



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/017

Geneva, 2 March 2020

CONCERNING:

Trade in Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*)

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.226 and 18.227 on *Trade in Asian elephants* (*Elephas maximus*), as follows:

18.226 Directed to Parties

All Parties involved in the trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives are encouraged to:

- a) undertake, as necessary, investigations into the illegal trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives, and endeavour to enforce, and where necessary improve, national laws concerning international trade in specimens of Asian elephants with the explicit intention of preventing illegal trade;*
- b) develop strategies to manage captive Asian elephant populations;*
- c) ensure that trade in, and cross-border movements of live Asian elephants are conducted in compliance with CITES, including the provisions in Article III, paragraph 3, for Asian elephants of wild origin;*
- d) collaborate in the development and application of a regional system for registering, marking and tracing live Asian elephants, requesting as necessary assistance from experts, specialized agencies or the Secretariat; and*
- e) at the request of the Secretariat, provide information on the implementation of this Decision for reporting by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee.*

18.227 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) request a report from all Parties involved in trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives on the implementation of paragraphs a) through d) of Decision 18.226;*
- b) upon request and pending the availability of external funding, assist range States of Asian elephants in their implementation of Decision 18.226; and*
- c) incorporate information provided by range States in accordance with Decision 18.226, paragraph e), together with other findings and recommendations concerning trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives as appropriate, into its regular reporting to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on Trade in elephant specimens.*

2. Parties involved in trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives are hereby requested to report to the Secretariat on their implementation of Decision 18.226, paragraphs a) to d).
3. The Secretariat will make the information received available to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee, Geneva, October 2020 (to be confirmed), together with any other findings or recommendations it may have.
4. The Secretariat also invites range States of Asian elephants requiring assistance in their implementation of Decision 18.226, to communicate this to the Secretariat, indicating the nature of the support required. This will enable the Secretariat to consider the support it may be able to provide pending the availability of external funding.
5. Responses should be submitted by email to the Secretariat at info@cites.org and johannes.stahl@cites.org, no later than **30 April 2020**.