



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/082

Geneva, 1 November 2018

CONCERNING:

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XIII IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Recommendation to suspend trade in stockpiled specimens of pangolins (*Manis* spp.)

1. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, October 2018) adopted a recommendation concerning the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with respect to stockpiled specimens of *Manis* spp. as follows:

Regarding trade in pangolin stockpiles

*d) Parties shall suspend trade in stockpiled specimens of *Manis* spp. from DRC, until further guidance is provided by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (CoP18);*

2. The Secretariat hereby notifies Parties of the Standing Committee's recommendation to suspend trade in stockpiled specimens of pangolins from the DRC with immediate effect. Parties are requested to inform their enforcement and customs authorities of this recommendation to suspend trade to avoid the inadvertent acceptance of specimens of species subject to such a recommendation.
3. For ease of reference, it is recalled that the Standing Committee at SC69 adopted the following recommendation (see SC69 SR):

Given the differing interpretation of Article VII paragraph 2 and Resolution Conf. 13.6 (Rev. CoP16) as they relate to the requirements for trade in specimens, including stockpiles, of Appendix I species that were obtained when the species was listed in Appendix II or Appendix III, the Standing Committee recommends that:

a) the Secretariat prepare a document for consideration at CoP18, including information relating to the implications associated with the different interpretations; and

b) in the interim and until a decision is made by CoP18, Parties should treat specimens, including stockpiles, of Appendix I species of pangolin obtained when the species was listed in Appendix II, as Appendix I specimens and regulate trade in accordance with Article III of the Convention.

4. It is further recalled that China, the DRC and the United States made statements for the record regarding this recommendation and that these can be found in the annexes to the summary record of SC69 at <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/69/sum/E-SC69-SR.pdf>.
5. Parties are reminded that the complete list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade is available on the CITES website under [Documents/Trade suspensions](#).