



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2005/054

Geneva, 19 September 2005

CONCERNING:

### AFGHANISTAN

#### Acceptance of permits and certificates

1. The Secretariat recently detected an incident involving an attempt to export specimens of CITES-listed species from Afghanistan in which a forged export permit was used. Although this trade was prevented from occurring, it appears that other instances of illicit trade may have gone unnoticed in recent years.
2. The Secretariat has been advised by the CITES Management Authority of Afghanistan that exports of CITES-listed animals and plants for commercial purposes is prohibited by the Government of Afghanistan. Additionally, by Presidential Decree, hunting and harvesting of species is presently prohibited throughout the entire country.
3. Parties are recommended not to accept any permit or certificate allegedly issued by Afghanistan unless its authenticity and validity have been confirmed by the Secretariat.