

## CONFERENCE MINISTERIELLE SUR LA COOPERATION HALIEUTIQUE ENTRE LES ETATS AFRICAINS RIVERAINS DE L'OCEAN ATLANTIQUE

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES COOPERATION AMONG AFRICAN STATES BORDERING THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

Executive Secretariat

## CIRCULAR NOTE TO THE ATTENTION OF LADIES AND GENTLEMEN FOCAL POINTS OF THE MEMBER STATES

<u>Subject</u>: Capacity Building/ Master in Management and Conservation of Traded Species: International Framework, organized by the International University of Andalusia (UNIA)

As part of contributing to a substantial reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss and to the achievement of relevant globally agreed goals and objectives by ensuring that CITES and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually reinforcing, ATLAFCO encourages and calls on its Member States to contribute to capacity building of its nationals in this area.

Capacity building for sustainable marine resource management is a crucial process to ensure the conservation of the marine environment and guarantee socio-economic benefits for coastal communities.

This involves several steps, including improving knowledge, training competent personnel, developing management tools, and collaborating with stakeholders.

To this end, ATLAFCO is pleased to forward you enclosed the documents relating to the Master in Management and Conservation of Commercialized Species: International Framework, organized by the International University of Andalusia (UNIA) for the 16th edition.

This program provided specialized and quality training to 418 students from 107 States Parties.

The overall objective of the programme is to provide high-quality, specialist training on the scientific basis, techniques and tools for the implementation and development of CITES, in order to strengthen the fight against illegal trade, particularly in countries of origin where animals and plants are subject to international trade.



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The specific objectives are, among others, to provide specialized training on

- Biodiversity and trade in species;
- The scientific basis and methodologies for identifying and addressing issues that hinder the proper implementation of CITES;
- · Administrative, legislative and implementation aspects of CITES;
- Biological and trade criteria for listing species in CITES;
- Application of geographic information systems and spatial data to the study of current and potential species distribution and to the assessment of habitat quality.

To this regard, the Executive Secretariat kindly requests the focal points to ensure the widest possible dissemination of this call for applications and invite interested persons to contact UNIA directly.



<u>Copy for information and dissemination to the relevant central authorities of the ATLAFCO member states:</u>

Their Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Ambassadors to the Kingdom of Morocco - Rabat.