



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/021

Geneva, 22 February 2018

CONCERNING:

### Membership of the Rural Communities Working Group

1. This Notification is being published at the request of Namibia.
2. At the 69th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the rural communities working group was established pursuant to Decision 17.28., with a mandate to:
  - a) consider how to effectively engage rural communities in the CITES processes;
  - b) review the need to harmonize the terminology used in different Resolutions and Decisions when referring to "rural", "indigenous" or "local" communities; and
  - c) present its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee, for consideration at its 70th meeting.

This working group is chaired by Namibia.

3. Decision 17.29 stated that the working group should be comprised of Parties and representatives of rural communities and that the Chair of the Standing Committee shall strive to achieve regional balance of Parties, with the number of members of rural communities not exceeding the number of Party delegates.
4. At SC69, Namibia was requested by the Chair to take into account regional balance, the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2017/057 and advice of Parties in identifying the representatives of rural communities to be invited to be members of the working group.
5. This Notification is to inform Parties regarding which rural community representatives are members of this working group, and how they were chosen.
6. For the purposes of appointing rural community representatives to this working group, Namibia has used the following definition:

"Organisations:

- i. whose objectives and functioning indicate they represent and further the interests of one or more identifiable communities,
- ii. where these communities are human populations living side-by-side or using both wild fauna and flora, including timber, outside of an urban or suburban setting, and;
- iii. the community is (or communities are) involved in management, conservation, sustainable use of, and international trade in CITES-listed species, or species that could be listed on the CITES Appendices in the future."

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7. The rural community member representatives on the rural communities working group are as follows:
- Xhauxhwatubi Development Trust, Botswana
  - Inuit Tapiirit Kanatami, Canada
  - ACCABAC – Asociación de Conservacionistas del caimán agua en la Bahía de Cispata, Colombia
  - ASOCAIMAN, Colombia
  - ANAPAC – Alliance Nationale d’Appui et de promotion des Aires du Patrimoine, Autochtone et Communautaire en République Démocratique du Congo
  - Club of Friends of the Forest in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
  - IMEXT International, Democratic Republic of Congo
  - KRAPAVIS – Krishi Avam Paristhitiki Vikas Sansthan, India
  - Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association, Kenya
  - #Khaodi //Haos Conservancy, Namibia
  - Namibian Association of CBNRM Support Organisations, Namibia
  - Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal, Nepal
  - Comunidad de Monte Vecinal en Man Común de Froxán, Spain
  - Hunting and Conservation of Takisjistan, Tajikistan
  - Consortium of WMAs Authorised Associations, United Republic of Tanzania
  - Zambian CBNRM FORUM, Zambia
  - CAMPFIRE Programme, Zimbabwe
  - Chiefs' Council, Zimbabwe
8. Namibia would like to note that, despite efforts, regional balance has not been achieved, and would like to invite nominations of additional rural community representatives, particularly from Oceania, Europe, North America, and Central and South America.
9. Members of the rural communities working group have been invited to participate in a first meeting of this group, taking place in Nairobi, Kenya, February 2018, supported by United Nations Environment Programme.