

Implementation report format

The format below follows the structure of the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* and aims to collect information to enable the Strategic Vision indicators to be monitored.

CITES vision statement

By 2030, all international trade in wild fauna and flora is legal and sustainable, consistent with the long-term conservation of species, and thereby contributing to halting biodiversity loss, to ensuring its sustainable use, and to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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.

The questions of the implementation report follow the structure of the *Strategic Vision 2021-2030* and its indicators that are mapped against the Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to ensure synergies and consistent reporting.

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 \(Rev. CoP19\)](#) which urges that the report should be submitted to the Secretariat on 31 October of the 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 and to **answer at a minimum all questions in bold**. 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
Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8-14
CH-1211 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 2021 to 31 December 2023
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 *CITES Scientific Authority *CITES Enforcement Authorities

GOAL 1 TRADE IN CITES-LISTED SPECIES IS CONDUCTED IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONVENTION IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THEIR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE

Objective 1.1 Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through the adoption and implementation of appropriate legislation, policies, and procedures.

[SDG Goals 12, 14 & 15](#)

[GBF Goal A & Targets 4, 5, 9 & 10](#)

Indicator 1.1.1: Number of Parties that are in category 1 under the national legislation project.
(Data source: 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', have you shared information with the Secretariat? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please provide details to the Secretariat with this report:</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Following CITES CoP18 (Geneva, 2019), the European Commission adopted on 16/12/2021 Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/2280¹ to incorporate the changes flowing from the decisions taken in the relevant legislation at the EU level. The Regulation entails changes to the Annexes to Council Regulation (EC) 338/97 as well as Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006.</p> <p>To implement Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18), the EU introduced a more restrictive ivory trade regime. In this context, the exemption for internal trade with antiques containing ivory without a certificate was repealed. Accordingly, a certificate is now required for trade of ivory in any case. To allow stricter control of internal trade in objects consisting of ivory, an expiry date for certificates issued for all ivory objects was introduced. In addition, the European Commission revised the Guidance document on the EU regime governing trade in ivory².</p> <p>As a result, import and export of raw ivory to and from the EU are prohibited entirely, whereas internal trade is only allowed for specific purposes (repairing pre-1975 musical instruments and pre-1947 antiques of high cultural, artistic or historical importance held by a museum). Regarding worked ivory, export and import are only allowed for pre-1975 musical instruments and pre-1947 antiques sold to museums, internal trade only with objects acquired before 1947 and pre-1975 musical instruments.</p> <p>2022</p>
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¹ [Regulation - 2021/2280 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

² [EUR-Lex - 52021XC1230\(03\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

	<p>On 11/08/2022, the Commission adopted a Guidance document on live animals bred in captivity¹ under the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations.</p> <p>On 09/11/2022, the European Commission adopted a revised EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking² to strengthen the EU action against the illegal trade in wildlife, both in the EU and internationally. The revised action plan is built around four priorities including 17 objectives and 69 actions: (1) Preventing wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes; (2) strengthening the legal and policy framework against wildlife trafficking; (3) enforcing regulations and policies to fight wildlife trafficking effectively; (4) strengthening the global partnership of source, consumer and transit countries against wildlife trafficking.</p> <p><u>2023</u></p> <p>Following CITES CoP19 (Panama, 2022), the Commission adopted on 15/05/2023 the revised Annexes to Council Regulation (EC) No 337/97³.</p> <p>On 12/12/2023, the Commission adopted Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 2023/2770 (Suspension Regulation)⁴, amending the list of species of which import to the EU is prohibited.</p> <p>Moreover, the European Commission adopted on 18/04/2023 a Guidance document on the export, re-export and intra-EU trade of captive-born and bred live tigers and their parts and derivatives⁵ (2023/C 135/01). The objective of the Guidance is to increase controls on the commercial trade of live captive-bred tigers and their parts and derivatives. The EU Member States are encouraged not to grant export, re-export or intra-EU trade certificates. Exemptions are only possible under specific circumstances if the purposes are not detrimental to the conservation of the species.</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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>After every CITES CoP, the EU incorporates the changes in the CITES Appendices in the relevant legislation at EU level (Council Regulation (EC) 338/97). Albeit a simplified procedure, it is challenging to meet the 90 days deadline given lengthy and punctual internal procedures at EU level.</p> <p>During the interim period and prior to the entry into force of the amended Regulation, EU Member States issue export and import permits directly based on the relevant provisions of the Convention. National legislation which has an effect on new CITES listed species exists already since 1984: The Belgian Law of 28/07/1981 provides 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>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 can assist in the obligation to provide 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. <p>If 'No', please provide details of the constraints faced:</p>

¹ [EUR-Lex - 52022XC0811\(01\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

² [EUR-Lex - 52022DC0581 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

³ [Regulation - 2023/966 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁴ [Implementing regulation - EU - 2023/2770 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁵ [EUR-Lex - 52023XC0418\(01\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

Indicator 1.1.2: Number of Parties subject to CITES recommendations to suspend trade.
(Data source: Notifications to the Parties and reference list of countries subject to a recommendation to suspend trade)

Objective 1.2 Parties have established CITES Management and Scientific Authorities and enforcement focal points that effectively carry out the duties required of them under the Convention and relevant Resolutions.

Indicator 1.2.1: Number of Parties that have designated at least one Management Authority, independent Scientific Authority and enforcement focal points in place.
(Data source: CITES online directory)

Objective 1.3 Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
SDG Goals 12, 14 & 15
GBF Goal A & Targets 4, 5, 9, 10 & 15

Indicator 1.3.1: 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>Belgium replied to all reporting requirements (Annual Legal Trade Report, Annual Illegal Trade Report) but has not replied to all Notifications send out by the CITES Secretariat. This was in part because we did not necessarily felt addressed by the Notification, or sometimes because of lack of resources.</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>
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>

Objective 1.4 The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation status and needs of species.
SDG Goal 15
GBF Goal A & Targets 4 & 5

Indicator 1.4.1: The number and proportion of species listed in Appendices that have been found to meet the criteria for each Appendix contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) or its successors as part of the Periodic Review process or of amendment proposals

Objective 1.5 Parties improve the conservation status of CITES-listed specimens, put in place national conservation actions, support their sustainable use and promote cooperation in managing shared wildlife resources.
SDG Goals 2, 12, 14 & 15
GBF Goals A & B & Targets 4, 5, 9 & 10

Indicator 1.5.1: The conservation status of species listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved.
(Data source: IUCN Red List conservations status categories)

