



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2017/071

Geneva, 22 November 2017

CONCERNING:

### Simplified procedure for permits and certificates

1. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decisions 17.173-174, directed to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee, respectively:

*17.173 The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties requesting Parties to report on their implementation of, and experiences with the simplified procedures to issue permits and certificates to facilitate and expedite trade that will have a negligible impact, or none, on the conservation of the species concerned, as agreed under Section XII of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on Permits and certificates, and submit a compilation of this information and its recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee prior to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

*17.174 The Standing Committee shall consider the report and recommendations from the Secretariat provided in accordance with Decision 17.173 and make recommendations for consideration by the Parties, if deemed necessary.*

2. The Conference of the Parties further adopted Decision 17.85, paragraph a) which requests the Standing Committee to *inter alia*
  - a) *examine mechanisms to facilitate the efficient international movement of samples for forensic or enforcement purposes, for consideration by the 18th Conference of the Parties*

The implementation by the Standing Committee of this Decision will also be informed by the report referred to above. As stated in documents CoP17 Doc. 36, Doc. 56.2 and Doc. 70, concerns have also been expressed regarding the collection and transport of biological samples from CITES-listed marine species, particularly when these samples fall under the CITES provisions on introduction from the sea.

3. For the Secretariat to assist the Standing Committee in providing recommendations for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Parties and other stakeholders are invited to submit information to the Secretariat in one of the working languages on:
  - a)- implementation of Section XII of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) in national legislation, if any; and
  - b) experiences with the use of simplified procedures to issue permits and certificates to facilitate and expedite trade with no or negligible impact on the conservation of species concerned.
4. The information should be submitted to the Secretariat at [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org) no later than **31 January 2018**. Questions with regard to this Notification can be addressed to [sofie.flensburg@cites.org](mailto:sofie.flensburg@cites.org).