



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2025/058

Geneva, 25 April 2025

CONCERNING:

Twentieth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

General information

1. Dates and venue

The 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20) will be held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from **Monday 24 November to Friday 5 December 2025**. It will be held at the following address:

[Silk Road Samarkand Congress Center](#)

Rowing canal
Konigil massif
Samarkand, Uzbekistan

The 79th and 80th meetings of the Standing Committee will be held at the same venue on 23 November and 5 December respectively.

2. Registration

Online registration will open shortly for all participants. All Parties will receive within a week a unique registration link sent to the email addresses of the Management Authorities listed in the [CITES online directory](#). All observers registered for CoP19 will also receive a similar link. If, for technical reasons, the link is not received, participants can still initiate the registration process by submitting a nomination letter to registration@cites.org.

The registration deadline is **Thursday 25 September 2025** for observers (non-Parties, United Nations and its specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and private sector). While there is no mandated deadline for Parties, all delegates from Parties are nevertheless strongly encouraged to also register before **Monday, 10 November 2025**.

As part of the registration process, Management Authorities and observers are requested to send a nomination letter with the names and email addresses of their delegates. This does not replace in any way the credentials letter, but is a way for the Secretariat to get official confirmation of the composition of the delegations. After receipt of this nomination letter, delegates will receive their priority pass and visa letter by email.

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

Postal address:
CITES Secretariat
Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8-14
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

cites.org

Enquiries about registration should be sent to registration@cites.org.

3. Credentials for Parties

Parties are reminded that, in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties, representatives of Parties must have been granted powers by a proper authority to represent the Party at the meeting. [Guidance for submission of credentials of representatives of Parties to CoP meetings](#) can be found on the CITES website.

Please note that all credentials must be issued on official stationary and signed by the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs or an alternate signatory (in a temporary or acting capacity), or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization, enabling him/her to represent the Party at the meeting.

All credentials should be sent to credentials@cites.org with a copy to penelope.benn@cites.org no later than **Monday 17 November 2025**. The original credential letter must be handed over to the Secretariat at the venue of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

4. Registration and participation charges for Observers

All observer organizations other than the United Nations and its specialized agencies (i.e. intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and private sector) need to pay a participation charge of **USD 600 for the first participant** and of **USD 300 for each additional participant**. All payments need to be made 30 days before the beginning of CoP20 by **Saturday 25 October 2025**, following the instructions provided by the Secretariat. For payment, please contact elizabeth.warui@un.org.

International non-governmental organizations

In order to be registered by the Secretariat, any international non-governmental organization must demonstrate that it is:

- a) qualified in the protection, conservation or management of wild fauna and flora; and
- b) an organization in its own right, with a legal persona and an international character, remit and programme of activities.

Organizations that were registered as international non-governmental organizations at the 18th or 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18, Geneva, 2019; CoP19, Panama City, 2022) need not provide this information again.

Any international non-governmental organization that wishes to be represented at CoP20 but was not registered as such at CoP18 or CoP19 should send its request to the Secretariat, including the information to show that it meets the above criteria, **no later than Thursday 25 September 2025**.

National non-governmental organizations and private sector entities

National non-governmental organizations and private sector entities are reminded that, in order to participate in CoP20, they must be approved in advance by the Management Authority of the State in which they are located or headquartered, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 4, paragraph 2 b), of the Rules of Procedure. The names of the representatives from these organizations and entities, and evidence of the approval of the Management Authority, must be submitted to the Secretariat by **Thursday 25 September 2025**, in accordance with Rule 4, paragraph 3 a), of the Rules of Procedure.

Enquiries about the above documentation and about participation charges should be sent to registration@cites.org.

5. Hotel reservations

Delegates, including sponsored delegates, are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and should do so as soon as possible.

The Host Country is developing a dedicated hotel booking platform for CoP20. A separate notification to the Parties will be issued with details regarding the services provided by the Host Country, including the hotel booking platform. All queries on accommodation should be made through this platform.

6. Conference documentation

The Secretariat and the Host Country are committed to taking steps to ensure that CoP20 is sustainable and climate neutral, including by promoting a PaperSmart approach. Meeting documents will be made available electronically through the CITES website.

