

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

NATIONAL LAWS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. In paragraph 1 of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*, the Secretariat is directed:

a) *to identify those Parties whose domestic measures do not provide them with the authority to:*

- i) *designate at least one Management Authority and one Scientific Authority;*
- ii) *prohibit trade in specimens in violation of the Convention;*
- iii) *penalize such trade; or*
- iv) *confiscate specimens illegally traded or possessed.*

3. It is recalled that each of these four minimum requirements must be met by the legislation of CITES Parties to enable effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention. Under the National Legislation Project (NLP), in consultation with the concerned Party, the Secretariat analyzes national legislation for the implementation of the Convention in relation to the minimum requirements and places it in one of three categories, as follows:

Category 1: legislation that is believed generally to meet the requirements for implementation of CITES;

Category 2: legislation that is believed generally not to meet all of the requirements for the implementation of CITES;

Category 3: legislation that is believed generally not to meet the requirements for the implementation of CITES.

4. At its eighteenth meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decisions on *National laws for the implementation of the Convention*:

Directed to Parties

18.62 *Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project (NLP) are urged to submit to the Secretariat as soon as possible, and no later than by the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee, in one of the three working languages of the Convention details of appropriate measures that have been adopted for the effective implementation of the Convention. Such Parties are also urged to keep the Secretariat informed of legislative*

progress at any time and are called on to provide a written update of the legislative progress to the Secretariat, at the latest, 90 days before the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.

- 18.63** *Parties with legislation in Category 1 under the National Legislation Project are encouraged to inform the Secretariat of any relevant legislative developments and to provide technical or financial assistance to Parties affected by Decision 18.62, either directly or through the Secretariat.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.64** *At its 73rd and 74th meetings, the Standing Committee shall review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention. With the assistance of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee may identify additional Parties that require its attention as a priority and shall pay particular attention to these Parties. The Standing Committee shall take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties affected by Decision 18.62 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or to take significant and substantive steps to do so. For Parties that have acceded to the Convention since August 2011, the Standing Committee may decide to allow more time to adopt appropriate measures.*

- 18.65** *Such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade with Parties affected by Decision 18.62 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention, in particular Parties identified as requiring attention as a priority. Any recommendation to suspend trade with the Party concerned shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed, unless the Party adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or takes significant and substantive steps to do so.*

- 18.66** *The Standing Committee will provide support to the Secretariat as required in the implementation of Decision 18.67, paragraph c).*

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.67** *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *compile and analyse the information submitted by Parties on measures adopted before the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19) to fulfil the requirements laid down in the text of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on National laws for implementation of the Convention;*
- b) *assist the Standing Committee in reviewing progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and in identifying additional Parties requiring attention as a priority;*
- c) *review and revise as necessary all guidance materials provided under the National Legislation Project available on the CITES website, including the CITES Model Law, to ensure that such guidance materials are consistent with the obligations under the Convention and its relevant Resolutions, focusing on the aims of paragraph 1 a) of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15), and submit a report on the revisions made to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee;*
- d) *subject to external funding, provide legal advice and assistance to Parties on the development of appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention, including legislative guidance for and training of CITES authorities, legislative drafters, policymakers, the judiciary, parliamentarians and other relevant government officials responsible for the formulation and adoption of CITES-related legislation;*
- e) *subject to external funding, cooperate, in the provision of legislative assistance, with the legal programmes of United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank and*

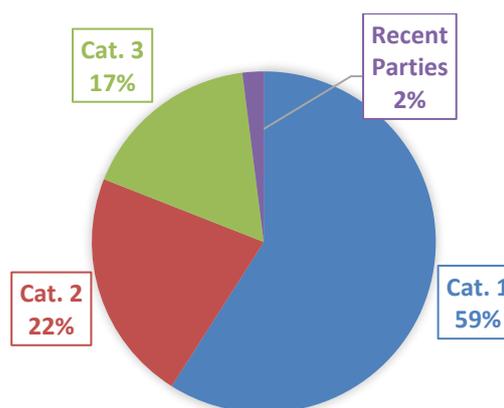
regional development banks, as well as regional organizations, such as the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the League of Arab States (LAS), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); e) report at the regular meetings of the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures, including, recommendations to suspend trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and

- f) report at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress made with regard to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) and Decisions 18.62 to 18.67.

Summary of progress since CoP18

5. Since CoP18, one additional State, Andorra, has become Party to the Convention bringing the total number of Parties to CITES to 184. The submission and review of the legislation of Andorra is still pending.
6. At present, a total of 108 Parties (59%) have been placed in Category 1. Since CoP18, the legislation of four additional Parties has been placed in Category 1 (Jordan, Mauritania, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Solomon Islands), along with the legislation of four territories (Tristan da Cunha, the Caribbean Netherlands, Curaçao, Sint Maarten). These achievements have been made possible through the continued engagement of Parties with the Secretariat and partners who have been providing technical advice and organizing workshops to strengthen CITES implementation. The Secretariat would like to thank the Netherlands for the assistance provided to the Caribbean Netherlands, Curaçao and Sint Maarten; the United States of America for its support to Jordan; and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for its support to the Solomon Islands in the development of national legislation. The Secretariat also would like to express its thanks to Switzerland for its generous financial support for the overall implementation of the National Legislation Project.
7. Although significant progress and commitments have been made by some Parties, 72 Parties still have their legislation placed in Category 2 or 3 (39%).
8. Lebanon and Maldives (previously placed in Table 2 '*recently acceded Parties*' of the document '*Status of legislative progress for the implementation of the Convention*') have now been included in Table 1 as they acceded to the Convention eight years ago and their legislation is placed in Category 3, pending the adoption of CITES implementing legislation.
9. The legislative status is as follows by 1 June 2022:

Category	Parties		Territories	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Cat. 1	108	59%	24	%
Cat. 2	41	22%	8	%
Cat. 3	31	17%	0	%
Recent Parties	4	2%		
Total	184	100%	32	100%



10. More details on the legislative progress of each Party can be found in the legislative status table included in Annex 3 to the present document.

Legislation placed in Category 1

11. Decision 18.63 encourages Parties with legislation in Category 1 under the National Legislation Project (NLP) to inform the Secretariat of any relevant legislative developments and to provide technical or financial assistance to Parties affected by Decision 18.62, either directly or through the Secretariat.

