



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2008/041

Geneva, 3 July 2008

CONCERNING:

GABON AND SOMALIA

Recommendation to suspend trade

1. At its 14th meeting (The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted an Action plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory. Point 2 of the plan required the Secretariat to distribute a questionnaire seeking information regarding the control of trade in ivory. The questionnaire was distributed with Notification to the Parties No. 2007/029 of 17 September 2007.
2. The Action plan required questionnaires to be returned by 31 December 2007 and the Conference of the Parties adopted the following non-compliance measure in the case of elephant range States that failed to submit a response:

Where an elephant range State fails to submit by 31 December 2007 the questionnaire referred to in point 2 above, the Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties advising that the Conference of the Parties recommends that Parties not authorize commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with the State in question. Such a recommendation shall remain in force until a completed questionnaire is received by the Secretariat.
3. The Secretariat sent reminders of this provision to all elephant range States in December 2007.
4. The following elephant range States have failed to submit a completed questionnaire: Gabon and Somalia.
5. Consequently, the Secretariat advises the Parties that, in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Action plan adopted by the Conference of the Parties, they should not authorize commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with the States named in paragraph 4 above, until further notice. This recommendation to suspend trade has been valid since 13 February 2008.
6. This Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2008/036 of 28 April 2008.
7. Parties are reminded that the complete list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade is available on the CITES website under [Resources/Reference lists](#).