



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/062

Geneva, 14 October 2020

CONCERNING:

Specimens produced through biotechnology

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.147 to 18.150 on *Specimens produced through biotechnology* as follows:

18.147 Directed to Parties

Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding:

- a) *cases where they have issued, or received requests to issue, CITES permits and certificates for specimens produced through biotechnology;*
- b) *other situations when they have applied the interpretation of Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) on Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives to fauna and flora products produced through biotechnology; and*
- c) *technological developments and applications taking place, particularly in their jurisdiction, that may result in the manufacture of specimens produced through biotechnology that may have impact on the interpretation and implementation of the Convention.*

18.150 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *...;*
- b) *collate information received from Parties in relation to Decision 18.147, as well as any other information received from Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities related to the issue of specimens produced through biotechnology;*

2. Pursuant to paragraph b) of Decision 18.150, the Secretariat invites Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities related to the issue of specimens produced through biotechnology to provide relevant information. The implementation of this decision is undertaken in close consultation with the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on *specimens produced through biotechnology*, established by the Standing Committee, at its 72nd meeting (SC72, Geneva, August 2019) and chaired by China.
3. The short questionnaire enclosed in the annex to this Notification to the Parties intends to facilitate the collection of relevant information on specimens produced through biotechnology. Please provide your responses at your earliest convenience and no later than **1 December 2020**. Any questions on the questionnaire can be addressed to the CITES Secretariat at penelope.benn@un.org.

4. Please be aware that responding to the questionnaire is of vital importance to ensure a good basis for the deliberations and recommendations. The information collected will be analysed to better understand the practice of Management Authorities regarding the matter and will help the Standing Committee Working Group to fulfil its mandate.