



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2006/070

Geneva, 6 December 2006

CONCERNING:

CITES Great Ape Enforcement Task Force

1. The CITES Great Ape Enforcement Task Force met at UNEP headquarters, Gigiri, Kenya, from 31 October to 2 November 2006. During its discussions regarding illicit trade in great apes, it was noted that insufficient information is available regarding the nature of such trade. Consequently, the Task Force members designed a country profile form to gather information from the Parties. A copy of the form is attached.
2. The form is to be circulated via CITES, UNEP/UNESCO Great Ape Survival Project (GRASP), ICPO-Interpol and World Customs Organization channels. The resulting information will then be collated and analysed by the CITES Secretariat, ICPO-Interpol and the World Customs Organization to prepare a briefing document to help relevant law enforcement agencies to combat illicit trade in great apes.
3. Whilst the country profile form is principally intended for completion by range States of great apes, the Task Force believes that consumer and transit States are also likely to have valuable information and, thus, encourages all countries where illicit trade in great apes takes place to supply information under any of the relevant sections of the form.
4. Submissions of information should be made to the CITES Secretariat by 31 January 2007.