



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/101

Geneva, 18 August 2023

CONCERNING:

Seeking information on the status, management and trade in amphibians (Amphibia spp.)

1. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 19.197 on *Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp)*, as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Animals Committee

19.197 *The Secretariat shall, subject to availability of external resources and in close consultation with the Animals Committee:*

- a) *conduct one or more interdisciplinary workshops for CITES Authorities and other relevant authorities and stakeholders about amphibian species in international trade, including but not limited to the following objectives:*
 - i) *identify amphibian species that are in international trade and evaluate whether certain species or groups should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;*
 - ii) *share existing national legislation relevant to the trade in amphibians;*
 - iii) *evaluate whether current levels of trade are compatible with the conservation of these species in the wild;*
 - iv) *compile further data on harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade;*
 - v) *explore the emerging threat of diseases to traded amphibians, including amphibian chytrid fungus and rana viruses; and*
 - vi) *examine current enforcement efforts to deter and detect illegal and unreported trade and identify additional actions needed; and*
- b) *explore modalities to implement this Decision in a cost-effective manner, including through the organization of online events; and*
- c) *report on the progress in the implementation of paragraph a) and b) above to the Animals Committee, including any relevant recommendations.*

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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[cites.org](https://www.cites.org)

2. The Secretariat is collaborating with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to support the implementation of this Decision, thanks to funding received from the European Union and Switzerland.
3. Pursuant to the implementation of paragraph a) of Decision 19.197, IUCN and the Secretariat have developed a questionnaire to gather information on amphibians, including the following:
 - a) the levels of international trade in amphibians (legal and illegal);
 - b) captive breeding of amphibians;
 - c) threat of diseases to and from amphibians in trade; and
 - d) the national/regional (and/or local) management, enforcement and regulatory priorities of amphibians in international trade.
4. The information collected will be used to inform the technical workshop referred to in Decision 19.197 paragraph a) to be convened later this year.
5. Parties are invited to access the questionnaire through the following link [CITES Notification: Amphibians in trade](#) and submit their responses by **6 September 2023**.
6. Additional information and any enquiries relating to the survey should be submitted by email to the IUCN at Oliver.Tallowin@iucn.org and copy to info@cites.org.