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CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

CIR

Thirty-third meeting of the Animals Committee Geneva (Switzerland), 12 – 19 July 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FRIDAY 19 JULY 2024

48. Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that the Chair had agreed to add Chile and Rwanda as members of the insession working group.

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 3 amended as follows:

The Animals Committee:

 a) <u>urged</u> Parties to nominate candidates for the vacant alternate position for the specialist on zoological nomenclature;

With regard to the Use of time-specific versions of online-databases as standard nomenclature references

- encouraged the Secretariat to, subject to available resources, continue its work on the use of online taxonomic resources as standard nomenclature references and report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- c) <u>agreed</u> to submit for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties the renewal and revision of the decisions relating to the use of time-specific versions of online database as standard nomenclature references, as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

18.309 The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue to engage copyright-holders of relevant online-databases that might serve as standard nomenclature references and explore the possible use of time-specific versions for CITES services; for example, relevant databases include but are not limited to WoRMS, Fish Base, ESCHMEYER & FRICKE's Catalog of Fishes, Amphibian Species of the World, and Corals of the World as standard references;
- b) report the results of its consultations to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.310 (Rev. CoP1920) The Animals Committee shall:

a) evaluate the results of the Secretariat's consultation;

b) develop recommendations on the use of time-specific onlinedatabases as standard nomenclature references for decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th-21st meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.311(Rev. CoP20) The Secretariat shall:

- a) determine seek, as a priority, if access is possible, to if possible, a time-specific version of the WoRMS database for consideration as a standard nomenclature reference for CITES listed coral species and, if accessible, provide it to the Animals Committee; and
- b) issue a Notification to the Parties reminding Parties, when they issue permits and certificates for coral specimens, to use the names of coral species as defined in the standard nomenclature reference adopted by the Conference of the Parties, as recommended in Resolution Conf.12.3 (Rev.CoP19) on Permits and certificates.
 - **b**) report on progress to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.312 (Rev. CoP1920) The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the report of the Secretariat the time specific version of the WoRMS database, and any other taxonomic authorities, for use as a standard nomenclature reference and proceed towards recommending for adoption of an updated standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed corals as a priority;
- update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, once a new standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed coral species has been identified and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination; and
- report with recommendations to the 20th 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

With regards to Nomenclature for birds:

- d) <u>agreed</u> to propose the deletion of Decision 19.278 on *Nomenclature for bird family and order names* to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- e) <u>agreed</u> to submit the following draft decision relating to nomenclature for birds for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.AA The Animals Committee shall continue its work towards adoption of an updated standard nomenclature reference for birds, taking into consideration previous work done, as well as the consolidated checklist of birds of the world in preparation.

With regards to Reptilia: Sauria

f) <u>noted</u> progress in the preparation and evaluation of updated checklists for *Phrynosoma* and Iguanid lizards:

With regards to Reptilia: Testudines

g) <u>agreed</u> to continue its work towards adoption of an updated standard nomenclature reference for turtles and tortoises:

With regards to cartilaginous and bony fishes

- h) requested the Nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee to prepare an amended version of Annex 1 to document AC33 Doc. 48, concerning CITES-listed and closely related fishes, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- invited the Depositary Government to work with the Nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee
 to submit a proposal for the listing of *Probarbus* spp. in Appendix I for consideration by the 20th meeting
 of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with Article XV and paragraph 2 f) of Resolution 12.11
 (Rev. CoP19);

With regards to sea cucumbers

 j) <u>requested</u> the Nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee to prepare an amended version of Annex 2 to document AC33 Doc.48, concerning CITES-listed sea cucumbers, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

Additional or updated nomenclatural standard references in Annex 3 in document AC33 Doc. 48

- k) <u>agreed</u> to recommend the draft nomenclature updates contained in the Annex 1 to document AC33 Com. 3 for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting;
- requested UNEP-WCMC to include deferred and rejected names in Annex 2 to document AC33 Com. 3
 as synonyms in the CITES Checklist.
- m) invited the Secretariat in consultation with the Nomenclature Specialist of the Animals Committee, taking into consideration the priority list of taxa agreed at the joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee (PC27/AC33 Sum 2), to prepare draft decisions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, in order to facilitate, subject to external funding, the preparation of checklists.

General recommendation

n) <u>invited</u> the Secretariat to, in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC and the nomenclature specialists, consider possible ways to link previously valid scientific names as synonyms with updated CITES nomenclature adopted by the Conference of the Parties and make recommendations to the Animals and Plants Committees, as appropriate.

With regards to the mandate in paragraph 1 b)

- o) <u>agreed</u> to reconfirm its acknowledgment at AC32 of the scientific merit of recognizing the two species of African elephants, recognizing that hybrids and mixed-species groupings do occur.
- p) recommended that the nomenclatural standard references concerning African elephants be updated by:
 - deleting Wilson & Reeder 1993 as the specific reference for Loxodonta africana in the Annex of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on Standard nomenclature and therefore including African elephants as covered by the adopted nomenclatural standard reference Wilson & Reeder 2005; and
 - ii) adopting as a supplementary standard reference to clarify the distribution of *Loxodonta africana*, *L. cyclotis*, and their hybrids, Mondol *et al.* 2015, or a more up-to-date publication if that becomes available before the document submission deadline for the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- q) <u>agreed</u> to defer to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties the considerations on how to reflect the recognition of these taxa in the Appendices, noting the discussion at SC77.

