



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2014/060

Geneva, 10 December 2014

CONCERNING:

### Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*)

1. At its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee established an intersessional working group on cheetahs, and endorsed the mandate of the working group contained in Annex 1 to the present Notification.
2. The working group on cheetahs has worked with the Secretariat to prepare a questionnaire to assist Parties in compiling information on the status of the implementation and enforcement of CITES provisions regarding the trade in cheetahs, and the challenges experienced. The questionnaire is contained in Annex 2 to the present Notification.
3. The Secretariat requests that, in compiling their reports, Parties follow the format of this questionnaire and provide detailed information where requested.
4. Management Authorities that are not in a position to provide all the information requested in the questionnaire independently are encouraged to consult relevant national authorities to obtain the required information. Parties are further encouraged to engage with national and international organizations, if necessary, to ensure that all relevant information is compiled.
5. Parties are requested to submit their reports to the Secretariat by 15 March 2015. This is a change to the original deadline, and has been agreed by the Standing Committee.

ILLEGAL TRADE IN CHEETAHS (*Acinonyx jubatus*)**Terms of Reference of the Intersessional Working Group on Illegal Trade in Cheetahs (IWG)****Chair:**

Kuwait

**Working Group Members:**

Bahrain, Botswana, Kenya, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe, Chair of the Animals Committee, Born Free Foundation, Elephant Action League, International Fund for Animal Welfare, IUCN, Panthera, Species Survival Network and Wildlife Conservation Society, WWF and Zoological Society of London.

**Meetings and mode of operation of the Working Group:**

The members of Working Group shall communicate by electronic means between meetings of the Standing Committee.

**Responsibilities of the Working Group:**

1. Consider the results of the study presented in Annexes 1 and 2 of document SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2) undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.71;
2. Consider the relevant decisions of the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, July 2014) and the recommendations of the Animals Committee presented in Annex 3 of document SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2), and made in accordance with Decision 16.72
3. Develop recommendations to address the illegal trade in cheetahs and report at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee;
4. Work with the Secretariat to develop a questionnaire for all cheetah range, transit and consumer States to document the status of the implementation and enforcement of CITES provisions relevant to the trade in cheetahs, and the challenges experienced by these States. A draft of the questionnaire will be prepared by 15 August 2014 and finalized by the working group by 1 September 2014. The Secretariat should contact relevant Parties, inviting them to complete the questionnaire and any other information, and return it by 15 March 2015\*;
5. Convene a workshop on illegal take of and trade in cheetahs, taking into the account the information gathered through the questionnaire, subject to the availability of funding; and
6. Coordinate with the Secretariat the organization of a workshop with the terms of reference specified in paragraph 3 of Annex 3 to document SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2), which should be held before July 2015\*, subject to the availability of funding.

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\* This is a revised deadline, agreed by the Standing Committee after its 65th meeting.