



# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/077

Geneva, 3 July 2024

CONCERNING:

## Call for external funding for the CITES Illegal Trade Database

1. Decision 19.80, paragraph a), on *Annual illegal trade reports* adopted at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), directs the Secretariat, subject to the availability of external funds, to continue its work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), ensuring that the CITES Illegal Trade Database and its data dissemination platform are maintained in accordance with the requirements agreed by the Conference of the Parties. The cost estimate for the maintenance of the database is presented in Annex 4 to document [CoP19 Doc. 34](#) on *Annual illegal trade reports*.
2. With the present Notification, the Secretariat wishes to draw to the attention of Parties that it has not received sufficient external funding to be able to main the database and its dissemination platform throughout the present intersessional period. The current agreement with UNODC regarding maintenance of the database and dissemination platform is ending on 31 August 2024. The Secretariat currently only has sufficient funding to enter into a new agreement with UNODC for maintenance of the CITES Illegal Trade Database from 1 September 2024 to January 2025.
3. As noted in document SC77 Doc. 39.1 on *Enforcement matters*, should the database be discontinued during periods when funding is not available, significant data gaps could occur and this could prevent the data from becoming the valuable resource it is intended to be. If discontinued due to a lack of funding, it might also not be practical or feasible to re-establish the capacity required to maintain the database and dissemination platform when funding again becomes available.
4. The Secretariat therefore invites Parties to consider making additional contributions to the Secretariat for the maintenance of the CITES Illegal Trade Database and its dissemination platform.
5. Parties able to make such contributions or that may have any enquiries in this regard are invited to contact the Secretariat at [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org), with a copy to [maroun.abi-chahine@cites.org](mailto:maroun.abi-chahine@cites.org) with "Notification to Parties No. 2024/077 CITES Illegal Trade Database" in the subject line.

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

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