



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2014/006

Geneva, 23 January 2014

CONCERNING:

### Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)

1. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties to CITES adopted Decision 16.89, directed to the Secretariat, on *Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)*, of which paragraph a) is as follows:

16.89 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *subject to external funding, convene a CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force consisting of representatives from Parties affected by rhinoceros poaching and illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime partner organizations, EUROPOL and, as appropriate, other Parties and experts. The Task Force should develop strategies to improve international cooperation, taking into consideration ongoing initiatives [such as the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between South Africa and Viet Nam], and promote similar MoUs as appropriate;*
2. The Secretariat convened this CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force at a meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, on 28 and 29 October 2013. The Task Force developed strategies and proposed actions to be implemented to improve international cooperation and to combat the growing trends in rhinoceros poaching and the associated illegal trade in rhinoceros horn.
3. The purpose of the present Notification is to draw the attention of Parties to these strategies and proposed actions, as presented in the Annex to this Notification. The Secretariat encourages Parties to distribute it widely in the law enforcement community for implementation.
4. The strategies and proposed actions will also be made available to the partner agencies in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), EUROPOL, and the permanent missions of CITES Parties in Geneva, to disseminate through their respective channels.
5. Parties are requested to report on progress in the implementation of the above-mentioned strategies and proposed actions at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee, to be held in Geneva in July 2014.