

TRAFFIC Terms of Reference

TITLE:	Legal Consultant(s)
LOCATION:	Kazakhstan / Kyrgyzstan / Uzbekistan
REPORTS TO:	Project Manager – Central Asia
TYPE OF	Self employed

Organisational Background

TRAFFIC International is a charity and limited company registered in the UK. TRAFFIC is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, striving to ensure that trade in wildlife is not a threat to the conservation of nature. We actively monitor and investigate wildlife trade and provide information to diverse audiences worldwide as a basis for effective conservation policies and programmes. TRAFFIC works in strategic alliance with IUCN and WWF on wildlife trade issues.

TRAFFIC's head office, based in Cambridge UK, provides worldwide leadership, coordination, cross-regional and corporate functions. TRAFFIC's local engagement is managed through six regional programme offices operating under the auspices of the UK charity, with staff based in a hub office and at other strategic locations where necessary. Programme offices operate within a geographic area of responsibility focused on one or multiple countries where TRAFFIC aims to help deliver priority programme outcomes.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

TRAFFIC and its partners, including Ekomaktab and the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK) are implementing a two-year Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) funded project entitled "Understanding the dynamics and trends of the illicit trade in wildlife targeted for the pet trade in Central Asia". This project aims to reduce poaching and trafficking of wildlife targeted for the exotic pet trade across the three target countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, by deepening the knowledge and understanding of the illegal trade in species targeted for the pet industry. A previous INL-funded project resulted in a report that included a legal analysis of national legislations, regulations, and their gaps in relation to CITES and National Red Books regarding the wildlife trade in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The report also identified barriers to effective law enforcement and provided specific recommendations.

For this project, the legal analysis should build upon the previous report, focusing on the laws related to possession, keeping, breeding, and selling of wild animals in the three target countries.

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Characteristic Duties

TRAFFIC is seeking a consultant to support TRAFFIC's INL project in Central Asia. The successful candidate will conduct an analysis of existing laws pertaining to the trade in wild animals that are used for the pet trade in the three target countries. The results of the legal analysis for Kazakhstan / Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, including a set of specific recommendations and follow up priorities should be summarised in a report. They will be presented to relevant stakeholders in the countries and used as a basis to formulate recommendations.

The legal consultant(s) will work closely with TRAFFIC's project personnel in Bishkek and other partners in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.

Specific Duties

- Review the existing laws, national policies, and any detailed rules related to the possession, sale, keeping, farming and breeding in native and non-native wildlife for the national and international pet trade in the three target countries.
- Compare the legal boundaries between the national laws and the CITES regulations of these three countries with regard to the selling, keeping, breeding /farming and purchasing of CITES listed species.
- Undertake a thorough analysis and identify gaps, barriers and weaknesses of laws/regulations related to the possession, sale, keeping, farming and breeding in native and non-native exotic pets.
- Where possible, undertake interviews with relevant governmental representatives and NGOs to assess the capacities of the government personnel to implement existing laws and common practices i.e. with regard to inspections of markets, breeding operations, etc.
- Compile the findings of the review and analysis into a report that identifies areas of weakness and barriers in the regulatory framework and implementation practices.
- Write specific recommendations and follow up priorities for the national agencies and project partners to better implement these laws and policies, control and inspect the operations and marketplaces for each target country.
- Any other duties relevant to the role.

Full Requirements / Expectations of the Role holder

- First-level university degree in law or related field (required) and a post-graduate degree in the same field (desirable).
- A thorough understanding of law and law enforcement and public agencies, and detailed knowledge of environmental laws and regulations.
- Strong research and analytical skills, together with the ability to articulate complex issues clearly and to summarise large quantities of information in a clear, concise manner.
- Citizen of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan or Uzbekistan
- Fluency in spoken and written Russian or any local language. Fluency in English will be considered a strong asset.
- Relevant experience in data collection, legal analysis, and drafting of legal documents.
- A thorough knowledge and understanding of policy and legislative frameworks in one of the target countries as well as relevant institutions responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the same, and specially of those related to environmental and anti-corruption issues.

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- Highly motivated and results-oriented individual with the ability to work independently, with remote oversight, and under pressure, and to set own work priorities as appropriate with a capacity to meet deadlines.
- Registration as a professional lawyer will be considered a distinct advantage.
- Previous experience in wildlife crime, court monitoring, and/or court process analysis and assessment will be considered an asset.
- Experience and/or demonstrated interest in environmental law, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development issues will be considered an advantage.
- Experience working in multi-disciplinary teams will be considered an asset.

Duration of the appointment

The assignment will be for a period of 4 months between 18 November 2024 and 18 March 2025. The estimated number of days that the consultant will spend is approximately 25 days. The consultant may move on to support the trainings/presentations at a later stage.

	Activity/deliverable	Deadline
1.	<u>Deliverable</u> : Legal analyses report 1 st draft	18 December, 2024
2.	<u>Deliverable</u> : Legal analyses report 2 nd draft	17 January, 2025
3.	<u>Deliverable</u> : Final report on legal analyses in Russian	18 February, 2025
4.	Produce bi-weekly progress reports on collection, processing and analysis. <u>Deliverable</u> : 6 weekly progress reports.	Due every other Friday

Deadline and submission applications: Send your CV and a cover letter indicating why you are interested in this position to Sanjar.Kurmanov@traffic.org no later than October 18, 2024.