



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2009/033

Geneva, 30 July 2009

CONCERNING:

Sponsored Delegates Project

Financial support to attend the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

1. The 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) will be held in Doha, Qatar, from 13 to 25 March 2010. The Secretariat is currently in the process of mobilizing resources to ensure that all the Parties are adequately represented at that meeting.
2. The Sponsored Delegates Project aims to ensure representation at meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition that do not have sufficient funds to support the participation of two delegates. Full participation in meetings of the Conference of the Parties is essential to ensure that the recommendations and decisions that are voted reflect the agreements reached by the majority of CITES Parties. This is very important when considering that the result of several crucial votes taken at the meetings has been decided by very close margins.
3. Parties that will require financial support for the travel and subsistence of up to two representatives attending CoP15 should contact the Secretariat and indicate their need for support, specifying whether it is requested for one or two delegates.

**Applications for support from the Sponsored Delegates Project
must be received by 30 October 2009.**

4. Only requests for financial support submitted by that date will be considered. Please complete the form attached to this Notification and submit it to Mr Juan Carlos Vasquez (juan.vasquez @ cites.org) with a copy to Ms Maritza Campos (maritza.campos @ cites.org) or send it by fax at +41 (22) 797 34 17.
5. Regional representatives to the Standing Committee are kindly encouraged to liaise with Parties that have poor access to the Internet in order to ensure that they are properly informed of this Notification and have the opportunity to respond on time. The Secretariat will also inform Permanent diplomatic missions based in Geneva directly for the same purpose.
6. The final list of countries that may be supported will be dependent upon the funds raised. After 15 November 2009, the Secretariat will inform Parties that have requested assistance

about the level of support that they will be able to obtain through the Sponsored Delegates Project.

7. Since priority will be given to Parties unable to fund the participation of two delegates, Parties requesting support should indicate to the Secretariat the expected size of their delegation.
8. The Secretariat hereby requests all States and organizations that might be able to provide financial support to inform it as soon as possible of their intention to contribute to this important project.