



GENEVA ENVIRONMENT DIALOGUES

COVID-19 impacts for CITES

*Webex & Facebook Live Event
5 May 2020*

Linkages between CITES and wildlife diseases

1. International trade in wild animals and their products can spread wildlife diseases
2. The effects of wildlife diseases can influence CITES implementation decisions
3. Trade restrictions taken for sanitary reasons can impact programmes and projects designed to ensure the sustainable use of wildlife
4. People who depend on wildlife trade for their livelihood may be adversely affected

Role of CITES

1. CITES is a convention whose aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival
2. So far, CITES Parties have been reluctant to use the possibilities afforded by the Convention to control trade in wildlife for other purposes
3. WTO's Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) provides guiding principles
4. Other intergovernmental bodies have a primary role establishing guidelines, recommendations and standards for controlling diseases

Thank you very much

