



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2012/034

Geneva, 2 April 2012

CONCERNING:

### Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory

1. The Secretariat reminds Parties of the considerable time, money and effort that have been devoted to the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) and encourages them to submit reports on all seizures of ivory and other elephant products.
2. An electronic version of the ETIS *Ivory and elephant product seizure data collection form* and *Explanatory notes* to report seizures of ivory and other elephant products are attached.
3. Reports may be submitted for inclusion in ETIS in printed or electronic form to the CITES Secretariat, or directly to TRAFFIC. To ensure that data from such reports can be included in the analysis of ETIS data for the 62nd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (23-27 July 2012) and the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (3-15 March 2013), Parties should ensure that their submissions reach TRAFFIC by 18 April 2012.

4. Reports being submitted directly to TRAFFIC should be sent to:

TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa  
c/o WWF Southern Africa Regional Programme Office  
P.O. Box CY 1409  
Causeway  
HARARE  
Zimbabwe

Tel: +263 (4) 25 25 32  
Email: [etis@traffic.org](mailto:etis@traffic.org)

5. Parties are invited to use the *Ivory and elephant product seizure data collection form* (see Annex 1) to submit their information. Alternatively, TRAFFIC will accept electronic or printed spreadsheets of elephant product seizure information as long as they contain the minimum set of data. With reference to the data collection form, the minimum information required to enable entry of a seizure case into ETIS is:
  - Question 1: source of data;
  - Question 2: date of seizure AND the agency or authority responsible for the seizure;
  - Question 4: location of the seizure; and
  - Question 9: number and/or volume of ivory seized by type (i.e. raw, semi-worked or worked ivory); or
  - Question 10: number and/or volume of non-ivory elephant product seized.
6. Cases that are reported without the above information cannot be entered into ETIS, and TRAFFIC will have to seek further details from the appropriate authorities.

7. Parties are also encouraged to include other important information, if known, particularly (Question 5) country of origin, (Question 6) country of export/re-export and (Question 7) country of destination/import for the elephant products seized, as this information serves to strengthen any subsequent analysis of the ETIS data.
8. Parties are reminded that ETIS includes records of elephant product seizures that have occurred since 1989. Thus, Parties are encouraged to review and provide information on seizures that have occurred in the past but that have not been reported to ETIS yet.
9. Parties are advised that they should also communicate the absence of ivory or other elephant product seizures within the course of a year. Indeed, a report that no seizures have been made is far more useful than not communicating any information at all.
10. In reporting ivory seizures, Parties are asked to pay particular attention to the need to identify the type of ivory involved. ETIS recognizes three types of ivory:
  - 'raw ivory',
  - 'semi-worked ivory' and
  - 'worked ivory'.

Definitions of these ivory types are found in the *Explanatory notes* (see Annex 2). Failure to indicate the precise type of ivory seized is the most common problem preventing data entry of ivory seizure cases, and clarifying this issue with Management Authorities usually takes considerable time.

11. This Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2010/041 of 13 December 2010.