



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/090

Geneva, 12 November 2018

CONCERNING:

Information on the implementation of
Decisions 17.145 to 17.148 on Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*)

1. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 17.145 to 17.151 on *Totoaba* (*Totoaba macdonaldi*), as shown in the Annex to this Notification, and available at <https://www.cites.org/eng/dec/valid17/81851>
2. The Standing Committee considered progress in the implementation of these Decisions at its 69th (SC69, Geneva, November 2017) and 70th (SC70, Sochi, October 2018) meetings.
3. At SC70, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties, asking range, transit and consumer States of totoaba to provide information on the implementation of Decisions 17.146 to 17.148, and any other relevant information.
4. In compliance with the above, the Secretariat hereby invites range, transit and consumer States of totoaba to provide any relevant information to the CITES Secretariat by **4 December 2018** at tom.demeulenaer@cites.org.
5. Taking into consideration the responses to this Notification, the Secretariat will prepare a report for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Colombo, 2019) on the implementation of Decisions 17.145 to 17.151, and propose amendments, as appropriate.

Decisions 17.145 to 17.151 *Totoaba* (*Totoaba macdonaldi*)**17.145 *Directed to Parties***

Parties acknowledge that Mexico, the United States of America and China are committed to collaborating and contributing towards the conservation of totoaba, and urge other parties to join them in this effort.

17.146 *Directed to range, transit or consumer States of totoaba*

Parties should intercept illegal shipments, and, as appropriate and to the extent possible, share information on such illegal catch and illegal trade, with the Secretariat, as well as CITES authorities of relevant Parties.

17.147 *Directed to range, transit or consumer States of totoaba*

Parties should engage in awareness raising activities about the endangerment of totoaba and its grave implications for vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*, an endangered species threatened with extinction and listed under Appendix I), eliminate supply of and demand for totoaba, and increase law enforcement measures to prevent and address illegal fishing and trade.

17.148 *Directed to range, transit or consumer States of totoaba*

Parties shall submit to the Secretariat information to be made available to the 69th and 70th meetings of the Standing Committee on the number and quantity of seizures of illegal totoaba products, arrests of those engaged in the illegal fishing and trade, results of any prosecutions, and actions taken to implement these decisions.

17.149 *Directed to the Secretariat*

Subject to availability of external resources and in consultation with relevant organizations [i.e. the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), etc.] as well as the range State, the Secretariat shall commission a report, to be submitted to the Standing Committee, on the current status of totoaba and vaquita, and ongoing conservation efforts, information on illegal trade and markets, and recommendations to guarantee the recovery of totoaba and vaquita and combat illegal trade.

17.150 *Directed to the Standing Committee*

The Standing Committee shall evaluate the data and information submitted by Parties at its 69th and 70th meetings and make recommendations for any additional actions.

17.151 *Directed to Parties and other relevant stakeholders*

Parties and other relevant stakeholders are urged to support efforts to stop illegal fishing, trafficking, and support activities benefitting the recovery of wild populations of totoaba.