CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2010/026 Geneva, 19 August 2010

CONCERNING:

Secretary-General’s Certificate of Commendation

1. In 2002, the Secretariat advised the Parties of the introduction of certificates of commendation that would
   be issued, at the Secretary-General’s discretion, to recognize exemplary actions related to enforcement.

2. The latest such Certificates are to be awarded to the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic and
   the Czech Environmental Inspectorate in recognition of their exemplary work in relation to combating the
   illegal trade in parrots.

3. Since 2006, the two agencies have collaborated on a long-term investigation relating to the smuggling of
   rare parrots, which has required liaison and coordination with other law enforcement bodies around the
   world and with the INTERPOL General Secretariat. The investigation has uncovered widespread forgery of
   CITES-related documents, false declarations of captive-breeding, and use of fake marking rings. It has
   also detected new smuggling routes and techniques and required the use of, in the case of wildlife crime,
   innovative investigative methods that cannot be made public at this time. Seizures conducted during the
   investigation, of Appendix-I parrots, such as specimens of the Lear’s macaw (Anodorhynchus leari), are
   particularly commendable.

4. The investigation continues and prosecutions have commenced.

5. The date and venue for the presentation of the certificates have yet to be decided.