42. Seahorses (Hippocampus spp.)

The Animals Committee noted that Australia was unable to participate in the in-session working group.

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 4 amended as follows:

The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to publish a Notification inviting Parties, in collaboration with species experts and/or relevant stakeholders, such as the IUCN SSC Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon Specialist Group, to develop the following guidance and submit it to the Secretariat for publication on the CITES website:

- guidance on tracking extraction of wild broodstock for culture operations, and its implications for wild populations, whether source code F or C. This can be derived from existing guidance developed for Viet Nam (Project Seahorse 2015);
- guidance on how to distinguish between seahorses that are wild source, source code F and source code C, using recommendations from a previous CITES workshop as a starting point (Bruckner et al. 2005);
- c) identification guides for live trade and dried seahorses in multiple languages. These can be based on existing identification tools for seahorses (Project Seahorse 2021);
- d) guidance on the risks and benefits of aquaculture and releases to wild populations of seahorses. Guidance within CITES Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19) on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species* under Option 2 of Annex 1 provides a good starting point for such an effort;
- e) guidance on monitoring cryptic (small-sized, low-density and camouflaged) species like seahorses; and
- f) guidance on common metrics for monitoring seahorses that all Parties could use, using information document CoP17 Inf. 65 as a starting point.

To support Parties to implement the Convention in relation to seahorses, the Animals Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a Notification inviting Parties to consider the following actions/activities:

- a) use existing tools as appropriate for effective CITES implementation and enforcement that are relevant to seahorses, including, but not limited to, the tools available on the IUCN SSC Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon website (www.iucn-seahorse.org/cites-toolkit);
- b) inventory and assess seahorse aquaculture operations to determine their production capabilities, degree of reliance on wild populations, and any environmental concerns;
- ensure that any release of tank-bred seahorses only occurs in accordance with the best available scientific information to minimize negative impacts on wild populations and their habitat, including, but not limited to, guidelines established by the IUCN (https://iucn-ctsg.org/policy-guidelines/conservation-translocation guidelines/) and never release alien species;
- d) raise awareness of seahorse trade and its role in conservation of the species with all stakeholders: fishers, traders, consumers, policy makers, enforcement agencies, judiciaries etc., subject to available resources;
- e) explore novel techniques for detecting seahorses in trade, such as eDNA or detector dogs;
- f) develop monitoring programmes, such as fisheries monitoring programmes for fisheries that catch seahorses (including bycatch), to understand effectiveness of trade rules and any other relevant implementation and enforcement actions for seahorse conservation and management. These monitoring programmes can consider the following, *inter alia*:

- i) adding seahorses to existing fisheries monitoring programmes for fisheries that catch seahorses (including bycatch), making specific records for seahorses instead of including them under generic categories such as "trash fish", "miscellaneous fish" or "fish NES";
- collaborating with external partners and information sources (e.g. academia, nongovernmental organizations, industry, dive groups, citizen scientists) in monitoring seahorse populations and distributions;
- iii) finding ways to analyse existing monitoring data and to disseminate their findings, perhaps through collaborations with external partners; and
- iv) accessing up-to-date trade research in collaboration with species experts, on which to base adaptive management plans in support of CITES implementation; and
- g) share the design and initial results of these monitoring programmes to assist other CITES Parties.

The Animals Committee:

- a) <u>reminded</u> Parties that strict enforcement of existing laws can benefit the conservation of seahorses (e.g., capture bans, trawling bans in specific areas, Marine Protected Areas);
- b) <u>reminded</u> importing Parties of the provisions under "Regarding exercising due diligence" of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement* and remind Parties to:
 - i) request information on non-detriment findings (NDFs) and legal acquisitions findings (LAFs) when there are concerns about the validity of export permits; and
 - ii) verify species identification on import. Identification can be done on a subset of individuals if a shipment is sufficiently large to preclude identification of all individuals;
- c) <u>invited</u> Parties to take note of the IUCN Resolution WWC-2020-Res-095 on seahorses and of the offer of support of the IUCN SSC Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon Specialist Group; and
- d) <u>agreed</u> to refer to the Standing Committee the proposed update to the *Guidelines for the* preparation and submission of CITES annual reports and the *Guidelines for the preparation and* submission of CITES annual illegal trade reports so that dried seahorses are reported in weight.
- e) agreed to submit the following draft decisions to the Conference of the Parties:

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall create and publicize a webpage on seahorses on the CITES website as a repository for a wide range of materials to support CITES implementation for seahorses, including monitoring plans in support of adaptive management and any guidance developed by Parties and relevant stakeholders.

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

20.BB Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic sector, industry and other stakeholders are invited to provide any relevant information to support CITES implementation for seahorses to be included by the Secretariat on the CITES seahorse webpage, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

20.CC Parties are encouraged to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of AC33 Com. 4, in particular that in paragraph f) that invites Parties to develop monitoring programmes, such as fisheries monitoring programmes for fisheries that catch seahorses (including bycatch), to understand effectiveness of trade rules and any other relevant implementation and enforcement actions for the conservation and management of seahorses.

15. Review of trade in specimens reported as produced in captivity [Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19)]

and

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 5 amended as follows:

Varanus exanthematicus from Ghana

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to remove the species-country combination from the review and invites Ghana to consider the comments made by Europe when developing an NDF (e.g. concerning the need for a complex NDF in future and the new thresholds developed for reptiles at the NDF workshop in Nairobi, harvest methodologies, how the release of juveniles contributes to the population, etc).

