



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2015/005

Geneva, 21 January 2015

CONCERNING:

### Elephant ivory stocks: marking, inventories and security

1. The purpose of the present Notification is to remind Parties that Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) contains, amongst other provisions:
  - a) a recommendation to mark elephant ivory tusks and cut pieces;
  - b) a deadline of **28 February** each year for the submission of an inventory of government-held ivory stock and significant privately held ivory stocks, and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year.
2. The request to submit an inventory is directed to " Parties in whose jurisdiction there is an ivory carving industry, a legal domestic trade in ivory, an unregulated market for or illegal trade in ivory, or where ivory stockpiles exist, and Parties that may be designated as ivory importing countries."
3. In the same Resolution, the Conference of the Parties also directs the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to provide technical assistance to "Parties that have unregulated internal markets for ivory, where ivory is found to be illegally traded, where ivory stockpiles are not well secured, or that have significant levels of illegal trade in ivory" to:
  - a) *improve legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures concerning trade in ivory and in developing practical measures to control the trade in ivory; and*
  - b) *support, where requested, the security and registration of government-held ivory stockpiles.*
4. Annex 1 to the present Notification contains an extract from Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) with the full text of the provisions referred to above.
5. A model table that can be used by Parties for reporting their inventory of ivory to the Secretariat by 28 February 2015 is contained in Annex 2 to the present Notification. Parties are also invited to include a summary of information on the ivory stocks disposed of during the year 2014, in particular the volume of raw and worked ivory and how it was disposed of.
6. Parties that wish to seek the assistance of the Secretariat in securing and registering stockpiles, as foreseen in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) (cf. paragraph 3 above), are invited to contact the Secretariat directly.
7. The Standing Committee has requested the Secretariat to make country-specific data from the ivory stock declarations of Parties available to MIKE and ETIS for analysis, and report an aggregated summary of this data to the Committee at its regular meetings and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties. Consequently, at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee, to be held in Geneva in January 2016, the Secretariat will report on the inventories of elephant stocks that it has received.
8. The present Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2013/055.

EXTRACT FROM RESOLUTION CONF. 10.10 (REV. COP16)  
REGARDING MARKING OF IVORY AND TRADE IN ELEPHANT SPECIMENS

**Regarding marking**

RECOMMENDS that whole tusks of any size, and cut pieces of ivory that are both 20 cm or more in length and one kilogram or more in weight, be marked by means of punch-dies, indelible ink, or other form of permanent marking, using the following formula: country-of-origin two-letter ISO code, the last two digits of the year / the serial number for the year / and the weight in kilograms (e.g. KE 00/127/14). It is recognized that different Parties have different systems for marking and may apply different practices for specifying the serial number and the year (which may be the year of registration or recovery, for example), but that all systems must result in a unique number for each piece of marked ivory. This number should be placed at the 'lip mark', in the case of whole tusks, and highlighted with a flash of colour;

**Regarding trade in elephant specimens**

URGES those Parties in whose jurisdiction there is an ivory carving industry, a legal domestic trade in ivory, an unregulated market for or illegal trade in ivory, or where ivory stockpiles exist, and Parties that may be designated as ivory importing countries, to ensure that they have put in place comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory, enforcement and other measures to:

- a) regulate the domestic trade in raw and worked ivory;
- b) register or license all importers, exporters, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers dealing in raw or worked ivory;
- c) introduce recording and inspection procedures to enable the Management Authority and other appropriate government agencies to monitor the movement of ivory within the State, particularly by means of:
  - i) compulsory trade controls over raw ivory; and
  - ii) comprehensive and demonstrably effective stock inventory, reporting, and enforcement systems for worked ivory;
- d) engage in public awareness campaigns, including: supply and demand reduction; drawing attention to existing or new regulations concerning the sale and purchase of ivory; providing information on elephant conservation challenges, including the impact of illegal killing and illegal trade on elephant populations; and, particularly in retail outlets, informing tourists and other non-nationals that the export of ivory requires a permit and that the import of ivory into their state of residence may require a permit and might not be permitted; and
- e) maintain an inventory of government-held stockpiles of ivory and, where possible, of significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory, and inform the Secretariat of the level of this stock each year before 28 February, indicating: the number of pieces and their weight per type of ivory (raw or worked); for relevant pieces, and if marked, their markings in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution; the source of the ivory; and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year; ...

DIRECTS the Secretariat, with reference to the findings of ETIS and MIKE and within available resources:

- a) to identify those Parties that have unregulated internal markets for ivory, where ivory is found to be illegally traded, where ivory stockpiles are not well secured, or that have significant levels of illegal trade in ivory;
- b) to seek from each Party so identified information concerning its implementation of the provisions of this Resolution relating to ivory trade and, where appropriate and in consultation with the Party, undertake *in situ* verification missions; and
- c) to report its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee, which may consider appropriate measures in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3 on *CITES compliance procedures*; and

DIRECTS the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to provide technical assistance to these Parties to:

- a) improve legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures concerning trade in ivory and in developing practical measures to control the trade in ivory; and
- b) support, where requested, the security and registration of government-held ivory stockpiles;

## MODEL INVENTORY FOR THE DECLARATION OF AN IVORY STOCK

Inventories submitted to the Secretariat may be summarized.  
However, the following table gives an example that could be used to provide a full inventory.

GOVERNMENT-HELD STOCKS OF ELEPHANT IVORY							
For RAW IVORY							
Identification number (tusk number)	Date received (dd.mm.yyyy)	Country of origin (country name or 'unknown')	Type of specimen (e.g. whole tusk or broken piece)	Source (e.g. seized, confiscated, found or PAC <sup>1</sup> )	Weight (kg)	Length (cm) (straight line from base to tip)	Circumference at widest part (cm)
data	data	data	data	data	data	data	data
data	data	data	data	data	data	data	data

For WORKED IVORY						
Description	Date received (dd.mm.yyyy)	Country of origin (country name or 'unknown')	Source (e.g. seized or confiscated)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	
data	data	data	data	data	data	
data	data	data	data	data	data	

<sup>1</sup> PAC = Problem Animal Control,

PRIVATELY HELD STOCKS OF ELEPHANT IVORY							
For RAW IVORY							
Identification number (tusk number)	Date received (dd.mm.yyyy)	Country of origin (country name or 'unknown')	Type of specimen (e.g. whole tusk or broken piece)	Source (e.g. seized, confiscated, found or PAC <sup>2</sup> )	Weight (kg)	Length (cm) (straight line from base to tip)	Circumference at widest part (cm)
data	data	data	data	data	data	data	data
data	data	data	data	data	data	data	data

For WORKED IVORY					
Description	Date received (dd.mm.yyyy)	Country of origin (country name or 'unknown')	Source (e.g. seized or confiscated)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)
data	data	data	data	data	data
data	data	data	data	data	data

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<sup>2</sup> Problem Animal Control.