



# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/052

Geneva, 5 April 2024

CONCERNING:

SINGAPORE

## Changes to Singapore CITES permits and certificates

1. This Notification is being published at the request of Singapore.
2. The CITES Management Authority of Singapore, National Parks Board (NParks), wishes to inform CITES Parties on the changes to its issued CITES permits and certificates.
3. Since 26 September 2023, NParks has implemented a new CITES permits and certificates system, using blockchain technology. This system leverages the OpenAttestation<sup>1</sup> framework. The general format of the Singapore CITES permits remains unchanged.
4. The watermark feature has been replaced by a QR code on the top right corner of each issued CITES permit and certificate. Parties can use any QR code reader on their mobile device to scan the QR code, which will direct the user to a display of the digitally verifiable document on a Singapore Government website with URL ending with "gov.sg".
5. The digital document will only display if:
  - a) the permit was issued by the Singapore Government;
  - b) the permit has not been tampered with; and
  - c) the permit has not been revoked.
6. Once the permit or certificate is verified, there will be green tick marks being denoted, followed by a display of the digital document that should match the physical copy presented during clearance of the shipment.
7. Parties are reminded that the following export/re-export permits will be manually endorsed by Customs.

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<sup>1</sup> *OpenAttestation is an open-source framework for the endorsement and verification of documents using the blockchain. It has been listed in the [Digital Public Goods registry](#) by the [Digital Public Goods Alliance \(DPGA\)](#). DPGA is a multistakeholder initiative supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and UNICEF.*

- a) All CITES export/re-export permits for live animals, regardless of Appendix I, II or III;
  - b) All CITES Appendix I export/re-export permits issued for parts and products;
  - c) CITES permits issued for Appendix II and III parts and products in which the physical quantities shipped is lesser to the permit quantity.
8. Customs endorsement will include a wet ink signature of an authorised officer, the company stamp of the National Parks Board (NParks), the Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS), or the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), and the quantities duly endorsed on Box 15 of each CITES permit.
  9. Parties are strongly encouraged to reach out to the Singapore CITES Management Authority at [CITES@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:CITES@nparks.gov.sg) if they have further queries to the Singapore CITES permits.
  10. The present Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2019/053 of 3 October 2019.