



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2022/038

Geneva, 17 May 2022

CONCERNING:

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Recommendation to suspend commercial trade

National legislation

1. Sao Tome and Principe has been a Party to the Convention for more than twenty years. Under the National Legislation Project (NLP), the legislation of Sao Tome and Principe has been placed in Category 3, meaning that the legislation does not yet meet the four minimum requirements as set out in Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*.
2. At its 70th meeting (Sochi, October 2018), the Standing Committee agreed to issue a formal warning to Parties (including Sao Tome and Principe) that had not reported any legislative progress since CoP17 requesting them to immediately take steps to ensure progress be made before CoP18 and to report such progress to the Secretariat by 1 February 2019 (see [document SC70 SR](#)).
3. At its 71st meeting (Geneva, August 2019), the Secretariat reported that no information on legislative progress had been provided by Sao Tome and Principe. Therefore, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to send a second warning letter to this Party and agreed to recommend a suspension of trade at its 73rd meeting if no substantive legislative progress had been made at that time (see [document SC71 SR](#)).
4. At its 73rd meeting, (online, May 2021), the Standing Committee did not make recommendations regarding national laws for the implementation of the Convention due to the restricted agenda caused by the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. At its 74th meeting (Lyon, March 2022), the Secretariat reported that no information on legislative progress had been provided by Sao Tome and Principe. Therefore, the Standing Committee agreed on a recommendation to all Parties to suspend commercial trade with Sao Tome and Principe. The recommendation was to take effect 60 days after it was agreed, unless the Party concerned adopted appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or took significant and substantive steps to do so [[see document SC74 Sum. 4 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. At the expiry of the 60-day period, the Secretariat had not received any response from Sao Tome and Principe.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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Recommendation

6. The Secretariat therefore informs Parties that, as of 7 May 2022, the Standing Committee recommends that Parties suspend commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with Sao Tome and Principe until further notice.
7. Parties are reminded that the complete [list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade](#) is available on the CITES website under Official documents.