



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/024

Geneva, 5 March 2018

CONCERNING:

Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Sponsored Delegates Project

1. CITES Parties will convene in Colombo, Sri Lanka, for the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18) from 23 May to 3 June 2019.
2. In [Resolution Conf. 17.3](#), the Parties established a Sponsored Delegates Project with the aim to cover the cost of travel of a maximum of two delegates from applying developing countries to and from the venue of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the costs of accommodation, as well as a daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the meeting. Full participation in meetings of the Conference of the Parties is essential to ensure that decisions are taken on the basis of deliberations involving all interested players.
3. The Secretariat hereby invites all governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and private bodies that might be able to provide financial support to inform it as soon as possible of their intention to contribute to this important project. The fundraising target for this project is USD 1 million, to enable the Secretariat to provide the same level of support to Parties as at previous meetings.
4. Parties that will require financial support for the travel and subsistence of up to two representatives to attend CoP18 should contact the Secretariat to indicate their need for support, specifying whether it is requested for one or two delegates. **Applications for support from the Sponsored Delegates Project must be received by 31 December 2018.**
5. Only requests for financial support submitted by Management Authorities that, in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2 or 3, of the Convention, have been designated as authorized to communicate with the Secretariat (the main Management Authority, if there are several) by that date will be considered. They should fill in the attached form and submit it to Haruko Okusu (haruko.okusu@cites.org) with a copy to Ms. Nadia Berny (nadia.berny@cites.org), or send it by fax to +41 (22) 797 34 17.
6. Regional representatives to the Standing Committee are encouraged to liaise with Parties that have poor access to the Internet in order to ensure that they are properly informed of this Notification and have the opportunity to respond on time. The Secretariat will also inform permanent diplomatic missions based in Geneva for the same purpose.
7. The final list of countries that may be supported will be dependent upon the funds raised. The Secretariat will inform Parties that have requested assistance about the level of support that they will be able to obtain through the Sponsored Delegates Project as funds become available.
8. Parties are also reminded of [Resolution Conf. 17.3](#) urging governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations and private bodies which decide to fund the participation in CoP18 of representatives from other Parties, as well as Parties whose delegates benefited from such funding, to inform the Secretariat about such funding, so that it may publish this information before the meeting.