12. The Secretariat notes that updates on relevant legislative developments may be provided specifically or through the implementation reports to be submitted the year before each regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with Article VIII of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports*. At the time of writing, 63 Parties (51 of which are placed in Category 1 under the NLP) had submitted their implementation report covering 2018-2021. Of these 51 Parties with legislation placed in Category 1, 23 Parties reported that they had developed CITES relevant policies or legislation during the reporting period. The Secretariat recalls that the legislation of a Party currently placed in Category 1 may be subject to a revised legislative analysis at any time following relevant legislative developments, such as repealing of CITES-implementing legislation or judiciary decisions on CITES-related cases.
13. In this context, Switzerland has adopted and submitted to the Secretariat a new piece of CITES legislation which entered into force on 1 March 2022. The legislation strengthens applicable penalties as well as conditions and control for captive-breeding operations. The legislation will be placed on the CITES webpage on national legislation in due course as an example of good practice for other countries developing CITES-related legislation.
14. In addition, the Secretariat noted that several Parties to CITES had designated multidisciplinary 'Committees' as Scientific Authorities (e.g. Belize, Iraq, Mozambique, Philippines, Switzerland, Rwanda). Some Parties in the process of developing their national legislation have requested the Secretariat to provide guidelines as well as examples of provisions governing the functioning and organization of these Scientific Committees. The Secretariat has contacted a number of Parties whose legislation is placed in Category 1, and who have agreed to share their regulations. This information can be shared with Parties upon request.
15. The Secretariat invites all Parties with legislation in Category 1 to keep the Secretariat abreast of revisions and submit any updates to their national legislation (preferably in one of the working languages of the Convention) for information and possible sharing with other Parties.

Review of legislative progress by the Standing Committee

16. At its 73rd meeting, (SC73, online, May 2021), the Standing Committee did not consider '*national laws for the implementation of the Convention*' due to the restricted agenda of this meeting and the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
17. At its 74th meeting (SC74, Lyon, March 2022), the Standing Committee considered the Secretariat's reports on Parties' progress in adopting appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention, and on legislative and technical assistance by the Secretariat and partners to Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 (see document [SC74 Doc. 26](#)). The Secretariat also provided the Standing Committee with an updated table of the status of legislative progress for implementing CITES in the annex to its report. The Secretariat updates this table for each meeting of the Standing Committee and makes it available online on the [webpage](#) of the CITES Secretariat on national legislation. A brief summary of the progress is provided in the following paragraphs.

Parties requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority

18. At present, a total of 19 Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 are designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority: Algeria, Belize, Botswana, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Guinea, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan. This consideration is based on an overall assessment of the following elements¹:
 - a) Parties that have acceded to the Convention over twenty years ago;
 - b) Parties that have not indicated any commitment to adopt adequate legislation for implementation of the Convention;
 - c) Parties that have relative high volumes of trade as source, transit or destination countries;

¹ See document SC69 Doc. 27 (Rev. 1), paragraph 42

- d) Parties that have already received legislative assistance; and
 - e) Parties that are facing compliance procedures under Article XIII.
19. These Parties are indicated in bold in the legislative status table (Annex 3). The Standing Committee, with the assistance of the CITES Secretariat, is particularly attentive to progress in these countries, some of which are already subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for failure to adopt appropriate legislative measures to implement the Convention (Djibouti, Liberia and Somalia) or under an Article XIII procedure (Guinea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic).
 20. In February 2020, the Secretariat sent formal letters to priority Parties drawing attention to Decisions 18.62 to 18.67. Substantial progress has been reported by a number of Parties including Congo, Ecuador, Guinea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia and Rwanda. Updates on legislative processes were also provided by Algeria, Belize, Botswana, Comoros, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Pakistan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan (see [document SC74 Doc.26](#)). However, no progress had been reported since CoP18 by Djibouti, Kazakhstan and Somalia.
 21. In accordance with Decisions 18.64 and 18.65, at SC74, the Standing Committee agreed a recommendation to all Parties to suspend commercial trade with Kazakhstan. Djibouti and Somalia were already subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for failure to adopt appropriate legislative measures for implementation of the Convention. As set out in Decision 18.65, the recommendation was to take effect 60 days after it was agreed, unless the Party concerned adopted appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or took significant and substantive steps to do so. A call was held in early May 2022 between the Secretariat and the authorities of Kazakhstan to go through the minimum legal requirements and plan next steps under the NLP. Following this call, Kazakhstan sent relevant national legislation for implementation of the Convention before the deadline (7 May 2022) for review by the Secretariat. As a result, it was not necessary to issue a notification recommending a suspension of trade with Kazakhstan.
 22. The Standing Committee and the Secretariat also continued to closely monitor legislative progress in the other Parties identified by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority. Congo has made significant progress in revising a draft law and has submitted it to the Secretariat for analysis. Kenya has informed the Secretariat that it is drafting a new law for implementation of the Convention as part of the National Wildlife Policy and that an amendment to designate the Management and Scientific Authorities is being considered by Parliament. During bilateral discussions, the issue of regulating shipments in transit was highlighted as a matter that may require some particular attention.
 23. Guinea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic are both subject to an Article XIII compliance process and will be further discussed below. For the remaining Parties, the Secretariat refers to the legislative status table in Annex 3 for further details.

Parties subject to a warning

24. At its 67th meeting (SC67, Johannesburg, September 2016), the Standing Committee agreed to issue a formal warning to those Parties that had not responded to a notification from the Secretariat alerting Parties of a compliance matter,² advising them that they were in non-compliance and reminding them of the need to accelerate their efforts to enact adequate legislation as soon as possible (see summary record [SR67, paragraph 11](#)). Since then, formal warnings have been sent to several Parties and progress has been monitored and reported by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee (see documents [CoP18 Doc. 26 \(Rev. 1\)](#) and [SC74 Doc.26](#)).
25. As a follow up and in accordance with Decisions 18.64 and 18.65, at SC74, the Standing Committee agreed a recommendation to all Parties to suspend commercial trade with Dominica, Grenada, Libya, Mongolia and Sao Tome and Principe. As set out in Decision 18.65, the recommendation was to take effect 60 days after it was agreed, unless the Party concerned adopted appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or took significant and substantive steps to do so. The Secretariat has proactively reached to the concerned Parties to notify them of the decision and offer immediate assistance. A call was held in early May 2022 with the authorities of Mongolia to provide technical assistance and plan next steps under the NLP. Dominica, Libya, and Mongolia sent draft legislation for comment to the Secretariat while Grenada sent a legislative plan (covering the period from 15 June 2022 to 15 February 2022) by the deadline (7 May 2022). Therefore,

² Notification to the Parties No. 2016/25 of 21 March 2016.

the issuance of a notification recommending a suspension of trade with Dominica, Grenada, Libya and Mongolia was not necessary. Unfortunately, despite all the Secretariat's efforts, no response was received from Sao Tome and Principe. A Notification to the Parties recommending a suspension of trade with Sao Tome and Principe was issued on 17 May 2022 (Notification No. 2022/038).

