



P.242.45-0 – CITES 1/15

## **Notification to the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), concluded at Washington on 3 March 1973**

### ***Accession to the CITES by the European Union***

On 9 April 2015, the European Union deposited with the Swiss Federal Council an instrument of accession to the CITES.

The instrument contains the following declaration in accordance with Article XXI, paragraph 3 (original in English, French and Spanish):

*«The European Union declares that, in accordance with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 192(1) thereof, it is competent for entering into international agreements, and for implementing the obligations resulting therefrom, which contribute to the pursuit of the following objectives:*

- *preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment;*
- *protecting human health;*
- *prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources;*
- *promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems, including climate change.*

*The European Union declares that it has already adopted legal instruments, binding on its Member States, covering matters governed by this Convention, in particular but not limited to Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (OJ EU L 61, 3.3.1997, p. 1) and the implementing Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006 of 4 May 2006 (OJ EU L 166, 19.6.2006, p. 1).*

*Moreover the European Union declares that it is responsible for the performance of those obligations resulting from the Convention which are covered by European Union legislation in force. The exercise of European Union competence is, by its nature, subject to continuous development.»*

According to its article XXII, paragraph 2, the Convention, amended at Bonn on 22 June 1979 and at Gaborone on 30 April 1983, will enter into force for the European Union 90 days after the deposit of the instrument of accession, i.e. on 8 July 2015.

This notification is addressed to the Parties by the Depositary ([www.fdfa.admin.ch/depositary](http://www.fdfa.admin.ch/depositary)) in conformity with article XXV, paragraph 2, of the CITES.

Berne, 16 April 2015

