



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/033

Geneva, 24 April 2017

CONCERNING:

ANIMALS COMMITTEE

Filling vacancies for a representative of the Asian region and an alternate representative of the European region

1. The Secretariat has informed the Chair of the Standing Committee and the regional representatives of the regions concerned on the Committee, that the following representative and alternate representative on the Animals Committee have resigned from their positions:

Mr Shaker A. A. Khamdan, Regional representative of the Asia region
Ms Karen Gaynor, Alternate representative of the European region
2. Resolution 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) resolves that the Secretariat shall ensure that any such vacancies in the Animals and Plants Committees are brought immediately to the attention of the Standing Committee, in order to fill the vacancies as soon as possible.
3. The Resolution is silent on the procedures for filling such vacancies, but discussions at previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties have indicated that such questions should be resolved by the Standing Committee. It is suggested to apply paragraph 5 of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) *mutatis mutandis* to choose a replacement.
4. Consequently, Parties in the Asian and European regions are invited to propose candidates to fill the vacancies mentioned in paragraph 1 of present Notification. Parties are requested to observe the following in relation to the candidates they propose:
 - i) Parties proposing candidates as representatives should confirm, at the time of nomination, that the candidate will be supported and that they will obtain the necessary means to undertake their activities;
 - ii) Each candidate should provide a declaration of interest in which the candidate should disclose any current financial interest that might call into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a member or alternate member of the Committee;
 - iii) The names of the proposed candidates, their *curricula vitae* and declaration of interest, should be sent to the Secretariat by 22 May 2017, by the Management Authority authorized to communicate with the Secretariat designated under Article IX.2 of the Convention.
 - iv) Ideally, the candidates should be associated with a Scientific Authority, have adequate knowledge of CITES and receive sufficient institutional support to carry out their duties. This information should also be included in the *curricula vitae*; and
 - v) As long as the representatives are persons, a Party shall not be accepted as a proposed candidate subject to a later identification of the person concerned by the Party.

5. Upon expiry of the deadline, the Secretariat will share any candidatures received and supporting documentation with the regional representatives of the two regions concerned.
6. The selection of such a representative and alternate representative is normally undertaken during regional sessions at meetings of the Conference of the Parties; in the absence of such a possibility inter-sessionally, it is suggested that this task will be undertaken by the regional representatives of the regions concerned on the Standing Committee and overseen by the Chair of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee regional representatives of the two regions are invited to engage in such consultations that they deem appropriate in order to select the replacement representative/alternate representative concerned and report back to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Standing Committee on the result of such consultations.