



# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2022/085

Geneva, 20 December 2022

CONCERNING:

## Celebration of World Wildlife Day 2023 and CITES@50

1. World Wildlife Day 2023 will be a very special celebration as it will mark the 50th birthday of CITES, signed on 3rd March 1973 in Washington. The theme for the 2023 World Wildlife Day is ***Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation***. This provides an opportunity to focus on the people at all levels who are working for the conservation of species of wild fauna and flora in towards making a difference. From national and international organizations and conventions to NGOs, businesses, local communities and homes, the positive work that is being done will be promoted. It will celebrate the partnership work that CITES has done and continues to do daily, as a Convention that sits at the junction of trade and conservation. World Wildlife Day 2023 will draw inspiration from successful partnerships of the past, offering a springboard to the necessary future work needed to bring us into a sustainable partnership with nature.
2. CITES has partnered and collaborated with other conventions, UN agencies and other organizations in the service of the broader UN goals. The broad theme of World Wildlife Day 2023 will allow discussion around an extensive variety of important topics, from species-specific conservation to larger-scale efforts in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2020 Framework on Biodiversity (which is expected to be in place by the time of WWD 2023).
3. In view of the theme of the World Wildlife Day 2023 on *Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation*, Parties and stakeholders are invited to submit examples of existing innovative and effective partnerships at local, national or regional levels that could serve as an inspiration for others. Please submit information on:
  - a) partners (names and types of partners),
  - b) geographical location and species involved if relevant,
  - c) objectives of the partnership,
  - d) examples of results, and
  - e) any other relevant information, including links or other references.

Small-scale partnerships (school, neighbourhood, local NGO, etc.) are as valuable as large scale to demonstrate that anybody can be involved in wildlife conservation and World Wildlife Day. Please submit the information as early as possible and preferably before **13 January 2023**.

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)

4. The Secretariat recalls that [Resolution Conf. 17.5 \(Rev. CoP18\) on Youth engagement](#) encourages all Parties to explore opportunities to engage today's youth in CITES and other wildlife conservation issues, for example by putting forward youth representatives to participate at the World Wildlife Day celebration.
5. Parties are also encouraged to use this year's theme of *Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation* and CITES@50 for the observance of World Wildlife Day and, where appropriate, to adapt it to the focus of species or issues of national priority.
6. Further to [Resolution Conf. 17.1 \(Rev. CoP18\) on World Wildlife Day](#), the Secretariat invites Parties and all member States and organizations of the United Nations system and other global, regional and sub-regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, including youth organizations and all interested individuals to:
  - a) observe and raise awareness of Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation and CITES@50 - the theme for [World Wildlife Day 2023](#);
  - b) associate the celebrations with major national and international conservation events, including virtual events;
  - c) organize campaigns to support existing partnerships working on wildlife conservation and the important work they do;
  - d) make use of the [World Wildlife Day logo](#) and other visuals that will be made available over the next weeks, including a short video on the theme as widely as possible;
  - e) register all events on the World Wildlife Day website [event submission page](#); and
  - f) send messages from State leaders, heads of relevant government bodies and organizations in connection with the theme of World Wildlife Day to the Secretariat for posting on the World Wildlife Day website.
8. In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other partners, the Secretariat is organizing a hybrid event on 3 March 2023 at 14:00 (CET), which will be livestreamed to the public for viewing on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/WorldWildlifeDay/live>. More about the event will be made available on [www.wildlifeday.org](http://www.wildlifeday.org).
9. Any questions with regard to this Notification may be addressed to Mr. David Whitbourn ([david.whitbourn@un.org](mailto:david.whitbourn@un.org)) or Ms. Jennifer Vionnet ([jennifer.vionnet@un.org](mailto:jennifer.vionnet@un.org)).