



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2021/072

Geneva, 30 November 2021

CONCERNING:

Changes in staff of the Secretariat

1. Changes in the staff of the CITES Secretariat have taken place and this Notification is provided as an update as of 15 November 2021 for the information of the Parties. Some recruitment processes and onboarding were delayed due to the global pandemic impacts.
2. The new Secretariat staff, along with staff having a new position or status, are listed as follows:

Shashika Sedara-Hettige, Associate Information System Officer, Outreach and Projects Unit P-2

Mr. Shashika Sedara-Hettige was selected and appointed on this core funded position with the Outreach and Projects Unit following a UN recruitment selection process. He assumed this position effective 1 September 2021. Prior to taking up this position, Mr. Sedara-Hettige was Information Systems Coordinator at the University of Bern, Switzerland. Mr. Sedara-Hettige is a national of Sri Lanka.

Sofie Flensburg, Officer-in-Charge, Outreach and Projects Unit, P-4

Ms. Haruko Okusu, Chief, CITES Outreach and Projects Unit, was selected on a temporary D1 position for 10 months as UNEP/Stockholm+50 coordinator in New York. She assumed this position effective 16 October 2021. Following the temporary assignment of Ms. Okusu, new functions have been assigned to Ms. Sofie Flensburg and she has moved to the Outreach and Projects Unit for one-year effective 15 November 2021. She is now the Officer-in-Charge of the Outreach and Projects Unit until Ms. Okusu's return. Prior to taking up this new assignment, Ms. Flensburg was serving as Legal Officer in the Legal Unit of the CITES Secretariat. Ms. Flensburg is a national of Denmark.

Tom De Meulenaer, Chief, Science Unit, P-5

Mr. Tom De Meulenaer will reach mandatory retirement age by 31 December 2021 after nearly 15 years of service to the UN and the CITES Secretariat as Environmental Affairs Officer, MIKE Coordinator and Chief of the Science Unit. Mr. De Meulenaer is a national of Belgium.

David Morgan, Chief Science Unit, P-5

Following the retirement of Mr. Tom De Meulenaer, Mr. David Morgan has been laterally reassigned to the Science Unit. He will assume the position as Chief of the Science Unit effective 1 January 2022. Prior to taking up this position, Mr. Morgan was serving as Chief of the Governing Bodies Unit within the CITES Secretariat. Mr. Morgan is a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3. A few other recruitment processes are ongoing, and the Secretariat will advise Parties of the consequent staff changes in due course.