British Africa



Periods

1879 - 1898: UPU "suggested colors" of 5 centimes (green), 10 centimes (red) and 25 centimes (blue) equivalent denominations were only haphazardly, or accidently, used.

1899 - 1907: The UPU, "As far as possible" color standard for printing stamps in convention color was rarely implemented in British Africa. The printers, De La Rue Company, was unable to secure a sufficiently wide range of doubly fugitive inks. As a provisional solution, the British Colonial authorities saw fit to adopt it in part only. The name and value of the stamp would be of the prescribed hue but the greater part of the design would be printed in a either lilac or green fugitive ink.

1879 - Advocated color-coding of stamp color for stamps paying foreign rates between members of the Universal Postal Union.

1899 (Jan 1) - Recommended that postage stamps representing the typical rates of the Union (5, 10 and 25 centimes), or their equivalent in the money of each country, are to be manufactured as far as possible in standard colors (green, red and blue respectively). Also, denominations of such stamps must be expressed in Arabic numerals.

1907 (Oct 1) - Mandated color-coding for the stamps equivalent to 5, 10 and 25 centimes, in use by Postal Union countries.

British Africa Gambia



Convention Colors (1886)



halfpenny



one penny



21/2d

Convention Colors (1898)



¹∕₂**d**



1d



21∕₂d

Convention Colors (1902)



Gambia joined the UPU on 1 January 1879.

British Africa Gold Coast



Convention Colors / Bicolor Provisional (1884, 1884, 1891)



halfpenny



one penny



21/2d

Bicolor Provisionals (1898)



1/2d



1d



21/2d

Bicolor Provisionals (1902)



Convention Colors (1907)



Gold Coast joined the UPU on 1 January 1879. Their stamps were in compliance with the U.P.U. color convention from May 1907.

British Africa Lagos



Convention Colors (1886, 1882, 1891)



halfpenny



one penny



21/2d

Bicolor Provisionals (1904)



Lagos joined the UPU on 1 January 1879. In 1906 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were united to form the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

British Africa Mauritius



Convention Colors (1885, 1885, 1894)



Currency Change, Colored Paper Provisionals (1895)



Bicolor Provisionals (1904, 1904, 1906)



Convention Colors (1910)



Mauritius and Dependencies (Zanzibar and the Seychelles) were admitted to the UPU on 1 April 1877.

British Africa Northern Nigeria



Bicolor Provisionals (1900)



1/2d



1 d



21⁄2d

Bicolor Provisionals (1902)



¹⁄₂d



1 d



2¹⁄₂d

Convention Colors (1910)



Northern Nigeria effectively became a member of the UPU when on 1 January 1900 it became a British Protectorate.

British Africa Seychelles



Bicolor Provisionals (1890)



Currency Change Surcharge, Convention Colors (1893, 1900, 1900)



3c

15c

Bicolor Provisionals (1903)



Convention Colors (1906)



Mauritius and Dependencies (Zanzibar and the Seychelles) were admitted to the UPU on 1 April 1877.

British Africa Sierra Leone



Convention Colors (1884, 1884, 1891)



Bicolor Provisionals (1896, 1896, 1897)



Bicolor Provisionals (1903)



21/2d

Convention Colors (1907)



Sierra Leone joined the UPU on 1 January 1879.

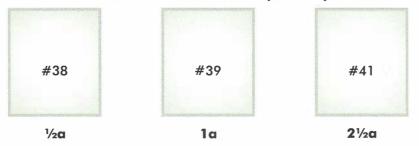
British Africa Zanzibar



Convention Colors (1896)



Convention Colors (1896)



Convention Colors (1899, 1901, 1899)



1/2**a**

2½a

Convention Colors (1904)



Mauritius and Dependencies (Zanzibar and the Seychelles) were admitted to the UPU on 1 April 1877.