



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/031

Geneva, 1 April 2020

CONCERNING:

Wildlife crime linked to the Internet

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.81 to 18.85 on *Wildlife crime linked to the Internet*, as follows:

18.81 *Parties are encouraged to, as may be needed, draw upon the capacity established at the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore, for advice and assistance in their efforts to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet.*

18.82 *Parties are encouraged to, as may be needed, make full use of the guidelines developed by INTERPOL, on how to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet, in their investigation of cases of wildlife crime linked to the Internet.*

18.83 *All Parties should:*

- a) *inform the Secretariat in the event that any changes that pertain to wildlife crime linked to the Internet are made to their national legislation, as well as of any other relevant domestic measures;*
- b) *submit information to the Secretariat on websites adhering to codes of conduct to address and prevent illegal trade in wildlife;*
- c) *inform the Secretariat of any best practice models that pertain to regulation of online marketplaces and social media platforms;*
- d) *publish the results of scientific research on the correlations between use of the Internet and the rate of wildlife crime, and communicate these results to the Secretariat; and*
- e) *inform the Secretariat of any trends in wildlife crime linked to the Internet identified, including any changes in trade routes and methods of shipment that have been observed.*

18.84 *The Secretariat shall:*

[...]

- b) *share on the Wildlife crime linked to the Internet webpage on the CITES website, as appropriate, information received from Parties in accordance with Decision 18.83, ICCWC partner agencies in accordance with Decision 18.84, paragraph a), and other relevant organizations or experts, regarding measures and activities implemented to address wildlife crime linked to the Internet.*

[...]

18.85 *The Secretariat shall report on the implementation of Decisions 18.83 and 18.84 to the Standing Committee, and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.*

2. Regarding Decision 18.81, the Secretariat takes this opportunity to remind Parties that [Notification 2019/042](#) of 8 August 2019 includes information on how Parties can access and draw upon the capacity established at the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore for support.
3. Regarding Decision 18.82, the Secretariat is pleased to inform Parties that the *INTERPOL Wildlife crime linked to the Internet: Practical Guidelines for Law Enforcement Practitioners* have now been finalized. This is a restricted document available to law enforcement authorities only, and is available via the INTERPOL restricted area, and the restricted section of the [CITES Virtual College](#). The guidelines are also available on ENVIRONET (see [Notification 2015/39](#)).
4. Parties are invited to submit information to the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.83 by **15 May 2020**. Parties are also encouraged to include, where possible and appropriate, in their responses any information concerning the use of the resources described in Decisions 18.81 and 18.82.