

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventy-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 6–10 November 2023

Compliance

National reports

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Compliance with annual report submission requirements

2. In Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19) on *National reports*, paragraphs 1, 14 and 15, the Conference of the Parties:

1. *URGES all Parties to submit their annual reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), by 31 October following the year for which they are due and in accordance with the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports distributed by the Secretariat, as approved by the Standing Committee or amended by the Secretariat to include new terms adopted by the Conference of the Parties;*
14. *INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to determine, on the basis of reports presented by the Secretariat, which Parties have failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution;*

and

15. *RECOMMENDS that Parties not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any Party that the Standing Committee has determined has failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution.*
3. At its 74th meeting (SC74; Lyon, March 2022), the Standing Committee determined that Albania, Burundi, Chad, Dominica, Iran, Libya, Mongolia, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe and the Syrian Arab Republic had failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification, and agreed that if they did not provide their missing reports within 60 days of the SC74 meeting, the Secretariat would issue a Notification recommending that Parties not authorize any trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until the missing reports were provided.¹
 4. The Secretariat sent reminders to the Parties mentioned in paragraph 3. As a result, the missing reports from Albania, Burundi, Dominica, Iran, Mongolia, Paraguay, Saint Lucia and the Syrian Arab Republic were received within the deadline of 60 days.

¹ See agenda item 27 of the SC74 Summary Record

5. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2022/032, 2022/033 and 2022/034 on 13 May 2022, informing Parties that, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19), the Standing Committee recommended that they not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with Chad, Libya and Sao Tome and Principe until further notice. On 3 June 2022, following receipt of Chad's missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2022/044 withdrawing the recommended trade suspension concerning Chad with immediate effect. On 24 August 2023, following receipt of Libya's missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2023/106 withdrawing the recommended trade suspension concerning Libya, with immediate effect.
6. At the time of writing this report, Afghanistan (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2013/018](#) of 17 May 2013), Djibouti (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2018/015](#) of 30 January 2018), Grenada (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2016/022](#) of 16 March 2016) and Sao Tome and Principe (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2022/034](#) of 13/05/2022) remain subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for the non-submission of annual reports.
7. According to paragraph 1 of Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19) on *National reports* mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the deadline for annual reports is 31 October each year for trade in the previous calendar year (e.g. 31 October 2023 for the 2022 CITES annual report). Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19), the Secretariat would like to inform the Standing Committee that its records show that the following Parties have failed to submit annual reports for three consecutive years without having provided adequate justification: Comoros, Eritrea, Nigeria and Somalia.
8. As of 7 September 2023, the Secretariat's table of annual report submissions also shows that the following Parties have not yet submitted their annual reports for the past two years (2020 and 2021): Angola, Antigua, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, the Gambia, Georgia, Guinea, Maldives, Myanmar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands and Togo. If the above-mentioned Parties fail to submit their 2022 CITES annual report, due on 31 October 2023 without adequate justification, they could also be subject to a Standing Committee recommendation to suspend trade. The Secretariat will provide an oral update on the submission of these reports at the meeting.

Recommendations

9. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19), and on the basis of the present report and any updated information received by the beginning of the meeting, instruct the Secretariat to determine whether Parties mentioned in paragraph 7 and 8 have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification. If so determined, the Secretariat will issue a Notification (60 days after the closure of this 77th meeting of the Standing Committee) recommending that Parties not authorize any commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until they have provided the missing reports.