



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2006/018

Geneva, 9 March 2006

CONCERNING:

### CITES Strategic Plan Working Group

1. The Standing Committee, at its 53rd meeting (Geneva, June – July 2005), agreed to the terms of reference of the Strategic Plan Working Group, as follows:
  - a) *Conduct a review to identify outcomes from the work of the Standing Committee in relation to each objective in the current Strategic Vision and Action Plan;*
  - b) *Identify outcomes from the work of the Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees, and Parties for each objective in the current Strategic Vision and Action Plan by inviting review from these bodies and from NGOs;*
  - c) *Analyse the above reviews and include in that analysis an assessment of whether objectives have been achieved and whether Convention resources had been optimally applied;*
  - d) *On the basis of the above analysis, identify and clearly define ongoing objectives and possible new objectives for inclusion in the new Strategic Vision and Action Plan, taking into account any recommendations from the Review of Scientific Committees;*
  - e) *Develop indicators for successful fulfilment and an indication of the priority of each objective, for inclusion within the new Strategic Vision and Action Plan;*
  - f) *Reflect views and opinions of Convention Parties in its work of drafting the new Strategic Vision in order to guarantee fairness and transparency;*
  - g) *Consider the conclusions of document CoP13 Doc. 14 and other alternative possibilities for financing, among other things, the Convention and/or the conservation of and sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora; and*
  - h) *Further consider all recommendations of the Vilm report (CoP13 Doc. 12.1.1 Annex 2) to identify those elements of most significance, for their inclusion in the new Strategic Vision and Action Plan through 2013, in order to contribute to the achievement of the WSSD target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010, and take into account the relevant Decisions and Resolutions adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on improved cooperation and synergy between CITES and CBD.*

2. The Secretariat is compiling the reviews referred to in paragraph b) of these terms of reference so that all completed reviews can be made available to the Working Group when it first meets in the week of 24 April 2006 in Ottawa, Canada. These reviews will help the Working Group to identify outcomes and deficiencies and to determine whether the objectives have been achieved and whether the Convention's resources have been optimally applied [cf. paragraph c) of the terms of reference].
3. Consistent with paragraph b) of the terms of reference, the Secretariat invites Parties to provide their review of outcomes relating to each objective of the current Strategic Vision and to submit these reviews to the Secretariat as soon as possible.
4. It would be helpful if, in their reviews, Parties included an assessment of their actions and effectiveness, identified which objectives of the Strategic Vision and assigned Action Points need to continue, and suggested, where appropriate, new Objectives and Action Points to take into account paragraph h) of the terms of reference, among others.
5. Non-governmental organizations are also invited to provide their own reviews of the achievement of the objectives of the Strategic Vision.