



**Lao People's Democratic Republic**

**Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

Government

No 299/GOV

Vientiane Capital, 05 June 2024

**Decree**

**on Management of International Trade in**

**Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants<sup>1</sup>**

- Pursuant to the Law on Government No. 03/NA, dated 16 November 2021;
- Pursuant to the Law on Forestry No. 64/NA, dated 13 June 2019;
- Pursuant to the Law on Wild Animals No. 42/NA, dated 17 July 2023;
- Pursuant to the Law on Aquatic Animal and Fishery No. 41/NA, date 17 July 2023;
- Referring to the Proposal of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry No.5031 /MAF, Dated. 19 December 2023.

**The Government issues this Decree:**

**Section 1**

**General Provisions**

**Article 1 Purpose**

This Decree defines the principles, regulations and measures relating to the management, monitoring and inspection of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants to implement this work efficiently and effectively with the aim of avoiding the illegal international trade in endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, and destructive utilization, and of ensuring sustainable use of natural resources, allowing regional and international integration, and contributing to the national socio-economic development.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: 'International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants' is Lao translation for CITES. Therefore, English reader can regard the term as CITES.

## **Article 2 Management of International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants**

Management of International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants refers to the implementation of the principles, regulations and measures relating to the international trade in endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants listed in the CITES Appendices I, II and III, in accordance with laws and in an effective and sustainable manner.

## **Article 3 Interpretation of the Terms**

1. **CITES** refers to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora<sup>2</sup> which was adopted in Washington D.C. on 3 March 1973 and to which Lao PDR became a party on 1 March 2004;
2. **CITES Secretariat** refers to the secretariat which performs the function of the focal point in gathering and summarizing the information and reports, facilitates the organization of meetings and other activities of the Parties, and communicating all relevant activities of the Parties through the website (<https://cites.org/eng/disc/sec/index.php>). The CITES Secretariat has the Head Quarter in Geneva, Switzerland;
3. **Party** refers to the country which signed and ratified the CITES;
4. **Conference of the Parties (CoP)** refers to the conference which is organized at least every two years to make decisions on important matters related to CITES as provisioned in the CITES;
5. **CITES MA (CITES Management Authority)** refers to the unit under the Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry to implement the CITES;
6. **CITES SA (CITES Scientific Authority)** refers to the unit under the Faculty of Forestry Science, National University of Laos, Ministry of Education and Sports appointed by the Minister of Education and Sports to undertake the scientific research and certification;
7. **Commercial purpose** refers to the conduct of any activities related to the international trade in endangered species of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products whether in form of cash or otherwise for economic benefits;
8. **Non-commercial purpose** refers to the conduct of any activities relating to the international trade in endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products for the purpose of scientific research, training or education, investigation, return of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants between CITES MA of Lao PDR and CITES MA of other countries;

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<sup>2</sup> Note to CS: Lao direct translation of wild fauna and flora is “aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants “

9. **Aquatic animal** refers to all species of animals that are born and live in water or has the period of life cycle in the natural water or are taken from their natural habitats for raising or breeding including eggs, sperm and larva of aquatic animals;
10. **Wild animal** refers to all species of animals which are born, live and grow in the wilderness and the wild animal habitats or are taken from those areas for raising and breeding. They are composed of mammals, reptiles, birds and other wild animal species;
11. **Wild plants** refer to all species of trees and plants that grow in the forests and water bodies, including plants and trees that are taken from the forests and water bodies for cultivation or artificial propagation;
12. **Carcass** refers to the whole dead body of animals or dead plants;
13. **Part** refers to the body parts of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, such as head, claw, horn, ivory, bone, bile, oil, shell, hair, scale, tooth, blood, skin, leaf, fruit, nut, vine, root and other parts;
14. **Product** refers to the carcasses, parts of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants taken for processing into finished or semi-finished products, such as: food, medicine, ornaments, household items, musical instrument, products used in the study/education and so on;
15. **Artificially propagated plant** refers to all plant species grown under controlled environment from seeds, cuttings, divisions, callus tissues or other plant tissues, spores or other propagation methods or have been derived from cultivated parental stock;
16. **Bred in captivity of aquatic and wild animal** refers to taking parental stocks to mate either naturally or semi-naturally, or transmit their gametes in a controlled environment to reproduce eggs or offspring;
17. **Controlled environment** refers to the environment which is not the natural habitat created by humans to breed or reproduce aquatic animals, wild animals, and wild plants, by setting the area designed for raising aquatic animals, wild animals, and wild plants to grow and being safe;
18. **Legal Acquisition Finding (LAF)** refers to inspecting by CITES MA whether the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products are legally acquired in accordance with laws;
19. **Non-Detriment Finding (NDF)** refers to scientific study by the CITES SA to ensure that the trade in the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products is not detrimental to the survival of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants.

