



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2014/064

Geneva, 30 December 2014

CONCERNING:

### MADAGASCAR

#### Withdrawal of a recommendation to suspend trade

1. In Notification to the Parties No. 2010/015 issued on 17 June 2010, and in accordance with decisions adopted by the Standing Committee at its 60th meeting (Doha, March 2010), it was recommended that Parties not accept imports of specimens of Nile crocodile *Crocodilus niloticus* coming from Madagascar until further notice. The Standing Committee has kept this matter under review since that time.
2. At its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee considered the reports submitted by Madagascar (document SC65 Doc. 25.1) and the Secretariat (document SC65 Doc. 25.2) on ranching operations in Madagascar. The Committee was assisted in its review of these documents by the Working Group on Ranching Operations in Madagascar comprising France (Chair), Germany, Japan, Madagascar, the United States of America, the Secretariat and IUCN.
3. Following recommendations from the Working Group (document SC65 Com. 1), the Standing Committee agreed to withdraw the recommended trade suspension for Nile crocodile specimens from Madagascar, on the condition that this withdrawal would become effective only when the following had happened:
  - a) the Decree and Ministerial Orders [related to management of Nile crocodile in Madagascar] had entered into force,
  - b) Madagascar had communicated the Decree and Orders to the Secretariat,
  - c) the Secretariat had informed the Standing Committee that it was satisfied that the official texts had entered into force in Madagascar and corresponded to the documents that it assessed in the review exercise it carried out for its report (SC65 Doc. 25.2) or, at least, that these documents allowed for a full implementation of the Standing Committee Recommendations, and
  - d) the Secretariat had issued a Notification to the Parties informing them that the Standing Committee had withdrawn its recommendation to suspend trade in Nile crocodiles from Madagascar.
4. On 27 October 2014, the CITES Secretariat received from Madagascar copies of Decree No. 2014-1105 "Instituant le régime de protection du Crocodile du Nil de Madagascar et les conditions de commercialisation du spécimen et des produits dérivés" of the Prime Minister and Order No. 25806/2014 "Portant approbation des cahiers des charges fixant les prescription générales relatives au régime d'exploitation et aux conditions de transformation de spécimen et des produits dérivés de crocodiles du Nil de Madagascar" of the Minister of Environment, Ecology and Forests, together with the annexed "Cahiers des charges".

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- 5 The Secretariat has reviewed the Decree, Order and annexed Cahiers des charges, and has advised the Standing Committee, through the Standing Committee Chair, that it is satisfied that the above-mentioned official texts have entered into force in Madagascar and correspond to the documents that it assessed in the review exercise it carried out for its report (document SC65 Doc. 25.2).
  6. The Secretariat has issued this Notification to inform Parties that the Standing Committee has withdrawn its recommendation to suspend trade in Nile crocodiles from Madagascar with immediate effect. Consequently, Notification to the Parties No. 2010/015 is no longer valid.