



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

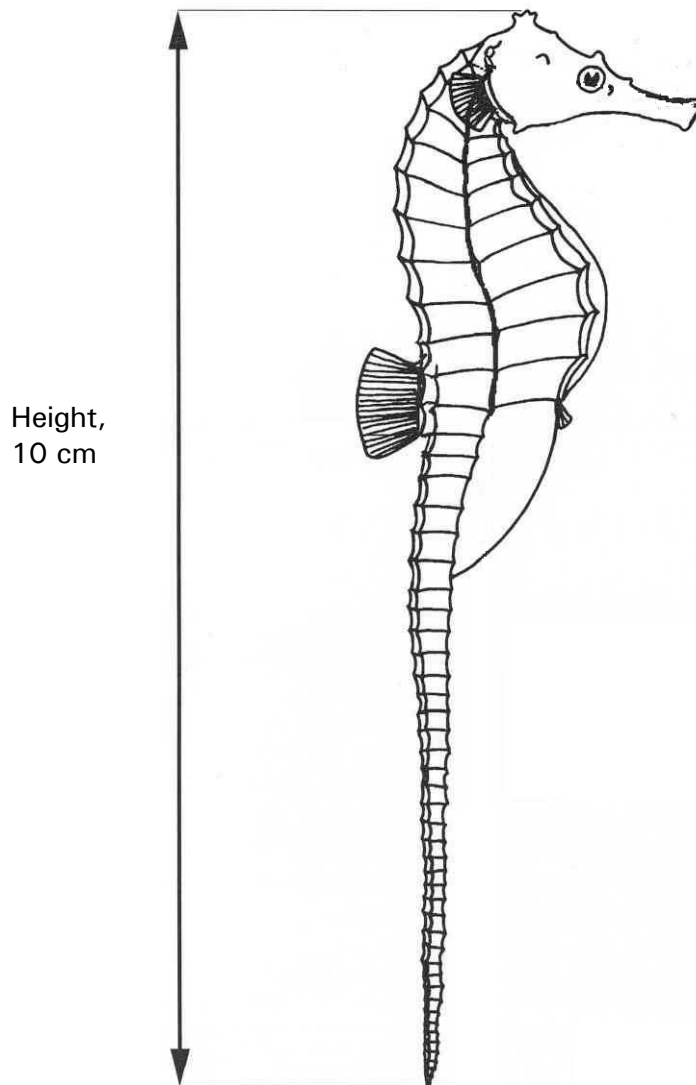
No. 2005/014

Geneva, 21 March 2005

CONCERNING:

### Trade in seahorses

1. Species of the genus *Hippocampus* (seahorses) have been included in Appendix II since 15 May 2004.
2. Before this listing came into effect, the Animals Committee recommended a minimum size limit for specimens of all *Hippocampus* species in trade as one component of an adaptive management plan, and as a simple precautionary means of making initial non-detriment findings in accordance with Article IV of the Convention.
3. At its 20th meeting (Johannesburg, March-April 2004) the Animals Committee came to the conclusion that, for specimens of the genus *Hippocampus* taken from the wild and entering trade, a height of 10 cm would serve as the most appropriate minimum size. However the Animals Committee did not recommend any limit for captive-bred specimens.
4. The height is measured from the top of the coronet to the tip of the straightened tail (see drawing overleaf). Most species reach 10 cm in height after sexual maturity. However the Animals Committee recognized that some of the smaller species never reach that size. For the very limited international trade in specimens of these species, Parties may therefore wish to find other ways to make non-detriment findings.
5. The use of this minimum size limit for specimens of wild origin in trade is voluntary.
6. This Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2004/033 of 30 April 2004.



Height measurement to be made for specimens of *Hippocampus* spp. of wild origin in trade, as recommended by the Animals Committee (Illustration courtesy of [www.projectseahorse.org](http://www.projectseahorse.org)).