



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2015/056

Geneva, 28 September 2015

CONCERNING:

Checklist of CITES species and Species+

Web services now available to pull data
from the Checklist of CITES Species and Species+

1. The online version of the CITES Checklist and Species+ were launched on 30 October 2013 with a number of innovative options and services to facilitate its use and complement other CITES-related information and data resources. The 2013 edition of the CITES Checklist and Species+ includes the changes to standard nomenclature and to the Appendices adopted at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2013).
2. Since the launch of the CITES Checklist and Species+, the Secretariat has worked with UNEP-WCMC, Belgium, France and Switzerland on the development of web services to allow Parties to extract, *inter alia*, species' scientific and common names and the relevant Appendix number directly into national CITES checklists or CITES electronic permits and certificates.
3. The Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC are pleased to announce that these web services are now available for Parties and others in the CITES community to use. Through the use of web services, the CITES Checklist and Species+ can act as master databases. Parties to CITES, Customs officials or others involved in work related to the Convention can now update national CITES checklists in a timely manner, thereby avoiding duplication of effort, reducing mistakes in nomenclature, and ensuring that information on CITES permits and certificates is correct.
4. Information on using these web services is available from UNEP-WCMC at: <http://api.speciesplus.net/>
5. The launch of web services will also allow Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to make better use of CITES data in the development of innovative electronic resources, including identification materials and electronic learning resources.
6. The Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC are grateful to Belgium, France and Switzerland for their financial support, which made possible the development of this new resource.
7. Questions related to these web services should be directed to UNEP-WCMC at: species@unep-wcmc.org.