

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/041

Geneva, 3 April 2023

CONCERNING:

Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities

1. At its 19th meeting (CoP19, Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 18.32 (Rev. CoP19) on *Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities** as follows:

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *issue a Notification inviting Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in CITES processes; and*
 - b) *compile the information received from the Parties and provide a summary to the Standing Committee.*
2. The Secretariat invites Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in CITES processes by responding to the attached questionnaire. The questionnaire has been prepared by the Secretariat with inputs from members of the previous Standing Committee's intersessional working group on engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities.
 3. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2020/40 on 29 April 2020 for the same purpose. At CoP19, the Conference of the Parties decided that this process should be continued in order to seek inputs from more Parties.
 4. Responses to the Secretariat concerning this Notification to the Parties should be sent to info@cites.org, with a copy to Mr. LIU Yuan at yuan.liu@un.org by **31 July 2023**.

* For the purpose of this Decision, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.