

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/103

Geneva, 22 August 2023

CONCERNING:

Seeking information on the status, management and trade in songbirds (Passeriformes)

1. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 18.256 (Rev. CoP19) on *Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)*, as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

18.256 (Rev. CoP19) *Subject to available funds, the Secretariat shall:*

- a) within 12 months of the conclusion of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, commission a preliminary study on the scale and scope of international songbird trade to consider the management and conservation priorities of songbird taxa involved in such trade;*
 - b) consult with appropriate technical experts in the preparation of documents on the conservation, trade, management, enforcement and regulatory priorities of the songbird taxa identified;*
 - c) convene a technical workshop to consider the findings of the study and the reports referred to in paragraph b);*
 - d) invite the members of the Animals and Standing Committees, representatives from range, exporting, transit and consumer States, and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in the workshop; and*
 - e) make the results of the study and workshop, together with recommendations, available to the Animals Committee for its consideration.*
2. The Secretariat is collaborating with BirdLife International (BirdLife) to support the implementation of this Decision, thanks to funding received from Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

3. Pursuant to the implementation of paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 18.256 (Rev. CoP19), BirdLife and the Secretariat has developed a questionnaire to gather information on songbirds, including the following:
 - a) the levels of international trade in songbirds (legal and illegal);
 - b) the conservation status of the main species or species groups that are traded internationally;
 - c) captive breeding of songbirds; and
 - d) the national/regional (and/or local) management, enforcement and regulatory priorities of songbirds in international trade.
4. The information collected will be used to inform the technical workshop referred to in paragraph c) of Decision 18.256 (Rev CoP19) to be convened later this year.
5. Parties are invited to access the questionnaire through the following link [Songbirds in trade survey](#) and submit their responses by **15 September 2023**.