



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/037

Geneva, 18 April 2018

CONCERNING:

### Nomenclature of CITES-listed corals

1. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 17.306 to 17.308 on *Nomenclature (Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade)*, as follows:

#### **17.306 Directed to the Secretariat**

*The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *seek, if possible, a time-specific version of (i) the WoRMS database, and (ii) the new Corals of the World website by John VERON (currently in preparation) that serves the needs of a CITES nomenclature reference, and*
- b) *report its progress to the Animals Committee.*

#### **17.307 Directed to the Parties**

*The Parties shall undertake an internal assessment of the WoRMS database with regard to consistency with their own internal coral nomenclature databases, and report their findings to the Secretariat for communication to the Animals Committee.*

#### **17.308 Directed to the Animals Committee**

*The Animals Committee shall:*

- a) *consider the report of the Secretariat and the responses of the Parties and recommend a way forward to identify a standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed corals; and*
- b) *update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, once a new standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed coral species has been identified and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination.*

2. In light of the upcoming 30th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC30, Geneva, July 2018), the Secretariat notes that it has not yet received reports by Parties on their internal assessment of the consistency of the WoRMS database (<http://www.marinespecies.org/>) with their internal coral nomenclature databases, pursuant to Decision 17.307.
3. The Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind Parties of the provisions in Decision 17.307, and would welcome receiving any such reports **by 11 May 2018** at the latest so they can form part of the Secretariat's communication to the Animals Committee at its 30th meeting.