



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2013/009

Geneva, 2 March 2013

CONCERNING:

Version 2 of the CITES e-permitting toolkit

1. In Decision 15.56 on *Electronic permitting*, the Conference of the Parties directs the Secretariat, *inter alia*, to:
 - a) *update the CITES electronic toolkit according to new electronic permitting standards and norms;*[and]
 - b) *work with relevant international organizations and initiatives related to electronic permitting systems to raise awareness of CITES business procedures and permitting requirements.*
2. In support of the above, and since the publication of Version 1 of the *CITES electronic permitting toolkit* in January 2010, the CITES Secretariat and the World Customs Organization (WCO) have reached agreement on the inclusion of standards related to the development of CITES e-permitting systems in Version 3.3 of the WCO Data Model.
3. Version 3.3 of the WCO Data Model now includes support for CITES e-permits in a Single Window environment. To accompany this new version, WCO has also updated the UN/EDIFACT (United Nations rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport) UNSM (United Nations Standard Message) to cover Single Window government agencies' requirements which include also the requirements for UN/EDIFACT e-permitting.
4. A new version of the *CITES electronic permitting toolkit* has been developed to reflect these developments, While the content of the first part of the updated Toolkit has not been changed significantly, its technical annex (Section 4) has been expanded as follows:
 - a) Two new sections have been added to the technical annexes to cover 1) the CITES e-permitting subset of the WCO Data Model; and 2) the e-permitting subset of the GOVCBR (Government Cross Border Regulatory) UN/EDIFACT message;
 - b) In order to develop the CITES e-permitting subset of the WCO Data Model, a very small number of data model structural adjustments were necessary to the V1.0 Core Components e-permitting data model to benefit implementers who may need to deploy the new and previous versions of the toolkit. The updated version of the toolkit, which is now based on the D12B version of the UN/CEFACT (United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) Core Component Library, is provided in the second section of the Technical Annex. The semantic content has not been changed.
 - c) In addition to the aligned Core Component and WCO Data Model subsets, Version 2 of the toolkit includes a mapping between the two;
 - d) A mapping between the new WCO Data Model subset and the GOVCBR UN/EDIFACT subset is also provided; and
 - e) Schemas and examples are provided for both data model subsets.

5. Version 2 of the CITES e-permitting toolkit is available on the CITES website at: <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/e/e-permitting-toolkit.php>
6. The updating and revision of the CITES e-permitting toolkit was made possible by the financial support of the European Union.
7. Questions related to the CITES e-permitting toolkit, v. 2, may be sent to Mr Marcos Regis Silva (marcos.regis.silva@cites.org) at the CITES Secretariat.