**Article 4 Principles on the Management of Activities for the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants**

The management of activities for the international trade in endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants shall be performed in accordance with the following principles:

1. Complying with the policy, laws and National Socio-Economic Development Plan, International Treaties and Conventions to which Lao PDR is a Party;
2. Ensuring the protection of the interests of the State, individuals, legal entities and organizations who undertake the management, protection, development and utilization [of wildlife];
3. Ensuring the management, protection, development and utilization of the species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants in an effective and sustainable manner.

**Article 5 Scope of Application**

This Decree shall apply for individuals, legal entities and organizations, both domestic and foreign, which conduct the management of activities for the international trade of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants in Lao PDR.

**Section 2**

**International List of Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants<sup>3</sup>**

**Article 6 International List of Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants**

The international list of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products consist of three CITES Appendices as follows:

1. Appendix I are species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants which are threatened and faced with the risk of extinction, are affected by hunting, harvesting, trade and destructive utilization;
2. Appendix II are species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants which are not threatened with extinction at present time, but may become extinct in the future if there is no proper management;

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<sup>3</sup> International List of Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants is the CITES Appendices.

3. Appendix III are species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants which can be reproduced naturally and widely, but such species may be negatively affected in the future. Any Party may propose the protection of its species to seek the cooperation of other Parties in the control of trade of such species.

These Appendices are available on CITES Official Website (<https://cites.org/eng/disc/text.php>).

## **Article 7 Amendment of the International List of Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants**

In cases of revisions to the International List of Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants (CITES Appendices), the CITES MA coordinates with the CITES SA to conduct studies for the preparation of documents, data, justifications, status, threats to aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants for the listing, up-listing, down-listing and deletion from the CITES Appendices, which are submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for approval, and thereafter, submitted to the Conference of the Parties (CoP) in accordance with CITES procedure.

The CITES Secretariat shall open the CoP to review the implementation of CITES and to consider, amend and adopt the amended Appendix I and Appendix II based on the majority vote of the Parties attending the meeting. For the amendment of Appendix III, each State Party has the right to make the proposal unilaterally. Whenever Appendices I and II are amended by the CITES CoP, Parties must update their appendices of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants and publish them within a period of ninety days of the adoption of the amended Appendices by the CoP.

## **Section 3**

### **Registration and Declaration of List in Possession**

#### **Article 8 Registration and Declaration of List in Possession**

Any individuals, legal entities and organizations which possess, breed in captivity of aquatic and wild animals and artificially propagate wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products listed in the CITES Appendices and have the purpose for international trade, must register and declare their possession with the CITES MA and the data of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products and all trade information must be stored with the CITES MA. CITES MA has the right to inspect the site locations, the legal acquisition of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products in accordance with laws, and information of individuals, legal entities and organizations that register.

The documents required for applying for registration and declaration of list in possession are as follows:

1. An application for registration using the form provided by the CITES MA of Lao PDR;
2. List of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products under the applicant's possession.

**Article 9 Consideration of Registration and Declaration of List in Possession**

After receiving the application for registration and declaration of list of specimens in possession of the applicant, the CITES MA shall examine and consider the registration and declaration of list in possession and shall issue the Registration and Possession Certificate to the applicant within a period of thirty days. In case the registration and declaration of list in possession cannot be approved, a written reply shall be given to the applicant together with the reason.

## **Section 4**

### **Trade, Import, Export, Re-export and Transit**

**Article 10 International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants**

Trading of aquatic animals, wild animals, and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products in the CITES Appendices, must comply as follows:

1. Appendix I of endangered species of aquatic animals and wild animals including carcasses, parts and products are absolutely prohibited to trade, except for non-commercial purpose, for which it is required to make a non-detriment finding (NDF) and a legal acquisition finding (LAF), and obtain a permit from the CITES MA.
2. Appendix I of endangered species of wild plants including parts, carcasses and products taken from nature are absolutely prohibited to trade, except for non-commercial purpose for which it is required to make a non-detriment finding (NDF), a legal acquisition finding (LAF), and obtain the permit from the CITES MA. Appendix I of artificially propagated wild plants including parts, carcasses and products is allowed to be traded for commercial and non-commercial purposes following the same procedures of the trade of Appendix II; however, the plantations that artificially propagate wild plants of Appendix I shall be registered with the CITES MA, in consultation with the CITES SA, and with the CITES Secretariat. Trading in artificially propagated wild plants of Appendix I must have special packing and labeling; and with the CITES permits from CITES MAs; and setting an annual trade quota as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

3. Appendix II of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products are permitted to trade for commercial and non-commercial purposes, but it is required to make a non-detriment finding (NDF) and a legal acquisition finding (LAF) and obtain the permit from the CITES MA.
4. Appendix III of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products are permitted to trade but it is required to make a legal acquisition finding (LAF) and to obtain the permit from the CITES MA.