7. Visas

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own visas and should initiate the process as early as possible.

Information on visa requirements, including a list of countries eligible for visa on arrival, is provided by the Host Country in the Annex to this Notification. This is particularly relevant for participants from countries without an Uzbek diplomatic mission. Please review the Annex carefully to determine the appropriate steps based on your country of origin.

If a visa is required to enter Uzbekistan, participants are encouraged to register early to receive a visa assistance letter from the Secretariat and to start the application process promptly.

For any visa-related queries, please contact: samarkandvisa@gmail.com.

8. Office space & Exhibition space

The Host Country is currently exploring the possibility of providing office and exhibition spaces in temporary structures adjacent to the CoP20 venue. These facilities would be offered on a cost-recovery basis, subject to sufficient expressions of interest from participants.

Request for and enquiries about office and exhibition spaces should be sent to shagazatov.uzb@gmail.com, shagazatov@interforum.uz and abdullaev_davron@mail.ru with “CITES COP20 OFFICE/EXHIBITION SPACE” in the subject line. The decision will be made and be communicated through a separate notification to the Parties with details regarding the services provided by the Host Country.

9. Side events

Side event organizers should submit their request [online here](#) before **31 July 2025**. Please note that only Parties and accredited observer organizations can organize side events.

The CITES Secretariat will confirm the side events schedule by **18 August 2025**. Once confirmed, the organizers will receive the contact details for any specific IT or catering requests.

10. Media

Media representatives are requested to apply for media accreditation through a form, which will be available through the [CoP20 page on the CITES Website](#). All media queries should be directed to CITES Secretariat Media (cites-media@cites.org).

11. Further information

Further information about COVID or other health related entry requirements, payment details for office and exhibition spaces, and shipment of materials to Uzbekistan will be provided in a separate notification to be published at a later date, as well as the [CoP20 page on the CITES website](#).

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Below is the list of countries and territories with the respective visa requirements.

Citizens of the **eVisa eligible countries** can apply for a e-visa here: <https://e-visa.gov.uz/main> or request for a visa in the consular offices of Uzbekistan in a simplified manner.

For **visa on arrival and issuance in the consular offices of Uzbekistan**, please follow these steps:

1. Fill an application in this link (<https://visa.mfa.uz/info-travel/create>) and download the file.
 - For *Purpose of visit*, write “Attend CITES CoP20 as representative of [name of Party or organization]”
 - For *Inviting Party*, write “Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection & Climate Change, Uzbekistan, and CITES Secretariat”
 - For *Duration of visa procedure*, select **Urgent**
 - For *Residence in Uzbekistan*, indicate the name and address of your hotel.
2. Submit the application, along with the visa letter generated by the CITES CoP20 registration system (KRONOS) by email to samarkandvisa@gmail.com

More information and instructions can be found here: <https://www.mfa.uz/en/pages/visa-republic-uzb> and <https://e-visa.gov.uz/what-you-need-to-know>

Applying for an Uzbek visa will require that the applicant’s passport be valid for six months beyond the applicant’s date of departure. The passport must have two blank visa pages.

Party	Do you need a visa for Uzbekistan?		How can you apply for a visa?		
	Visa free (for up to 10, 30 and 60 days) or exempt	No exemption (visa is required)	eVisa eligible*	At the local Uzbekistan embassy/consulate**	Visa on arrival only
Afghanistan		x		x	
Albania		x	x		
Algeria		x	x		
Andorra	30 days				
Angola		x	x		
Antigua and Barbuda	30 days				
Argentina	30 days				
Armenia	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Australia	30 days				
Austria	30 days				
Azerbaijan	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Bahamas	30 days				
Bahrain	10 days		x		
Bangladesh		x	x		
Barbados	30 days				
Belarus	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Belgium	30 days				
Belize	30 days				
Benin		x			x
Bhutan		x	x		
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		x	x		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	30 days				

