

Best practices and model measures to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet

Version: August 2019

Information provided by Parties

Information provided by Parties in response to Notification [No. 2017/036](#) highlight a diverse range of measures in place and activities undertaken, and indicate that some Parties have already made commendable progress to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet. Parties that responded include Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Based on the information received, the following best practices and model measures are outlined:

- Development or strengthening of relevant national legislation and regulations related to virtual transactions, including total prohibition in some items;
- Use or development of web-trolling software applications to better self-police;
- Identification and removal of postings offering illegal wildlife products for sale;
- Support efforts to engage online platforms and online technology companies and educate online consumers;
- Encourage online platforms to publicly denounce illegal wildlife trade over the Internet and to support efforts to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet;
- Use information gathered through monitoring of online platforms in support of ongoing activities, investigations or operations and conduct investigations targeting illegal wildlife trade linked to the Internet;
- Utilisation of a form to capture information known by the specimen owner, including the specimen provenance (i.e. when, where and how the specimen came to be in the owner's possession and any knowledge about how and when the specimen entered the country);
- Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between Government and online sales platforms to facilitate information sharing between the signatories on potential cases of illegal wildlife trade;
- Online sales platforms proactively banning or restricting sale of CITES listed species that are commonly traded illegally through such platforms; and
- Online sales platforms providing a 'Law Enforcement Portal' to facilitate cooperation and requests from law enforcement agencies on specific cases detected.

Information provided by ICCWC Partners

Information provided by [International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime \(ICCWC\)](#) partners in response to the request by the Secretariat to provide information on best practices and model measures to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet is summarized below:

- INTERPOL *Cyber Wildlife Crime Investigations course, training and mentorships programmes* in Africa and Asia. For additional information and requests for support, contact INTERPOL at environmentalcrime@interpol.int;
- INTERPOL is working with countries that have cyber forensics laboratories to develop a set of training modules focused on investigating wildlife cybercrime. For additional information refer to paragraph 16 of [SC70 Doc 30.3.2](#);
- [UNODC](#) project on *Disrupting Environmental Crime Markets* focuses on illegal trade on the Internet, illicit financial flows and threat finance with two main components. For additional information refer to paragraph 16 of [SC70 Doc 30.3.2](#);
- UNODC and INTERPOL have experts working to support efforts of Parties in Africa and Asia with the provision of training and targeted support by putting in place in-country experts working specifically to support the efforts of Parties to address wildlife crime linked to the Internet. For additional information refer to paragraphs 16 and 17 of [SC70 Doc 30.3.2](#); and
- The World Customs Organization (WCO) [Working Group on E-Commerce \(WGEC\)](#) has a Safety and Security stream which explores the topic of illicit trade over the Internet in a cross-cutting manner covering illicit trade in general. Wildlife crime is one of the risks being considered.