<p>1.5.1a (previously 3.4.1a)</p>	<p>Does your country have data which shows that the conservation status of naturally occurring species in your country listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved?</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Yes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">No</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Not Applicable</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Appendix I</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Appendix II</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Appendix III</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide: There are no CITES-listed species that occur only in Belgium. We are not aware of any specific studies, although they no doubt will exist (in Belgium and other EU Member States). For the European eel for example, information will exist at EU level, as there is a dedicated Regulation (the EU Eel Regulation) that will contain information on the population status of the European eel. For this particular species, it is clear that the conservation status has not improved, as Member States are called upon to take additional actions to improve conservation (as mentioned in the Action Plan "Protecting and restoring marine ecosystems for sustainable and resilient fisheries" adopted by the European Commission on 21/02/2023.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Species name (scientific)</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Link to the data, or a brief summary</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">?</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		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"/>	Species name (scientific)	Link to the data, or a brief summary	?	
	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"/>																		
Species name (scientific)	Link to the data, or a brief summary																				
?																					
<p>1.5.1b (previously 3.4.1b)</p>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or emerging problems with any CITES listed species?</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">No information</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> <p>If 'Yes', please provide details:</p> <p>Success stories The Belgian Zoo Planckendael has successfully contributed to the reintroduction of <i>Aegypius monachus</i>, the Eurasian black vulture. The Belgian Zoo Pairi Daiza has successfully contributed to the breeding program of the giant panda (<i>Ailuropoda melanoleuca</i>) in close collaboration with China, and collaborated in the breeding and reintroduction program of the Spix ara (<i>Cyanopsitta spixii</i>) with Brazil.</p> <p>Emerging problems Belgium had a first seizure of glass eels (<i>Anguilla Anguilla</i>) in 2023, confirming the problem of illegal trade in this commodity, which is illegally harvested in the EU and then illegally traded, mostly to Asia (China). In March 2023 these 420,000 glass eels were released in several rivers in the Flemish Region.</p> <p>Furthermore the illegal trade in postal parcels containing food supplements (often containing, or said to contain CITES listed plant species) is again on the rise (zero cases in 2018 and 2019, 9 cases in 2020, 66 in 2021 and 45 in 2022). Whereas before parcels with <i>Aloe ferox</i> where problematic, this problem was solved due to the change in the annotation for this species. When trade is largely in artificially propagated specimens, it should be considered more often to clearly exclude finished products from the scope of CITES.</p>	Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or emerging problems with any CITES listed species?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No	<input type="checkbox"/>		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>											
Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or emerging problems with any CITES listed species?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																			
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>																			
	No information	<input type="checkbox"/>																			

Indicator 1.5.2: Number of CITES-listed species for which Parties have put in place actions that support sustainable use.

<p>1.5.2 (previously 1.6.2a)</p>	<p>Does your country 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>
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	<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> <p>Species Name (scientific) Link or reference to a published plan</p>
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GOAL 2 PARTIES' DECISIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY THE BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE AND INFORMATION

Objective 2.1 Parties' non-detriment findings are based on best available scientific information and their determination of legal acquisition is based on the best available technical and legal information.
 SDG Goals 12, 14 & 15
 GBF Targets 4, 5, 9 & 20

Indicator 2.1.1: Number of Parties that have adopted standard procedures for making non-detriment findings (NDFs).

2.1.1a (previously 1.5.2a)	<p>Does your country have standard procedures for making non-detriment findings in line with Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17)?</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 BE CITES MA uses 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, ..). NDF's are consolidated at the European level, thus guaranteeing a high quality as several EU Scientific Authorities contribute to the discussions. The Belgian SA follows discussions of the EU Scientific Review Group closely and contributes actively, notably in the field of timber trade. Belgium also participated in the NDF workshop of December 2023.</p>	Yes	No	No information
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
2.1.1b (previously 1.5.2b)	<p>When establishing non-detriment findings, have any of the following guidance been used?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">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 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 checked="" 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: 9-step NDF guidance</p>			
2.1.1c (previously 1.5.2c)	<p>How often does your country review and/or change your non-detriment findings?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Case by case <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Annually <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Every two years <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Less frequently <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">A mix of the above <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please describe the circumstances under which non-detriment findings would be changed: 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), consultations start with the relevant third Party to inform them about the change in opinion. It may also happen that, for example, new information on populations status or new export quotas are being available, etc.</p>			

then the NDF needs to be reevaluated. 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.

Indicator 2.1.2: Number of written NDFs submitted and number of Parties submitting NDFs for posting in the CITES online database.

(Data source: NDF webpage on the CITES website)

Indicator 2.1.3: Number of Parties that have included the legal acquisition finding obligation in their national regulatory framework, as recommended by Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19).

2.1.3		Yes	No	No information
	Is the legal acquisition finding obligation included in your national regulatory framework, as recommended by Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', please briefly include the name of the regulatory instrument, or provide a link to where the information can be found on the internet:			
	This is enshrined in the EU Regulations (Council Regulation 338/97 and Implementation Regulation 865/2006) and complemented by the EU Guidance documents (specific guidances are published related to ivory, rhino, tigers, live animals bred in captivity in the EU, timber trade, proof of legal acquisition for live animals of Annex B). See https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/wildlife-trade_en			

Objective 2.2 Parties cooperate in sharing information and tools relevant to the implementation of CITES.

SDG Goal 12

GBF Goal B & Targets 20 & 21

Indicator 2.2.1: Number of surveys, studies or other analyses undertaken by exporting countries based on the sources of information cited in Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings* related to: - the population status of Appendix-II species; - the trends and impact of trade upon Appendix-II species; and - the status of and trend in naturally occurring Appendix I species and the impact of any recovery plans.

2.2.1a (previously 1.5.1a)	Have any surveys, studies or other analyses been undertaken in your country in relation to:	Yes	No	Not Applicable	If Yes, How many?
	- the population status of Appendix II species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the trends and impact of trade on Appendix II species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the impact of any recovery plans on Appendix I species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Have the surveys, studies or analyses integrated relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:				
	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.				
	Species name (scientific)				

2.2.1b (previously 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>
2.2.1c (previously 1.5.1c)	<p>Does your country 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 type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;">No information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, including, if possible, an evaluation of their impact:</p>
2.2.1d (previously 1.5.1d)	<p>Has your country published any non-detriment findings that can be shared? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide links or examples to the Secretariat within this report:</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 in 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>

2.2.1e (previously 1.5.1e)	Which of the following [A to F of paragraph 1 a) x) of Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17)] does your country 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
<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. It is in this process that above information is consulted. Belgium has not, in the relevant timeframe, compiled NDF's on endemic species.</p>			

Indicator 2.2.2: Number and proportion of annual export quotas based on population surveys.
(Data source: Quotas webpage on the CITES website)

2.2.2a (previously 1.5.3a)	Does your country set annual export quotas?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If 'Yes', does your country set quotas based on population survey, or by other means? Please specify, for each species, how quotas are set:</p>			
	Species Name (scientific)	Population Survey?	Other, please specify
	<i>Prionace glauca</i> (zero export quota for Mediterranean stock)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> (zero export quota for North Atlantic and South Atlantic stock as defined by ICCAT)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<i>Isurus paucus</i> (zero export quota for all stocks)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i> (zero export quota for all stocks)		
2.2.2b (previously 1.5.3b)	Have annual export quotas been set at levels which will ensure sustainable production and consumption?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If 'Yes', please describe how this fits into your non-detriment finding process: For the abovementioned species it was determined that it was not possible to determine an export quota which can ensure sustainable production and consumption, therefore the export quota are set at zero.</p>			

Indicator 2.2.3: 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.

2.2.3a (previously 1.6.3a)	Have the CITES authorities <i>received or benefited</i> from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?
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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Participation in EU Expert Group meetings which provide a forum for discussion of CITES related issues and which can be considered as a form of capacity building.
Staff of Scientific Authority		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Participation in EU Scientific Review Group meetings which provide a forum for discussion of CITES related issues and which can be considered as a form of capacity building.
Staff of enforcement authorities		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Participation in EU Enforcement Group meetings which provide a forum for discussion of CITES related issues and which can be considered as a form of capacity building.
Traders		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The BE SA receives written input from international organisations such as IUCN and its specialist groups for the advice on the introduction of CITES listed species into the EU (species listed on Annex A and B of EU Regulation 338/97).
NGOs		<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

2.2.3b
(previously
1.6.3b)

Have the CITES authorities been the *providers* 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

Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Details

Staff of Management Authority

- 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.
- Financial assistance to the Sponsored Delegates Project for COP19
- Technical assistance to Training at the UNIA MASTER course for other CITES Management Authorities on CITES

Staff of Scientific Authority

The Belgian scientific authority has provided feedback on the non-detriment finding process for the newly listed timber species (*Pterocarpus* spp., *Azelia* spp.) in Cameroon.

