

ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (AWG-CITES AND WE)



Region and countries of the network

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam and the ASEAN Secretariat

Authorities involved

CITES authorities, customs, police, prosecutors, and other relevant national law enforcement agencies.

Formal
Network

Brief description

ASEAN, as a region with Mega-Biodiversity, has made the issue of wildlife enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking an important agenda item. Wildlife enforcement dialogue in ASEAN started in 2006 when the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) was formally established as part of the ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry under the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF). Since 2017, to enhance the effectiveness of regional cooperation, wildlife issues have been addressed by the ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (AWG CITES and WE).

(Reporting) structure / decision-making process

The CITES Management Authority host the secretariat of the NICECG. Each year there is at least one conference of the NICECG, which makes decisions and then the member ministries/authorities will carry out the enforcement work. The members report to the NICECG Conference.

Key activities

In principle, AWG CITES and WE are mandated to establish and implement measures to improve collaboration, cooperation and information exchange between and among law enforcement agencies and CITES management authorities.

Key partners in the region

CITES, UNODC, TRAFFIC South East Asia, SEAFDEC, Interpol, USAID, ACB.

Website and other useful links

Not supplied

Network focal points

Primary focal point: NATIVIDAD BERNARDINO; email: director@bmb.gov.ph

Secondary focal point: NERMAHE HTA; email: nerma_lita@yahoo.com

Other (cc): ESTEVEN TOLEDO; email: entoledo@yahoo.com