

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/121

Geneva, 20 October 2023

CONCERNING:

Online workshops on conservation of amphibians (*Amphibia spp.*)

1. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted [Decisions 19.197 to 19.199](#) on *Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)*. In accordance with Decision 19.197, the Secretariat is preparing two online interdisciplinary workshops for CITES Authorities and other relevant authorities and stakeholders about amphibian species in international trade, with the following objectives:
 - a) identify amphibian species that are in international trade and evaluate whether certain species or groups should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;
 - b) share existing national legislation relevant to the trade in amphibians;
 - c) evaluate whether current levels of trade are compatible with the conservation of these species in the wild;
 - d) compile further data on harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade;
 - e) explore the emerging threat of diseases to traded amphibians, including amphibian chytrid fungus and rana viruses; and
 - f) examine current enforcement efforts to deter and detect illegal and unreported trade and identify additional actions needed.
2. The online workshops on conservation of amphibians is made possible due to the generous contributions by the European Union and Switzerland.

Online sessions

3. The Secretariat hereby informs Parties that the decision to host two workshops was made to accommodate different time zones from which participants are expected to connect. Both workshops, each with two daily three-hour sessions, will cover the same issues, hence participants may choose which one to attend. Workshop sessions will take place as follows:

Dates	Central European Time (CET)	Geographic focus	Working languages
27–28 November 2023	14:00 - 17:00	North America, Central and South America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish
30 November – 1 December 2023	12:00 - 15:00	Africa, Asia, Europe and Oceania	English

- The workshops will be convened on the Interactio online platform. An Interactio platform user guide will be made available to all registered participants in due course. In addition, two training sessions on the use and functionalities of the Interactio online platform will be arranged for registered participants. Further information in this regard, as well as the links and other details that will enable participants to join the workshop will be communicated in due course.

Agenda and documentation

- A background study that incorporates the responses to the questionnaire on amphibians in trade referred to in [Notification to the Parties No. 2023/101](#) will form the basis of the discussions. Parties and organisations that would like to submit any additional documentation that may be of relevance to the discussions are invited to submit such information to the Secretariat (remco.vanmerm@un.org) by **1 November 2023** at the latest. All relevant documentation, including the workshop agenda and background study (in English only), will be made available to all registered workshop participants by **10 November 2023**.

Registration

- Members of CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, other relevant authorities and stakeholders are invited to register online by **13 November 2023** using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/qWNGqpQvC3> to participate in the workshop of their choice. The participation of women representatives is encouraged.
- Upon registration, participants are invited to communicate any comments or questions they would like answered during the workshop. The registration form includes a dedicated space for this.
- Should you have any questions regarding the online registration, please contact Mr. Remco van Merm (remco.vanmerm@un.org).