Macaca fascicularis from Indonesia

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the review.

Macaca fascicularis from Cambodia

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and <u>requested</u> Cambodia to provide clarifications about the high reproduction rates in writing to the Secretariat for review by the Animals Committee.

Macaca fascicularis from the Philippines

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and to ask the same questions again since the Philippines have not provided responses to the initial letter.

Macaca fascicularis from Viet Nam

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and <u>requested</u> Viet Nam to better clarify both the origin of the founder stock and the biological sustainability of the founder stock.

In addition, the Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to raise concerns to the Standing Committee in relation to the inspection process and the source of the information used in the responses described in the response from Viet Nam.

Chlamydotis macqueenii from Kazakhstan

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination. The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> Kazakhstan to provide the response to the Animals Committee for its consideration.

Chlamydotis undulata from Morocco

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to remove the species-country combination from the process. At the same time, the Animals Committee <u>invited</u> Morocco to provide more information on the release programme and its effect on wild population.

Kinyongia boehmei from Kenya

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Gecko gecko from Indonesia

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

The Animals Committee encouraged Indonesia to review the use of source codes in this system of production.

Ctenosaura quinquecarinata from Nicaragua

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Ctenosaura similis from Nicaragua

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Testudo graeca from Jordan

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination as no response was received and <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to ask the same questions again.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to refer this matter to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

Testudo horsfieldii from Uzbekistan

The Animals Committee agreed to retain the species-country combination and that Uzbekistan should:

- Provide information and details on source codes for different specimens and how individuals from different sources are differentiated
- Provide evidence on the ability to produce such high numbers of specimens
- Provide information on initial stock, subsequent introductions and annual production
- Provide more information on what measures Uzbekistan is taking to ensure that wild specimens cannot be laundered through captive-breeding facilities and exported as specimens reported as produced in captivity
- Provide information on whether they intend to move all trade to captive breeding in the future

Testudo kleinmanni from the Syrian Arab Republic

Since no response was received, the Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and ask the same questions again.

Testudo kleinmanni from Egypt

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and <u>requested</u> Egypt to, in the short term, request the Secretariat to publish a zero-quota for trade in *T. kleinmanni* for commercial purposes (all source codes). The Animals Committee further requested Egypt to provide information on

- a NDF for the creation of their founder stocks;
- the exact number of current facilities
- more comprehensive details on the keeping and breeding of the species bred to allow an assessment on the plausibility of the figures presented
- the methods for proper and reliable marking of individuals,

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to inform the Standing Committee of the fact that none of the breeding facilities in Egypt have been registered in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15).

Nectophrynoides asperginis from the United States of America

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Dendrobatus auratus from Nicaragua

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination, but to acknowledge the efforts made by Nicaragua to respond to the questions posed by the Animals Committee. The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> Nicaragua to provide an individual response to the questions concerning *D. auratus* and to provide more information, in particular on the acquisition of the founder stock and the mortality rates within the facilities.

Oophaga pumilio from Nicaragua

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and <u>acknowledged</u> the efforts made by Nicaragua to respond to the questions posed by the Animals Committee. The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> Nicaragua to provide an individual response to the questions concerning *O. pumilio* and to provide more information, in particular on the acquisition of the founder stock and the mortality rates within the facilities.

Agalychnis callidryas from Nicaragua

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to retain the species-country combination and <u>acknowledged</u> the efforts made by Nicaragua to respond to the questions posed by the Animals Committee. The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> Nicaragua to provide an individual response to the questions concerning *A. callidryas* and to provide more information, in particular on the acquisition of the founder stock and the mortality rates within the facilities.

Cheilinus undulatus from Indonesia

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Hirudo medicinalis from Azerbaijan

The Animals Committee agreed to remove the species-country combination from the process.

Batagur borneoensis from the United States of America

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to remove the species-country combination from the process.

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that, in the Spanish version of document AC33 Com. 5, the first instance of *Agalychnis callidryas* de Nicaragua should refer to *Oophaga pumilio* de Nicaragua.

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> the concerns raised about the potential invasiveness of some amphibian species in trade and the need for demand reduction strategies in relation to illegal trade in amphibians.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> the recommendations contained in paragraph 29 of document AC33 Doc. 32 as amended by the Secretariat in paragraph 32 and shown below:

The Animals Committee:

- a) <u>encouraged</u> Parties to share non-detriment findings for CITES-listed amphibian species for inclusion on the CITES website;
- b) invited Parties to implement biosecurity recommendations to avoid spread of pathogens, such as:
 - i) diagnostic testing upon import/export;
 - ii) maintaining closed system amphibian breeding operations;
 - iii) packing animals in lower densities to reduce pathogen transmission;
 - iv) disinfection of shipping materials to prevent spreading infectious material through water (to be treated before disposal), cartons, containers and substrates;
- c) encouraged Parties developing a possible listing proposal under Resolution Conf 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) to take note of Resolution Conf 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on Standard nomenclature and to contact the nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee in the early drafting stage to confirm the appropriate use of CITES-adopted amphibian nomenclature in the proposal;
- d) <u>invited</u> Parties to consider Appendix-III listings for species that meet the criteria set out in Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) on Implementation of the Convention for species in Appendix III, and in consultation with other range States, as a possible way of generating more awareness of, and data on, trade in nationally protected species;

- e) <u>encouraged</u> Parties to record trade in amphibians to the level of individual species involved in a shipment; and
- f) <u>encouraged</u> Parties to indicate the life stage or size of animals being traded as part of the trade data, if feasible, to help strengthen traceability and confidence that the animals in trade are generally coming from the sources described.