	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For French speaking African customs officers at the "Ecole des douanes Belge" of the Federal Public Service Finance in Brussels on CITES - For customs officers of South East Asia in collaboration with UNODC on CITES - For Customs administrators from South America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia Pacific in collaboration with WCO on CITES - For European (non EU) enforcement officers in collaboration with the European Commission (TAEIX EPPA) on CITES enforcement - For Dutch enforcement authorities at their CITES contact day on implementation of CITES COP 19
	Traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial assistance to ETIS and EU-twix
	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)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2.3c (previously 1.6.3c)	In what ways does your country 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"/>	<p>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</p> <p>The Belgian SA exchanges information on a regular basis with other EU member states through the Scientific Review Group by e-mail or meetings (SRG and SRG Working groups), and with third countries (mainly concerning timber species) at international meetings such as the Animals and Plants committee and the CoP. In light of imports, the BE SA regularly consults the SA of the country of export.</p>
Monitoring / survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Habitat management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Species management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular exchanges with countries of origin, notably timber trading Parties. The EU applies strict criteria for the assessment of import requests on the introduction of CITES listed timber species into the EU (species listed on Annex A and B of EU Regulation 338/97). In light of this there are regular communications with the exporting countries of these species.
Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See 2.2.3b
Other (please provide details)						

2.2.3d (previously 2.3.1a)	How many training and capacity building activities ¹ has your country 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:						
2.2.3e (previously 2.3.1b)	What sorts of capacity building activities have taken place? National training on CITES for all enforcement authorities are given on a yearly basis: police (2022), customs (2021) CITES inspectorate, Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (sanitary department at the borders) (2023) and the judicial branch (magistrates and judges) (2023). Some training is given on dedicated training days, others are given through joint national control operations.						
2.2.3f (previously 2.3.1c)	What capacity building needs does your country 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 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 Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	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"/>	

Indicator 2.2.4: Number of reports shared by the Parties in compliance with the Resolutions of the Convention. (Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Indicator 2.2.5: Number of Parties sharing information relevant to the implementation of CITES (e.g. shared databases, data visualization/software, information-sharing focused tools, etc.).

2.2.5	Has your country shared information relevant to the implementation of CITES (e.g. shared databases, data visualization/software, information-sharing focused tools, etc.)?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 2.2.6: Number of CoP side-events where Parties present information and tools relevant to the implementation of CITES (Data source: CoP side-event schedule and descriptions)

Objective 2.3 Parties have sufficient information to enforce the Convention.
[SDG Goal 12](#)
[GBF Goal D & Targets 15 & 21](#)

Indicator 2.3.1: Proportion of Parties that are making use of the available tools. For instance, one could look at Google Analytics for the number of site visits to the CITES website, CITES Checklist, or Species+ or the number of downloads from the CITES Trade Database as a proxy for usage of shared tools.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat – Number of visits to the CITES website; number of visits to the CITES Checklist and Species+; number of downloads from the CITES Trade Database)

Indicator 2.3.2: Percentage of Parties reporting having sufficient information to enforce the Convention.

2.3.2	Do you consider that your country has sufficient information to enforce the Convention?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Objective 2.4 Parties have sufficient information to make listing decisions that are reflective of species conservation needs.

SDG Goal 12
GBF Goals A & D & Targets 5, 20 & 21

Indicator 2.4.1: Percentage of Parties reporting having sufficient information to make listing decisions that are reflective of species conservation needs.

2.4.1	Do you consider that your country has sufficient information to make listing decisions that are reflective of species conservation needs?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Objective 2.5 Information gaps and needs for key species are identified and addressed.

SDG Goal 12
GBF Target 21

Indicator 2.5.1: Number of Parties that have undertaken research (including for non-detriment findings) on their identified key species most relevant to the implementation of the Convention.

2.5.1a	<p>Has research (including for non-detriment findings) on your identified key species most relevant to the implementation of the Convention been undertaken in your country? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please indicate how you identify key species: Key species are species that are often imported in Belgium, such as timber. Detailed analysis of NDF's made by the countries of origin have been undertaken, as well on any available publications or suggested management on the identified key species.</p>
2.5.1b (previously 1.4.1a)	<p>Has your country undertaken any reviews of whether species would benefit from listing on the CITES Appendices? Yes <input checked="" 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): Belgium authored the listing proposal for the listing of <i>Pterocarpus</i> spp. which was adopted at CoP19, and actively contributed to the other timber listing proposals proposed by the EU and the 27 MS.</p>

Indicator 2.5.2: Number of Parties that currently lack information for their identified key species most relevant to the implementation of the Convention and need assistance to address them.

2.5.2	<p>Do you consider that your country currently lacks information on your identified key species most relevant to the implementation of the Convention and needs assistance to address them? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please specify for which key species and the type of assistance needed: There are differing views as to how an NDF has to be made for timber species. This has become more apparent as recent listings relate to commercially important species. A more harmonised approach accepted by all CITES Parties would be beneficial for the conservation of such species (e.g. what would be considered as sustainable forestry under CITES).</p>
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GOAL 3 PARTIES (INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY) HAVE THE TOOLS, RESOURCES AND CAPACITY TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE CONVENTION, CONTRIBUTING TO CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE USE AND THE REDUCTION OF ILLEGAL TRADE IN CITES-LISTED WILDLIFE SPECIES

Objective 3.1 Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens.
[SDG Goal 16](#)
[GBF Goal D](#)

Indicator 3.1.1: 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
3.1.1 (previously 1.2.1a)	Does your country 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"/>

Indicator 3.1.2: Number of Parties making use of the simplified procedures provided for in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19).

3.1.2 (previously 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 to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) 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"/>

Indicator 3.1.3: Number of Parties that have adopted an electronic system for the issuance of permits.

		Yes	No	No information
3.1.3 (previously 1.2.1b)	Does your country 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"/>
<p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide information on challenges faced or issues overcome: As already reported on in the previous Implementation report, Belgium has an electronic system for the submission of applications for CITES documents, that entered into force in March 2015, and 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.</p>			
If 'No', do you have any plans to move towards e-permitting ¹ ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If you are planning to move towards e-permitting, please explain what might help you to do so: Belgium is closely involved in the development of the EU CITES Database, which will be a hub-system where all EU MS can become integrated in the EU-wide system, and where 3rd Parties can also connect to the EU-system (and thus also to the EU-MS). Furthermore, an EU Single Window system is under development, allowing authorities, customs and traders to access and apply for the requirement documents when importing specimens into the EU (not limited to CITES), through a single point of access. If this development comes to light, it would also mean that customs can directly encode the actual quantities of traded specimens directly into the system (whereas currently customs still have to send back the hand signed CITES permits to the CITES MA and the CITES MA has to encode this in the Belgian database). The main hurdle will be to make the actual step to go from paper permits to digital permits, as this requires an acceptance of this way of working by our trading partners at the international level.</p>			

Objective 3.2 Parties and the Secretariat develop, adopt and implement adequate capacity-building programmes.

[SDG Goal 17](#)

[GBF Goal D & Targets 20 & 21](#)

Indicator 3.2.1: Number of Parties with training programmes and information resources in place to implement CITES, including the making of non-detriment and legal acquisition findings, issuance of permits and enforcement.

3.2.1a (previously 1.8.1a)	<p>Does your country have information resources or training in place to support:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes No</p> <p>The making of non-detriment findings? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Permit officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Enforcement officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
3.2.1b (previously 1.8.1b)	<p>Is the CITES Virtual College used as part of your capacity building work?</p> <p>What improvements could be made in using the Virtual College for capacity building? updated to more recent information</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
3.2.1c (previously 1.8.1c)	<p>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?</p> <p>What improvements could be made in using the ICCWC Toolkit for capacity building?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>

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.

Indicator 3.2.2: 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.

See questions for indicator 2.2.3

Objective 3.3 Sufficient resources are available at the national and international levels to support necessary capacity-building programmes and ensure compliance with and full implementation and enforcement of the Convention.
[SDG Goals 15 & 17](#)
[GBF Goal D & Targets 20 & 21](#)

Indicator 3.3.1: Number of Parties meeting their obligations with regard to their assessed contributions to the Trust Fund.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Indicator 3.3.2: Percentage of the total funds required to implement the work programme agreed by the Conference of the Parties that is fully funded.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Objective 3.4 Parties recognize illegal trade in wildlife as serious crime and have adequate systems in place to detect and deter it.
[SDG Goal 15](#)

Indicator 3.4.1: Number of Parties where criminal offences relating to illegal trade in wildlife (such as illegal hunting/harvest and wildlife trafficking) are recognized as a serious crime.

3.4.1a (previously 1.7.3b)	Are criminal offences such as poaching and wildlife trafficking recognized as serious crime ¹ in your country?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please explain what criteria must be met for poaching or wildlife trafficking offences to be treated as serious crimes: Regarding poaching of native wildlife: this is a regional competence: the Walloon, Flemish and Brussels regions ensures the implementation of the Nature Conservation Act and the Nature Park Decree in Belgium. Regarding wildlife trafficking the Law of July 1981 gives the amount of the penalties: minimal fine of €26 (multiplied by 8 (€208)) to €50.000 (multiplied by 8 (€400.000)) and imprisonment of six months to five years. The same law allows administrative sanctions, in case there is no criminal prosecution. There are no criteria, it is up to the prosecutor, judge and/or administrative department responsible for administrative fines to decide.		
3.4.1b (previously 1.7.3a)	Does your country have law and procedures in place for investigating, prosecuting, and penalizing CITES offences as a crime?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please provide the title of the legislation and a summary of the penalties available see above		
3.4.1c (previously 1.7.3c)	Does your country have capacity to use forensic technology ² to support the investigation of CITES offences?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
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: - DNA analysis/species identification for <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>, <i>Panax ginseng/quinquifolius</i>, <i>Sphyrna</i> spp., different types of bush meat and caviar and different types of wood of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i>		

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).

	<p>spp.</p> <p>- parentage analysis on: <i>Tyto alba</i>, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>, <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>, <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i> and <i>Haliaeetus pelagicus</i>, <i>Gyps fulvus</i>, <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>, <i>Falco cherrug</i>, <i>Falco rusticolus</i> (and hybrids), <i>Strix uralensis</i>, <i>Bubo bubo</i>, <i>Cacatua moluccensis</i>, <i>Primolius maracana</i>, <i>Amazona rhodocorytha</i>, <i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i>,...</p> <p>If 'Yes', and your country has an appropriate forensic analysis facility for CITES-listed species, please indicate which species it applies to: Yes, DNA analyse are requested through our lab BOPCO (https://bopco.myspecies.info/), Timber analyses are requested through our timber forensic center (ENFORCE https://enforce.africamuseum.be/en) and customs has their own customs lab.</p> <p>Parentage testing is done via a Dutch commercial lab at the moment.</p>																														
3.4.1d (previously 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"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>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>-Participation of all Thunder operations in 2021, 2022, 2023 reports: https://www.interpol.int/News-and-Events</p> <p>2021: https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/operation-thunder-2021</p> <p>2022 https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/saisies-de-viande-carapaces-cranes-et-squelettes-despeces-menacees</p> <p>In this period different enforcement authorities participated in monthly or bi-monthly joint national control operations (so-called "BACON OPERATION") taking place at different border posts in the country (Zaventem, Gosselies, Bierset, Brussels midi train station, Oostende,...). 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>																														
3.4.1e (previously 1.7.3e)	<p>Does your country 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"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>																														
3.4.1f (previously 1.7.3f)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Does your country have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?</th> <th>Yes</th> <th>No</th> <th>No information</th> <th>If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered by this report?</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>General crime²</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Predicate offences³</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asset forfeiture⁴</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corruption⁵</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>International cooperation in criminal matters⁶</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Does your country have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?	Yes	No	No information	If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered by this report?	General crime ²	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Predicate offences ³	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Asset forfeiture ⁴	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Corruption ⁵	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		International cooperation in criminal matters ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does your country have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?	Yes	No	No information	If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered by this report?																											
General crime ²	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												
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International cooperation in criminal matters ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												

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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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.

	Organized crime ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	case of organized crime in illegal trade in European eel.
	Specialized investigation techniques ²	<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:				
3.4.1g (previously 1.7.3g)	Does your country have institutional capacity to implement the legislative provisions listed in the question above 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:				

Objective 3.5 Parties work collaboratively across range, transit and destination states, to address entire illegal trade chains, including through strategies to reduce both the supply of and demand for illegal products, in order for trade to be legal and sustainable.

[SDG Goals 15 & 17](#)

[GBF Targets 5, 16, 20 & 21](#)

Indicator 3.5.1: Number of seizures made through Parties collaboration across range, transit and destination States, to address entire illegal trade chains.

3.5.1	Have authorities in your country made seizures through Parties collaboration across range, transit and destination States, to address entire illegal trade chains?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	No information <input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', please indicate the number of seizures made: Sometimes information from export or transit countries are sent regarding a possible illegal shipment.			
	Please see our annual illegal trade report for details on seizures.			

¹ 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.

² 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.

Objective 3.6 Parties take measures to prohibit, prevent, detect and sanction corruption.
[SDG Goal 16](#)

Indicator 3.6.1: Number of Parties reporting in implementation reports of activities taken to address corruption.

3.6.1	Has your country undertaken activities to address corruption, in particular with regard to national agencies responsible for wildlife law enforcement and protected areas management? If 'Yes', please elaborate on the types of activities taken:	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Objective 3.7 Investments in building capacity of CITES are prioritized, coordinated, and their success monitored to ensure stepwise improvement through time.
[SDG Goals 15 & 17](#)
[GBF Goal D & Target 20](#)

Indicator 3.7.1: Number of capacity-building activities delivered to Parties.
(Data source: See questions for indicator 2.2.3)

Indicator 3.7.2: Number of Parties who report improvements in their implementation following targeted capacity-building efforts.

3.7.2	Can you report improvements in the implementation of CITES in your country following targeted capacity-building efforts? If 'No', please elaborate on the reasons why targeted capacity-building did not lead to improvements in your implementation:	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No capacity-building	<input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 3.7.3: Total investments into capacity-building efforts.
(Data source: Reports from capacity-building activities)

Objective 3.8 Parties take full advantage of emerging technological developments to improve the effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention.
[SDG Goal 17](#)
[GBF Goal D & Targets 20 & 21](#)

Indicator 3.8.1: Number of CITES Parties using the CITES Checklist API.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

GOAL 4 CITES POLICY DEVELOPMENT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO AND LEARNS FROM INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Objective 4.1 Parties support sustainable wildlife trade policies, especially those that increase the capacity of Indigenous peoples and local communities to pursue livelihoods.
[SDG Goals 8, 12, 14, 15 & 17](#)
[GBF Goals B & C & Targets 5 & 22](#)

Indicator 4.1.1: Number of CITES-listed species for which Parties have designed/implemented relevant sustainable wildlife management policies.

4.1.1	Has your country designed or implemented relevant sustainable wildlife management policies for CITES-listed species? If 'Yes', please indicate the names of the species:	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taxon (scientific name)		Total number of CITES-listed species covered	

	<i>Anguilla Anguilla</i> (the EU Eel Regulation see 1.5.1a)	1

Indicator 4.1.2: Percentage of Parties that co-developed or otherwise supported the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to pursue livelihoods.

4.1.2	Has your country co-developed or otherwise supported the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to pursue livelihoods?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
		No <input type="checkbox"/>
		No information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Objective 4.2 The importance of achieving CITES' aim as a contribution to achieving the relevant Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, is recognized.

[SDG Goals 12, 15 & 17](#)

[GBF Targets 4 & 5](#)

Indicator 4.2.1: Number of Parties incorporating CITES into their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), also included in the global and national Strategies for Plant Conservation under CBD programme.

4.2.1a (previously 3.4.2a)	Has CITES been incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) or any revision of the NBSAP?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No <input type="checkbox"/>
		No information <input type="checkbox"/>
4.2.1b (previously 3.4.2b)	Has your country 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 4.3 Awareness of the role, purpose and achievements of CITES is increased globally.

[SDG Goals 12 & 17](#)

[GBF Targets 4, 5 & 21](#)

Indicator 4.3.1: Number of new, unique visits to the CITES website.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat – number of site visits to the CITES website)

Indicator 4.3.2: Number of Parties with information on CITES and its requirements on their official websites.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat – number of Management Authorities with a website)

Indicator 4.3.3: Number of followers on CITES social media platforms.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat – number of followers of CITES and WWD on social media, i.e., Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, Youtube, Wechat and Weibo)

Indicator 4.3.4: Number of key identified hashtags (e.g. #cites, #citescop19 #worldwildlifeday, etc.) on CITES social media.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Indicator 4.3.5: Number of events submitted to the World Wildlife Day website.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Objective 4.4 CITES Parties are informed of international actions for sustainable development that may have a bearing on achieving the goal of CITES.

[SDG Goal 17](#)

[GBF Target 21](#)

- Indicator 4.4.1: Number of meetings/CoP where representatives of other international bodies report on relevant activities to CITES Parties.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)
- Indicator 4.4.2: Events, documents and presentations, etc. delivered by other intergovernmental bodies and fora in meetings convened by the CITES Secretariat.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)
- Indicator 4.4.3: Number of Notifications to the Parties issued by the CITES Secretariat relating to international actions for sustainable development that may have a bearing on achieving the goal of CITES.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

GOAL 5 DELIVERY OF THE CITES STRATEGIC VISION IS IMPROVED THROUGH COLLABORATION

- Objective 5.1 Parties and the Secretariat support and enhance existing cooperative partnerships in order to achieve their identified objectives.
SDG Goal 17
GBF Goal D & Target 20
- Indicator 5.1.1: 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.

5.1.1 (previously 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? 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.	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Indicator 5.1.2: 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.

5.1.2 (previously 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"/>	Traffic Europe (for the management of EUTWIX as well as ETIS)

- Indicator 5.1.3: Number of cooperative actions taken under established bilateral or multilateral agreements to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade.

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.

5.1.3 (previously 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	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 5.1.4: Number of times other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources are consulted on issues relevant to species subject to unsustainable trade.

5.1.4 (previously 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
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Management Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	e.g. IUCN Specialist groups
	Enforcement Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Indicator 5.1.5: Number of implemented cooperation agreements between the Secretariat and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), including the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) and other biodiversity-related Conventions.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Objective 5.2 Parties encourage the formation of new, innovative and mutually sustainable alliances between CITES and relevant international partners, where appropriate to advance CITES' objective and mainstream conservation and of sustainable use of biodiversity.
[SDG Goal 17](#)
[GBF Goal D & Target 20](#)

Indicator 5.2.1: Number of alliances between CITES and relevant international partners to advance CITES objective and mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
(Data source: CITES Secretariat)

Objective 5.3 Cooperation between CITES and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support activities that contribute to CITES implementation and enforcement.
[SDG Goals 15 & 17](#)
[GBF Goal D](#)

Indicator 5.3.1: Number of Parties funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

5.3.1a (previously 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? If 'Yes', please provide brief details:	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3.1b (previously 3.1.1a)	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 5.3.2: 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.

5.3.2 (previously 3.1.2a)	Has your country provided technical or financial assistance to another country or countries in relation to CITES?						Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	No information <input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please tick boxes to indicate type of assistance provided	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding of African Elephant Fund and technical assistance as part of the Steering Committee		
All CITES Parties	<input checked="" 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/en/g/prog/etis)		
	<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"/>			

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.

COOPERATION AND SYNERGIES

C1 (previously 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: 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) as well as 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 Convention - 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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C2a (previously 3.3.2a)	How many international projects which integrate CITES issues has your country contributed towards?	2 (African Elephant Fund and ETIS)	
C2b (previously 3.3.2b)	In addition to C2a, how many national level projects has your country implemented which integrate CITES issues?		
C2c (previously 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Local authorities or communities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
C2d (previously 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"/>
	National accounting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ENFORCEMENT

E1 (previously 1.7.1a)	Does your country have, is are your country engaged in, or covered by:	Yes	No	No 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: The European Commission published the revised European Union Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A581%3AFIN&qid=1667989438184).</p> <p>Belgium participated in several international meetings to strengthen international cooperation: Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group, EU CITES Enforcement meeting (the EU WEN), ...</p> <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 to combat the illegal import of meat. The taskforce will 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. European Eels.</p>				

E2a (previously 1.7.2a)	Does your country 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"/>
<p>If 'Yes', what do you do? Traffic makes yearly overviews of the EU illegal trade data. These trends are discussed in the CITES EU Enforcement Group Meeting</p> <p>If 'Yes' or 'No, but review is under consideration', which tools do you find of value?</p>			
E2b (previously 1.7.2b)	Has your country used the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, or equivalent tools?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No, but toolkit use is under consideration	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If 'Yes', please provide feedback on the parts of the toolkit used and how useful the toolkit or equivalent tools have been. Please specify improvements that could be made:</p> <p>If 'No', please provide feedback on why not or what is needed to make the toolkit or equivalent tools useful to you:</p>			

E3a (previously 1.7.4a)	Does your country use risk assessment to target CITES enforcement effort?	Always <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Very often <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
E3b (previously 1.7.4b)	Does your country 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"/>
E3c (previously 1.7.4c)	Does your country 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
E3d (previously 1.7.4d)	Has your country implemented any supply-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, but activities are under development <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
E3e (previously 1.7.4e)	Has your country 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

During the period covered in this report:		Yes	No	No Information												
E4a (previously 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>If cases are not treated on the criminal level, the Belgian legislation provides for administrative fines, determined by the legal department (within the Federal Public Service of Public Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment).</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> <p>The amount balances between €280 and €1400.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 1630 887 1816"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Private person</th> <th>Company</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>32.266</td> <td>8.402</td> <td>€ 40.668</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>23.692</td> <td>10.830</td> <td>€ 34.522</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Private person	Company	Total	2021	32.266	8.402	€ 40.668	2022	23.692	10.830	€ 34.522	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Private person	Company	Total													
2021	32.266	8.402	€ 40.668													
2022	23.692	10.830	€ 34.522													

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.

2023	21.223	39.320	€60.543

If the offender doesn't pay the fine, it will be collected by a bailiff, so normally all fines are collected.

E4b (previously 1.7.5b)	Have there been any criminal prosecutions of CITES-related offences?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', how many and for what types of offences? If available, please attach details:			
	Amongst others:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - import of 1 kg primate meat: imprisonment of 8 months and a fine of €1600 - import of 3 pieces of ivory (0.39 kg): imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of €3200 - import of 3.32 kg of Tortoise meat: imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of €1200 - import of 16.7 kg of Alligator meat: imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of €1200 - transit of 2.36 kg of African Dwarf Crocodile meat: imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of €800 - import of 1 Python skin: imprisonment of 6 months and a fine of €1200 - import of Angolan Colobus meat (3 kg): fine of €1600 - import of 1.4 kg python meat: fine of €1200 - detention of 1 live Macaca Sylvanus: fine of €4000 			
E4c (previously 1.7.5c)	Have there been any other court actions against CITES-related offences?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', what were the offences involved and what were the results? Please attach details: For some cases an amicable settlement by the prosecutor is proposed with a fine between €350-€750. These cases relate mostly to import of wild meat and corals by private persons.			
E4d (previously 1.7.5d)	How were any confiscated specimens disposed of?	Tick all that apply		
	– Return to country of export	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	– Public zoos or botanical gardens see details in previous implementation report 2018-2019-2020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	– Designated rescue centres see details in previous implementation report 2018-2019-2020	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	– Approved private facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	– Euthanasia	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	– Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	<p>Have you encountered any challenges in disposing of confiscated specimens? We do sometime encounter problems of lack of place for seized animals in rescue centers, particularly when judicial decisions take a long time or with big quantities. We do sometime send seized animals to rescue centers in other EU Member States when needed.</p>			
	Do you have good practice that you would like to share with other Parties?			

RESOURCES

R1a <small>(previously 2.2.1a)</small>	<p>Does your country have an approved service standard(s)¹ for your Management Authority(ies)?</p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question R1d.</p> <p>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.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>																
	<p>If 'Yes', does your country have performance targets for these standards²?</p> <p>If 'Yes', what are your country's performance targets?</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>																
	<p>Does your country publish your performance against service standard targets?</p> <p>If possible, please provide your country's performance against service standards during the period covered in this report: Overview average number of working days needed to fully assess the application:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%;">Import permit</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Export permit</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Re-export certificate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2021</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">21</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2022</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> <td style="text-align: center;">21</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2023</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Import permit	Export permit	Re-export certificate	2021	12	21	8	2022	22	21	5	2023	15	15	5	Issuance of permit ((re)export / import)within 2 weeks of application (this is an internal performance standard) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Import permit	Export permit	Re-export certificate															
2021	12	21	8															
2022	22	21	5															
2023	15	15	5															
	<p>If your country did not meet its performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – availability of funding? – number of staff? – a shortage of skills? <p>If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills does your country need more of?</p>	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="text-align: center;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>– availability of funding?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>– number of staff?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>– a shortage of skills?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		Yes	No	– 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"/>				
	Yes	No																
– 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"/>																
R1b <small>(previously 2.2.1b)</small>	<p>Does your country have an approved service standard(s)⁴⁷ for your Scientific Authority(ies)?</p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question R1d.</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 (2 experts), birds (3), reptiles, amphibia and fish (4), invertebrates (1) and plants (6). The members of this Belgian</p>	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.

“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 .

If ‘Yes’, does your country have performance targets for these standards⁴⁸?

Yes
No

If ‘Yes’, what are your country’s performance targets?

Time-related advices should be available within 10 working days

If possible, please provide your country’s performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:

Average time application is under scrutiny of the SA

SA advice	Import permit	Export permit	Re-export certificate
2021	31	11	0
2022	18	0,3	0
2023	19	2	6

If your country did not meet its performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:

- availability of funding?
- number of staff?
- a shortage of skills?

Yes No
 Yes No
 Yes No

If ‘Yes’ to a shortage of skills, which skills does your country need more of?

R1c
(previously 2.2.1c)

Does your country have an approved service standard(s)⁴⁷ for your enforcement authority(ies)?

Yes
No

If ‘No’, please go to Question R1d.

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’, does your country have performance targets for these standards⁴⁸?

Yes
No

If ‘Yes’, what are your country’s performance targets?

If possible, please provide your country’s performance against service standards during the period covered in this report:

If your country did not meet its performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:

- availability of funding?
- number of staff?
- a shortage of skills?

Yes No
 Yes No
 Yes No

	If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills does your country need more of?			
R1d (previously 2.2.1d)	Please only complete this question if you answered 'No' to the first part of question R1a, R1b, or R1c, relating to the existence of approved service standards for your authorities:			
	Does your country have sufficient of the following for your authorities to function effectively?			
		Management Authority(ies)	Scientific Authority(ies)	Enforcement Authority(ies)
	Funding?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Staff?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Skills?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

R2a (previously 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 type="checkbox"/>	
	Development of implementation tools			<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Purchase of technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement			<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (please specify):					
R2b (previously 2.2.2b)	During the period covered in this report, was the budget for your:		Increased	Stable	Decreased
	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"/>
R2c (previously 2.2.2c)	Has your country 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"/>
R2d (previously 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"/>
R2e (previously 2.2.2e)	Does your country have an operational system (e.g. electronic database) for managing		Yes	Under development	No
	Species information		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade information		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

R3a (previously 2.2.3a)	<p>Does the Management Authority charge fees for:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tick all that are applicable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 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"/>
R3b (previously 2.2.3b)	<p>Is a fee schedule publicly available? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide an internet link, or a copy of the schedule to the Secretariat: New fees for the CITES application forms in October 2021 https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/animaux-et-vegetaux/animaux/cites-et-especes-menacees/les-publications-permis-certificats-et-tarifs</p>

<p>R3c (previously 2.2.3c)</p>	<p>Has your country used revenues from fees for the implementation of CITES or wildlife conservation?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> Entirely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partly <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> </p>												
<p>R3d (previously 2.2.3d)</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Yes</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Does your country raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Do your country's fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Does your country have case studies on charging or using fees?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details: 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,</p> <p>Does your country use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation? <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide brief details:</p>		Yes	No	Does your country raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do your country's fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Does your country have case studies on charging or using fees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No											
Does your country raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>											
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Does your country have case studies on charging or using fees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>											

<p>R4a (previously 2.2.4a)</p>	<p>Does your country use incentive measures¹ such as those described in document CoP14 doc 14.32 to implement the Convention?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 70%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Yes</th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input 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> </tbody> </table> <p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, or if your country uses 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> <p>Positive incentive measures: with our pre-verification system implemented in 2023 in the CITES electronic database, we enable customers who submit complete applications to benefit from a shorter delivery time.</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No																							
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Auctioning of quotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																							
Cost recovery or environmental charges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
<p>R4b (previously 2.2.4b)</p>	<p>Have incentives harmful to biodiversity been eliminated?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Very little <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/> Completely <input type="checkbox"/> </p>																								

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.

AWARENESS

A1 (previously 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?	Wider public	Relevant User Groups
	– Press conferences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Press releases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Newspaper articles, brochures, leaflets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Television appearances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Radio appearances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Presentations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Public consultations / meetings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Market surveys	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Displays	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– 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"/>
	– Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Please attach copies of any items or describe examples: not exhaustive		
	<p>All information for stakeholders and press releases are located on our web site: https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/animaux-et-vegetaux/actualites-all-cites-belgique</p> <p>Moreover, all relevant information affecting stakeholders in general or on specific topics are sent by e-mail by the CITES Management Authority.</p> <p><u>Organization of meetings with stakeholders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2022,2023: by members of the CITES Management Authority for Belgian ornithological associations - 2021: by members of the CITES Inspection for Antics dealers - 2023: by members of the CITES Management Authority for animal shelters (Flemish region) - 2023 :by members of the CITES Management Authority for an Ophthalmic surgical company about trade of protected Shark medical products (<i>Prionace glauca</i>) - 2023:In addition to their usual controls, CITES inspectors ran a campaign to raise awareness of existing legislation on trade in CITES specimens. This campaign targeted the organizers, exhibitors and visitors of fairs, exchanges and shows offering animals for sale. <p><u>Public consultations:</u></p> <p>At the beginning of 2021: round ivory https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/news/consultation-publique-sur-le-commerce-de-livoire (initiative of EU commission)</p> <p><u>Television appearances</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interview of one member of the CITES Management Authority in ARTE (TV channel) broadcast documentary on “man's role in the emergence of pandemics caused by zoonoses’: case of illegal import of bushmeat via Brussels-Zaventem airport: https://www.arte.tv/fr/videos/106168-000-A/epidemies-l-empreinte-de-l-homme unfortunately the documentary is no longer available since 9 January 2024 and was published in French and German 		

- Participation of a member of CITES MA to a VTM (Belgium TV channel) television programme “DOE MAAR DUURZAAM” , ‘Dot it Sustainable’ is a television program in which various developments and innovations within the sustainability industry are discussed.

A2a (previously 3.2.2a)	How regularly do your country's Authorities consult the CITES website?				
Please tick boxes to indicate the most frequent usage (decide on an average amongst staff if necessary).	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less frequently	Not known
Target group					
Staff of Management Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
A2b (previously 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):					
Sometimes information cannot be found, or is not that easy to locate (for example the Interpretation section of the Appendices). Information is also not always up to date (for example MIKE ETIS Subgroup committee meeting reports etc).					
A general search also often reveals a lot of information, which does not make it easier to find what you are looking for (as all information containing the searched word(s) become available. Perhaps presenting it in a chronological manner (most recent first) would already help.					

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	No Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes' please provide details / links:		
How could this report format be improved? The format is not that user friendly...		

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

Collection of information pursuant to *Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006*

Standard template for collection of information pursuant to Article 69(5) of *Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006*

Beyond the communication of information referred to in Article 15(4)(c) of *Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97*¹ with regards the CITES Implementation Report², Article 69(5) of *Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006*³ requires the EU Member States to report on additional aspects, as stipulated in points (a) to (f):

- (a) persons and bodies registered in accordance with Articles 18 and 19;
- (b) scientific institutions registered in accordance with Article 60;
- (c) breeders approved in accordance with Article 63;
- (d) caviar (re-)packaging plants licensed in accordance with Article 66(7);
- (e) the use of phytosanitary certificates in accordance with Article 17;
- (f) cases where export permits and re-export certificates were issued retrospectively in accordance with Article 15.

These points are reflected in the standard template below, with the exception of the reporting requirement under Article 69(5)(d) concerning caviar (re-)packaging plants. This omission is due to such reporting requirement being covered by the notification pursuant to Article 66(7) of the Commission Regulation, which states that lists of processing and (re-)packaging plant facilities (including caviar producing aquaculture operations) licensed by the Management Authority of a Member State, and any changes thereto, shall be notified to the Secretariat of the Convention and to the Commission.

Article 69(6) of the *Commission Regulation No 865/2006* states that the above information shall be submitted in a computerised form together with the CITES Implementation Report. The present document provides the Member State Management Authorities with a standard template to fulfil these reporting obligations and allows the European Commission to gather Union-wide standardised information on the reporting aspects that fall outside the scope of CITES reporting requirements. This information complements that submitted in the EU Member State CITES Implementation Reports.

The deadline for submission of this information by the Member States, together with their Implementation Reports, is one year ahead of each meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties and shall correspond to the three-year period ending on 31 December of the previous year. Taking into account the draft amendments to *Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006* discussed at the 98th Meeting of the Committee On Trade in Wild Fauna And Flora, which states that Article 69 of *Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006* should be amended in a way that all intra-EU deadlines for Member State report submissions are set for 15 June so that the Commission can fulfil its reporting duty to the Secretariat by 31 October of the respective year.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A31997R0338>

² https://cites.org/eng/resources/reports/implementation_report

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32006R0865>

**Reporting on the application of permitting and registration procedures
(1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023)**

<p>1</p>	<p>Have persons and bodies been registered in accordance with Article 18 (simplified procedures with regard to certain trade in biological samples) and Article 19 (simplified procedures with regard to export or re-export of dead specimens) of <i>Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006</i>? <i>If yes, please specify details below.</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information available <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Have scientific institutions been registered in accordance with Article 60 of <i>Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006</i>? <i>If yes, please specify details below.</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Not during this period , begin 2024: BE010 Research institute</p> <p>For the entire list : https://cites.org/eng/common/reg/si/BE</p> </div>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information available <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Have breeders been approved in accordance with Article 63 of <i>Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006</i>? <i>If yes, please specify details below.</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information available <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Are phytosanitary certificates used in accordance with Article 17 of <i>Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006</i>?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>In 2022, around 678 Belgian phytosanitary certificates were used for the export of CITES plants instead of CITES export permits and 173 in 2023.</p> <p>The data relating to these phytosanitary certificates could however not been extracted and included in our annual report because they were not digitised. We had no information from our sanitary authority on the number of phytosanitary certificates used for the export of CITES plants in 2021.</p> </div> <p><i>If yes, please specify details.</i></p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information available <input type="checkbox"/></p>

5	<p>Have cases occurred where export permits and re-export certificates were issued retrospectively in accordance with Article 15 of <i>Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006</i>?</p> <p><i>If yes, please specify details below.</i></p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information available <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>One CITES reexport permit was issued retrospectively in 2023 for one <i>Alligator mississippiensis</i> bracelet to Switzerland. The watch strap was purchased on internet for personal use by a Swiss people . This document was issued in compliance with Resolution 12.3, chapter XIV, given that first time encountering such a situation for this , the presence of supporting invoice and other documents indicating the legality of the alligator leather.</p>		

	Decree-Law 121/2017, Article 32.3, Light environmental offense	Individuals (Just negligence) ; Individuals (with deceit)	200 400	2000 4000	* Define by court	2000 6000	18000 36000	* Define by court	Negligence	No	Decided by court only	Yes	Seizure by Management Authority, Customs, environment police, judiciary police and other police, Security and Food Authority, Confiscation by the Management Authority.	Yes (sometimes, define by Process instructor)	Penalties for minor offences			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Penal Code Law (Law 56/2011 of 03.08.2015), Article 278	Individuals							Negligence		Defined by court only	Yes	Confiscation by a Court decision	Yes (sometimes, defined by court)	(i) Up to 1 year for illegal possession; up to 2 years for illegal trade; up to 5 years for illegal killing and capture			
		Organised group ^a							Intent	5 years (i)								
Romania	Governmental Ordinance No. 57/2007 regarding protected areas, conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna (art. 53 (2) i)	Individuals	1050 (RON 5000)	2100 (RON 10 000)		5200 (RON 25000)	10 500 (RON 50 000)		Negligence	No		Yes	Customs in cooperation with National Environmental Guard	NA	Sanctions for violations of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 laid down in the Article 16 f), g) and h)			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Governmental Ordinance No. 57/2007 regarding protected areas, conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna (art. 53 (3) k)	Individuals	1500 (RON 7500)	3150 (RON 15000)		10 500 (RON 50 000)	21 000 (RON 100 000)		Negligence	No		Yes	Customs in cooperation with National Environmental Guard	NA	Sanctions for violations of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 laid down in the Article 16 a), b), e), i), j) and k)			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Penal Code	Individuals							Negligence			Yes	Customs in cooperation with National Environmental Guard, Police	NA	Sanctions for violations of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 laid down in the Article 16 c) and d)			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
Slovakia	Act No. 15/2005 on the Protection of Species of Wild Fauna and Flora by Regulating Trade Therein as amended (Art. 22 - 25)	Individuals	0	19 916		80	66 000		Negligence	No	No	Yes	Environmental Inspectorate	No				
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Act No. 199/2004 on Customs Law as amended (Art. 70 - 84)	Individuals	0	3 319	*	0	99 582	*	Negligence			Yes	Customs	Yes	*According to Act No 199/2004 only administrative offences are punished (not criminal offences)			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Criminal Code No. 300/2005 as amended (Art. 56, 305), Act No. 91/2016 on criminal	Individuals	**	**	160	331 930	**	**	1 500	1 600 000	Negligence	6 months	8 years	No	Yes	Police (court confirmation required for confiscation or forfeiture)	Yes	**According to the Criminal Code, only criminal offences are punished (not administrative offences)
		Organised group ^a							Intent	6 months	8 years	# 3 years	8 years					
Slovenia	Nature Conservation Act Uradni list RS, št. 96/04 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 61/06 – ZDru-1, 8/10 – ZSKZ-B, 46/14, 21/18 – ZNObj, 31/18, 82/20 in 3/22 – ZDab), Art. 160, 161	Individuals	100	300	100	300	200	10 000	200	10 000	Negligence	NA		Yes	Customs and inspectorate have authority to seizures. Confiscations are under authority of court.	Yes	Also seizure of equipment. A fine from 400 euros to 1000 euros shall also be imposed on the responsible person of a legal person. A fine from EUR 1000 to EUR 4000 can be imposed on an individual entrepreneur.	
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Decree on the Rules of Conduct and Protection Measures in the Trade in Animal and Plant Species, (Ur. l. RS, No. 39/2008, 106/10, 78/12 in 58/17) Art. 45	Individuals	85 (630)	580 (16690)		2600	33300		Negligence	NA		Yes	Customs and inspectorate have authority to seizures.	NA	A fine from 170 euros to 1660 euros shall also be imposed on the responsible person of a legal person. A fine from EUR 630 to EUR 16690 can be imposed on an individual entrepreneur.			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Act implementing the Customs regulations of the European Community (Uradni list RS, št. 32/16)	Individuals	300	1200		2000	125000		Negligence	No		Yes	Customs authorities	NA	A fine from 400 euros to 4000 euros shall also be imposed on the responsible person of a legal person. A fine from EUR 1000 to EUR 75000 can be imposed on an individual entrepreneur.			
		Organised group ^a							Intent									
	Criminal Code (Ur. l. RS, No. 55/2008, last updated in 2012 (Ur. l. RS, No. 50/2012) (Uradni list RS, št. 50/12 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 6/16 – popr., 54/15, 38/16, 27/17, 23/20, 9/20, 95/21 in 186/21)	Individuals							Negligence			Yes	Police	NA	Fines are higher for individual traders or the responsible legal person. According to Article 344 if the Criminal Code, (1) Whoever illegally possesses, takes away, damages, kills, exports, imports or trades in protected wild animal and plant species or their parts or products made from them, shall be punished by imprisonment for up to three years. (2) If the thing referred to in the previous paragraph is of great or exceptional nature conservation importance, or if the act referred to in the previous paragraph is committed in a criminal organization to carry out such acts, the perpetrator shall be punished with imprisonment from six months to five years.			
		Organised group ^a							Intent	3 years								
										6 months	5 years							
Spain	Organic Law 10/1995 of 23 November 1995 on Criminal Code, Arts. 332 and 334 and 339	Individuals	4 months (i)	8 months (i)	(Negligence)				Negligence	3 months	1 year	Yes, it is possible	Judicial Authority (permanent confiscation), Police Agencies (preventive seizure)	Conservation value is taken into consideration in the penalty	Fines based on day rates. (i) In addition, disqualification from profession or trade for a period of 3 months to 2 years. (ii) In addition, disqualification from profession or trade for a period of 6 years to 2 years (Art. 332), or 2 years to 4 years (Art. 334)			
			8 months (ii)	24 months (Intent)	(Intent)				Intent	6 months (iii)	2 years							

	Organised group ^a																	(iii) Disqualification from profession or trade for a period of 3 months to two years. In every case, the environmental harm must be repaired by the author of the infraction, by the adoption of the needed measures ruled by the Court to restore the disturbed biological balance (Art. 339 Criminal Code).
Law 34/2015 of 21 September that modifies the Organic Law 12/1995 of 12 December 1995 to deter smuggling. Organic Law 12/1995.	Individuals				Double to four times the goods, merchandise, goods or effects (i)		6 times the value of the goods, merchandise, goods or effects		Negligence					Yes	Judicial Authority (permanent confiscation) Customs, Police Agencies (preventive seizure)	Penalties take into account the market and the conservation value of the species (they depend on the case)		(i) In addition, suspension for 6 months and 2 years of import, export or trade activities in the category of goods, merchandise, goods or effects.
	Organised group ^a								Intent	1 year	5 years							
Royal Decree 1649/1998 of 24 July 1998, that develops the Organic Law 12/1995 concerning administrative infractions	Individuals	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Same as Law 34/2015	Negligence				Yes	Customs, (Dpto. De Aduanas e IIEE) (permanent confiscation), Customs Vigilance Service, Police Agencies and others collaborator relevant Authorities (preventive seizure)	Penalties take into account the market and the conservation value of the species		For the amount of the sanction see the line above related to the Law 34/2015
	Organised group ^a								Intent		No							
Law 42/2007, of 13 of December, of Natural Heritage and Biodiversity. (Title VI. Offences and penalties)	Individuals	3001	200000			3001	200000							Yes	Judicial Authority (permanent confiscation) Customs, Police Agencies (preventive seizure)	Penalties take into account the market and the conservation value of the species		
	Organised group ^a																	
Sweden	Environmental Code, chapter 29, 2b §, detailing sanctions regarding Regulations on Trade and other Activities Exemplars of Wild Living Species of Animals or Plants Needing Protection	Individuals	(i)	(i)	(i)	(i)	(i)	ca 470 EUR	ca 915,000 EUR	Negligence	6 months	4 years		Yes	Customs, police, public prosecutors	Yes		(i) Day fines or 2 years imprisonment Violations of the CITES regulations or the environmental act may result in penalties or up to two years prison. In severe cases 6 months prison up to four years prison are foreseen.
		Organised group ^a								Intent		6 years						
	Act of Penalties in Connection with Smuggling, paragraph 3, 5, 7 and 14	Individuals								Negligence		2 years		Yes	NA	NA		Maximum sentence up to 6 years imprisonment in case of severe smuggling; fines for lesser offences given as day fines (30-150); also confiscation of gains possible. Attempt, preparation and conspiracy are criminalised.
		Organised group ^a								Intent	6 months	6 years						