



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2021/064

Geneva, 27 October 2021

CONCERNING:

EUROPEAN UNION

<u>Consultation of CITES experts on the</u> <u>evaluation and revision of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking</u>

- 1. This Notification to the Parties is published at the request of the European Union (EU).
- 2. Since 2016, action against illegal wildlife trade in the EU and its Member States has been guided by an EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking. The Action Plan and relevant background material can be accessed on a dedicated webpage of the European Commission.
- 3. Having reached the end of its original period of application (2016-2020), the Action Plan is currently being evaluated by the European Commission with regard to its effectiveness, efficiency and additional criteria. Based on the evaluation, the Action Plan is due to be revised during the course of 2022.
- 4. As part of this evaluation and to prepare for the forthcoming revision, the European Commission has tasked a group of consultants to conduct surveys both of the general public and, based on a separate questionnaire, of wildlife-trade experts in the EU and in other countries. With this notification, the EU wishes to invite experts working at CITES authorities in all Parties to participate in the expert survey.
- 5. The questionnaire for the expert consultation can be accessed <u>online</u>, and responses can be provided until 28 December 2021. Any technical questions with regard to filling in the questionnaire should be direct to <u>alexandra.dorison@biois.eu;</u> more general questions regarding the consultation can also be directed to <u>env-cites@ec.europa.eu</u>.
- 6. A sub-set of participants in the survey will be contacted by the consultants for follow-up interviews.
- 7. The EU is grateful to all Parties for their valuable support in reviewing and improving its policy framework for action against illegal wildlife trade.