



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2014/007

Geneva, 24 January 2014

CONCERNING:

Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*)

1. At its 16th meeting (Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.71-16.75 on *Illegal trade in cheetahs (Acinonyx jubatus)* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

- 16.71 *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, contract independent consultants to undertake a study of the legal and illegal trade in wild cheetahs, and to assess the impact of this trade on the species conservation in the wild. The study should aim to determine the source of cheetahs in illegal trade, and the transit routes of illegally trafficked cheetahs, and should document the measures taken by Parties to deal with or dispose of confiscated live specimens. All range States must be fully consulted as stakeholders. The Secretariat shall make the results of the study available to the Animals and Standing Committees for their consideration.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 16.72 *The Animals Committee should review the study undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.71 and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 16.73 *The Standing Committee should consider the recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 16.72, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to the Parties or for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to Parties and donors

- 16.74 *All relevant Parties are urged to assist those commissioned to undertake the above-mentioned study in any way possible, including through the provision of necessary information about legal and illegal trade in wild cheetah specimens.*
 - 16.75 *Parties and donors are encouraged to provide funding to the Secretariat to finance the study on cheetah trade.*
2. In accordance with Decision 16.71, the CITES Secretariat has contracted a consultant to undertake a study of the illegal and legal trade in cheetahs, and an assessment of the impact of this trade on the species in the wild. The resulting study is expected to be submitted by the Secretariat to the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting (28 April – 3 May 2014, Veracruz) for its review and the formulation of recommendations.

3. In accordance with Decision 16.74, Parties with relevant information are hereby requested to send it to the CITES Secretariat **by 7 February 2014** at the latest so that it can be taken into consideration by the consultant. Of particular interest would be information from cheetah range States on the impacts of legal and illegal trade on wild populations, and from all Parties about legal and illegal trade in wild cheetah specimens, including recent confiscations and seizures. The Secretariat will not pass to the consultant any sensitive law-enforcement information.