26. In addition, at SC74, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a formal warning to Parties that have not reported any legislative progress for more than three years. A formal warning was sent to Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Maldives, Montenegro, Sierra Leone and Zambia, requesting them to take immediate steps to ensure progress be made before CoP19 and to report such progress to the Secretariat by 1 September 2022. At the time of writing, Lebanon has confirmed receipt of the letter and Azerbaijan has sent a report on its legislation for implementation of the Convention to the Secretariat for review. No response has been received from the other seven Parties. The Secretariat will continue to follow up with the Parties subject to a warning, in order to better understand the situation and any challenges and constraints they may face in communicating with the Secretariat and adopting adequate national legislation. The results will be reported to the Standing Committee as appropriate.

Progress of other Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3

27. As reported at SC74, many other Parties have reported substantive progress towards adopting national legislation for the effective implementation of CITES. In addition to Parties mentioned above, this includes Armenia, Central African Republic, Tunisia and Uganda. Further details on progress are reported in the legislative status table in Annex 3.

Legislative analysis and guidance provided by the Secretariat

28. As directed by the Conference of the Parties in Decision 18.67, paragraphs a) and d), since CoP18, the Secretariat has continued to monitor legislative progress of 72 Parties whose legislation is not yet in Category 1. The Secretariat has compiled and analysed information submitted by Parties and provided its detailed observations on draft or adopted legislation of at least 48 Parties and territories to help ensure that it meets the CITES minimum requirements once it is adopted. The Secretariat also provided advice on the organization of Management and Scientific Authorities and on mechanisms for issuing CITES permits and certificates to several Parties.
29. The four minimum requirements are stated in a general way in Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for Implementation of CITES*. The practical implementation of each requirement involves considering and addressing several components under each requirement. The Secretariat recalls that guidance on these components and additional recommendations are available on the CITES webpage on national legislation: <https://cites.org/legislation>.

Targeted technical and legislative capacity-building

30. In accordance with paragraphs d) and e) of Decision 18.67, the Secretariat has also continued to provide targeted technical and legislative assistance to Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 through regional workshops and seminars and through bilateral assistance.
31. The Secretariat has organized – or co-organized – several workshops and seminars as indicated below. The Secretariat would like to express its sincere gratitude to our partners and the donors, the European Union, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America, that have made it possible to provide this assistance. Further, the collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UNEP on assistance to Parties in different regions has continued and the Secretariat is grateful for this support.

Workshops and seminars

32. As reported to SC74, since CoP18, the Secretariat has co-organized or participated in the following workshops related to national legislation:

Caribbean Parties

33. On 18 June 2020, in collaboration with the Bahamas as a Member of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat organized an **online workshop related to CITES implementation in the Caribbean**. The

following Parties were represented: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Haiti (Non-CITES Party, invited as an observer), Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. The meeting provided an opportunity to present the technical assistance and options for training and capacity-building available to support the efforts of the Management Authorities in the region to fully and effectively implement the Convention, including assistance and tools provided through the National Legislation Project (NLP), as well as presentations on annual reports and electronic permitting systems. On this occasion, several Parties, including Belize and Saint Kitts and Nevis, reported significant legislative progress. Antigua and Barbuda submitted updated legislation for consideration by the Secretariat; and Suriname reported on various projects and progress made on the CITES legislation, as well as administrative difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

West Asian Parties

34. On 21 July 2020, the Secretariat and the UNEP Regional Office for West Asia organized an online meeting on ***national legislation for the effective implementation of the Convention for selected CITES Parties in West Asia***. The online meeting brought together representatives of the CITES Management Authorities of the following Parties: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Oman, Kuwait, and the Syrian Arab Republic. Participants provided an update on the legislative process in their country and shared their experience in developing national legislation and in implementing the Convention at a national level. They also highlighted some of the main challenges they are facing in this process. The Environment Public Authority (EPA) of Kuwait presented the legislative process that led to their legislation being placed in Category 1 and the current efforts to combat illegal trade. Discussions focused on the CITES minimum requirements for national legislation; challenges and opportunities related to e-permitting, non-detriment findings and species identification; and the needs for technical assistance and capacity-building in these areas. Participants also stressed the importance of communication and information-sharing and supported more regular information exchanges for the Parties in the West Asian subregion.
35. Following this first meeting, the CITES Secretariat and UNEP West Asia Office agreed on the need to organize additional online ***workshops on electronic permitting systems, national legislation and non-detriment findings in the subregion***. An online workshop on electronic permitting took place on 25 November 2021. It was co-organized by the CITES Secretariat and the UNEP Regional Office for West Asia and was attended by representatives from the following Parties: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The objectives of the workshop were to present the e-permitting system and the benefits of its implementation, but also the challenges, costs of development, best practices and case studies, as well as the mistakes to be avoided during its deployment. Several Parties (Switzerland, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates) presented the CITES e-permitting system in place in their country and gave feedback on its implementation.

Central America and the Dominican Republic

36. From 12 to 14 October 2021, the CITES Secretariat facilitated an online workshop to ***strengthen the application of the Convention in the region of Central America***. This workshop was organized with the support of the regional CITES representatives to the Standing Committee and was hosted by the United States Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI ITAP). Participants were presented a thorough overview of CITES processes including national legislation to comply with the Convention; legal acquisition findings; introductions from the sea; exemptions and special provisions; and the submission of annual trade reports and reports on illegal trade. The authorities of Chile and Peru shared their experiences in drafting CITES legislation, their process to move from category 2 to category 1 and the new provisions required after the listing of the *Cedreia* spp. Ecuador presented their progress made in the preparation of a new regulatory framework for trade in CITES-listed species.

