



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/087

Geneva, 18 July 2023

CONCERNING:

Call for contributions to the “Identification manual of animals listed in CITES Appendix I”

1. This notification is published by the Secretariat at the request of the Animals Committee.
2. During the thirty-second meeting of the Animals Committee (AC32; Geneva, June 2023), China submitted document [AC32 Doc. 19.2](#) and introduced their initiative entitled *Identification manual of animals listed in Appendix I* that is being launched by the Endangered Species Scientific Commission (ESSC) as the CITES Scientific Authority of China. The initiative complements the mandate of the Animals and Plants Committee in Decision 19.142. The goal of the initiative is to:
 - a) compile existing identification resources of Appendix-I listed animal species and conduct a gap analysis;
 - b) based on the results, develop an updated “Identification manual of animals listed in CITES Appendix I”.
3. The Animals Committee welcomed the initiative by China and encouraged China to feed the results of this identification work into the joint intersessional working group on materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species.
4. At AC32, the representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson), South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, the German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International and Wildlife Conservation Society expressed interest in participating in the initiative.
5. The Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties asking Parties and observers to communicate to China their interest in participating in the initiative on Identification Manual of animals listed in CITES Appendix I.
6. Parties and observers are invited to submit nominations or suggestions to the focal point of the contact group which is the representative of China (Ms. Zeng, Yan) at zengy@ioz.ac.cn by **30 August 2023**.

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

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