

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2015/042

Geneva, 30 July 2015

CONCERNING:

Information to be submitted for the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee

1. At its 16th meeting (Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties agreed that Parties should report on a number of subjects for discussion at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC66). Additionally, the Standing Committee agreed to request other information at its 65th meeting in July 2014 (see [SC65 Summary record](#)).
2. For ease of reference, the Secretariat has listed below the information that is requested.

a) Tibetan antelope (*Pantholops hodgsonii*) – deadline 31 August 2015

Parties are invited to report to the Secretariat on any seizures of illegal Tibetan antelope wool and its products made within its territory, and any investigations conducted into the illegal trade in Tibetan antelope wool and its products.

[see [Decision 16.93](#) and paragraphs 10 a) and b) of document [SC65 Doc. 41 \(Rev. 1\)](#) endorsed by SC65]

b) Information on the implementation of the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force – deadline 30 September 2015

Parties are requested to report on progress in the implementation of the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force, as requested in the Annex to [Notification to the Parties No. 2014/006 of 23 January 2014](#).

[See paragraph n) ii) of document [SC65 Com. 3](#) endorsed by SC65 and CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force strategies and proposed actions to combat poaching of and illegal trade in rhinoceros]

c) Great apes (Hominidae) – deadline 30 September 2015

Great ape range States and other countries with relevant information are invited to submit information to the Secretariat on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP16) on *Conservation of and trade in great apes*. Parties are further requested to provide information on any activities that might have been conducted on the review of their implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.11 on *Bushmeat*, in the context of great apes, and on any research that might have been conducted to improve methods for species-specific identification of bushmeat, in particular as it relates to great apes.

[see [Resolution Conf. 13.4 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#), and paragraphs 22 a) and b) of document [SC65 Doc. 37](#) endorsed by SC65]

d) Humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*) – deadline 30 September 2015

Range States and importing States are invited to report to the Secretariat on the actions taken to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention regarding trade in humphead wrasse.

[see [Decision 15.87 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#)]

e) Snake trade conservation and management – deadline 30 September 2015

As previously requested in [Notification to the Parties No. 2014/024 of 2 June 2014](#), Parties are encouraged to engage with interested institutions to investigate the possibility of forensic identification of specimens of CITES-listed snakes in trade, and are requested to inform the Secretariat about the results of such engagement.

Parties in the Asian region are requested to inform the Secretariat of their efforts in all the areas indicated in Decision 16.106.

(see [Decisions 16.102 and 16.106](#))

f) Wildlife trade policy reviews – deadline 30 September 2015

Parties that undertake wildlife trade policy reviews on a voluntary basis are requested to provide the Secretariat with relevant details of their reviews and lessons learnt, so that these may be shared with other Parties.

(see [Decisions 16.26 and 16.27](#))

g) National laws for implementation of the Convention – deadline 30 September 2015

Parties whose legislation is in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project and which have been party to the Convention for more than five years as of March 2013 are requested to submit to the Secretariat, in one of the working languages of the Convention, appropriate measures that have been adopted for effective implementation of the Convention.

For any Party affected by Decision 16.33 that has been party to the Convention for less than 20 years, should exceptional circumstances prevent them from adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention, that Party should advise the Secretariat in writing of those exceptional circumstances by SC66.

(see [Decisions 16.33 and 16.34](#))

h) Introduction from the sea: chartering – deadline 30 September 2015

Parties are requested to provide information on the experience they have gained with the provision on chartering arrangements in Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16), specifically:

- the conditions under which non-detriment findings are made and permits and certificates are issued;
- the relationship between chartering States and States in which the vessel is registered, in performing those tasks;
- the capacity of chartering States and the States in which the vessels are registered to control compliance with the provisions of the CITES Convention, paying special attention to the implementation of the provisions of the Resolution pertaining to the legality of the acquisition and landing of the specimens concerned; and

- in any cases where Parties have been unable to take advantage of the provision, including in situations where at least one of the States involved is not party to a relevant Regional Fishery Management Organization/Arrangement (RFMO/A).

[see [Resolution Conf. 14.6 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#), [Decisions 16.48 and 16.49](#) and [SC65 Summary record](#)]

i) Reporting on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use* – deadline 30 September 2015

Parties are requested to submit a report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the system as set out in paragraphs c) to j) of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), including details of any problems with the processing of CITES documents, the management and tracking system in general, and the system in place to replace lost or damaged tags.

[see [Resolution Conf. 10.14 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#) and [Decisions 16.76 and 16.77](#)]

3. The Secretariat would appreciate receiving the above reports by 31 August 2015 for the Tibetan antelope and by 30 September 2015 for all other reports so as to have sufficient time to collate and summarize the information for consideration at the meeting. Parties are also requested to make their reports as succinct as possible.
 4. Parties requested to report on the implementation of their national ivory action plans (NIAPs); on their implementation of CITES provisions concerning control of trade in elephant ivory, on Party-specific matters related to Rhinoceroses and the Saiga antelope and on other specific topics for SC66 have already been contacted individually by the Secretariat.
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