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that, in the context of the discussions on Decision 19.186 to 19.188 on *Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade* (<u>PC27 Doc. 24 / AC33 Doc. 29</u>), the Animals and Plants Committees agreed during their joint session to submit to the Standing Committee recommendations relating to, among others, making analyses and studies on species available to Parties through the CITES website, updates to the pertinent section of the Virtual College and expansion of the guidance material for the preparation of listing proposals.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to include any identification materials for amphibians, particularly those for use by customs and law enforcement officers, in view of the sensitivity of amphibians to being handled and the way in which they are packaged, in the mandate of the proposed Animals Committee working group on identification materials, should it be established after CoP20.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to propose the following draft decisions to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20):

Directed to Parties

20.AA Parties are invited to:

- a) collect information on the priority species identified in the <u>revised species prioritization</u> <u>matrix</u> for amphibians, with a particular emphasis on CITES-listed species, concerning:
 - i) national legislation protecting those species, including legislation covering the protection of amphibian habitats;
 - ii) current levels of trade:
 - iii) harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade; and
 - iv) captive breeding; and
- b) provide the information to the Secretariat, as appropriate; and
- c) implement biosecurity protocols, including those identified in paragraph 29 b) of document AC33 Doc. 32.

Directed to the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Animals Committee and relevant experts

- **20.BB** Taking into account document AC33 Doc. 32, the Secretariat shall, subject to availability of external funding, and in close consultation with the Animals Committee and relevant experts,
 - a) update the revised species prioritization matrix with information on CITES-listed species from Parties under Decision 20.AA and make this information available to Parties;
 - b) develop a table of conversion factors for CITES-listed amphibian specimens in trade;
 - c) identify existing identification materials for amphibians, particularly those for use by customs and law enforcement officers, in view of the sensitivity of amphibians to being handled and the way in which they are packaged; and
 - d) report its findings, with draft recommendations to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.CC The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the report submitted by the Secretariat as per Decision 20.BB; and
- b) make recommendations to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> that Decisions 19.197 and 19.198 can be proposed for deletion at CoP20.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> that the Chair of the Animals Committee include in the report to the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee the recommendations agreed by the Animals Committee pursuant to Decision 19.199.

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that the German Society for Herpetology was developing materials that could support the implementation of the Convention for amphibians.

The Animals Committee <u>requested</u> its Chair to include in its report to the Standing Committee the matters raised by the representative of Oceania, Australia and Germany relating to transit / re-exports, the need for consultation with the Management and Scientific Authorities of exporting countries and on the possible need for clarification of the footnote in paragraph 1 in relation to provisions in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution Conf.11.20 (Rev. CoP18).

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to propose to the Standing Committee the renewal of Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 for onward submission to the Conference of the Parties.

The Animals Committee <u>invited</u> Madagascar to report on any progress on the implementation of their conservation strategies and of Decision 19.125, paragraph b), to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting.

The Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> to propose the following draft decisions to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 78th meeting:

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall,

- a) prepare an overview of all currently valid Resolutions dealing with the issue of marking; and
- b) in collaboration with the ISO Secretariat and relevant experts, develop guidance on the various issues in relation to marking as outlined in Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) and document AC33 Doc. 21.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.BB The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the overview and draft guidance developed by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA and determine whether Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev CoP17) and other relevant Resolutions should be amended or if a new Resolution or other technical guidance on marking techniques and standards is required, and
- submit its recommendations, including possible amendments to existing Resolutions or a new draft resolution to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- **20.CC** The Standing Committee shall:
 - a) consider the overview and draft guidance developed by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA and the recommendations from the Animals Committee under Decision 20.BB; and
 - b) submit the results of this work along with its own recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 21st meeting (CoP21).
- 6. Animals Committee strategic planning for 2023-2025 (CoP19-CoP20)

The Animals Committee noted document AC33 Doc. 6.1.

6.2 <u>Preparation of the report of the Chair of the Animals Committee</u> for the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties(No document)

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> the oral update by its Chair.

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 8 amended as follows:

Directed to the Parties

20.AA Parties are encouraged to inform the Secretariat of the development of any methods or analytical tools to support prioritisation of marine ornamental fishes (e.g. Productivity Susceptibility Analysis or other vulnerability analyses, FishBase) which may warrant further research or other considerations, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB The Secretariat shall report any developments from Decision 20.AA to the Animals Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.CC The Animals Committee shall review any developments brought to its attention by the Secretariat under Decision 20.BB, including the need for further work, and make recommendations to the Parties, the Standing Committee or Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Parties

- 20.DD Parties are invited, where possible, to implement the recommendations in paragraph 14 of document AC33 Doc. 44 (Rev 2), especially sub-paragraph f) on recording international trade data in marine ornamental fishes at the species level, and sub-paragraph u) on making use of FAO's existing global fishery and aquaculture statistics databases to capture harvest and aquaculture data on marine ornamental fishes.
- **20.EE** Parties are invited to review the catalogue of marine ornamental fish species in international trade identified by the workshop and presented in Annex 4 of document AC33 Doc. 44 (Rev. 2), and identify species of high priority, which may warrant further research or other considerations as appropriate.
- 41. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)

 [Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18); Decision 19.225]......AC33 Doc. 41 (Rev.1)

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that the Chair had agreed to add Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ireland, Shark Advocates International, Shark Conservation Fund and Queensland Sea Cucumber Association.

