

Notification 2023/007

20 March 2023

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

SECOND MEETING OF RANGE STATES OF THE JOINT CITES-CMS AFRICAN CARNIVORES INITIATIVE (ACI): 1 - 4 MAY 2023 IN ENTEBBE, UGANDA - INVITATION TO OBSERVERS TO EXPRESS THEIR INTEREST IN ATTENDING THE MEETING.

The ACI meeting is scheduled to take place from 1 to 4 May 2023 in Entebbe, Uganda (venue: Protea Hotel by Marriott Entebbe). The meeting seeks to bring together representatives of all countries that are Range States to one or more of the four species covered by the ACI, i.e., African Lion (*Panthera leo*), Leopard (*P. pardus*), Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), and African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*) as well as relevant observer organizations. The main objective of the meeting in Entebbe is for Range States to discuss the [ACI Programme of Work](#) approved by the Standing Committees of both CITES and CMS, its implementation and prioritization of activities (including an implementation stock take), conservation issues specific to the species covered by the ACI, and operational matters for the future of the ACI (including its governance, *modus operandi*, and funding).

Observers (non-Parties, United Nations and its specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private sector) directly involved in activities that support Range States in the implementation of the activities contained in the ACI POW, experts in the specific areas of work covered by the POW, and institutions funding the ACI through the CITES and CMS Secretariat or through activities contained in the POW are invited to express their interest in attending the meeting. Observers interested in attending should register online through the following link on the CMS website not later than Friday, 31 March 2023: <https://meetings.cms.int/meetings/ACI2/registration> .

Observers are requested to submit with their online registration a short supporting statement (maximum 200 words) containing information relating to the activities in the ACI POW that they are supporting Range States to implement / specific areas of expertise relevant to the POW / activities contained in the POW funded.

Please note that in line with CITES and CMS practice, participation by observers will be limited to ensure a balance between Range States and observers participating in the meeting. Observers are therefore encouraged to collaborate and consolidate representation. The Secretariat will confirm admissions to the meeting after close of registrations for observers (31 March 2023).

Countries that are Range States¹ to the species listed above have been invited to the meeting and are asked to register as per the Invitation and not later than Friday, 24 March 2023. If a Range State has not received the invitation, please reach out to Ms Nora Weyer at the CMS Secretariat through e-mail: nora.weyer@un.org.

¹ Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.