



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/040

Geneva, 16 May 2017

CONCERNING:

Draft Guidelines for the preparation and submission of  
CITES annual illegal trade reports – for comment

1. At its 66th meeting (SC66, Geneva, January 2016), the Standing Committee adopted an annual illegal trade report. The format for the annual illegal trade report was circulated to Parties in the Annex of Notification 2016/007 of 5 February 2016.
2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2017), the Conference of the Parties adopted an amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *National Reports*, which *inter alia*
  3. *URGES all Parties, commencing in 2017, to submit an annual illegal trade report by 31 October each year covering actions in the preceding year and in accordance with the report format distributed by the Secretariat, as may be amended by the Secretariat from time to time with the concurrence of the Standing Committee;*
  4. *DIRECTS the Secretariat, unless otherwise specified by the reporting Party, to share the data collected in the annual illegal trade report with the members of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), to allow data to be used in ICWC global research and analysis studies on wildlife and forest crime;*
3. The Secretariat has prepared a set of draft *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual illegal trade reports* which are contained in the Annex to this Notification. The draft Guidelines are subject to the approval by the Standing Committee.
4. Parties are invited to send any comments they may have on the draft guidelines presented in the Annex to [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org) by **1 September 2017**. The Secretariat will thereafter further revise the Guidelines to reflect the comments received from Parties and present them for consideration at the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC69, Geneva, 27 November – 1 December 2017).

### Reporting for the year 2016

5. In preparing and submitting their annual illegal trade reports for the year 2016, Parties are invited to use the draft *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual illegal reports* contained the Annex to the present Notification. In accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), the report is due by 31 October 2017.