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 6 amended as follows:

Treatment of multiple stock for the same species

- 1. Taking into account the recommendations in document AC33 Doc. 17, NDFs should ideally be made at a stock level e.g., a single NDF covering the stock as a discrete unit irrespective of whether catch / harvest is taking place in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) or in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ).
- Taking into account the recommendations in document AC33 Doc. 17, distinct stocks / distinct populations, if defined, should require separate NDFs or a single NDF clearly describing findings for each distinct stock / population.
- The information in module 5 of CITES NDF Guidance on making NDFs for aquatic species should be taken into account.

Single stock being harvested by multiple Parties

- 4. CITES Authorities should work with their fisheries authorities and consider working closely with Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs), including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and neighbouring Parties, as appropriate, especially those that have NDFs, in sharing/obtaining data to make NDFs in order to avoid duplication of effort.
- 5. NDFs should consider all sources of mortality within the stock, taking into account the precautionary approach.
- Adaptive management, including time-bound NDFs (no more than 5 years), should be used so that signals of stock change (whether from offtake from other Parties or other threats) can be taken into account and responded to.

Feasibility of requesting a stock based NDF

7. Yes for all species in RST.

Recommendations on elements for inclusion in NDFs

- 8. Develop NDFs for species where catch for export occurs, which could, *inter alia*, include the following elements taking into account the CITES NDF guidance, as well as other existing guidance, tools and resources:
 - a) consideration for each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes;
 - b) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock; and
 - a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information.
- 9. Encourage Parties in RST to consult with fisheries agencies as responsible bodies for management of these stocks to develop an NDF.

Recommendations for Party harvesting from shared stock

- 10. Take into account the recommendations in document AC33 Doc. 17:
 - encourage Parties to collaborate regionally, including with CITES Parties not Party to RFMOs, to share information, including information to understand stock status and trends, stock assessments, NDFs, quotas, and capacity-building initiatives; and
 - invite Parties to consider using stock assessment data from RFBs, including RFMOs, in addition to national information and other relevant sources of information, as appropriate, in informing the making of NDFs for specimens taken from ABNJ.

Other recommendations

- 11. invite the Chair of the Animals Committee to propose in its report to the Conference of the Parties a draft decision inviting the Secretariat to consider the feasibility of adapting the existing RST process for sharks and rays that selects high priority species in international trade in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species, then determines which stocks are affected, and includes range and fishing States with significant trade in the relevant stocks of concern.
- 12. invite the Secretariat to continue building relationships with RFBs, including RFMOs.
- 13. invite the Secretariat to explore options to make the shark eNDF tool available on the sharks and rays portal to facilitate wider use.
- 14. invite Parties, especially those with shared stocks, and observer organizations to provide support to Parties selected for "action is needed" under RST.
- 15. invite Parties to consider a rebuilding plan for depleted stocks through fisheries and conservation management measures to ensure that any offtake does not adversely affect the abundance and structure of the stock and the role of the species in the ecosystem.
- 16. invite CITES Authorities to work with fisheries authorities to ensure that reporting of CITES-listed species to CITES and RFBs is at the species level and uses consistent units, as appropriate.
- 17. invite the Secretariat to liaise with FAO and RFBs to bring to their attention the study under Decision 19.233 paragraph c) and the need to harmonize data reporting to the extent possible, as appropriate.
- 18. strongly encourage Parties to report all shark and ray trade in weight and not in number of specimens as indicated in the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports.
- 19. invite Parties to adopt traceability systems along the supply chains of CITES-listed species for international trade, noting the definition of traceability¹, which has been agreed by the Parties to CITES and further guidance.
- 20. subject to external funding, invite the Secretariat to follow-up on mismatches (differences in transactions reported by exporter/importer countries under the same permit; weights; species; etc.) in the CITES Trade Database and correct the mismatch, where possible.
- 21. subject to external funding, invite the Secretariat to follow-up with countries that appear to not be reporting exports of sharks and rays (i.e., trade only reported by importing countries) to determine the reason for underreporting and provide necessary support to encourage reporting.
- 22. invite the Secretariat to examine the trade in source code "C" specimens of shark and rays that are unlikely to be captive-bred based on the biology of the specimens.
- 23. invite the Secretariat to propose clear guidance on the reporting of specimens taken from ABNJ in the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission for CITES annual reports* to the Standing Committee.
- 24. remind Parties of the obligation to submit annual reports to the CITES Secretariat, which includes introduction from the sea and export of sharks and rays and to report at the species level.
- 25 note that Decision 19.223 paragraph c) has been implemented.

26. invite the Secretariat to propose option 1 (ocean basins) and option 3 (FAO Major Fishing Areas) to the Standing Committee for consideration, including the question as to whether such reporting should apply to the EEZ in addition to ABNJ, taking into account potential implementation challenges.

The working definition of CITES traceability is: traceability is the ability to access information on specimens and events in a CITES species supply chain. This information should be carried, on a case-by-case basis, from as close to the point of harvest as practicable and needed to the point at which the information facilitates the verification of legal acquisition and non-detriment findings and helps prevent laundering of illegal products

27. consider the following draft decisions for submission to the Standing Committee for onward submission to the Conference of Parties.