Botswana		x			x
Brazil	30 days				
Brunei Darussalam	30 days				
Bulgaria	30 days				
Burkina Faso		x			x
Burundi		x			x
Cabo Verde		x	x		
Cambodia		x	x		
Cameroon		x	x		
Canada	30 days				
Central African Republic		x			x
Chad		x			x
Chile	30 days				
China	10 days		x		
Colombia		x	x		
Comoros		x			x
Congo		x			x
Costa Rica	30 days				
Côte d'Ivoire		x	x		
Croatia	30 days				
Cuba	30 days				
Cyprus	30 days				
Czech Republic	30 days				
Democratic Republic of the Congo		x			x
Denmark	30 days				
Djibouti		x			x
Dominica	30 days				
Dominican Republic	30 days				
Ecuador		x	x		
Egypt		x	x	x	
El Salvador	30 days				
Equatorial Guinea		x			x
Eritrea		x			x
Estonia	30 days				
Eswatini		x			x
Ethiopia		x			x
Fiji		x	x		
Finland	30 days				
France	30 days				
Gabon		x	x		
Gambia		x			x
Georgia	exempt				
Germany	30 days				
Ghana		x	x		
Greece	30 days				
Grenada	30 days				
Guatemala	30 days				
Guinea		x			x
Guinea-Bissau		x			x
Guyana		x	x		
Honduras	30 days				
Hungary	30 days			x	
Iceland	30 days				
India		x	x	x	
Indonesia	30 days				
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		x	x	x	
Iraq		x			x
Ireland	30 days				

Israel	30 days				
Italy	30 days				
Jamaica	30 days				
Japan	30 days				
Jordan		x	x		
Kazakhstan	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Kenya		x			x
Kuwait	10 days		x	x	
Kyrgyzstan	60 days				
Lao People's Democratic Republic		x	x		
Latvia	30 days				
Lebanon		x	x		
Lesotho		x			x
Liberia		x			x
Libya		x			x
Liechtenstein	30 days				
Lithuania	30 days				
Luxembourg	30 days				
Madagascar		x			x
Malawi		x			x
Malaysia	30 days				
Maldives		x	x		
Mali		x			x
Malta	30 days				
Mauritania		x			x
Mauritius		x	x		
Mexico	30 days				
Monaco	30 days				
Mongolia	30 days				
Montenegro	30 days				
Morocco		x	x		
Mozambique		x			x
Myanmar		x			x
Namibia		x			x
Nepal		x	x		
Netherlands	30 days				
New Zealand	30 days				
Nicaragua	30 days				
Niger		x			x
Nigeria		x			x
North Macedonia		x			x
Norway	30 days				
Oman	10 days		x	x	
Pakistan		x		x	
Palau		x	x		
Panama	30 days				
Papua New Guinea		x			x
Paraguay		x	x		
Peru		x	x		
Philippines		x	x		
Poland	30 days				
Portugal	30 days				
Qatar	30 days		(x)		
Republic of Korea	30 days				
Republic of Moldova	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Romania	30 days				
Russian Federation	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
Rwanda		x			x

Saint Kitts and Nevis	30 days				
Saint Lucia	30 days				
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	30 days				
Samoa		x	x		
San Marino	30 days				
Sao Tome and Principe		x			x
Saudi Arabia		x	x	x	
Senegal		x	x		
Serbia	30 days				
Seychelles		x	x		
Sierra Leone		x			x
Singapore	30 days				
Slovakia	30 days				
Slovenia	30 days				
Solomon Islands		x	x		
Somalia		x			x
South Africa		x	x		
Spain	30 days				
Sri Lanka		x	x		
Sudan		x			x
Suriname		x	x		
Sweden	30 days				
Switzerland	30 days				
Syrian Arab Republic		x			x
Tajikistan	30 days				
Thailand		x	x	x	
Togo		x			x
Tonga		x	x		
Trinidad and Tobago	30 days				
Tunisia		x	x		
Türkiye	30 days				
Turkmenistan		x		x	
Uganda		x			x
Ukraine	exempt		n/a	n/a	n/a
United Arab Emirates	30 days				
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	30 days				
United Republic of Tanzania		x			x
United States of America		x	x	x	
Uruguay		x	x		
Vanuatu		x	x		
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		x	x		
Viet Nam		x	x		
Yemen		x			x
Zambia		x			x
Zimbabwe		x			x

* eVisa eligible country citizens can also apply for visa on arrival or at the local Uzbekistan embassy/consulate.

** Uzbekistan has an embassy/consulate in the following countries: Afghanistan, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.