



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/077

Geneva, 10 July 2023

CONCERNING:

Request for information: Closure of domestic ivory markets

1. At its 19th meeting (CoP19, Panama City, 2023), the Conference of the Parties retained and revised the Decisions on *Closure of domestic ivory markets* as follows:

Directed to Parties

18.117 (Rev. CoP19) *Parties that have not closed their domestic markets for commercial trade in raw and worked ivory are requested to report to the Secretariat for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 77th and 78th meetings on what measures they are taking to ensure that their domestic ivory markets are not contributing to poaching or illegal trade.*

Directed to the Secretariat

18.118 *The Secretariat shall compile the reports and make them available to Parties in advance of the Standing Committee meetings.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.119 (Rev. CoP19) *The Standing Committee shall:*

- a) *consider the reports under Decision 18.118; and*
- b) *report on this matter and make recommendations, as appropriate and consistent with the scope and mandate of the Convention, to the 20th meeting of Conference of the Parties.*

2. Parties that have not closed their domestic markets for commercial trade in raw and worked ivory are hereby requested to report to the Secretariat on the measures taken to ensure that their domestic ivory markets are not contributing to poaching or illegal trade. Parties that have previously responded to Notification [No. 2020/026](#) and [No. 2021/005](#) are also encouraged to inform the Secretariat if the measures are still in place, or if they have changed.
3. Parties are encouraged to take into consideration relevant provisions contained in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Trade in elephant specimens*, particularly in paragraphs 3 to 9, 13, and 15 to 16 *Regarding trade in elephant specimens*; and in paragraphs 22 to 25 *Regarding the*

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traceability of elephant specimens in trade. Provisions in other relevant Resolutions will also be important to consider, e.g., Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*.

4. Reports should be submitted by email to the Secretariat at info@cites.org and tanya.mcgregor@un.org no later than **4 August 2023** citing “Notification No. 2023/077: Request for information: Closure of domestic ivory markets” in the subject line.
5. A compilation of the reports submitted by Parties will be made available for consideration by the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee.