

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2016/048

Geneva, 30 June 2016

CONCERNING:

JOINT NOTIFICATION



**CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA
(CITES)**

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD)

Update on the regional joint preparatory meetings of CITES and CBD representatives prior to the upcoming meetings of the respective Conferences of the Parties (CoP/COP)

In follow-up to the joint notification issued on 10 June 2016 (CITES Notification 2016/044 and CBD Notification 2016-077), and as per guidance provided in the joint notification, Parties are reminded to nominate one participant to take part in the preparatory meeting for CITES and one participant to take part in the preparatory meeting for CBD, and to inform the secretariats of particular issues or items of the agenda of the CoP/COP and COP/MOPs that they would like the preparatory meeting to address. To provide sufficient time for Parties to respond to this notification, the deadline for nomination has been extended to 4 July 2016.

The CITES and CBD Secretariats are also pleased to inform you that the dates and venues of the meetings for Africa and the Pacific/Oceania have now been finalized. These details and other relevant information are provided in annex to this notification.

The CITES and CBD Secretariats take the opportunity to thank Parties that have nominated their representatives and transmitted their views and comments on the agenda of the CoP/COP and/or COP/MOPs. Nominated representatives will soon be contacted by the institutions responsible for making travel arrangements, and will receive further information in preparation for the meetings, including a provisional agenda and background documents, from the secretariats and their partner organizations.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact haruko.okusu@cites.org and secretariat@cbd.int.

Annex

The regional joint preparatory meetings are organized by the Secretariats of CITES and CBD, and their staff will provide substantive briefings on the CITES CoP and CBD COP and COP-MOPs. They will also facilitate the discussions on priority agenda items based on inputs from Parties in each region, and on topics of common interest / synergies, in consultation with co-organizing regional institutions, as listed below.

The meetings are funded in most part by the European Union, with co-financing/in-kind contribution from various other sources.

I. Schedule for the regional joint preparatory meetings and co-organizing regional institutions

Region	Dates	Venue	Co-organizing regional institutions
Africa	8-12 August 2016	United Nations Conference Centre, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Technical and organizational support, including travel arrangements for participants, will be provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) serving in its capacity as the Secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN). Additional technical support will be provided by the African Union Commission (AUC).
Asia	1-5 August 2016	United Nations Conference Centre, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Bangkok, Thailand	Technical and organizational support, including travel arrangements for participants, will be provided by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) and Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA).
Central and South America and the Caribbean / Latin America and the Caribbean	22-26 August 2016	Antigua, Guatemala	The meeting will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP) of the Government of Guatemala. Technical and organizational support, including travel arrangements for participants, will be provided by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS).
Pacific/Oceania	15-19 August 2016	Apia, Samoa	Technical and organizational support, including travel arrangements for participants, will be provided by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).