



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2025/063

Geneva, 5 May 2025

CONCERNING:

ECUADOR

Trade in Galapagos iguanas

(*Amblyrhynchus cristatus*, *Conolophus subcristatus*, *Conolophus marthae*, *Conolophus pallidus*)

1. This notification is published at the request of the Management Authority of Ecuador, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE). The ministry wants to work with everyone to control international trade in iguana species found only on the Galapagos Islands (*Amblyrhynchus cristatus*, *Conolophus subcristatus*, *Conolophus marthae*, and *Conolophus pallidus*).
2. These species included in Appendix II are endemic to the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador and are on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in the Vulnerable category, except for *C. marthae* which is Critically Endangered and has an estimated population of 300 individuals in an area of 16 km².
3. Ecuador has never allowed or authorized the export of live specimens of *A. cristatus*, *C. subcristatus*, *C. marthae*, and *C. pallidus* for commercial or personal purposes. The Organic Law of the Special Regime of the Galapagos Province strictly prohibits the export of endemic species of the Galapagos Islands to the mainland and abroad. However, international trade in these species is currently recorded under the "captive-breeding" source.
4. In 2022, during the seventy-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee (SC74), Ecuador presented information document [SC74 Inf. 26](#) on *Illegal Trade in Galapagos Iguanas*, in which importing countries were urged not to issue import permits, as this would support a highly criminal business and support the laundering of animals of illegal origin. In case of receiving import requests for these species subject to trafficking, it was recommended to inform the CITES Management Authority of Ecuador, however, since 2022 new exports and imports for these species have been registered.
5. Therefore, the Government of Ecuador strongly requests all Parties not to issue permits or certificates for the import, export or re-export of specimens of *Amblyrhynchus cristatus*, *Conolophus subcristatus*, *Conolophus marthae* and *Conolophus pallidus*, without prior consultation with the Management Authority of Ecuador.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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