To all members of the PostEurop Stamps and Philately Working Group

Brussels, 3 March 2015

1. THE WINNER OF THE "THINK GREEN" COMPETITION

Dear Members,

As chair of the PostEurop Stamp & Philately Working Group, I have the pleasure of announcing the winner and the runner ups of our “Think Green” joint design competition for EUROPA 2016 issue.

The winning design; Cyprus Post designed by Ms Doxia Sergidou

Honorable Mentions:
- Second place: Slovenian Post
- Third place: Hungarian Post

In total there were 24 designs competing for the honour of having their image on the 2016 EUROPA stamps.

36 PostEurop Members gave their confidential votes. A total number of 216 votes were cast, of which 29 went to Cyprus, 26 to Slovenia and 20 to Hungary.

Here are some thoughts from the artist, Ms Doxia Sergidou, when designing the motif:
Think green! The initial idea was to design a stamp with two sides, the polluted one and the green one.

The left side of the stamp, the polluted side, is painted with grey and by that I want to show the tremendous disaster which is caused by the industries, automotive vehicles, power generation and inefficient waste. It also shows how the human activities are negatively influencing the environment.

The right side of the stamp, is the green side. On this side, I want to show how it may positively affect the environment by using renewable energy resources, when we act in a more environmental way and in general when we are environmentally aware. This will not only have a positive effect in our generation, but it will also help the future ones to co-exist in harmony.

The main purpose was to show that it is in our hand to create a greener planet. Thus, I have placed a hand on the top side of the stamp which basically is replacing the grey colour (the environmental pollution) to the green colour (environmental living, hope, etc).

This hand should be my hand, your hand and the hand of each one of us. It can be an inspiration to all of us for a better world.

The winning image will be sent to all the members separately, so you can start your preparations for the printing.

2. 2015 EUROPA Stamp Competition “Old Toys”

As you are probably aware, we launched the 2015 EUROPA Stamp competition in the middle of January this year. To ensure the timely distribution of information to all postal operators and the public, I hereby wish to remind you to send the required information and material (including 2 stamps for the jury competition) no later than 31 March 2015 to António Manuel Amaral (antonio.amaral@posteurop.org) in order to give us the time to process the information and prepare the competition before launching our campaign in May.

Yours sincerely,

Anita Häggblom
Chair of PostEurop’s Stamps and Philately WG