

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2022/072

Geneva, 4 October 2022

CONCERNING:

Youth delegates at CoP19

1. In line with Resolution Conf. 17.5 (Rev. CoP18) on *Youth engagement*, the CITES Secretariat is aiming to strengthen its collaboration with Parties and other organizations on youth engagement initiatives.
2. The Secretariat recalls that the Conference of the Parties acknowledges in this Resolution that “today’s youth will one day be in decision-making positions and that CITES Parties must engage these people now to equip them to be stronger leaders in the future.” The Conference further acknowledges that “today’s youth have come of age in a generation very different than those before it, including great technological advancement, and that the skills held by younger colleagues can be valuable tools to ensure that wildlife trade is legal and sustainable.”
3. The Secretariat further recalls paragraph 3 of the Resolution in which the Conference of the Parties:

INVITES Parties and observer organizations to include youth delegates on official delegations and provide learning opportunities at CITES meetings.
4. Further to this invitation, the Secretariat would like to invite Parties and observer organizations to inform the Secretariat of the names of any delegate under the age of 25 years old on their official delegations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Panama (CoP19, Panama City, 14-25 November 2022), so that they may be invited to become part of a CITES Youth Network and become more engaged and empowered to become stronger leaders in the future.
5. Parties and observer organizations are invited to send the names and emails of any youth delegates on their official registered delegation to Mr. David Whitbourn (david.whitbourn@un.org) or Ms. Jennifer Vionnet (Jennifer.vionnet@un.org) at their earliest convenience.