Trade in endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products included in the CITES Appendices between Lao PDR and non-CITES Parties requires a permit, from the competent authorities of the trading partner countries.

### **Article 11 Import**

Import refers to the taking of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products into Lao PDR.

The importer is required to submit the following documents to apply for an Import Permit of Appendices I, II, and III:

1. The Export Permit or Re-Export Permit from the competent authority of the country of origin;
2. The certificate of origin;
3. The certificate of animal health or certificate of plant or product phytosanitary;
4. The contract between the importer and the exporter;
5. The list of CITES specimen, the numbers of species to be imported;
6. Proper arrangement for the safe and suitable transportation and housing.

Importation of Appendix I, II and III of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products, shall not be detrimental to the survival of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants in the import country.

### **Article 12 Export**

The export refers to the taking of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products from Lao PDR to a foreign country.

The exporter is required to submit the following documents to apply for an Export Permit of Appendices I, II, and III:

1. The certificate of origin;
2. Non-Detriment Finding (NDF), except for Appendix III;
3. The certificate of animal health or certificate of plant or product phytosanitary;
4. The contract between the importer and the exporter;

5. The list of CITES specimen, the numbers of species to be exported;
6. Proper arrangement for the safe and suitable transportation and housing.

For artificially propagated wild plants of Appendix I including carcasses, parts and products, the certificate of artificial propagation is required.

For bred in captivity of aquatic and wild animals of Appendix I for non-commercial purpose, the certificate of captive breeding is required.

### **Article 13. Re-export**

Re-export refers to the taking of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products, which were previously imported to Lao PDR for re-export to the country of origin or to a third country in accordance with the regulations.

In addition to the documents specified in Article 11 of this Decree, the re-exporter is required to have these additional documents:

1. The Registration and Possession Certificate;
2. The certificate of captive-bred aquatic and wild animals or artificially propagated wild plants to be exported;
3. The Import Permit from the country of destination and related documents as needed.

### **Article 14. Transit**

Transit refers to the transport of the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products, in transit through Lao PDR to other countries.

The transiter should seek permission from CITES MA of Lao PDR and is required to have the following documents:

1. Export Permit of the concerned authorities of the country of origin;
2. Import Permit from country of destination, if applicable;
3. Certificate of origin, if applicable;
4. Certificate of animal health or certificate of plant or product phytosanitary;
5. The list and the number of specimens to be in transit;
6. Proper arrangement for the safe transportation.

### **Article 15. Application for Permits**

Individuals, legal entities and organizations which intend to apply for the permits for import, export, re-export and transit of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products shall submit the application together

with the required documents, as determined in Articles 11, 12, and 13 of this Decree, to the CITES MA of Lao PDR.

The application form is available in specific forms determined by the CITES MA.

The import, export, re-export and transit of the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products require the payment of fees and service charges as determined in the Presidential Decree on Fees and Service Charges in its most recent promulgation.

#### **Article 16. Consideration of Issuing Permits**

After receiving the permit application, the CITES MA must examine and consider the issuance of the permit within thirty days from the date of receipt of the application and full set of required supporting documentation. In case the permit cannot be issued, it is required that the applicant be notified of the reason in writing.

The Export Permit and the Re-Export Permit shall have a validity period of a maximum of six months from the date of issuance of the permit. The Import Permit shall have a validity period of twelve months from the date of the issuance of the permit. A permit can be used for one time only.

In case CITES MA has detected misrepresentation, falsification of documents, the use of forged documents or non-compliance with the relevant laws and regulations, the CITES MA can revoke the issued permit.

