



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2015/002

Geneva, 16 January 2015

CONCERNING:

Information on incidents of poaching and illegal trade in Asian big cat species

1. At its 16th meeting (Bangkok, March 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.68 to 16.70 on *Asian big cats* (*Felidae spp.*). These Decisions include the following paragraphs:

16.68 *All Parties, particularly Appendix-I Asian big cat range States, are encouraged to:*

...

- b) provide information on incidents of poaching of and illegal trade in all Asian big cat species, including their parts and derivatives, which will enable the compilation of a report for the law enforcement community, in compliance with Decision 16.70, paragraph d).*

16.70 *The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funds, in cooperation with partner organizations in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and, as appropriate, other experts and organizations:*

...

- d) gather information on incidents of poaching of and illegal trade in all Asian big cats since the beginning of 2010, undertake an analysis of the information, and prepare a report for the law enforcement community to be circulated in a restricted fashion to relevant enforcement agencies and range States.*

2. The Secretariat invites all Parties to provide the information requested in Decision 16.68 paragraph b). In compiling this information Parties may use INTERPOL's Ecomessage form which can be accessed on the INTERPOL website at: <http://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/Ecomessage>. Parties are requested to complete a separate Ecomessage form for each incident of poaching of, or illegal trade in, Asian big cats that has occurred within their territory, and to provide detailed information. Alternatively the required information can be submitted in Excel spreadsheet format, using the Excel spreadsheet contained in the Annex to the present Notification.
3. Parties are reminded of the contents of Notification to the Parties No. 2009/028 on *Ecomessage*, and that the INTERPOL Ecomessage form and instructions are also available as Annex 1 to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16) on *Compliance and enforcement*.
4. Management Authorities are requested to consult all national authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement as required to facilitate the submission of the required information.
5. The completed Ecomessage forms or Excel spreadsheets must be submitted through the relevant INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) of each Party. The completed Ecomessage forms or Excel spreadsheets can be submitted to their NCB either by the CITES Management Authority or by the authority responsible for wildlife law enforcement. Information on NCBs can be found on the INTERPOL website at: <http://www.interpol.int/Member-countries/World>.

6. The submitting authority should request the NCB to forward the Ecomessage forms or Excel spreadsheets to the INTERPOL General Secretariat (IPSG) Environmental Security Sub-Directorate in Lyon, France. Should any national authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement experience difficulties in establishing contact with their NCB, the INTERPOL Environmental Security Sub-Directorate in Lyon, France, can be contacted for assistance at: environmentalcrime@interpol.int, or telephone: +33 43747 5229.
7. The information submitted will be analysed by INTERPOL and shared with relevant law enforcement agencies as appropriate for further enforcement actions. Parties are requested to submit the information requested in Decision 16.68 paragraph b), to INTERPOL by 28 February 2015.