



# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/131

Geneva, 29 November 2024

CONCERNING:

## Twentieth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Sponsored Delegates Project

1. CITES Parties are scheduled to convene in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, for the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20) from 24 November to 5 December 2025.
2. In [Resolution Conf. 17.3 \(Rev.CoP19\)](#) on *Sponsored Delegates Project*, the Conference of the Parties established a Sponsored Delegates Project with the aim to cover the cost of travel of a maximum number of two delegates from eligible developing countries to and from the venue of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the costs of accommodation, as well as a daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the meeting.

### Call for support to the CoP20 Sponsored Delegates Project

3. The Secretariat hereby invites all governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and private bodies that might be able to provide financial support to inform of their intention to contribute to this important project as soon as possible. The fundraising target for this project is USD 1 million to enable the Secretariat to provide the same level of support to eligible Parties as at previous meetings.
4. Governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and private bodies interested in pledging financial support to CoP20 SDP are invited to contact the Secretariat at [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org) with "CITES CoP20 SDP" in the subject line.
5. The final number of supported countries will depend on the funds raised. The Secretariat will keep Parties updated about the level of funds raised through the CITES website at: [https://cites.org/disc/sponsored\\_delegates\\_project](https://cites.org/disc/sponsored_delegates_project).

### Applications for support from the CoP20 Sponsored Delegates Project

6. Parties that require financial support for the travel and subsistence to attend CoP20 should contact the Secretariat to indicate their need for support using [this link to the online form](#). If you have difficulties accessing the online form, or if you have any questions, please contact by email ([mea-cites-sdp@cites.org](mailto:mea-cites-sdp@cites.org)). **Applications for support from the Sponsored Delegates Project must be received by 27 June 2025.**

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

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[cites.org](https://cites.org)

7. Parties are reminded of the following points regarding requests for financial support to attend CoP20:
- a) Only requests for financial support submitted by Management Authorities that have been designated as authorized to communicate with the Secretariat (in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2 or 3, of the Convention) before the deadline will be considered.
  - b) The selection of the sponsored delegates for CoP20 will be based on the four categories of the UNDP Human Development Index presented in the [2023-2024 Human Development Report](#), taking also into consideration other factors such as Least Developing Countries, Small Island Developing States, Parties under compliance processes, Parties with fewer than 6 delegates at the previous meeting of the CoP, among others.
  - c) Before an applicant can be confirmed as a sponsored delegate, the Secretariat must receive an official nomination letter from the Party confirming that the applicant is part of the delegation at CoP20. As United Nations Member States seek to achieve Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals regarding gender equality, gender diversity and the nomination of women representatives is highly encouraged.
8. Regional representatives to the Standing Committee are encouraged to liaise with Parties that have poor access to the Internet in order to ensure that they are properly informed of this Notification and have the opportunity to respond on time. The Secretariat will also inform permanent diplomatic missions based in Geneva for the same purpose.

#### Other sources of funding to support CoP20 participation of Parties

9. Parties are also reminded of [Resolution Conf. 17.3 \(Rev.CoP19\)](#) urging governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and private bodies which decide to fund directly the participation in CoP20 of representatives from other Parties, as well as Parties whose delegates benefited from such funding, to inform the Secretariat about such funding, so that it may publish this information before the meeting.

#### Travel and health insurance

10. The Secretariat reminds all CoP20 participants, including sponsored participants, that neither the Secretariat nor the host country will provide participants with individual travel or health insurance. Participants must purchase full coverage individual travel and health insurance at their own cost before traveling (the insurance coverage should include the days of travel). The Secretariat shall in no event be responsible for any medical-related costs or expenses for participants.