



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2012/024

Geneva, 16 March 2012

CONCERNING:

Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange
between registered scientists or scientific institutions

1. Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention specifies that:

The provisions of Articles III, IV and V shall not apply to the non-commercial loan, donation or exchange between scientists or scientific institutions registered by a Management Authority of their State, of herbarium specimens, other preserved, dried or embedded museum specimens, and live plant material which carry a label issued or approved by a Management Authority.

2. At its 11th meeting (CoP11, Gigiri, 2000), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 11.15 on *Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens*, containing guidance on the implementation of the above-mentioned special provisions. This was revised at CoP12 (Santiago, 2002) and the current Resolution on this subject, Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev. CoP12), can be found at the following URL: <http://www.cites.org/eng/res/11/11-15R12.php>.

3. In this Resolution, the Conference of the Parties, amongst other provisions:

URGES Parties to contact scientists and scientific institutions in the territory under their jurisdiction to facilitate greater understanding of the scientific exchange provisions of Article VII, paragraph 6, on the non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of scientific specimens.

4. In accordance with the same Resolution, the Secretariat maintains a *Register of scientific institutions entitled to the exemption provided by Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention*, which can be accessed through the CITES website at the following URL: http://www.cites.org/common/reg/e_si.html.

5. At CoP12, the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 12.79, as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall develop a brochure that will illustrate the importance of registering scientific institutions under Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention and demonstrate how the registration procedures can be applied in a simplified manner.

This Decision remains valid and the Secretariat is seeking funding to implement it.

6. In accordance with Decision 15.32, adopted at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Doha, 2010), the Secretariat encourages Parties that have not already done so, to:
 - a) implement at the national level a system for registering scientific institutions within the territory under their jurisdiction, that might benefit from the special provisions for facilitating trade under Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention;
 - b) inform such institutions about the implications and potential benefits of being registered; and

- c) provide to the Secretariat, at the earliest opportunity, the details of the registered scientific institutions that are entitled to benefit from the special provisions of Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention.