

Implementation report format

The format below follows the structure of the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020* and aims to collect information to enable the Strategic Vision indicators to be implemented.

CITES vision statement

Conserve biodiversity and contribute to its sustainable use by ensuring that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade, thereby contributing to the significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss and making a significant contribution towards achieving the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention requires each Party to submit to the CITES Secretariat a report on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the provisions of the Convention.

The report format allows Parties to present information in a standard manner, so that it can be easily collated, with three main objectives:

- i) To enable monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of the Convention;
- ii) To facilitate the identification of major achievements, significant developments, or trends, gaps or problems and possible solutions; and
- iii) Provide a basis for substantive and procedural decision-making by the Conference of the Parties and various subsidiary bodies.

Information on the nature and extent of CITES trade should be incorporated into the annual report [Article VIII paragraph 7 (a)], whereas the report provided under Article VIII paragraph 7 (b) should focus on measures taken to implement the Convention.

The report should cover the period indicated in [Resolution Conf. 11.17 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#) which urges that the report should be submitted to the Secretariat one year before each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP). The reason for setting the report to be due a year in advance of the following CoP is to allow information to be collated so it can be considered by the Standing Committee in advance of CoP, and enable publication of the Strategic Vision indicators in advance of CoP.

Reports should be prepared in one of the three working languages of the Convention (English, French, Spanish).

Parties are *strongly* encouraged to prepare and submit their reports in electronic form. This will facilitate timely integration of information from Parties into publication of the Strategic Vision Indicators. If reports are only provided in hard copy, resources will be needed at the Secretariat to make an electronic copy, and this is not good use of Secretariat resources.

The completed report should be sent to:

CITES Secretariat
International Environment House
Chemin des Anémones 11-13
CH-1219 Châtelaine-Geneva
Switzerland

Email: info@cites.org
Tel: +41-(0)22-917-81-39/40
Fax: +41-(0)22-797-34-17

If a Party requires further guidance on completing their report, please contact the CITES Secretariat at the address above.

Party	Belgium
Period covered in this report	1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020
Department or agency preparing this report	Federal Public Service (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment Directorate General Environment Service Multilateral and Strategic Affairs CITES Unit Avenue Galilée, 5 boîte 2 1210 Brussels
Contributing departments, agencies and organizations	*CITES Management Authority: isabelle.gregoire@health.fgov.be elke.malfait@health.fgov.be *CITES Scientific Authority frans.arijs@health.fgov.be *CITES Enforcement Authority: Inspection service – DG Environment – FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment

GOAL 1 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH AND IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONVENTION

Objective 1.1 Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through appropriate policies, legislation and procedures.
All Aichi Targets relevant to CITES, particularly Aichi Target 2, Target 6, Target 9, Target 12, Target 17 and Target 18.

Indicator 1.1.1: The number of Parties that are in category 1 under the national legislation project.

1.1.1a	<p>Have any CITES relevant policies or legislation been developed during the period covered in this report? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', have you shared information with the Secretariat? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please provide details to the Secretariat with this report:</p>
1.1.1b	<p>Does your legislation or legislative process allow easy amendment of your national law(s) to reflect changes in the CITES Appendices (e.g. to meet the 90 day implementation guidelines)? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please provide details of the constraints faced:</p> <p>The changes to the CITES Appendices are implemented through an amendment of "Council Regulation (EC) N° 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein" which is directly applicable in Belgium as in all other EU Member States.</p> <p>New CITES Appendix I species</p> <p>The Belgian Law of 28/07/1981 provides furthermore for an article which specifies that for the newly Appendix I listed species, it is mandatory to submit an inventory for the holding of live specimens, allowing therefore newly listed App. I specimens to be monitored.</p>

	<p>New CITES Appendix II species</p> <p>As it may be difficult to prove the legal acquisition of specimens of Appendix II species prior to the listing of the species in this Appendix, the Belgian CITES Management Authority has provided for voluntary online registration of such specimens.</p> <p>This voluntary registration serves as a proof of legal acquisition of the specimen(s) before the CITES Appendix II listing has come into force.</p> <p>Supporting documents that can be submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Details of the breeder/store/former owner of the animal - Date of acquisition - Identification of the animal (chip or closed ring) if applicable. If the animal is not identified or cannot be identified, clear colour pictures (full profile of the animal and detailed head shot) or distinguished features (specific stains, etc.) are required.
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Objective 1.2 Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens.
Aichi Target 3.

Indicator 1.2.1: The number of Parties that have adopted standard transparent procedures for the timely issuance of permits in accordance with Article VI of the Convention.

		Yes	No	No information
1.2.1a	Do you have standard operating procedures for application for and issuance of permits?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Are the procedures publicly available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1b	Do you have: Electronic data management and a paper-based permit issuance system?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit information exchange between Management Authorities of some countries If 'Yes', please list countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit information exchange to Management Authorities of all countries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit data exchange between Management Authorities and customs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit used to cross border with electronic validation by customs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide information on challenges faced or issues overcome: This elaborate electronic system for the submission of applications for CITES documents, that has entered into force in March 2015, allows Belgian citizens (traders as well as individuals) to apply and pay for their CITES documents online. Treatment and issuance of permits is also done via this system, which allows to keep records of all applications in a digital form. This system also gives the possibility to ensure a better control of the legal trade, to extract data, establish trends etc. The establishment of this online system has required time and resources, it is been (and still is) regularly updated in order to facilitate the submission and treatment of the applications.				
If 'No', do you have any plans to move towards e-permitting ¹ ?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ e-permitting refers to the electronic (paperless) management of the permit business process, including permit application, Management Authority – Scientific Authority consultations, permit issuance, notification to customs and reporting.

If you are planning to move towards e-permitting, please explain what might help you to do so: yes Since 2019, the Belgian CITES Management Authority participates to the feasibility study on electronic CITES permitting at EU level and technical meetings on the subject that are organised by the European Commission. The goal of this EU initiative is to interconnect national permitting systems in the EU.

This electronic permitting system will support the processing of certificates and permits mandated by the EU CITES Regulations. These Regulations, in turn, reflects the obligations of the European Union pursuant to the CITES Convention. The system is intended for the benefit of all EU Member states

Belgium participates in the testing of the future electronic system together with the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Italy. The development and testing are undergone by steps (each step being called a “sprint”). The European Commission ICT team participates to the testing, providing help and technical advice if needed. “Sprints” can be tailored to each participating MS situation.

Indicator 1.2.2: The number of Parties making use of the simplified procedures provided for in [Resolution Conf. 12.3 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#).

1.2.2a	Has your country developed simplified procedures for any of the following?	Tick all applicable		
		Yes	No	No information
	Where biological samples of the type and size specified in Annex 4 of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16) are urgently required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of pre-Convention certificates or equivalent documents in accordance with Article VII , paragraph 2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of certificates of captive breeding or artificial propagation in accordance with Article VII, paragraph 5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of export permits or re-export certificates in accordance with Article IV for specimens referred to in Article VII, paragraph 4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there other cases judged by a Management Authority to merit the use of simplified procedures? If 'Yes', please provide details:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Objective 1.3 Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
[All Aichi targets relevant to CITES, particularly Target 9, Target 14 and Target 18.](#)

Indicator 1.3.1: The number of Parties that have implemented relevant reporting under Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties and/or Standing Committee recommendations.

1.3.1a	<p>Has your country responded to all relevant special reporting requirements that are active during the period covered in this report, including those in the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, Standing Committee recommendations, and Notifications issued by the Secretariat (see link to location on the CITES website where the reporting requirements are listed)?</p> <p>Responses provided to ALL relevant reporting requirements <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Responses provided to SOME of the relevant reporting requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Responses provided to NONE of the relevant reporting requirements <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No special reporting requirements applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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1.3.1b	<p>Were any difficulties encountered during the period covered in this report in implementing specific Resolutions or Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide details of which Resolution(s) or Decision(s), and, for each, what difficulties were / are being encountered?</p>
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Objective 1.4 The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species.
 Aichi Target 1, Target 12, Target 14 and Target 19.

1.4.1: The number and proportion of species that have been found to meet the criteria contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 or its successors. This includes both the periodic review and amendment proposals.

1.4.1a	<p>Have you undertaken any reviews of whether species would benefit from listing on the CITES Appendices? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide a summary here, or a link to the report of the work (or a copy of that report to the Secretariat if the work is not available online):</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. regarding COP19</p> <p><i>Pterocarpus</i> spp. Belgian CITES Scientific Authority (SA) is working on a proposal for the listing of the African tree genus <i>Pterocarpus</i> spp. in CITES Appendix II with the technical support of the German CITES Scientific Authority</p> <p><i>Physignathus cocincinus</i> (Chinese water dragon) known to be traded in high numbers to the EU and also harvested locally in range states for food.. The German CITES SA, with technical support from the Belgian CITES SA, has been working with countries of origin (incl. Viet Nam) to obtain further information on the species. The main threat to this species is over-exploitation, trade levels are high indeed.</p> <p><i>Laotriton laoensis</i> (Laos Warty Newt) Bilateral contacts between EU Member States and Lao PDR ongoing to clarify if Appendix II listing of the species could be considered at CoP19. Germany and Belgium are under their way to draft a listing proposal.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. regarding COP18</p> <p><i>Pericopsis elata</i> Belgium worked on a proposal to change the current annotation of this species. The goal was to expand the scope of the annotation for <i>P. elata</i> (#5) to include plywood and transformed wood. The proposal was adopted and the species is now listed with annotation 17 (#17).</p>
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Objective 1.5 Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings.
 Aichi Target 2, Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 12 and Target 14.

Indicator 1.5.1: The number of surveys, studies or other analyses undertaken by exporting countries based on the sources of information cited in Resolution Conf. 16.7 on Non-detriment findings related to:

- a) the population status of Appendix-II species;
- b) the trends and impact of trade upon Appendix-II species; and
- c) the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species and the impact of any recovery plans.

1.5.1a	<p>Have any surveys, studies or other analyses been undertaken <u>in your country</u> in relation to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes No Not Applicable If Yes, How many?</p> <p>- the population status of Appendix II species? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the trends and impact of trade on Appendix II species? - the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species? - the impact of any recovery plans on Appendix I species? <p>Have the surveys, studies or analyses integrated relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
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	<p>If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">A brief summary of the results of the survey, study or other analysis (e.g. population status, decline / stable / increase, off-take levels etc), or provide links to published reference material.</p> <p>Species name (scientific)</p>																					
1.5.1b	<p>How are the results of such surveys, studies or other analyses used in making non-detriment findings (NDFs)? Please tick all that apply</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Revised harvest or export quotas <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Banning export <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Stricter domestic measures <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Changed management of the species <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Discussion with Management Authorities <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Discussion with other stakeholders? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Other (please provide a short summary):</p>																					
1.5.1c	<p>Do you have specific conservation measures or recovery plans for naturally occurring Appendix-I listed species?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">No information <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, including, if possible, an evaluation of their impact:</p>																					
1.5.1d	<p>Have you published any non-detriment findings that can be shared? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide links or examples to the Secretariat within this report:</p> <p>Q.1.5.1d- e* Making of Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs)</p> <p>As it is the case in all other EU Member States, the Belgian SA is required to give an advice on the introduction of CITES listed species into the EU (species listed on Annex A and B of EU Regulation 338/97). It can only give a positive advice if the import has no harmful effect on the conservation status of the species or on the extent of the territory occupied by the relevant population of the species. The Belgian SA has also provided expertise to the SA's of West Central African timber exporting countries for the improvement of the NDF they need to establish prior to the export of specimens of CITES listed timber species. This is order to fully comply with the relevant provisions of the Convention. Consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts were the most common means to that purpose, as also scientific literature, scientific surveys, and national and international trade information.</p>																					
1.5.1e	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Which of the following (A to F of paragraph a) x) of Resolution Conf. 16.7 do you use in making non-detriment findings?</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Yes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A. relevant scientific literature concerning species biology, life history, distribution and population trends.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. details of any ecological risk assessments conducted.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. scientific surveys conducted at harvest locations and at sites protected from harvest and other impacts.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>F. national and international trade information such as that available via the CITES trade database maintained by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), publications on trade, local knowledge on trade and investigations of sales at markets or through the Internet for example.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Which of the following (A to F of paragraph a) x) of Resolution Conf. 16.7 do you use in making non-detriment findings?	Yes	No	A. relevant scientific literature concerning species biology, life history, distribution and population trends.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	B. details of any ecological risk assessments conducted.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	C. scientific surveys conducted at harvest locations and at sites protected from harvest and other impacts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	E. consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	F. national and international trade information such as that available via the CITES trade database maintained by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), publications on trade, local knowledge on trade and investigations of sales at markets or through the Internet for example.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Indicator 1.5.2: The number of Parties that have adopted standard procedures for making non-detriment findings.

1.5.2a	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes No No information</p> <p>Do you have standard procedures for making non-detriment findings in line with Resolution Conf. 16.7? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please briefly describe your procedures for making non-detriment findings, or attach as an annex to this report, or provide a link to where the information can be found on the internet: The coordinator of our CITES SA makes use of a pre-filled application form to organise the information that is necessary to elaborate a NDF advice. This application form was sent with Belgian bi-annual report 2013-2014.</p> <p>The BE CITES MA uses also available standardised information to collect information that are needed for the elaboration of NDF advice: CIRCABC (EC secure website), Reference Guide, Guidelines for the establishment of a scientific advice, Belgian "compendium" (which contains, among others, the CITES legislation texts, expert contact lists, species lists, ..);</p> <p>Members of our SA meet approx. 4 times/ year.</p>
1.5.2b	<p>When establishing non-detriment findings, have any of the following guidance been used? Please tick all that apply</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Virtual College <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">IUCN Checklist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Resolution Conf. 16.7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">2008 NDF workshop <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Species specific guidance <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Other' or 'Species specific guidance', please specify details:</p> <p>Literature searches :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • data sources subscribed to by UNEP-WCMC including Web of Knowledge/Zoological Records. • relevant free access journals listed on intranet http://intranet.unep-wcmc.org/?action=library&base=elecjournals • University library resources (Scopus search, online journals, books etc) • UNEP-WCMC library • SCD and literature in Species section • SRG E library (unep-wcmc website) • Google searches including "Google Scholar" • CITES and SRG background information • EU SRG Guidelines • Trade Information Query Tool for any CITES suspension • Trade Information Query Tool/Species DB for any CITES export quotas • CITES web site for any previous discussions/reports/sig trade reviews – this can provide important context information • the CITES Trade Database and Species+ <p>SRG electronic library to get information such as: previous reviews of the species in question; summary of previous discussions; etc.</p>
1.5.2c	<p>How often do you review and/or change your non-detriment findings? Case by case <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Annually <input type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>Every two years <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Less frequently <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>A mix of the above <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please describe the circumstances under which non-detriment findings would be changed:</p> <p>Scientific opinions for specific combinations (species /country of origin / source code) are generally valid for many years. If new decisions are taken at EU level (SRG), then the NDF needs to be adapted accordingly. It may also happen that, for example, new information on populations status or new export quotas are being available, etc. then the NDF needs to be reevaluate. Sometimes decisions are only valid for a specific application (source, country , quantity...) and must be done again when new applications come in as it would be the case for sensitive species.</p>
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Indicator 1.5.3: The number and proportion of annual export quotas based on population surveys.

1.5.3a	<p>Do you set annual export quotas? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If 'Yes', do you set quotas based on population survey, or by other means? Please specify, for each species, how quotas are set:</p> <p>Species Name (scientific)</p> <p><i>Anguilla anguilla</i> : a zero export quota for Belgium as well as for all other EU MSs is in place since 2011.</p> <p>Due to its depleted status within Europe, the EU has been unable to make a positive non-detriment finding for the species since December 2010. Currently export and import of this species from and into the EU is not permitted, and all EU Member States have published a zero export quota for European Eel since 2011.</p> <p>Population Survey? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other, please specify</p>
1.5.3b	<p>Have annual export quotas been set at levels which will ensure sustainable production and consumption? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If 'Yes', please describe how this fits into your non-detriment finding process:</p>

Objective 1.6 Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources.
 Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

Indicator 1.6.1: The number of bilateral and multilateral agreements that specifically provide for co-management of shared CITES listed species by range States.

1.6.1a	<p>Is your country a signatory to any bilateral and/or multilateral agreements for co-management of shared species? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide brief details, including the names of the agreements, and which other countries are involved:</p> <p>Belgium is signatory state of following agreements =mixed competences (federal and regional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) - Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) And other agreements under CMS such as AEWA, EUROBATS (only regional competences) and , the MoU on Raptors, and Ascobans - Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, called the Ramsar - Within the European Union following regulations for the protection of species are set out: EU Bird Directive 2009/147/EC: see http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm : Europe is home to more than 500 wild bird species. The Birds Directive aims to protect all wild bird species naturally occurring in the European Union, including the species covered by CITES. EU Fauna Flora Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, see http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm
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Indicator 1.6.2: The number of cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, in place for shared populations of CITES-listed species.

1.6.2a	<p>Do you have any cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, in place for shared populations of CITES-listed species? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please list the species for which these plans are in place and provide a link or reference to a published plan for each species.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 60%;">Species Name (scientific)</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Link or reference to a published plan</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 40px;"> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Species Name (scientific)	Link or reference to a published plan		
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Indicator 1.6.3: The number of workshops and other capacity-building activities that bring range States together to address the conservation and management needs of shared, CITES listed, species.

1.6.3a	<p>Have the CITES authorities <i>received or benefited</i> from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?</p>
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Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.		Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	What were the external sources ¹ ?
Target group							
Staff of Management Authority		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staff of Scientific Authority		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Staff of enforcement authorities		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Traders		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
NGOs		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Public		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>					
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For Scientific Authority staff:

External sources:

- Coordinator of the SA attended all SRG meetings as well as specific SRG trainings (as far as we know on 2 October 2019 and on 11 December 2019)
- Coordinator of the SA attended all Animals and Plants Committee meetings and was, for each meeting, participating to several session working groups (sharks, timber, ...)

¹ Please provide the names of Parties, and any non-Parties, involved.

1.6.3b	Have the CITES authorities been the <i>providers</i> of any of the following capacity-building activities to other range States?
Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.	
Target group	<input type="checkbox"/> Oral or written advice/guidance <input type="checkbox"/> Technical assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Financial assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
	Details
Staff of Management Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial assistance to the African Elephant Fund (first time in 2014), thus providing funding to implement the African Elephant Action Plan. Belgium also is part of the steering committee of the AEF and thus provides also input on technical matters. For 2018: contribution of 50 000 euros, for 2019: 50 000, for 2020: 0 euros.
Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> See beneath Given by CITES Belgian SA in DRC: CITES generality + NDF for wood. Training of students enrolled in the complementary Master's degree in Environment and Forest Management., at ERAIFT Regional School of the University of Kinshasa: 1. CITES: generalities Frans Arijs (Scientific officer) and Nils Bourland (member of the Belgian SA and forestry expert) 2. NDF Pterocarpus tinctorius, Zambia, English Frans Arijs (in English) and Nils Bourland (in FR)

	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	For French speaking African students at the “Ecole des douanes belge” of the Federal Public Service Finance in Brussels : 2 days of CITES theoretical and practical sessions held on March 2018 and November 2019. The session planned in November 2020 had to be postponed to April 2021 due to the COVID pandemic.
	Traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other Parties/International meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other (please specify)						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Side-event private sector « 18^{ième} réunion des Parties du Partenariat des Forêts du Bassin du Congo » – Musée d’Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, 27 November 2018: presentation on the transport sector's involvement in CITES compliance: issues and tools
1.6.3c	In what ways do you collaborate with other CITES Parties?						
		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very Often	Always	Further detail / examples

Information exchange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Belgian MA and Belgian enforcement authorities do exchange information with other EU Members states during the meetings of EU Committee and EU Enforcement Group, by mails for specific issues, via EU TWIX database, and with third countries during international meetings (Standing Committee, COP..) and by mail for specific issues.
Monitoring / survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mission in DRC of the coordinator of the Scientific Authority (April 2018) in order to exchange information and ideas with operators, authorities, and timber experts on the management of Pericopsis elata
Habitat management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Species management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information on significant seizures that take place in Belgium are transmitted to the CITES MA of the country of origin/export.
Capacity building	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	see 1.6.3b
Other (please provide details)						

Objective 1.7 Parties are enforcing the Convention to reduce illegal wildlife trade.
Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

- Indicator 1.7.1:** The number of Parties that have, are covered by, or engaged with:
- an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan;
 - formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network;
 - a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan; and
 - formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement committee.

1.7.1a	Do you have, are you engaged in, or covered by:	Yes	No	No
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			Information
– an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
– formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
– a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
– formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement committee?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please specify the level of engagement and provide additional details: Belgium endorsed the European Union Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking : (UAP) see http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/trafficking_en.htm In October 2018, the Commission adopted a progress report on the implementation of the Action. Plan More details see annex 'BE_contribution_progress_EU_action_plan_wildlife_trafficking (1).zip</p> <p>Belgium participated in several international meetings to strengthen international cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpol Wildlife Crime working group: see : https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/: London : 29 th Meeting 8th -12th of October 2018 Singapore : 30 th November 2019- 18-22th November 2019 Virtual : 31th – November 25-27, 2020 DRAFT Agenda (all times GMT) • All CITES Enforcement meetings at EU level in 2018-2019-2020 ? • On 3 December 2019 participation to two-day conference on the impact of wildlife trade with a focus on bushmeat imports (more information: http://www.biodiversity.be/4854) organized by FPS Public Health, Safety of the Food Chain and Environment, in cooperation with the Belgian Biodiversity Platform. • Participation in February 2020 (2 days) date ?? to 'Illegal timber trade workshop in BE' different presentations were given by Interpol, WWF, CITES Belgian Management authority , Greenpeace ANNE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th European Regional CITES Meeting on Plants – Palermo, Italy – 28.02.2018 – 02.03.2018 on “The Interpretation of annotation #5 for Pericopsis elata” <p>Creation of a national Task Force whose objective would be to bring together all the stakeholders around the table to create a 'One World One Health Framework' around the Wildlife trade of exotic animals, to make it more sustainable and the illegal import of meat. The taskforce will work for the next 4 years to develop plans, legislation (if needed),..</p> <p>Belgian Enforcement working group has been established since 2003 with the Royal Decree of 9/4/2003. This group consists of representatives of different Belgian enforcement authorities referred to in Article 7 of the Law of 28/07/1981 and presided by the CITES Management Authority. Mostly the cooperation's take place on a bilateral, trilateral basis and for certain trends or illegal trades encountered, f.e. Eel.</p>			

Indicator 1.7.2: The number of Parties with a process or mechanism for reviewing their enforcement strategies, and the activities taken to implement their strategies.

1.7.2a	Do you have a process or mechanism for reviewing your enforcement strategy(ies) and the activities taken to implement your strategy(ies)?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No, but review is under consideration	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', what do you do?		

1.7.3b	<p>Are criminal offences such as poaching and wildlife trafficking recognized as serious crime¹ in your country?</p> <p>If 'Yes', please explain what criteria must be met for poaching or wildlife trafficking offences to be treated as serious crimes: see above, for as far as poaching of native wildlife is concerned, the Walloon, Flemish and Brussels regions ensures the implementation of the Nature Conservation Act and the Nature Park Decree in Belgium</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.3c	<p>Do you have capacity to use forensic technology² to support the investigation of CITES offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary of any samples from CITES-listed species that were collected and submitted to an appropriate forensic analysis facility (located in your country and/or another country) during the period covered in this report:</p> <p><u>Birds</u></p> <p>In order to assess the parenthood of juvenile bird specimens claimed to be born and bred in captivity from the founder stock of the applicant, the CITES Management Authority orders a DNA testing, performed by the CITES inspectorate. In the subsequent years: Genetic tests were performed by DNA testing laboratory Gendika in the Netherlands () for several birds species <i>Bubo bubo</i>, <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>, <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> <i>Falco cherrug</i>, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>, <i>Falco peregrinus x Falco rusticolus</i>, <i>Falco rusticolus</i>,... Also, genetic test was performed by Servicio de Genética of the Facultad de Veterinaria in Madrid, Spain, for the species: <i>Falco peregrinus babylonicus</i>.</p> <p><u>Caviar</u>: One caviar shipment was analysed in 2020 by BOPCO (Barcoding Facility for Organisms and Tissues of Policy Concern). BOPCO has access to fully equipped DNA laboratories at both the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) and the Royal Museum of Central Africa (RMCA). BOPCO acts as a focal point in Belgium for identifying biological materials upon request, by providing access to the necessary expertise and infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Bushmeat</u>: Belgium performed a study on the illegal imports of bushmeat during 2017-2019. 197 samples were taken from personal and leaking luggage. They were analysed by the University of Liège. Results can be found: https://www.biodiversity.be/4859/</p> <p>Moreover BOPCO conducted a study in which it explored several aspects of the African bushmeat market in Brussels. <u>More information</u> http://bopco.myspecies.info/content/exploring-bushmeat-market-brussels</p> <p><u>Timber</u>: Belgium participated in Operation Sesha of WCO and took 40 samples during a month operation. These were analysed by the Customs lab. During the subsequent years several samples were taken from shipments, mostly furniture, and analysed by either the customs lab or the Museum of Central Africa, that has more experience in analysing timber from all over the world.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>

¹ The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines serious crime as conduct constituting an offence punishable by imprisonment for at least four years or a more serious penalty.

² Capacity to use forensic technology means the ability to collect, handle and submit samples from crime scenes involving CITES-listed species to an appropriate forensic analysis facility, located either in your country or in another country(ies).

1.7.3d	<p>Did your authorities participate in or initiate any multi-disciplinary¹ law enforcement operation(s) targeting CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>													
<p>If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, including any lessons learned which might be helpful for other Parties:</p>															
<p>In 2018 Belgium participated to operation Thunderstorm, in 2019 Operation Thunderball and 2020 Operation Thunder20, organized by Interpol and WCO.</p>															
<p>The operation was led by Belgian customs and CITES Management Authority, with the help of the Inspectorate. We learned that it would be better to narrow the scope of such operations, for example certain goods, or certain traffic from countries or regions. This would mean that all participating countries would work on 1 main focus, instead of every country deciding his own priorities. The CITES Management Authority uses these operation as an opportunity to give training on CITES or certain aspects. In 2020 training was given with the help of CITES experts on identification of certain species. This brings enforcement, management and scientific together.</p>															
<p>In 2019 we participated to Operation Postbox II, led by OLAF. The operation in Belgium was led by Belgian customs with the help of CITES Management Authority and the Inspectorate. The Inspectorate was able to participate in a Cyberpatrol with experts in the field. This gave a possibility to transfer knowledge on certain IT searches to them and they transferred knowledge on CITES to them.</p>															
<p>In 2018 -2019 -2020 the CITES inspectorate, in cooperation with the CITES Management Authority, participated at monthly or bi-monthly joint national control operations (so-called "BACON OPERATION") taking place at different airports in the country (Zaventem, Gosselies and Bierset). It is an initiative conducted by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain, in cooperation with the Belgian Customs, the Belgian Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products and CITES to detect illegal products amongst others bush meat brought back in the EU by passengers coming from third countries. These give opportunities to inform different enforcement agencies of the different legislation.</p>															
1.7.3e	<p>Do you have a standard operating procedure among relevant agencies for submitting information related to CITES offences to INTERPOL and/or the World Customs Organization?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>													
1.7.3f	<p>Do you have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="904 1420 970 1585">Yes</th> <th data-bbox="979 1420 1045 1585">No</th> <th data-bbox="1054 1420 1220 1585">No information</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="904 1599 970 1630"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="979 1599 1045 1630"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1054 1599 1220 1630"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="904 1644 970 1675"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="979 1644 1045 1675"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1054 1644 1220 1675"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="904 1688 970 1720"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="979 1688 1045 1720"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1054 1688 1220 1720"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Yes	No	No information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered by this report?</p>
Yes	No	No information													
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>													
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>													
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>													
General crime ²															
Predicate offences ³															
Asset forfeiture ⁴			1 case of illegal import of												

¹ A multi-disciplinary law enforcement operation is one that involves officers from all relevant enforcement disciplines as appropriate, for example officers from Police, Customs and the wildlife regulatory authority. It could be either sub-national, national or international in scope.

² General crime laws relate to offences such as fraud, conspiracy, possession of weapons, and other matters as set out in the national criminal code.

³ Article 2, paragraph (h) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines a predicate offence is an offence whose proceeds may become the subject of any of the money-laundering offences established under the Convention.

⁴ Asset forfeiture is the seizure and confiscation of assets obtained from criminal activities to ensure that criminals do not benefit from the proceeds of their crimes.

					timber
	Corruption ¹	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	International cooperation in criminal matters ²	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Organized crime ³	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 case of illegal import of non CITES birds
	Specialized investigation techniques ⁴	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please explain how each is used for CITES offences? Please provide a brief summary, including any lessons learned which might be helpful for other Parties:				
1.7.3g	Do you have institutional capacity to implement the legislative provisions listed in question 1.7.3f against CITES offences?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If 'No', please provide a brief summary of your major capacity-building needs:				

Indicator 1.7.4: The number of Parties using risk assessment and intelligence to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species.

1.7.4a	Do you use risk assessment to target CITES enforcement effort?	Always <input type="checkbox"/> Very often <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
1.7.4b	Do you have capacity to analyse information gathered on illegal trade in CITES-listed species?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Provisions against corruption include national laws to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption covering offences such as bribery of officials, embezzlement or misappropriation of public funds, trading in influence and abuse of functions by public officials.

² International cooperation in criminal matters includes legislation through which a formal request for mutual legal assistance and/or extradition of a person for criminal prosecution can be forwarded to another country.

³ Article 2, paragraph (a) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines an organized criminal group as a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with the Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

⁴ Specialized investigation techniques are techniques that are deployed against serious and/or organized crime when conventional law enforcement techniques fail to adequately address the activities of crime groups. Examples include controlled deliveries and covert operations.

1.7.4c	Do you use criminal intelligence ¹ to inform investigations into illegal trade in CITES-listed species?	Always <input type="checkbox"/> Very often <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
	1	
1.7.4d	Have you implemented any supply-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, but activities are under development <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
1.7.4e	Have you implemented any demand-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, but activities are under development <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Criminal intelligence is information that is compiled, analyzed and disseminated in an effort to anticipate, prevent and/or monitor criminal activity. Examples include information on potential suspects held in a secure database and inferences about the methods, capabilities and intentions of specific criminal networks or individuals that are used to support effective law enforcement action.

Indicator 1.7.5: The number of administrative measures, criminal prosecutions and other court actions for CITES-related offences.

During the period covered in this report:		Yes	No	No Information												
1.7.5a	<p>Have any administrative measures (e.g. fines, bans, suspensions) been imposed for CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', please indicate how many and for what types of offences. If available, please attach details:</p> <p>Belgian legislation only provides for an administrative fine, not bans or suspensions.</p> <p>The records below have resulted in administrative fines (Article 5. bis of the Royal Decree of 9 April 2003) set out by our legal department (within the Federal Public Service of Public Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment). Once the offender has paid the administrative fine. If the offender doesn't pay the fine, it will be collected by a bailiff.</p> <p>The amount of administrative fines is determined by using a weighting points system which takes into account: the seriousness of the offence, the nature of the offender (trader or private person), the value of the specimens involved, the notion of recurrence.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service</td> <td>139</td> <td>131</td> <td>131</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total fines*</td> <td>€ 29.528</td> <td>€ 48.934</td> <td>€ 35.731</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* the total amount of <u>proposed</u> fines. There are always a number of PV's send to public prosecutor's office for which our legal department has no record.</p>		2018	2019	2020	Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service	139	131	131	Total fines*	€ 29.528	€ 48.934	€ 35.731	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2018	2019	2020													
Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service	139	131	131													
Total fines*	€ 29.528	€ 48.934	€ 35.731													
1.7.5b	<p>Have there been any criminal prosecutions of CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', how many and for what types of offences? If available, please attach details:</p> <p>Amongst other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Illegal import of 300 tortoises - Illegal import of non CITES bird species, together with several CITES infringements of intra EU Trade with CITES species (birds and tortoises) - Illegal intra EU trade of ivory products - Illegal import of meat of Nile crocodile - Illegal import of meat of tortoise - Illegal intra EU trade of birds of prey - Illegal import of timber of the species: Pericopsis elata - Illegal import of meat of monkey - Illegal import of meat of Nile crocodile - Illegal transit of 109 sea horse and 21 pieces of ivory (570gr). - Illegal import of 58 ivory pieces (15.8 kg) - Illegal intra EU trade with birds of prey - 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>												
1.7.5c	<p>Have there been any other court actions against CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', what were the offences involved and what were the results? Please attach details:</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>												
1.7.5d	<p>How were any confiscated specimens disposed of? Tick all that apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Return to country of export <p>It is quite exceptional and occurs only with the agreement of the country of origin and when the MA gets the assurance that the animal welfare requirements will be met.</p>															

- Public zoos or botanical gardens

For live animals

The Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp is the only rescue center officially recognized.

For live plants

The National Botanic Garden of Meise is the only rescue center officially recognized.

For dead specimens

- Royal Institute of Natural Sciences of Belgium, Brussels
- Royal Museum of Central Africa (now called Africamuseum), Tervuren
- Sea Life, Blankenberge : for educational purposes (ex: dried seahorses)
- Customs: for educational purposes
- CITES Management Authority: for educational purposes

- Designated rescue centres

Carapace” for reptiles/amphibians and turtles in particular.

- “Revalidation center of Opglabbeek” mainly for birds and mammals
- “Aquarium of Liège University” for fish and corals.
- “Museum of Natural History” in Tournai for reptiles and live amphibians.
- “Nally’s Papegaai”, a rescue center specialized in parrots

- Approved private facilities

When housing is not possible in one of the previous mentioned institutions, the service will look at alternative housings with adequate facilities to accommodate the specimens. Naturally this housing require an agreement of the CITES Scientific Coordinator and the CITES Management Authority .

- Euthanasia

It is quite seldom and occurs only if there is no other solution. Two seized specimens of bird of prey hybrids were euthanized since it was not possible for the rescue center to keep them at long term and not possible to release them into the wild.

- Other (please specify): Public sale – destruction

Public sale: only for the dead specimens of Annex BII species that are seized.

Have you encountered any challenges in disposing of confiscated specimens?
Costs, public opinion

We do sometime encounter problems of lack of place for seized animals in rescue centers, particularly when judicial decisions take a long time. We do sometime send seized animals to rescue centers in other Member States when needed ex ‘ Stichting Aap’ in the Netherlands .

Do you have good practice that you would like to share with other Parties? !

Objective 1.8 Parties and the Secretariat have adequate capacity-building programmes in place.
[Aichi Target 1](#), [Target 12](#) and [Target 19](#).

Indicator 1.8.1: The number of Parties with national and regional training programmes and information resources in place to implement CITES including the making of non-detriment findings, issuance of permits and enforcement.

1.8.1a	Do you have information resources or training in place to support: YesNo The making of non-detriment findings? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
1.8.1b	Is the CITES Virtual College used as part of your capacity building work? What improvements could be made in using the Virtual College for capacity building? updated to more recent information	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
1.8.1c	Is the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Toolkit used in the development of capacity-building programmes, or does it form part of the curriculum of such programmes? What improvements could be made in using the ICCWC Toolkit for capacity building?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	

GOAL 2 SECURE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MEANS FOR THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Objective 2.1 Financial resources are sufficient to ensure operation of the Convention.

Information to be provided through records held by the Secretariat on financial management of the Convention.

Objective 2.2 Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention.
[Aichi Target 1, Target 2, Target 3, Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.](#)

Indicator 2.2.1: [The number of Parties with dedicated staff and funding for Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and wildlife trade enforcement agencies.](#)

2.2.1a	Do you have an approved service standard(s) ¹ for your Management Authority(ies)? If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d. If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards? According to Art 8.3 of EU Commission regulation No 865/2006 of 4 May 2006 laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation, the Management Authorities shall decide on the issue of permits and certificates within one month of the date of submission of a complete application. If we need to consults third parties, we inform the applicants of significant delays in the treatment of their applications. During the reporting period performance levels did fall below the expectation due to some periods of high demand of documents (a.o breeding seasons or new Appendix I listing ex African Grey parrots) , shortage in staff, and Covid period since March 2020. In such circumstances, the stakeholders are kept informed. We have no specific Key Performance Indicator to estimate the performance of our standards. If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards ² ?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

¹ For example, a time frame in which you are required to provide a response on a decision to issue or not issue a permit, certificate, or re-export certificate.

² For example, 85% of all decisions will take place within the service standard.

	<p>If 'Yes', what are your performance targets? Issue of permit ((re)export / import)within 2 weeks of application</p> <p>Do you publish your performance against service standard targets? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:</p> <p>If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - availability of funding? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> - number of staff? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> - a shortage of skills? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <p>If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of?</p>	
2.2.1b	<p>Do you have an approved service standard(s)⁴⁷ for your Scientific Authority(ies)? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.</p> <p>If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards?</p> <p>The Belgian Scientific Authority consists of one coordinator and different experts from different universities, scientific institutes, museums, botanical gardens and zoos, consultants around the country. These experts are included into five different sections: mammals (3 experts), birds (3), reptiles, amphibia and fish (4), invertebrates (1) and plants (6). The members of this Belgian "Scientific Committee" work on CITES related matters on a voluntary basis but they are entitled for reimbursement for their travel expenses and for the drafting of their expertise reports. This committee meets 3 to 5 times a year, usually before each meeting of the EU Scientific Review Group. The Belgian Scientific Committee works with an 'internal rules' procedure which enables this Committee to work efficiently and plans the deadlines for scientific advices .</p> <p>If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards⁴⁸? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', what are your performance targets?</p> <p>Time-related advices should be available within 10 working days</p> <p>If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:</p> <p>Rather fulfilling</p> <p>If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes No</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - availability of funding? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - number of staff? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - a shortage of skills? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <p>If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of?</p> <p>Need of more experts for the invertebrates section (very difficult to engage this kind of expert) of our Scientific Committee. Steps were taken in 2018-2019 and 2020 to recruit new CITES experts, in Psittaciformes, Chondrichthyes, Herpetology, Entomology (Lepidoptera), Arachnology, Forest management, Plant taxonomy, and Taxidermy</p>	

NB A new ministerial decree recognising experts in the framework of the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora has been published on 9 March 2021
https://www.etaamb.be/fr/arrete-ministeriel-du-09-mars-2021_n2021030578.html

2.2.1c	Do you have an approved service standard(s) ⁴⁷ for your enforcement authority(ies)?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards? The CITES Inspection Service that deals with CITES controls has set up internal procedures to standardized decisions in the framework of controls and irregularities (ex. guidance for the control of Annex BII species, decisions tree , etc.).		
	Law 28 July 1981 art 7.4 provides that the infringement reports have to be sent to the public prosecutor office within 15 days of date of control.		
	If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards ⁴⁸ ?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', what are your performance targets?	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:		
	If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:	Yes	No
	– availability of funding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– number of staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– a shortage of skills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of?		
2.2.1d	Please only complete this question if your answered 'No' to the first part of question 2.2.1a, 2.2.1b, or 2.2.1c, relating to the existence of approved service standards for your authorities:		
	Do you have sufficient of the following for your authorities to function effectively?		
		Management Authority(ies)	Scientific Authority(ies)
	Funding?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Skills?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Enforcement Authority(ies)
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 2.2.2: The number of Parties that have undertaken one or more of the following activities:

- changed the budget for activities;
- hired more staff;
- developed implementation tools;
- purchased technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement.

2.2.2a	Have any of the following activities been undertaken during the period covered in this report to enhance the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level?	Tick if applicable
--------	---	--------------------

	Hiring of more staff			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Development of implementation tools			<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Purchase of technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Other (please specify):				
2.2.2b	During the period covered in this report, was the budget for your:	Increased	Stable	Decreased	
	Management Authority(ies)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Scientific Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Enforcement authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2.2c	Have you been able to use international development funding assistance to increase the level of implementation of your	Yes	No	Not applicable	
	Management Authority(ies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Scientific Authority(ies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Enforcement authorities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2.2d	What is the respective level of priority for enhancing the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level through the following activities?				
	Activity	High	Medium	Low	Not a Priority
	Hiring of more staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development of implementation tools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Purchase of new technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	e-permitting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.2e	Do you have a operational system (e.g. electronic database) for managing	Yes	Under development	No	
	Species information _we use CITES Checklist Species+ (WCMC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Trade information _our CITES database see above 2.2.2.a , CITES trade database (CITES Secretariat), for illegal trade : EU TWIX database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Non-detriment findings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Indicator 2.2.3: The number of Parties raising funds for CITES implementation through user fees or other mechanisms.

2.2.3a	Does the Management Authority charge fees for:	Tick all that are applicable
	– Administrative procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Issuance of CITES documents (e.g. for import, exports, re-export, or introduction from the sea)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Shipment clearance (e.g. for the import, export, re-export, or introduction from the sea of CITES-listed species)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Licensing or registration of operations that produce CITES species	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Harvesting of CITES-listed species	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Use of CITES-listed species	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Assignment of quotas for CITES-listed species	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.2.3b	Is a fee schedule publicly available? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes', please provide an internet link, or a copy of the schedule to the Secretariat: https://www.health.belgium.be/en/animals-and-plants/animals/cites-and-endangered-species/cites-permits-certificates-and-tariffs																					
2.2.3c	Have revenues from fees been used for the implementation of CITES or wildlife conservation? Entirely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> The fees for CITES documents and others outcomes (fines) are supplying the 'Belgian CITES Fund'. This fund is used to finance several staff members of the MA and the enforcement team, but also for subjects related to CITES for example: a project of sustainable use of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in DRC, the EU TWIX database, the ETIS project, DNA analyses, costs associated with the accommodation and storage of seized animals or plants, organization of public sales, costs associated with the printing of CITES documents, specific software for TCM database etc, Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/>																					
2.2.3d	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;"></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Yes</td> <td style="text-align: right;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do you have case studies on charging or using fees?</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">If 'Yes', please provide brief details: Public sale of confiscated specimens of Appendice II species</td> </tr> </table>		Yes	No	Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you have case studies on charging or using fees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details:			Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If 'Yes', please provide brief details: Public sale of confiscated specimens of Appendice II species		
	Yes	No																				
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If 'Yes', please provide brief details: Public sale of confiscated specimens of Appendice II species																						

Indicator 2.2.4: The number of Parties using incentive measures as part of their implementation of the Convention.

2.2.4a	<p>Do you use incentive measures¹ such as those described in CoP14 Doc 14.32 to implement the Convention?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Due diligence</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Compensatory mechanisms</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Certification</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communal property rights</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Auctioning of quotas</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost recovery or environmental charges</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement incentives</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> <p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, or if you use other measures, please provide a summary or link to further information: The fact that all infringements have a follow-up (either via the judiciary system for bigger offences or via the administrative system for minor offences) will have a dissuasive effect. Also, the system allows us to recover the cost of for example the keeping of confiscated animals taken from the offender.</p>		Yes	No	Due diligence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compensatory mechanisms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Certification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Communal property rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Auctioning of quotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cost recovery or environmental charges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No																							
Due diligence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
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Communal property rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																							
Auctioning of quotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																							
Cost recovery or environmental charges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																							
Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
2.2.4b	Have incentives harmful to biodiversity been eliminated? Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Very little <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/> Completely <input type="checkbox"/>																								

¹ Defined as 'Social and economic incentives that promote and regulate sustainable management of and responsible trade in, wild flora and fauna and promote effective enforcement of the Convention'. The intent of such measures is not to promote wildlife trade as such, but rather to ensure that any wildlife trade undertaken is conducted in a sustainable manner.

Objective 2.3 Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to implement capacity-building programmes.

Aichi Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.

Indicator 2.3.1: The number of capacity building activities mandated by Resolutions and Decisions that are fully funded.

2.3.1a	How many training and capacity building activities ¹ have you run during the period covered in this report?	Without assistance from the Secretariat	Conducted or assisted by the Secretariat
	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11-20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	More than 20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ An activity might be a single day training e.g. for a group of staff from the Management Authority, or a longer course / project undertaken by an individual.

Please list the Resolutions or Decisions involved:

2.3.1b What sorts of capacity building activities have taken place?
 National training on CITES for all enforcement authorities: police, customs, CITES inspectorate, Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (sanitary department at the borders) and the judicial branch (magistrates and judges) are given on a yearly basis. Some enforcement authorities received specific training on handling dangerous animals. Some enforcement authorities received training on specific CITES species, f.e. ivory and ivory art, TCM, ... A general presentation on CITES with practical cases was given for firefighters, who are not law enforcement agents, but are in charge of handling lost, escaped and potentially dangerous specimens this in order to enhance the cooperation between the different agencies.

In 2018 -2019 -2020: the CITES inspectorate, in cooperation with the CITES Management Authority, participated at monthly or bi-monthly joint national control operations (so-called "BACON OPERATION") taking place at different airports in the country (Zaventem, Gosselies and Bierset).

It is an initiative conducted by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain, in cooperation with the Belgian Customs, the Belgian Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products and CITES to detect illegal products amongst others bushmeat brought back in the EU by passengers coming from third countries. These give opportunities to inform different enforcement agencies of the different legislation and build cooperation.

2.3.1c What capacity building needs do you have?

Please tick all boxes which apply to indicate which target group and which activity.

Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	Details
Staff of Management Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing process with EU commission
Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guidance for establishing advice (making NDFs) on the import of corals as well as similar guidance for the import of terrestrial invertebrates
Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Development of a Wood Identification/Forensic Center (negotiations have started between all the relevant actors). Timber identification with the current techniques takes too long.
Traders / other user groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

GOAL 3 CONTRIBUTE TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THE RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND TO ACHIEVING RELEVANT GLOBALLY-AGREED GOALS AND TARGETS BY ENSURING THAT CITES AND OTHER MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS AND PROCESSES ARE COHERENT AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE

Objective 3.1 Cooperation between CITES and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support CITES-related conservation and sustainable development projects, without diminishing funding for currently prioritized activities.

[Aichi Target 2 and Target 20.](#)

Indicator 3.1.1: The number of Parties funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

3.1.1a	Has funding from international financial mechanisms and other related institutions been used to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please provide brief details:			
3.1.1b	During the period covered in this report, has funding for your country from international funding mechanisms and other related institutions:	Increased	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Remained stable	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 3.1.2: The number of countries and institutions that have provided additional funding from CITES Authorities to another country or activity for conservation and sustainable development projects in order to further the objectives of the Convention.

3.1.2a	Have you provided technical or financial assistance to another country or countries in relation to CITES?							Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
								No	<input type="checkbox"/>
								No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', please tick boxes to indicate type of assistance provided								
	Country(ies)	Species Management ¹	Habitat Management ²	Sustainable use	Law Enforcement	Livelihoods	Other (specify)	Details (provide more information in an Appendix if necessary)	
EU MS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Belgium finances on a yearly basis the management of EU-TWIX (www.eu-twix.org) that is being used by all the EU MS		
African Elephant Range States	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding of African Elephant Fund (see 3.3.2 a)		
All CITES Parties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Development of ETIS Database (https://cites.org/eng/prog/etis)		
b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Objective 3.2 Awareness of the role and purpose of CITES is increased globally.
Aichi Target 1, Target 4, Target 12 and Target 18.

Indicator 3.2.1: The number of Parties that have been involved in CITES awareness raising activities to bring about better awareness by the wider public and relevant user groups of the Convention requirements.

3.2.1a	Have CITES authorities been involved in any of the following activities to bring about better awareness of the Convention's requirements by the wider public and relevant user groups?		Relevant User Groups
		Wider public	
	– Press conferences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Press releases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Newspaper articles, brochures, leaflets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
– Television appearances		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Some interesting examples			

¹ Use species conservation column for work directly related to species – e.g. population surveys, education programmes, conflict resolution, etc.

² Use habitat conservation column for work that will indirectly support species conservation – e.g. habitat management, development of policy frameworks for how land is managed, etc.

- CITES colleagues participated in the Thunder2020 operation coordinated by Interpol see in pictures in the video made by Antwerp Zoo below.

<https://youtu.be/UsP3a4Wmq0A>.

- TV interview on RTBF on 29/8/2019 on the results of the COP by Joelle Smeets (communication cells)

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| – Radio appearances | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| – Presentations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| – Public consultations / meetings (see below) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| – Market surveys | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| – Displays | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Wildlife Traffic Exhibition @ European Parliament: (9-11 July 2018). Main objective is to raise awareness on the issue of wildlife traffic among the members and collaborators of the European Parliament. An evening event was organised on Tuesday 10 July with among others Belgian politicians, Customs, media, NGO's.

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| – Information at border crossing points | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| – Telephone hotline | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| – Website(s) – if so please provide link(s) www.citesinbelgium.be | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Some interesting news (non exhaustive)

in 2018:

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/controles-chez-les-antiquaires-plus-de-100-pieces-en-ivoire-saisies>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/lutte-contre-le-traffic-des-cornes-de-rhinoceros-premiers-resultats-pour-les-inspecteurs-cites>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/270-kilos-divoire-recoltes-pendant-la-campagne-sors-tes-dents>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/bois-importe-la-belgique-augmente-ses-controles-pour-lutter-contre-le-bois-illegal>

In 2019:

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/une-lutte-plus-efficace-contre-le-commerce-illegal-despeces-sauvages>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/la-belgique-participe-operation-thunderball-menee-par-interpol>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/saisie-de-1200-kilos-dailerons-de-requins-et-de-raies>

in 2020:

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/la-belgique-active-dans-la-lutte-internationale-contre-la-criminalite-environnementale>

<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/saisie-dun-macaque-de-barbarie-par-linspection-cites>

– Other (specify):



In 2018, the campaign "Get your teeth out" was launched, inviting people who want to get rid of their ivory to deposit it in containers at FPS Public Health or at zoological gardens namely Pairi Daiza, the Antwerp Zoo and Planckendael Zoo. This campaign organised on International Elephant Day was aimed to raise awareness of the illegal ivory trade.
<https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/sors-tes-dents>

Please attach copies of any items or describe examples:

Regarding communication with the CITES stakeholders, Belgium continues to inform the general public and the specialized sector by means of

- leaflets containing information on the CITES regulations regarding birds of prey, parrots, reptiles and amphibians and also regarding the caviar consumers and traders. Belgium also continues to inform the tourists with a brochure "An endangered species is no souvenir "
- By mailing list on specific and general subjects
- Via our website www.citesinbelgium.be

Presentation/ Public consultations / meetings

For Traders /Associations of Birds :

Traders and the public received capacity building mostly in the form of oral and written guidance and technical assistance.

-In October 2018, for the Belgian birds association 'LPC' Limburg's Parkieten Club' CITES MA gave a presentation on "Breeding and trading CITES birds".

-In November 2018, for the Belgian birds association birds of prey (Aalst) CITES MA gave a presentation on "Breeding and trading CITES birds".

-Since 2019, CITES MA organizes each year a meeting with the representatives of various bird associations in order to inform them on the new CITES dispositions and give them some statistics related to controlling operations (ex. number of birds yearly seized) leading to open discussions so as collaboration and trust are by this means enhanced.

For Rescue centres for animals

In February 2020 : CITES MA gave a general presentation on CITES and procedure with CITES specimens (adoption, cession etc) to 'CREAVES', centres approved by the Walloon region to collect, care for and, after revalidation, release wild animals

For traders/associations of art, antiques: yearly awareness raising trainings are given on antique specimens protected by CITES, amongst others, ivory products.

For Traders/associations of Wood sector

- In October 2018 for Fedustria – 18.10.2018 – Sint-Martens-Latem near Gand) – « La CITES et le bois »

For Secondary schools - Colleges: Presentation are given on CITES and the importance of the Convention.

For Belgian Parliament: Events “DAG Senaat’ on illegal wildlife trade” in 2018.

Indicator 3.2.2: The number of visits to the CITES website.

3.2.2a	How regularly do your Authorities consult the CITES website?					
	Please tick boxes to indicate the most frequent usage (decide on an average amongst staff if necessary).					
	Target group	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less frequently	Not known
	Staff of Management Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.2b	What has been your experience with using the CITES website?			Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
				Average	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				Very Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
				No information	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Any further comments on the CITES Website? (e.g. useful aspects, any difficulties encountered, which authorities find which functions/tools most useful, what is missing, etc):					

Indicator 3.2.3: The number of Parties with web pages on CITES and its requirements.

A question relating to this indicator is within question 3.2.1a.

Objective 3.3 Cooperation with relevant international environmental, trade and development organizations is enhanced.

Indicator 3.3.1 The number of Parties which report that they have achieved synergies in their implementation of CITES, other biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental, trade and development agreements.

3.3.1a	Have measures been taken to achieve coordination and reduce duplication of activities between the national CITES authorities and national focal points for other multilateral environmental agreements (e.g. the other biodiversity-related conventions: CBD, CMS, ITPGR, Ramsar, WHC) ¹ to which your country is party?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please give a brief description: An official mailing list exist in Belgium that is used for information exchange between experts working in the framework of different biodiversity conventions. More in depth exchange is done on a case-by-case basis. This information exchange is also used when the Belgian position needs to be defined for the different biodiversity conventions thus providing synergies and avoiding duplication.			

Indicator 3.3.2: The number of biodiversity conservation or sustainable use projects, trade and development goals, or scientific and technical programmes that integrate CITES requirements.

3.3.2a	How many international projects which integrate CITES issues has your country contributed towards?	Belgium has contributed to the African Elephant Fund since 2014. 50 000 euros were given in 2018 and the same amount in 2019.	
3.3.2b	In addition to 3.2.2a, how many national level projects has your country implemented which integrate CITES issues?		
3.3.2c	Have there been any efforts at a national scale for your CITES Management or Scientific Authorities to collaborate with:	Yes	No
	Agencies for development?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Agencies for trade?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Local authorities or communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Indigenous or local peoples?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Trade or other private sector associations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NGOs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.2d	Are CITES requirements integrated into?	Yes	No
	National and local development strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	National and local poverty reduction strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Planning processes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

¹ CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity; CMS = Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, ITPGR = International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Ramsar = The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, WHC = World Heritage Convention.

National accounting?

Indicator 3.3.3: The number of Parties cooperating / collaborating with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in and/or fund CITES workshops and other training and capacity-building activities.

3.3.3a	Has funding been provided or received to facilitate CITES workshops, training or other capacity building activities to / from:	Tick if applicable	Which organizations?
	Inter-governmental organizations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Non-governmental organizations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yearly Belgium funds the management of EU-TWIX (www.eu-twix.org) that is being used by all the EU MS

Objective 3.4 The contribution of CITES to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the relevant *Aichi Biodiversity Targets*, and the relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels.

This objective may also be assessed by a variety of means beyond the reporting format, including action taken to implement many of the CITES resolutions and decisions. [Aichi Target 1](#), [Target 2](#), [Target 3](#), [Target 4](#), [Target 5](#), [Target 6](#), [Target 7](#), [Target 12](#), [Target 14](#), [Target 17](#), [Target 18](#) and [Target 19](#).

Indicator 3.4.1: The conservation status of species listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved.

3.4.1a	Do you have data which shows that the conservation status of naturally occurring species in your country listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved?	Yes	No	Not Applicable
	Appendix I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Appendix II	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Appendix III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:			
	Species name (scientific) Link to the data, or a brief summary			
	The population of <i>Falco peregrinus</i> (App. I) has increased in Belgium, it is also the case for several other indigenous birds of prey.			
	The European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) was listed in CITES Appendix II at CoP14 and the listing came into force in 2009. The biological status of the species has notably been monitored for years by the ICES/GFCM/EIFAAC2 Working Group on Eels (WGEEL). Due to its depleted status within Europe, the EU has been unable to make a positive non-detriment finding for the species since December 2010. Currently export and import of this species from and into the EU is not permitted, and all EU Member States have published a zero export quota for European Eel since 2011.			
3.4.1b	Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or emerging problems with any CITES listed species?	Yes	No	No information
	If 'Yes', please provide details:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 3.4.2: The number of Parties incorporating CITES into their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

3.4.2a	Has CITES been incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
3.4.2b	Have you been able to obtain funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) or other sources to support CITES aspects of NBSAP implementation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

Objective 3.5 Parties and the Secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited.
[Aichi Target 2](#), [Target 4](#), [Target 5](#), [Target 6](#), [Target 7](#), [Target 10](#), [Target 12](#), [Target 14](#) and [Target 19](#).

Indicator 3.5.1: The number of cooperative actions taken under established bilateral or multilateral agreements to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade.

3.5.1a	Has your country taken action under established bilateral or multilateral agreements other than CITES to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade? If 'Yes', please provide details: Yes via the Belgian Biodiversity Platform initiated by a Belgian federal Science Policy Office (BelSPO-funded). Its mandate is based on a Cooperation Agreement between federal and federated authorities (the federal government, the Communities, and the Regions). For more information https://www.biodiversity.be/4854	Yes No No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
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Indicator 3.5.2: The number of times other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources are consulted on issues relevant to species subject to unsustainable trade.

3.5.2a	Average number of times per year that international organizations or agreements have been consulted by CITES Authorities	Once	2-5 times	6-20 times	More than 20 times	No consultation	Optional comment about which organizations and issues consulted on
	Management Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Scientific Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Enforcement Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

General feedback

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make, including comments on this format.

Item		
Copy of full text of CITES-relevant legislation if changed	Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Web link(s)	Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Previously provided	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please list any materials annexed to the report, e.g. fee schedules, awareness raising materials, etc:		
Have any constraints to implementation of the Convention arisen in your country requiring attention or assistance?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	No Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please describe the constraint and the type of attention or assistance that is required.		
Are there examples of good practice you would like to share with other Parties?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes' please provide details / links:		
How could this report format be improved? The format of the report is not user friendly, it is not easy to fill it in. Some questions could be also more explicit.		

Thank you for completing the report. Please remember to include relevant attachments referred to in the report when it is submitted to the Secretariat.