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Reference is made to Notification to the Parties No. 2003/030 of 6 May 2003 regarding an attached draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), where State Parties are invited to provide written comments to the Secretariat on the MoU.

Icelandic authorities are of the view that the primary role of the FAO regarding commercially exploited aquatic species should be underlined in the draft. Since the draft does not recognize that role, Iceland is not in a position to accept the draft in its current form as a basis for discussion on cooperation with the FAO.

Yours sincerely

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Ambassador
Director of Department of Natural
Resources and Environmental Affairs.