

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/045

Geneva, 6 April 2023

CONCERNING:

Decisions 19.261 on Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

1. At its 19th meeting (Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.261 to 19.264 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*. Paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 19.261 instruct the Secretariat to:
 - a) *publish a notification inviting Parties to:*
 - i) *share information materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and, as far as possible, liaise with key stakeholders of medicinal and aromatic plant trade supply chains for this purpose;*
 - ii) *review their non-detriment findings (NDFs) for medicinal and aromatic plants and consider sharing such with the Secretariat to be included on the NDF section of the CITES website;*
 - iii) *assess the utility of the [Medicinal Plant Names Service \(MPNS\) database](#) in their routine work to see if it can contribute to the expansion of the Species+ database; and share any experience of using the MPNS database; and to*
 - b) *make information materials for raising awareness of CITES regulations for the medicinal and aromatic plant industry stakeholders and consumers available to Parties on the CITES website.*
2. The Annex to this Notification contains a questionnaire that Parties may consider when sharing materials, NDFs or experiences with the Secretariat.
3. Parties and relevant stakeholders are invited to submit relevant information by **10 May 2023** to info@cites.org with a copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org.
4. Based on the responses received to the present Notification, and in accordance with Decision 19.261, the Secretariat will make information materials for raising awareness of CITES regulations for the medicinal and aromatic plant industry stakeholders and consumers available to Parties on the CITES website, include any NDFs on medicinal and aromatic plants species in the CITES NDF database, and make any experiences of using the MPNS database available to the Plants Committee.