



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2011/016

Geneva, 10 February 2011

CONCERNING:

Access to CITES texts in different languages

1. The three working languages of CITES are English, French and Spanish, and almost all CITES documents are available in these languages on the CITES website. For many Parties, however, none of these languages is a national language. The Secretariat is aware that, consequently, several Parties translate Resolutions, Decisions and other texts into their own language to facilitate implementation of the Convention at the national level.
2. To facilitate access to these resources, the Secretariat proposes to link from the CITES website to translations into any language of the Resolutions, Decisions, Appendices and text of the Convention that Parties have produced and are willing to share.
3. The following should be borne in mind:
 - a) Authentic versions of the text of the Convention in [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#) already exist, as stated in [Article XXV of the Convention](#);
 - b) Parties offering translations of the texts mentioned in paragraph 2 above should ensure that they are translations of the texts currently in effect; and
 - c) These translations will have no CITES official status and the links will be provided only to facilitate the implementation of the Convention. Linguistic questions on those translations should be directed to the Party concerned. If substantive questions arise, the official versions in English, French or Spanish will have to be referred to.
4. Parties that are willing to share their own translations of the CITES Resolutions, Decisions, Appendices or text of the Convention are invited to communicate the corresponding URLs to the Secretariat by sending them to the Information Network Officer at yuan.liu@cites.org.