NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2015/014   Geneva, 19 March 2015

CONCERNING:

NIGERIA

Recommendation to suspend trade

1. At its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee directed eight Parties of 'secondary concern' and three Parties of 'importance to watch' in the poaching of elephants and illegal trade in ivory to develop a national ivory action plan (NIAP) and submit it to the Secretariat by 31 October 2014.

2. The Secretariat informed the Standing Committee of Parties that did not submit an adequate NIAP by this date so that the Committee could consider taking appropriate intersessional decisions, including compliance measures as necessary. The Secretariat also informed the Committee of the efforts taken by the Secretariat, including the support made available through the Secretariat's consultants located in Africa and Asia, to encourage the completion of NIAPs.

3. On 2 January 2015 the Standing Committee adopted intersessional recommendations related to Parties of 'secondary concern' and 'importance to watch' yet to submit an adequate NIAP.

4. In accordance with these intersessional recommendations the Secretariat, on behalf of the Standing Committee, issued a reminder letter to Nigeria on 13 January 2015 requesting that the Party submit a NIAP within 30 days. A subsequent warning letter was issued on 12 February 2015 warning Nigeria to submit an adequate NIAP to the Secretariat by 14 March 2015.

5. As the NIAP of Nigeria has not yet been submitted, the Secretariat hereby informs Parties that, in accordance with the intersessional recommendations adopted on 2 January 2015, the Standing Committee recommends that all Parties suspend commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with Nigeria until further notice.

6. Parties are reminded that the complete list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade is available on the CITES website under Documents / Trade suspensions.