### **Section 5**

#### **Rights and Duties of CITES Management Authority (MA) and CITES Scientific Authority (SA)**

##### **Article 17 Rights and Duties of CITES MA**

The CITES MA has the rights and duties according to the scope of its responsibility as follows:

1. Implement the policy, laws, strategies, plans, programs, and projects relating to the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
2. Conduct the dissemination and education on the policy, laws, strategies, plans, programs, and projects regarding the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;

3. Manage, store, destroy or return the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products by court verdict;
4. Register and declare of list in possession of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants and register plantation of artificially propagated wild plants of Appendix I;
5. Conduct the LAF of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products of CITES Appendices;
6. Participate in the NDF study with the CITES SA;
7. Set export quota of the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants based on CITES SA's recommendations in order to propose to Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for consideration;
8. Coordinate with relevant agencies on registration of plantations, farms, rehabilitation centers and rescue centers for aquatic and wild animals;
9. Issue or revoke permits for import, export and re-export of endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products;
10. Propose the competent authority of the country of origin to issue permits regarding International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
11. Create and develop the information system, coordination mechanism, exchange of information among concerned agencies in the management of the implementation of activities for International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants both inside the country and with foreign countries;
12. Participate in the meetings, seminars, trainings and sharing of lessons on International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants activities in the country and abroad, as assigned;
13. Prepare the Annual Trade Report and Annual Illegal Trade Report on International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants for the CITES Secretariat before 31 October each year;
14. Liaise and cooperate with organizations, both domestic and international, in order to exchange information and to manage the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants including carcasses, parts and products;
15. Summarize and report on the implementation of management of activities for the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in regular basic; and
16. Exercise other rights and perform other duties as provided in the laws.

## **Article 18 Rights and Duties of CITES SA**

CITES SA has the rights and duties according to the scope of its responsibility as follows:

1. Implement regulations relating to CITES SA;
2. Disseminate regulations relating to CITES SA;
3. Issue the NDF certification;
4. Prepare a management plan as part of NDFs relating to endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants including carcasses, parts and products to ensure the sustainability;
5. Conduct research to provide recommendations regarding annual export quotas, and propose to CITES MA to consider;
6. Provide recommendations to CITES MA on and participate in the disposal of live or dead animals from seizure or those that threaten the ecosystems;
7. Provide recommendations to CITES MA regarding import of exotic aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants to ensure that they are not detrimental to the ecosystems and native species;
8. Conduct study, research, experiment, analyze and prove the DNA of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including their products, carcasses and parts for issuing of certification of origin or DNA;
9. Participate in the meetings, seminars, trainings and sharing of lessons on International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants activities in the country and abroad, as assigned;
10. Collect and analyze the data and information relating to the biological status of the aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants affected by trade in order to prepare proposal for the amendment of CITES appendices, as appropriate;
11. Coordinate with relevant agencies to review the proposals to amend the CITES-listed Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants in the CITES Appendices proposed by the Parties to the Conference of Parties;
12. Summarize and report on the activity implementation to the Ministry of Education and Sports and the CITES MA on a regular basis;
13. Exercise other rights and perform other duties as provided in the laws.

## **Section 6**

### **Prohibitions**

#### **Article 19. General Prohibitions**

Individuals, legal entities or organizations are prohibited to perform any of the following acts:

1. Giving bribes to government officials-officers and law enforcement officers, falsifying documents and using forged documents;
2. Threatening, causing delay, and preventing government officials-officers to perform righteous duty;
3. Taking possession of aquatic and wild animals of CITES Appendix I, including carcass, parts from their habitats;
4. Torturing animals in all forms;
5. Raising and breeding aquatic and wild animals of CITES Appendix I for commercial purpose;
6. Hunting, trafficking, trading, transporting, producing, distributing, possessing, using, or releasing species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, listed in the CITES Appendices, including carcasses, parts and products in violation of the laws;
7. Importing, exporting, re-exporting and transiting endangered species of aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants, including carcasses, parts and products in violation of the laws and this Decree;
8. Performing any other acts that are in violation of the laws and this Decree.

#### **Article 20. Prohibitions for Government Officials-Officer and Law Enforcement Officers**

Government officials-officers and law enforcement officers are prohibited to perform any of the following acts:

1. Abusing rights, responsibilities, position, enforced violation and threatening [others] for personal, family, relative and group benefits;
2. Demanding and requesting for, and receiving bribes from individuals, legal entities and organization;
3. Careless and negligence in performing duties, and lack of accountability;
4. Causing delay, forging documents, using forged documents, issuing documents unlawfully;
5. Demand for fees and service charges not in accordance with the laws;

6. Disclosing official and state confidential information, as well as confidential information of individuals, legal entities and organizations;
7. Falsifying, misleading, hiding and providing cooperation with a violator of the laws;
8. Performing any other acts that are in violation of the laws and this Decree.

## **Section 7**

### **Management and Inspection**

#### **Article 21. Management and Inspection Organizations**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is directly charged with the management and inspection of CITES activities and is the focal point in coordinating with the Ministry of Education and Sports, other relevant Ministries, Organizations, Local Administration Offices.

