COVID-19 Preventative Measures

1. This guidance document has been prepared by the Government of Panama and the CITES Secretariat.

2. General information on recommendations to minimize the health risks related to the COVID-19 pandemic during the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19) to CITES in Panama City, Panama are provided in this document. The requirements will be applicable in the meeting venue (Panama Convention Center) and build on guidance from previous United Nations meetings organized by the Secretariat and is informed by the host country’s requirements.

COVID-19 entry requirements

3. Panama does not have any COVID-19 entry requirements in place. All restrictions were lifted as from 14 September 2022.

Guidance to minimize health risks in the meeting venue

4. Considering that COVID-19 transmission is still occurring and that Panama has lifted all COVID-19 related restrictions, and our duty of care, all participants are requested to strictly adhere to the following guidance made to minimize health risks in the meeting venue:

   – Social distancing should be observed by participants.

   – Participants with underlying conditions and those who are not vaccinated are encouraged to wear well-fitting face masks that fully covers your mouth and nose in meeting areas, especially where social distancing is not feasible.

   – Unnecessary movement between desks and designated chairs during the meeting should be avoided.

   – Hydroalcoholic gel, which will be available throughout the premises, should be used regularly.

   – Any participant or organizer developing COVID-19 symptoms of any kind must immediately alert the Medical Service (Medical Services: +507 6618 4122; Emergency services: +507 6802 3636) and should not attend any session, until they present a recent negative test result to the Medical Services.

   – The Medical Service will provide further advice relating to isolation measures and testing facilities.

   – Any further rules relating to COVID-19 issued at any time by the host country Panama must be observed.