Directed to Parties

20.AA Parties are encouraged to:

- a) in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation and management of sharks, provide brief information (with an executive summary not exceeding 200 words, if the report exceeds four pages) to the Secretariat, in particular on any national management measures, including new or updated national plans of action for sharks, that prohibit commercial take or trade;
- respond to the Notification called for in Decision 20.BB including sharing any non-detriment findings (NDFs) and conversion factors used when estimating catch live weight through converting recorded shark landings and trade, where available, and any other scientific information on sharks and rays;
- seek external funding for a dedicated marine species officer and consider seconding staff members with expertise in fisheries and the sustainable management of aquatic resources to the Secretariat;

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties, inviting Parties to:
 - i) in accordance with Resolution Conf 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation and management of sharks, provide concise (with 200 word executive summary, if the report exceeds four pages) new information on their shark and ray conservation and management activities, in particular:
 - A. the making of NDFs;
 - B. the identification of CITES-listed shark-products in trade;
 - C. the monitoring of export data of CITES-listed shark, parts and derivatives, and any suitable remedial measures applied to limit the export of specimens in order to maintain each species throughout its range at a level consistent with its role in the ecosystem;
 - D. capacity-building needs; and
 - share with the Secretariat their non-detriment findings (NDFs) and conversion factors used when estimating catch live weight through converting recorded shark landings and trade, where available, and any other scientific information on sharks and rays, to post in the sharks and rays web portal;
- b) provide information from the CITES Trade Database on commercial trade in CITES-listed sharks and rays since 2010, sorted by species and, if possible, by product at the shipment level;
- c) invite non-Party, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organization observers to support Parties by providing concise information related to the above;
- d) collate this information for the consideration of the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.CC Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall

- a) continue to provide capacity-building assistance for implementing Appendix-II shark and ray listings to Parties, especially developing countries and small island developing states, upon request;
- b) liaise with relevant Regional Fishery Bodies (RFB) including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and Arrangements (RFMO/As) to identify opportunities for capacity-building with the same organizations, possibly in the form of attending meetings (where the RFB permits such

- attendance) or by directly liaising with the Secretariat of the organization to provide this information to its membership and/or the provision of training:
- c) collaborate closely with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to verify
 that information about Parties' shark management measures is correctly reflected in the shark
 measures database developed by FAO (http://www.fao.org/ipoa-sharks/database-of-measures/en/) and if not, support FAO in correcting the information;
- d) seek to collaborate with Parties and organizations to establish a repository to hold imagery under a Creative Commons license of wet and dried unprocessed shark, parts and derivatives (particularly, but not exclusively, those from CITES-listed species) along with related species level taxonomic information to facilitate refinement of automated species identification development through a range of novel technologies; and
- e) bring the results of activities in this present Decision to the attention of the Animals Committee or Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.DD The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review the information collated by the Secretariat under Decision 20.BB and the results of activities described under Decision 20. CC; and
- b) make recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.EE The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the comments and recommendations provided by the Parties, the Animals Committee and the Secretariat under Decisions 20.CC and 20.DD; and
- b) prepare a report with any necessary recommendations for improving the implementation of the Convention for sharks and rays for consideration by the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 28. note that the Animals Committee has identified gulper sharks (Centrophoridae spp.) as species of concern since 2004 and that there has been continuing decline in population of these species.
- 29. invite the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties inviting Parties and organizations to submit information on the catches, use and trade of gulper sharks and their products, and conservation measures for the species that could potentially assist a Party:
 - a) in developing actions they can take for the conservation and management of gulper sharks;
 - b) in developing actions that could be brought to the attention of relevant RFBs; and
 - c) in assessing the need for preparing a proposal to include the gulper sharks in the Appendices.
- 30. invite the Secretariat to issue a second Notification to the Parties to distribute to Parties the submissions it receives on gulper sharks.
- 14. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

 Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) and Decisions 17.108 (Rev. CoP19) to 17.110 (Rev. CoP19)]

and

The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that the Chair had agreed to add Shark Advocates International and Shark Conservation Fund and that the representative for North America (Mr. Benitez Diaz) was unable to participate in and chair the in-session working group.

The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations in document AC33 Com. 7 amended as follows:

Concerning agenda item 14.2:

- a) Concerning Pandinus imperator / Togo, the Animals Committee recommended the removal of the recommendation to suspend trade under the Review of Significant Trade and accepted an annual export quota of 20,000 specimens. Before making any increases to this interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.
- b) Concerning Chamaeleo gracilis / Togo, the Animals Committee recommended that Togo establish a reduced annual export quota of 500 specimens. Before making any increases to this interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.

Concerning agenda item 14.3:

c) Concerning agenda item 14.3, and in accordance with paragraph 1) g) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), for the 20 species/country combinations selected for review at the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee (AC32), noting that *Falco cherrug* from Jordan was removed following AC32, the Animals Committee <u>agreed</u> the following revisions:

Species	Country	Provisional categorisation in Annex 2	Revised categorisation	Justification for revised categorisation
Carcharhinus Iongimanus	Kenya (KE)	Conditional upon annual publication of a zero export quota, Less concern	Action is needed	Kenya to establish an annual zero export quota.
Carcharhinus Iongimanus	Yemen (YE)	Conditional upon annual publication of a zero export quota, Less concern	Action is needed	Yemen to establish an annual zero export quota.
Sphyrna lewini	Mexico (MX)	Unknown	Action is needed	Concerns over harvest volume.
Sphyrna lewini	Yemen (YE)	Conditional upon annual publication of a zero export quota, Less concern	Action is needed	Yemen to establish an annual zero export quota.
Sphyrna mokarran	Mexico (MX)	Unknown	Action is needed	Concerns over harvest volume.
Testudo horsfieldii	Uzbekistan (UZ)	Conditional upon annual publication of a zero export quota, Less concern	Action is needed	Uzbekistan to establish an annual zero export quota for W and R.

