75: Food Distribution

The World Food Programme (WFP) is one of four Rome-based UN bodies responsible for food- and agriculture-related issues in developing countries. Its tasks cover development and emergency relief. In 1991, it handled a record 4.8 million tonnes of food aid. Various UN agencies including UNICEF, WFP and UNDP support drought relief plans in the southern African region. Between April 1992 and April 1993, 11.6 million tonnes of drought-related commodities were imported into southern Africa.

$2.30: EDUCATION

The United Nations' overall education programme is the responsibility of UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organisation), which was created in 1946. It aims to achieve basic education for all adapted to today's needs. It also facilitates training and encourages local building and equipping of schools and colleges. The UN is active in 70 countries, helping to improve basic education including literacy, numeracy and essential life skills, and end disparities in education between the sexes.
The Stamps

Catalogue listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SG</th>
<th>ZSC</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>914</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>35c</td>
<td>Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>915</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>$1.15</td>
<td>Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>916</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
<td>Food Distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>917</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Technical details

Stamp size: All values 35 x 30 mm

Sheet Size: 50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet

Artist: Jane Debney

Paper: ZSC paper type D – HS8, fluorescent front and back, with cream PVA gum.

Print colours: Black, magenta, cyan & yellow

Perforations: SG 14½ x 14, ZSC 14¼ x 14
Top margin: Perforated through.
Other margins: Imperforate

Printer: NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe

Printer’s Imprint: Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3, Imprint printed in black
**Cylinder numbers:** Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Colour register:** Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Sheet Value:** Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.

**Sheet Number:** Type SN 4a with ‘PTC’ prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down

**Print numbers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>$1.15</th>
<th>$2.30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35c</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.75</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Issue date:** 17th October 1995

**Withdrawal from sale:** 20th July 1999

**Demonetisation:**

**Listed varieties**

No listed varieties have been noted

**Unlisted Varieties**

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds. No significant varieties have been reported

**First Day Cover**

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.
Related Material

First Day Cover signed by artist, Jane Debney  
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)

Bibliography: