



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2019/039

Geneva, 6 August 2019

CONCERNING:

Filling vacancies for representatives of the European and the North American regions

1. The Secretariat has informed the Chair of the Standing Committee and the regional representatives of the regions concerned on the respective Committees, that a representative of the European region in the Animals Committee, Mr. Vincent Fleming, the representative and alternate representatives of the North American region in the Animals Committee, Ms. Rosemarie Gnam and Ms. Carolina Caceres respectively, and the representative of the North American region in the Plants Committee, Ms. Adrienne Sinclair, will be resigning with effect from the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18).
2. Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) resolves that the Secretariat shall ensure that any such vacancies in the Animals and Plants Committees are brought immediately to the attention of the Standing Committee, in order to fill the vacancies as soon as possible.
3. Given the proximity of CoP18, Parties in the European and North American regions are invited to propose candidates to fill the vacancy mentioned in paragraph 1 of present Notification so that a replacement can be selected during the regional sessions at CoP18. Parties are requested to observe the following in relation to the candidates they propose:
 - i) Parties proposing candidates as representatives should confirm, at the time of nomination, that the candidate will be supported and that they will obtain the necessary means to undertake their activities;
 - ii) Each candidate should provide a declaration of interest in which the candidate should disclose any current financial interest that might call into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a member or alternate member of the Committee;
 - iii) The names of the proposed candidates, their *curricula vitae* and declaration of interest, should be sent to the Secretariat by 12 August 2019, by the Management Authority authorized to communicate with the Secretariat designated under Article IX.2 of the Convention.
 - iv) Ideally, the candidates should be associated with a Scientific Authority, have adequate knowledge of CITES and receive sufficient institutional support to carry out their duties. This information should also be included in the *curricula vitae*; and
 - v) As long as the representatives are persons, a Party shall not be accepted as a proposed candidate subject to a later identification of the person concerned by the Party.
4. The Secretariat has also received the resignation of Mexico as alternate representative of the North American region in the Standing Committee. With regard to candidatures for membership of the Standing Committee, the Conference has indicated that these should be submitted through the Secretariat. The Secretariat will share any candidatures received and supporting documentation at the regional sessions during CoP18.