- d) Taking into account the revisions of the preliminary categorisations, the Animals Committee <u>recommended</u> the categorization of the following species/country combinations as 'action is needed' and that the recommendations directed to the relevant range States in Annex 1 to the present executive summary be adopted:
 - Carcharhinus longimanus / Kenya, Yemen

- Mobula spp. / Sri Lanka
- Sphyrna lewini / Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Yemen
- Sphyrna mokarran / Mexico
- Kinixys homeana / Ghana
- · Python regius / Benin, Ghana, Togo
- Testudo horsfieldii / Uzbekistan
- e) The Animals Committee <u>recommended</u> that the following species/country combinations are categorized as 'less concern' and can be removed from the review:
 - Carcharhinus longimanus / Oman, Senegal
 - Sphyrna lewini / China, Indonesia, Oman
 - Siebenrockiella crassicollis / Indonesia, noting that Indonesia agreed to restrict the standard carapace length to 12cm.

In accordance with paragraph 1 g) i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), in cases where the species/country combination is categorized by the Animals Committee as of 'less concern' due to the establishment of a zero-export quota, any change to this quota should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, along with a justification.

General comments concerning agenda item 14.3

- f) Concerning *Sphyrna lewini* from Indonesia, the Animals Committee <u>recommended</u> that Indonesia conduct a Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) at the stock level within 5 years and <u>invited</u> Indonesia to provide this information as a progress report to the 35th meeting of the Animals Committee.
- g) Parties are <u>invited</u> to note that, in the context of RST, questions were raised regarding the issuance of legal acquisition findings for CITES Appendix II aquatic species that may be subject to other regulations including but not limited to regulations by Regional Fisheries Bodies or other international agreements.
- h) Parties are <u>invited</u> to note that, while setting a zero annual export quota is a valid action provided for in the Review of Significant Trade process as contained in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), it will only be meaningful with concurrent obligations for implementation and enforcement.
- 49. Regional reports

	49.1 <u>Africa</u>	AC33 Doc. 49.1
	49.2 <u>Asia</u>	AC33 Doc. 49.2 (Rev. 1)
	49.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean	AC33 Doc. 49.3
	49.4 Europe	(No document)
	49.5 North America	AC33 Doc. 49.5
	49.6 Oceania	AC33 Doc. 49.6
	The Committee <u>noted</u> the oral report and documents AC33 Doc. Doc. 49.3, AC33 Doc. 49.5 and AC33 Doc. 49.6.	49.1, AC33 Doc. 49.2 (Rev. 1), AC33
50.	Any other business	(No document)

There was no decision taken by the Animals Committee.

51.	Time and venue of the 34th meeting of the Animals Committee	(No document)
	The Animals Committee <u>noted</u> that the 28th meeting of the Plants Animals Committee should take place in Geneva in July 2026.	Committee and the 34th meeting of the
52.	Closing remarks	(No document)

The Secretary-General and the Chair thanked the Committee Members, in particular those that chaired insession working groups, as well as Party observers, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations, the interpreters and the Secretariat. The Animals Committee wished the best to its Chair for his retirement. The Chair closed the meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS DIRECTED TO RANGE STATES RETAINED IN THE REVIEW PROCESS – AGENDA ITEM 14.3

The following recommendations, directed to the range States retained in the review process, are based on the principles outlined in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) and the guidance on the formulation of recommendations contained in Annex 5 to document CoP17 Doc. 33.

1. Sphyrna lewini / Nicaragua

The Management Authority of Nicaragua shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-	term Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for Sphyrna lewini and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
	consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	
	 B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock; 	
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	

Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
vii. Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/ problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	36 months following receipt of notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

2. Carcharhinus longimanus / Yemen

The Management Authority of Yemen shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-term Actions		90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for Carcharhinus longimanus and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
	consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	
	 B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock; 	
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock.	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-te	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/ problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	36 months following receipt of notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

3. Sphyrna lewini / Yemen

The Management Authority of Yemen shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-	term Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for Sphyrna lewini and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for the issuance of certification to the effect that the competent scientific institution has advised that the export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop such certification, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
	 A) consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place; 	
	 B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock; 	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-term Actions		36 months following receipt of
vii.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article X of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 9.5 (Rev. CoP16). Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

4. Sphyrna lewini / Sri Lanka

The Management Authority of Sri Lanka shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-te	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
A)	consideration ofeach stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
В)	adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
C)	a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information;	
D)	all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
vii.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

5. Mobula spp. / Sri Lanka

The Management Authority of Sri Lanka shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-te	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for <i>Mobula</i> spp. and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Mobula</i> spp. where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
A)	consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
В)	adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
C)	a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information;	
D)	all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
vii.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

6. Carcharhinus longimanus / Kenya

The Management Authority of Kenya shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-	term Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	
	consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest	

		Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
		purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	
	B)	adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
	C)	a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information;	
	D)	all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.		stablish an export quota proportionate to the harvest uota with a clear justification.	
Long-	term	Actions	36 months following receipt of
vii.	U so ar co th th	pon completion of other recommendations, provide the cientific basis by which it has established that exports the not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the eactions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITE'S Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

