



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/049

Geneva, 29 June 2017

CONCERNING:

IPBES: External review for the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

1. The Secretariat draws the attention of Parties to a call from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to take part in the review of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
2. This assessment will be the first global snapshot of the state of the world's biodiversity in more than a decade, since the release of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. The global assessment will provide decision makers with the state of knowledge regarding the planet's biodiversity, ecosystems and the benefits they provide to people, as well as the options to protect and use these natural assets more sustainably. Furthermore, the global assessment will provide vital data to assess progress against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. Concurrently running are the external reviews of other IPBES assessments for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Europe and Central Asia, and Land Degradation and Restoration (ending 26 June 2017) and the Americas regional assessment (ending 24 July 2017). This external review of the global assessment is a separate process, running in parallel to the others.
4. Experts wishing to participate will first need to register as users of the IPBES website if they have not already done so. They can then apply to become an IPBES external reviewer for individual chapters of the global assessment [here](#). The period for external review runs from 15 June until 15 August 2017.
5. Considering the potential relevance of this IPBES deliverable for the work of the Convention and in accordance with Decision 16.13 (Rev. CoP17) that welcomes cooperation with IPBES, the Secretariat would like to encourage Parties to contribute to the review, with special attention to issues of interest to CITES.