



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/026

Geneva, 23 March 2020

CONCERNING:

### Closure of domestic ivory markets

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.117 – 18.119 on *Closure of domestic ivory markets*, as follows:

#### **18.117 Directed to Parties**

*Parties that have not closed their domestic markets for commercial trade in raw and worked ivory are requested to report to the Secretariat for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings on what measures they are taking to ensure that their domestic ivory markets are not contributing to poaching or illegal trade.*

#### **18.118 Directed to the Secretariat**

*The Secretariat shall compile the reports and make them available to Parties in advance of the Standing Committee meetings.*

#### **18.119 Directed to the Standing Committee**

*The Standing Committee shall:*

- a) *consider the reports under Decision 18.118; and*
- b) *report on this matter and make recommendations, as appropriate and consistent with the scope and mandate of the Convention, to the 19th meeting of Conference of the Parties.*

2. Parties that have not closed their domestic markets for commercial trade in raw and worked ivory are hereby requested to report to the Secretariat on what measures they are taking to ensure that their domestic ivory markets are not contributing to poaching or illegal trade, even if they have previously done so.
3. Parties are encouraged to take into consideration relevant provisions contained in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on *Trade in elephant specimens*, particularly in paragraphs 3 to 9, 13, and 15 to 16 *Regarding trade in elephant specimens*; and in paragraphs 22 to 25 *Regarding the traceability of elephant specimens in trade*. Provisions in other relevant Resolutions will also be important to consider, e.g. Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Compliance and enforcement*.
4. Reports should be submitted by email to the Secretariat at [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org) and [thea.carroll@un.org](mailto:thea.carroll@un.org) no later than **15 June 2020**.
5. A compilation of the reports submitted by Parties will be made available in advance of the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.