7. Sphyrna lewini / Kenya

The Management Authority of Kenya shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-t	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the Animals Committee
i.	Establish a conservative annual export quota of 50 live specimens, within 90 days, for <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-t	term Actions	36 months following receipt of notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
iv.	Undertake science-based studies on the status of the species (e.g. delineation of stocks, population estimates, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.	
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	consideration of each stock as a separate management unit for conservation and harvest purposes, paying particular attention to any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	
	B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock.	
vi.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
vii.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

8. Sphyrna lewini / Mexico

The Management Authority of Mexico shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-t	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish a conservative annual export quota of 50% of volumes published for 2024, within 90 days, for <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-t	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements: A) any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock;	
	E) rebuilding plan.	
V.	Establish an export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
vi.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITE'S Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

9. Sphyrna mokarran / Mexico

The Management Authority of Mexico shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-t	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish a conservative annual export quota of 50% of volumes published for 2024, within 90 days for <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-t	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
V.	Develop NDFs, in consultation with fisheries agencies, which are time-bound (no more than 5 years) for all stocks of <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> where catch for export occurs, which could, inter alia, include the following elements:	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
	A) any RFMO measures, as appropriate, in place;	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	B) adaptive management, with a review period of no more than 5 years, to take into consideration signals from the stock;	
	 a precautionary approach, where a cautionary offtake is initially considered, and revised with further information; 	
	D) all sources of mortality within the stock;	
vi.	Establish export quota proportionate to the harvest quota with a clear justification.	
Long-to	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
viii.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee

10. Kinixys homeana / Ghana

The Management Authority of Ghana shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-to	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota within 90 days for Kinixys homeana and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, including levels of domestic and illegal trade for their agreement.	
Long-t	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
iv.	Develop and implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species, for use in making of NDFs.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations), with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records; of impact of harvesting, including for the domestic bushmeat trade; adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions, including	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	size limits, based on monitoring results.	
vi.	Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all exports (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs.	
vii.	Provide training for CITES authorities and conservation staff.	
viii.	Develop identification methods and materials	
Long-term Actions		36 months following receipt of
ix.	Upon completion of other recommendations provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
Х.	Develop science-based export quotas using standardised terms and units used in reporting trade export quotas as found in the most recent version of the guidelines for the preparation of CITES annual reports.	

11. Python regius / Ghana

The Management Authority of Ghana shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-t	erm Actions	90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, an interim conservative annual export quota for source codes W and R within 90 days for <i>Python regius</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	The export quota should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information.	
iv.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
Long-t	term Actions	36 months following receipt of
Develop and implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species, for use in making of NDFs		notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
V.	Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	considerations), with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records; of impact of harvesting; adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions, based on monitoring results	
vi.	Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all exports (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs.	
vii.	Provide training for CITES authorities and conservation staff.	
viii.	Develop identification methods and materials	
Long-t	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
ix.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
X.	Develop science-based export quotas using standardised terms and units used in reporting trade export quotas as found in the most recent version of the guidelines for the preparation of CITES annual reports.	

12. Python regius / Benin

The Management Authority of Benin shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-term Actions		90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, an interim conservative annual export quota for source codes W and R within 90 days for <i>P. regius</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	The export quota should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information.	
iv.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	
V.	Develop and implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species,	36 months following receipt of notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	for use in making of NDFs	of the 33rd meeting of the Animals
vi.	Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations), with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records; of impact of harvesting; adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions, based on monitoring results	Committee
vii.	Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all exports (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs.	
viii.	Provide training for CITES authorities and conservation staff.	
ix.	Develop identification methods and materials.	
Long-te	erm Actions	36 months following receipt of
x.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
xi.	Develop science-based export quotas using standardised terms and units used in reporting trade export quotas as found in the most recent version of the guidelines for the preparation of CITES annual reports.	

13. Python regius / Togo

The Management Authority of Togo shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-term Actions		90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, an interim conservative annual export quota for source codes W and R within 90 days for <i>Python regius</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	The export quota should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information.	
iv.	Before making any increases to this interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Long-term Actions		36 months following receipt of
V.	Develop and implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species, for use in making of NDFs	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
vi.	Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations), with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records; of impact of harvesting; adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions, based on monitoring results	
vii.	Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all exports (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs.	
viii.	Provide training for CITES authorities and conservation staff.	
ix.	Develop identification methods and materials.	
Long-terr	m Actions	36 months following receipt of
X.	Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendation of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
xi.	Develop science-based export quotas using standardised terms and units used in reporting trade export quotas as found in the most recent version of the guidelines for the preparation of CITES annual reports.	

15. Testudo horsfieldii / Uzbekistan

The Management Authority of Uzbekistan shall report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the following:

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
Short-term Actions		90 days following receipt of
i.	Establish an annual zero export quota for sources codes W and R within 90 days for <i>Testudo horsfieldii</i> and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.	notification from the CITES Secretariat of the recommendations of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee
ii.	No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.	
iii.	Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their	

	Recommended Action	Time-frame for implementation
	agreement.	
iv.	Clarify why there were high levels of exports of wild- sourced specimens reported in 2020 and 2021 (years in which harvest from the wild was reported to have stopped)	
V.	Provide information on the level of offtake from the wild to supplement captive breeding operations	