Other capacity-building activities

Model Law

37. To assist Parties in the development of effective and enforceable legislation, the CITES Secretariat, in collaboration with Parties to the Convention, has prepared a revised draft of the Model Law in October 2021. The Model Law provides examples of provisions that Parties may use as inspiration for developing their own legislation. Various Resolutions had been amended since the previous draft of the Model Law was produced in 2015. Recent years have also seen an increasing focus on combatting illegal trade in wildlife *inter alia*

through the adoption of several important Resolutions by the United Nations General Assembly³. Through a partnership with the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), a *Guide on drafting legislation to combat wildlife crime*⁴ was developed in 2018 as a complement to the present Model Law. The increasing number of commercially exploited and managed aquatic species included in Appendix II of CITES has also led to the development of a Study and a Guide in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)⁵. This was published in 2020, providing several legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legislation. The Model Law aims to provide examples of provisions reflecting all these developments and is publicly available on the CITES website.

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva, Switzerland)

38. In collaboration with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva, Switzerland), the CITES Secretariat supervised a project intended to identify good examples of legislation placed in Category 1 that could be useful for Parties developing national legislation. Based on an analysis of 14 Parties from Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, the project identified that the laws of three Parties – one from each region - could serve as positive examples and potentially provide guidance to other CITES Parties. These Parties had extensively implemented CoP recommendations and developed innovative approaches to implementation. More information about the project that was completed in early 2021 is available on the [TradeLab website](#).
39. Collaboration with the Graduate Institute continues in 2022 on another project that aims to identify mechanisms that other international conventions have put in place to effectively engage indigenous peoples and local communities in their decision-making processes. D. raft guidance on how to effectively engage indigenous peoples and local communities in CITES processes will be developed through this project. More information on this collaboration will be included in document CoP19 Doc. 13 on *Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*.

Universidad Católica Sedes Sapientiae – UCSS (Perú)

40. The postgraduate school of the UCSS (Lima, Peru), in collaboration with Specialized Attorneys in Environmental Matters (FEMA) of Peru and the Wildlife Conservation Society, organized a postgraduate diploma on wildlife trafficking crimes (Diplomado de Postgrado en Delitos de Trafico de Vida Silvestre). The organizers invited the CITES Secretariat to provide the inaugural lecture and part of module 1 of the diploma from 13 to 14 November 2021. The Secretariat prepared a syllabus for the first part of this module (12 hours) and gave six hours of presentations to 50 environmental attorneys of Peru on 13 November, focused on CITES legislation with a special emphasis on penalties, the role of the authorities and key definitions. On 14 November, the six hours were dedicated to the national experience of Peru, case studies and reparation of wildlife damage (valuation, tort law) which is one of the most frequently asked questions by judges and prosecutors. This was followed by evaluations and revision of work performed by the students. The service provided by the Secretariat was remunerated by the organizers and the funds will be transferred directly to the official bank account of the CITES Secretariat.

FAO-CITES collaboration to integrate CITES into fisheries legislation and management

41. The CITES Secretariat is working closely with the legal division of FAO with the aim of supporting Parties in exploring how fisheries legislation can further support the objectives of CITES, and possibly integrate some of the provisions of the Convention.
42. To support national authorities of several Pacific Island Countries in meeting their commitments under the Convention, the CITES Secretariat and the Development Law Service (LEGN) of the Legal Office of the FAO, jointly organized a three-day subregional training workshop, which was held online from 15 to 17 November 2021. About 45 participants from Fiji, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu took part in the training. Representatives from Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America, four regional organizations – the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP),

³ <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/69/314>, <https://undocs.org/pdf?symbol=en/A/RES/71/326>, <https://undocs.org/pdf?symbol=en/A/RES/73/343>; <https://www.undocs.org/en/A/75/L.116>

⁴ [Guide on drafting legislation to combat wildlife crime](#)

⁵ [Study and Guide on implementing CITES through national fisheries legislation](#)

and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) – and fisheries experts from civil society organizations, participated in the workshop. Participants were provided with an overview of CITES key principles and requirements and their applicability in the fisheries sector; clarifications on commercially exploited aquatic species listed in Appendix II; opportunities for collaboration between CITES and fisheries authorities; correlations between CITES and fisheries management; an introduction on how to use the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide; the relevance of FAO's Port State Measures and Catch Documentation Scheme; and knowledge sharing on practical experiences of CITES implementation at national and regional levels.

43. The CITES Secretariat and the FAO are currently preparing a second Sub-Regional Training Workshop on CITES and Fisheries to be held online from 30 May to 2 June 2022 with 13 Parties of the Caribbean subregion invited to attend. Presentations will be delivered by the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, as well as by interested Parties including the United States of America, the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The objectives of the workshop will be to raise awareness and strengthen the understanding of CITES requirements and their implementation in the fisheries sector, introduce and train participants on the use of the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide, as well as identify Parties' needs and interests with regards to enhancing national fisheries legislation for a better implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector.
44. On 22 February 2022, the FAO Development Law Service, together with the Global and Regional Processes Team of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, through the FAO-UNODC Task Force, organized a meeting dedicated to the development of a legislative guide on combating crimes in the fisheries sector. This guide aims to assist States in enacting or strengthening domestic legislation to prevent and combat these activities. The Secretariat, as well as representatives from academia, the private sector, government institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other international organizations, discussed the content and structure of specific chapters of the draft Legislative Guide, in order to align definitions; review the model legal provisions; and reach a common position on sensitive issues such as the differences between crimes in the fisheries sector and 'illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing'. The Legislative Guide is expected to be published by UNODC and FAO later this year.
45. The legal division of FAO and the CITES Secretariat, together with other relevant partners, are planning a side-event at CoP19 to mark the 30th anniversary of the National Legislation Project, showcase concrete examples of their collaboration and discuss the most salient elements of the integration between fisheries legislation and CITES requirements to mutually support the achievement of CITES and FAO objectives.

New emerging legal issues for future technical and legislative assistance

Transit Parties

46. Through its analyses of national legislation, the Secretariat has found that a recurring gap in national legislation is the absence or inadequacy of provisions on the transit of specimens of CITES-listed species. This loophole can be exploited by traffickers to move their products. The verification of the existence of valid export permits or re-export certificates for control of specimens in transit or being transhipped is an important means of uncovering illegal trade in specimens of species included in the CITES Appendices. Resolution Conf. 9.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Transit and transhipment* also recommends *inter alia* that :

1. b) *Parties inspect, to the extent possible under their national legislation, specimens in transit or being transhipped, to verify the presence of a valid CITES permit or certificate as required under the Convention or to obtain satisfactory proof of its existence;*

[...]

- e) *Parties adopt legislation allowing them to seize and confiscate specimens in transit or being transhipped without a valid permit or certificate or proof of the existence thereof;*
- f) *when an illegal shipment in transit or being transhipped is discovered by a Party that can not seize it, the Party provide to the country of final destination and to the Secretariat all relevant information on the shipment as soon as possible and, if applicable, to other countries through which the shipment will pass in transit.*

47. Additional guidance may be needed to assist Parties in dealing with the transit of specimens of CITES-listed species. The Secretariat intends to prepare additional materials on this issue, including updating the Model Law with examples of relevant provisions, and recommending as appropriate possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Transit and transshipment*;

Exceptional circumstances impeding the normal functioning of CITES at the national level

48. The Secretariat has received several questions from Parties, representatives of the private sector and non-governmental organizations concerning trade in specimens of CITES species in the event of exceptional circumstances that render impossible the normal functioning of CITES Management and Scientific Authorities. Such exceptional circumstances may arise, for example, in the event of a pandemic, natural disasters (tsunamis, floods, etc.), terrorist attacks or conflicts. In such cases, the normal operation of CITES, the authorization of trade and the rapid issuance of permits for scientific samples or for the international movement of specimens of CITES species to a safe location may become problematic.
49. Neither the Convention nor its existing Resolutions provide general guidance or information to implement CITES under those exceptional circumstances that impede the proper functioning of the CITES Authorities in charge of issuing permits and certificates. Exploring solutions such as the possibility of adopting special procedures, accepting retroactive permits or transitory exemptions to the normal issuance of permits or certificates, or granting interim delegation of authority to the Secretariat may be envisaged.
50. In light of this, the Secretariat intends to explore the need to develop guidance in connection with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) *Permits and certificates* and any other relevant Resolution to guide Parties in the event of exceptional circumstances that impede the proper functioning of CITES Authorities.

Legislative support to countries subject to an Article XIII compliance process and other support to be provided through the Compliance Assistance Programme

51. As part of its compliance assistance to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Guinea the Secretariat will continue to assist these Parties in ensuring that revised legislation will meet the minimum requirements. In both cases, adoption of adequate legislation is an important element of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Lao People's Democratic Republic has already undertaken a major and very comprehensive analysis of the legislation in place and submitted a revised draft decree to the Secretariat (see [document SC74 Doc. 26](#)). Guinea adopted a significant number of decisions and decrees for implementing the Convention between January 2019 and September 2020. The Secretariat will provide more general technical assistance (including legislative aspects) to Guinea during a technical mission under the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP).

Further technical and legislative assistance

52. After the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat will determine priorities for further technical and legislative assistance. There appears to be a need for legislative assistance and training more broadly in the region of West Africa (Burkina Faso, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo), noting that Guinea and Togo will benefit from broader assistance through the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP).

Conclusions

53. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the National Legislation Project (NLP) which has been established at CoP8 (Kyoto, 1992). Through the assistance provided under this unique project, the number of Parties with legislation placed in Category 1 has continued to increase in recent years. The Secretariat would like to commend Parties for their commitment and involvement in this process, as well as those Parties that have been making substantive legislative progress despite significant challenges, busy legislative agendas and limited capacity. For the large majority of Parties, some legislative progress has been reported since CoP18, including for most of the Parties that have been identified as requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority or subject to a formal warning. In the view of the Secretariat, many of these Parties (e.g. Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Guinea, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia and Mongolia) are in a position to adopt adequate measures very soon and should be strongly urged to do so.
54. There are a few Parties that have reported no progress for more than three years, as indicated in paragraph 26 above, to which formal warning letters have been addressed. These Parties should be strongly urged to

communicate with the Secretariat without delay in order to be able to identify remedial actions, including further compliance measures.

55. The Secretariat suggests continuing its current legislative assistance activities, subject to external funding. A budget of USD 310,000 for the implementation of these activities has been included in Annex 2 to the present document.

Recommendations

56. The Conference of the Parties is invited to:
 - a) adopt the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document; and
 - b) delete Decisions 18.62 to 18.67.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON
NATIONAL LAWS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Directed to Parties

- 19.AA** Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project (NLP) are urged to submit to the Secretariat, as soon as possible and in one of the three working languages of the Convention, details of appropriate measures that have been adopted for the effective implementation of the Convention. Such Parties are also urged to keep the Secretariat informed of legislative progress at any time.
- 19.BB** Parties with legislation in Category 1 under the National Legislation Project are encouraged to inform the Secretariat of any relevant legislative developments and to provide technical or financial assistance to Parties affected by Decision 19.AA, either directly or through the Secretariat.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.CC** At its 77th and 78th meetings, the Standing Committee shall review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention. With the assistance of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee may identify additional Parties that require its attention as a priority and shall pay particular attention to these Parties. The Standing Committee shall take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties affected by Decision 19.AA that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or taken significant and substantive steps to do so. For Parties that have acceded to the Convention less than eight years ago, the Standing Committee may decide to allow more time to adopt appropriate measures.
- 19.DD** Such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend commercial trade with Parties affected by Decision 19.AA that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention, in particular Parties identified as requiring attention as a priority. Any recommendation to suspend commercial trade with the Party concerned shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed, unless the Party adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or takes significant and substantive steps to do so.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.EE** The Secretariat shall:
- a) compile and analyse the information submitted by Parties on measures adopted before the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20) to fulfil the requirements laid down in the text of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*;
 - b) assist the Standing Committee in reviewing progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and in identifying additional Parties requiring attention as a priority;
 - c) subject to external funding, provide legal advice and assistance to Parties on the development of appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention, including legislative guidance for and training of CITES authorities, legislative drafters, policymakers, the judiciary, parliamentarians and other relevant government officials responsible for the formulation and adoption of CITES-related legislation;
 - d) subject to external funding, develop legislative guidance on transit and transshipment and recommend as appropriate possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Transit and transshipment*;

- e) subject to available resource, develop guidance on the implementation of the Convention (e.g., issuance of permits and certificates) in the event of exceptional circumstances that impede the proper functioning of CITES at the national level and recommend as appropriate possible amendments to relevant Resolutions, including to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Permits and certificates*;
- f) in the provision of legislative assistance, cooperate with the legal programmes of United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as regional organizations, such as the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, the Association of South East Asian Nations, the League of Arab States, the Organization of American States and the Pacific Regional Environment Programme;
- g) report at the regular meetings of the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures including, as a last resort, recommendations to suspend commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and
- h) report at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress made with regard to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention* and Decisions 19.AA to 19.EE.

**TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS**

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding.

For the implementation of proposed draft decision 19.EE, paragraphs b) to d), the Secretariat is dependent on external funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding for the implementation of the draft decisions in Annex 1.

Currently, at least 13 Parties have requested assistance from the Secretariat to advance their legislative process. Most of these requests have not yet been fully assessed and budgeted. However, based on past experience, the Secretariat estimates that each country would need support in the range of USD 10,000 – 30,000 depending on the size of the country in geographic and population terms, volumes and diversity of trade, capacity constraints, etc. In some instances, assistance may be provided through subregional workshops.	USD 260,000
Programme support costs and costs of any missions undertaken by the Secretariat in support of the development of national legislation	USD 50,000
Total extra-budgetary funding needed	USD 310,000

(English only/únicamente en inglés/seulement en anglais)

STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS FOR IMPLEMENTING CITES

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS FOR IMPLEMENTING CITES
(UPDATED JUNE 2022)**

**PARTIES WITH LEGISLATION IN CATEGORY 1
*Parties in bold have been added since CoP18***

Albania	Jordan	United States of America
Angola	Kuwait	Uruguay
Argentina	Latvia	Vanuatu
Australia	Liechtenstein	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Austria	Lithuania	Viet Nam
Bahamas	Luxembourg	Yemen
Barbados	Madagascar	Zimbabwe
Belgium	Malaysia	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Malawi	
Brazil	Malta	
Brunei Darussalam	Mauritania	
Bulgaria	Mauritius	
Cambodia	Mexico	
Cameroon	Monaco	
Canada	Morocco	
Chile	Namibia	
China	Netherlands	
Colombia	New Zealand	
Costa Rica	Nicaragua	
Croatia	Nigeria	
Cuba	Norway	
Cyprus	Panama	
Czech Republic	Papua New Guinea	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Paraguay	
Denmark	Peru	
Dominican Republic	Poland	
Egypt	Portugal	
El Salvador	Qatar	
Equatorial Guinea	Republic of Korea	
Estonia	Republic of Moldova	
Ethiopia	Romania	
European Union	Russian Federation	
Fiji	Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Finland	San Marino	
France	Saudi Arabia	
Georgia	Senegal	
Germany	Serbia	
Greece	Singapore	
Guatemala	Slovakia	
Guinea-Bissau	Slovenia	
Guyana	Solomon Islands	
Honduras	South Africa	
Hungary	Spain	
Iceland	Sweden	

Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan

Switzerland
Thailand
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

Table 1: Parties, except recently acceded Parties, with legislation in Category 2 or 3⁶

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
1	Afghanistan	28.01.1986	3	Enabling legislation (environmental) enacted; implementing regulations have been prepared and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis (in national language only)	Finalization and submission of draft revised legislation and implementing regulations	CoP18
2	Algeria	21.02.1984	2	Comments provided by the Secretariat on comprehensive revised draft legislation. Two consultation meetings with the different sectors involved in the drafting of the law were held in March and May 2020. Draft submitted to General Secretariat of the Government for consideration.	Adoption and promulgation. Agreement between Algeria and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	July 2020
3	Antigua and Barbuda	06.10.1997	2	Comprehensive enabling legislation adopted in 2019 and submitted to the Secretariat. Legislation placed in Category 2, pending the finalization of the implementing regulations	Finalization and submission of implementing regulations. Agreement between AG and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	June 2020
4	Armenia	21.01.2009	3	Some CITES legislation in place and some provisions translated and submitted to the Secretariat. Discussions are ongoing	Agreement between Armenia and the Secretariat on the legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	May2022
5	Azerbaijan	21.02.1999	2	CITES legislation enacted; English translation provided to the Secretariat. Discussions are ongoing.	Agreement between AZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	April 2022
6	Bahrain	17.11.2012	3	Legislation adopted and published in March 2021	Legislation to be translated into a working language of the Convention and to be analysed by the Secretariat. Agreement between BH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Jan. 2022
7	Bangladesh	18.02.1982	2	Enabling legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat in national language. Implementing regulations are being developed but have not yet been submitted to the Secretariat.	Finalization and submission of implementing regulations. Agreement between BD and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	April 2019
8	Belarus	08.11.1995	2	Enabling and implementing	Agreement between BY and	Nov. 2018

⁶ **Keys:**

Category:

1: legislation that is believed generally to meet all four requirements for effective implementation of CITES

2: legislation that is believed generally to meet one to three of the four requirements for effective implementation of CITES

3: legislation that is believed generally not to meet any of the four requirements for effective implementation of CITES

Bold: Parties requiring attention of the Standing Committee as a priority

Entry into force of the Convention: date on which Party's adherence to the Convention took effect