#### **Article 22. Rights and Duties of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has the rights and duties according to the scope of its responsibility as follows:

1. Study, formulate the policy, laws, strategies relating to the trade in the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants for submission to the Government for consideration;
2. Translate the policy, laws, strategies relating to the trade in the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants into plans, programs, projects and ensure their implementation;
3. Disseminate the policy, laws, strategies, regulations, plans, programs, projects, international treaties and conventions relating to the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
4. Issue and nullify the Decisions, Orders, Instructions, Notifications relating to the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
5. Lead the management, monitoring and inspection of the implementation of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
6. Appointment, dismissal and rotate of staff of CITES MA;

7. Supervise the inspection and case proceeding regarding the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants including carcasses, parts and products;
8. Participate in and report on the outcomes of the meetings relating to the management of International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants activities both in the country and abroad;
9. Build, develop, train and upgrade capacity of personnel in charge of the management of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
10. Coordinate with relevant Ministries, Organizations and Local Administration Offices on implementing the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
11. Liaise and cooperate with foreign countries, regional and international organizations in the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
12. Summarize and regularly report on the implementation of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants to the Government Cabinet on regular basis;
13. Exercise other rights and perform other duties as provided in the laws.

**Article 23. Rights and Duties of the Ministry of Education and Sports**

The Ministry of Education and Sports has the rights and duties according to the scope of its responsibility as follows:

1. Translate the policy, laws, strategies relating to CITES SA activities into plans, programs, projects and ensure their implementation;
2. Disseminate the policy, laws, strategies, regulations, plans, programs, projects, international treaties and conventions relating to CITES SA activities;
3. Issue and nullify the Decisions, Orders, Instructions, Notifications relating to CITES SA;
4. Lead the management, monitoring and inspection of the implementation of the CITES SA activities;
5. Appointment, dismissal and rotate of staff of CITES SA;
6. Participate in the meetings relating to the CITES SA activities, both in the country and abroad;
7. Build, develop, train and upgrade capacity of personnel in charge of CITES SA activities;
8. Coordinate with Ministries, Organizations and Local Administration Offices on for implementing CITES SA activities;

9. Liaise and cooperation with foreign countries, regional and international organizations concerning CITES SA activities;
10. Summarize and regularly report on the implementation of CITES SA activities to the Government Cabinet;
11. Exercise other rights and perform other duties as provided in the laws.

#### **Article 24 Rights and Duties of other Sectors, Local Administration Offices and Relevant Parties**

Other relevant sectors, local administrations and parties shall have the rights and duties to coordinate with the CITES management and inspection organizations in accordance with their mandates and responsibilities.

#### **Article 25 Content of Inspection**

The inspection of the trade in the CITES-listed aquatic animals, wild animals and wild plants activities shall have the following content:

1. Implementation of laws and regulations relating to the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants;
2. Performance of duties of the organizations, government officials-officers and other relevant officers;
3. Formulation and implementation of plans on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants.
4. Other content of inspection, as needed.

#### **Article 26. Forms of the Inspection**

The inspection consists of three forms as follows:

1. Regular inspection which is the inspection that is regularly conducted according to a plan with specified time period;
2. Inspection with advance notice which is the inspection outside the plan and is conducted when deemed necessary by giving an advance notice to the targeted party;
3. Emergency inspection which is the inspection carried out urgency without giving an advance notice to the targeted party.

The inspection of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants must be conducted in strict compliance with the laws and this Decree.

## **Section 8**

### **Incentives for Good Performers and Measures against Violators**

#### **Article 27. Incentives for Good Performers**

Any individuals, entities or organizations having good performance in the implementation of this Decree, particularly the management and inspection of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants with good quality and in compliance with laws and regulations, shall receive the awards or other benefits in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

#### **Article 28. Measures against Violators**

Any individuals, legal entities or organizations having violated this Decree especially the Prohibitions in Section 6 above will be subject to education, warning, disciplinary measures, fines, civil damages compensation or criminal punishments in accordance with the laws.

## **Section 9**

### **Final Provisions**

#### **Article 29. Uniform, Logo and Stamp**

The CITES MA shall have the uniform, logo and stamp for use in performing their official duties as designed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### **Article 30. Implementation**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Education and Sports shall take the lead in the implementation of this Decree.

Ministries, Agencies, Local Administration Offices and other relevant parties shall acknowledge and strictly implement this Decree.

#### **Article 31. Effectiveness**

This Decree shall enter into force from 31 July 2024.

This Decree supersedes the Decree on Management of International Trade in Endangered Species of Aquatic Animals, Wild Animals and Wild Plants No. 348/GOV, dated 11 November 2022.

**For the Government of Lao PDR**

**Prime Minister**

# ສະໜັບສະໜູນການພິມໂດຍ:



Implemented by



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