



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/047

Geneva, 7 May 2018

CONCERNING:

Youth engagement

1. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 17.5 and Decisions 17.26 and 17.27 on *Youth engagement*.
2. In Resolution Conf. 17.5, the Conference of the Parties:
 1. *ENCOURAGES Parties to explore opportunities to engage today's youth in CITES and other wildlife conservation issues, for example through internship or mentoring programs;*
 2. *INVITES Parties and the CITES Secretariat to work with universities, youth groups, and other relevant associations and organizations, to create educated and engaged youth networks that can inform and influence conservation decisions;*
 3. *INVITES Parties and observer organizations to include youth delegates on official delegations and provide learning opportunities at CITES meetings.*
3. At its 69th meeting (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties to encourage Parties to inform the Secretariat of progress made to implement Resolution Conf. 17.5 on *Youth engagement* so that the Standing Committee can report to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (CoP18) in accordance with Decision 17.27.
4. The Secretariat therefore requests all Parties to communicate to it by 7 June 2018 progress made to implement Resolution Conf. 17.5, including efforts being made or plans to inform and engage the youth in the preparation of and participation in CoP18 in May 2019 in Sri Lanka, so that the Secretariat can include such progress in its report for consideration at the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018).
5. Responses to this Notification should be sent to Liu Yuan at yuan.liu@cites.org.