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				legislation enacted and submitted in national language. Draft of the legislative analysis provided by the Secretariat is under consideration by Belarus. Warning letter sent after SC74.	Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	
9	Belize	21.09.1981	3	Bill introduced to House of Representatives in September 2020. Due to a change of government, the bill was put on hold. In November 2021, the bill was reintroduced to the Cabinet and is expected to be reintroduced to Parliament in its next session in 2022.	Agreement between BZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Jan. 2022
10	Benin	28.05.1984	2	SSFA with the Secretariat completed. Legislation enacted. Implementing regulations are being developed.	Finalization and submission of implementing regulations.	Sept. 2021
11	Bhutan	13.11.2002	3	Comments by the Secretariat provided on draft legislation	Finalization and submission of draft legislation.	Nov. 2019
12	Bosnia and Herzegovina	21.04.2009	2	Legislation enacted and published. Submitted in English for analysis by the Secretariat. Placed in Cat. 2 as the adopted legislation does not fulfil all four requirements. Warning letter sent after SC74.	Identified gaps in national legislation to be addressed by BA.	Nov. 2018
13	Botswana	12.02.1978	2	CITES legislation for terrestrial wildlife including plants enacted; draft amendments to wildlife act, covering fish species under way. Forestry and Range Resources Bill submitted to the Secretariat for review in October 2021. The Secretariat organized a meeting with the authorities to address some concerns in December 2021.	Submission and adoption by Parliament. Agreement by BW and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	Dec. 2021
14	Burkina Faso	11.01.1990	2	Commitment at ministerial level to prepare draft legislation in the form of a decree; formal request for assistance	Preparation of draft legislation	SC74
15	Burundi	06.11.1988	2	CITES enabling legislation enacted in 2011 and submitted to the Secretariat in 2016. Certain gaps identified by the Secretariat need to be addressed. A consultant was hired in Burundi to work on the legislation. New draft legislation prepared and comments provided by the Secretariat in Nov. 2021	Finalization and submission of draft legislation.	Nov. 2021
16	Cabo Verde	08.11.2005	3	Strong commitment to prepare legislation. Legislative plan in place but progress is slow	Preparation of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed	CoP18
17	Central African Republic	25.11.1980	3	Legislation enacted and published submitted to the	Agreement between CF and Secretariat on revised legislative	April 2022

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				Secretariat for analysis.	analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	
18	Chad	03.05.1989	2	Draft amendment law and specific CITES regulation to be prepared.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; drafting assistance possibly needed	CoP18
19	Comoros	21.02.1995	3	SSFA with the Secretariat completed. Observations on draft legislation provided by the Secretariat. Delays in the validation of the draft due to Covid-19.	Finalization and submission of the legislation	Jan 2021
20	Congo	01.05.1983	2	Identified as priority Party at SC69. Revised draft legislation submitted to the Secretariat. Observations on draft legislation provided by the Secretariat in April 2022.	Adoption and promulgation. Agreement between Congo and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Feb. 2022
21	Côte d'Ivoire	19.02.1995	3	SSFA with the CITES Secretariat completed. Comments by the Secretariat provided on revised draft law and implementing regulations. Draft legislation submitted to the Secretary general of the government.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	Dec. 2021
22	Djibouti	07.05.1992	3	Subject to a recommendation to suspend trade since 30 April 2004. Letter sent by the Secretariat to the Minister in March 2019. No response and no progress.	Preparation of draft legislation. Assistance needed	Feb. 2017
23	Dominica	02.11.1995	3	Draft legislation prepared; existing and draft legislation reviewed by DM and Secretariat; formal request for assistance. Second formal warning issued at SC71. Revised draft legislation submitted to the Secretariat in April 2022.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between Dominica and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	April 2022
24	Ecuador	01.07.1975	2	Identified as priority Party by SC67. Legislation enacted but gaps have been identified by the Secretariat and need to be addressed	Finalization of implementing legislation. Agreement between Ecuador and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	Nov. 2019
25	Eritrea	22.01.1995	2	SSFA with UNEP completed. Draft legislation prepared with comments by the Secretariat and translated into local languages and submitted to Ministry for approval.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; agreement between Eritrea and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	Dec. 2021
26	Eswatini	27.05.1997	3	Comprehensive draft and revised draft legislation finalized and submitted.	Adoption and enactment of legislation.	May 2019
27	Gabon	14.05.1989	2	Commitment to draft legislation; comments provided by the Secretariat on draft legislation in January 2017. Revised draft submitted to the Secretariat in July 2018. Observations on	Finalization and submission of revised legislation.	Sep. 2019

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				revised draft prepared by the Secretariat in 2019.		
28	The Gambia	24.11.1977	2	SSFA with the UNEP completed. Draft Bill finalized and validated by all CITES Stakeholders	Cabinet approval and submission of legislation	January 2020
29	Ghana	12.02.1976	3	Bill has been through second reading in Parliament.	Enactment, and submission to the Secretariat for analysis. Agreement between GH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including the need for implementing legislation	CoP18
30	Grenada	28.11.1999	3	Draft legislation prepared; existing and draft legislation reviewed by GD and Secretariat; formal request for assistance. Second formal warning at SC71. Legislative plan submitted in May 2022 to the Secretariat (covering the period from June 2022 to February 2023).	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed	May 2022
31	Guinea	20.12.1981	2	Subject to a recommendation to suspend trade since 2013. Several decrees adopted in 2019 and 2020. Observations by the Secretariat provided in July 2020.	Finalization and submission of further implementing legislation; agreement between Guinea and the Secretariat on revised analysis	Oct. 2020
32	India	18.10.1976	2	Identified as priority Party by SC69. Revised draft legislation in preparation but delayed due to Covid 19.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation.	SC74
33	Kazakhstan	19.04.2000	2	Legislation submitted in English to the Secretariat.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between KZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	May 2022
34	Kenya	13.03.1979	2	Wildlife legislation enacted, but amendments underway to address concerns raised by the Secretariat.	Gazetting and submission of revised implementing regulations. Agreement between KE and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including Category 1 status	SC74
35	Kyrgyzstan	02.09.2007	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. KG revising legislation to address identified gaps. Warning letter sent after SC74	Finalization and submission of revised legislation. Agreement between KG and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	July 2018
36	Lao People's Democratic Republic	30.05.2004	3	Some legislation in place but significant gaps. Comprehensive legislative analysis completed. Identified as priority Party by SC69. Assistance available. Comments on draft decree provided by the Secretariat. Draft decree finalized and submitted to the Secretariat for comments.	Finalization of CITES implementing legislation and amend provisions of existing national laws	Dec. 2021

