



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/040

Geneva, 29 April 2020

CONCERNING:

Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 18.32 on *Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*¹ as follows:

18.32 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *issue a Notification inviting Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in CITES processes;*
 - b) *consult and collaborate with relevant organizations and experts to gather information on experiences and lessons learned to complement information received from Parties under paragraph a) above; and*
 - c) *compile the information received from the Parties and other relevant organizations and provide a summary to the Standing Committee.*
2. The Secretariat invites Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in CITES processes by responding to the attached questionnaire. The questionnaire has been prepared by the Secretariat with inputs from members of the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities.
 3. Responses to the Secretariat concerning this Notification to the Parties should be provided to Mr. Liu Yuan at yuan.liu@un.org by **20 June 2020**.

¹ For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.