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
37	Lebanon	26.05.2013	3	Consultations between LB and the Secretariat are in their early stages; technical mission of the Secretariat under consideration. Warning letter sent after SC74.	Review by LB and Secretariat of existing CITES-related legislation and agreement on legislative analysis	CoP17
38	Lesotho	30.12.2003	3	Enabling legislation (environmental) enacted. Comments provided by the Secretariat on revised draft implementing legislation. SSFA with UNEP completed.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation.	Sep. 2019
39	Liberia	09.06.1981	3	Subject to a recommendation to suspend commercial trade since SC66. New wildlife legislation enacted by Parliament and submitted to the Secretariat. A revised draft amendment to the National Wildlife Conservation and Protected Area Management Law has been prepared and submitted to the Secretariat. Comments on the revised draft provided by the Secretariat in Oct. 2021	Submission and adoption of the amendment. Agreement between LR and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis including possible Category 1 status	Oct. 2021
40	Libya	28.04.2003	3	Draft legislation prepared but no translation into a working language provided to Secretariat. Second formal warning at SC71. Draft legislation submitted in English to the Secretariat.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between Libya and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	May 2022
41	Maldives	12.03.2013	3	SSFA with the Secretariat completed. Draft legislation prepared and submitted to the Parliament.	Enactment and agreement between MV and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Feb. 2022
42	Mali	16.10.1994	2	Legislation provided to the Secretariat for analysis. Draft analysis indicates some gaps in legislation to be addressed.	Agreement between Mali and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	CoP18
43	Mongolia	04.04.1996	2	Formal warning sent after SC69. Comments provided by the Secretariat on draft revision of legislation in August 2019. Revised draft legislation submitted to the Secretariat in May 2022.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Finalization of draft and submission for enactment. Adoption and submission to the Secretariat.	May 2022
44	Montenegro	03.06.2006	2	CITES enabling legislation enacted in 2016. Revised implementing legislation. Formal warning sent after SC74.	Agreement between ME and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	July 2018
45	Mozambique	23.06.1981	2	CITES-specific legislation enacted. A comprehensive implementing regulation has been adopted as well and submitted to the Secretariat.	Regulations to be translated in a working language of the Convention. Agreement between Mozambique and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	Dec. 2019

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
46	Myanmar	11.09.1997	2	Revised CITES legislation enacted in May 2018. Implementing rules and regulations have been submitted for adoption by the Government.	Finalization, adoption and submission of implementing rules; agreement between MM and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	July 2020
47	Nepal	16.09.1975	2	Legislation enacted in April 2017 and in force; recently submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. Implementing rules are being developed.	Development of implementing rules; agreement between Nepal and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Cat. 1 status	March 2019
48	Niger	07.12.1975	3	Comprehensive legislation adopted by Parliament.	Promulgation and submission to the Secretariat for revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Apr. 2021
49	North Macedonia	02.10.2000	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted in English to the Secretariat who provided its observations in August 2016. Support available. Formal warning after SC70	Agreement between MK and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	July 2021
50	Oman	17.06.2008	3	Second formal warning at SC71. Draft legislation received in Feb. 2020. Observations provided by the Secretariat in March 2020. Participated in online meeting in July 2020. Revised draft legislation submitted to the Secretariat and comments provided by the Secretariat in March 2022.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	SC74
51	Pakistan	19.07.1976	2	CITES law enacted at federal level; Secretariat's preliminary analysis of the legislation shared with Pakistan. Updates on the designation of the Management and Scientific Authorities sent to the Secretariat in July 2020.	Agreement between PK and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	July 2020
52	Palau	15.07.2004	3	Secretariat provided comments on comprehensive draft legislation in December 2014	Enactment and agreement between PW and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	April 2019
53	Philippines	16.11.1981	2	CITES enabling and implementing legislation enacted. Observations on the draft legislation provided in Feb. 2020. New timetable of activities to finalize the Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) on Introduction from the Sea submitted	Agreement between PH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	July 2020
54	Rwanda	18.01.1981	3	Final draft law and implementing regulations have been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers and have been reviewed by the parliamentary Commission. The Law governing biological diversity has been approved and published in November 2021	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between RW and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Jan. 2022

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
55	Saint Lucia	15.03.1983	2	Comments by the Secretariat provided on draft legislation	Finalization and submission of draft implementing legislation.	Oct. 2019
56	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	28.02.1989	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. Observations provided by the Secretariat	Agreement between VC and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Feb. 2020
57	Samoa	07.02.2005	3	Draft legislation prepared but needed revision; assistance provided by NZ. Revised draft legislation prepared and submitted for enactment	Submission of legislation	Oct. 2021
58	Sao Tome and Principe	07.11.2001	3	Commitment to prepare draft legislation; no recent information on status. Second formal warning at SC71. Subject to a recommendation to suspend trade from May 2022.	Preparation of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed	CoP17
59	Seychelles	09.05.1977	2	Draft enabling legislation adopted. Implementing legislation under preparation.	Finalization of implementing regulations.	Nov. 2021
60	Sierra Leone	26.01.1995	3	Wildlife Policy and Forest Policy adopted; amendments to related laws and regulations underway. Warning letter sent after SC74.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	Feb. 2017
61	Somalia	02.03.1986	3	Subject to a recommendation to suspend trade since 30 April 2004. Observations provided on revised draft in Nov. 2019	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	CoP18
62	Sri Lanka	02.08.1979	3	Draft and comprehensive revised draft legislation prepared and submitted for enactment. Implementing regulation underway	Finalization of implementing regulations and agreement between LK and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	April 2019
63	Sudan	24.01.1983	2	Draft revised legislation submitted to parliament several years ago. Sudan has submitted draft legislation, but some concerns highlighted by the Secretariat still need to be addressed. Formal warning at SC70.	Review by SD and Secretariat and possible revision/updating of revised legislation to facilitate its enactment	Jan. 2020
64	Suriname	15.02.1981	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis – discussions on how to address remaining gaps are ongoing	Revised legislation to be developed to address identified gaps.	CoP18
65	Syrian Arab Republic	29.07.2003	3	Draft legislation prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Justice. Formal request for assistance. Participated in online meeting in July 2020	Review/revision of draft legislation by SY and Secretariat; finalization and submission of draft legislation	Dec. 2021
66	Togo	21.01.1979	2	SSFA in place with the CITES Secretariat. Observations on draft bill provided by the Secretariat. Draft legislation submitted to the Secretariat.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Finalization and submission of draft legislation	Sep. 2021
67	Trinidad and Tobago	18.04.1984	2	Comprehensive draft legislation prepared and reviewed by	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	March 2022

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				Secretariat; commitment at Ministerial level to complete the legislative process; formal request for assistance		
68	Tunisia	01.07.1975	2	Comprehensive draft and revised draft legislation prepared; text reviewed by TN and Secretariat; draft submitted to the Assembly of people's representatives for consideration. Formal warning after SC69. Draft decree submitted and comments provided by the Secretariat in April 2022.	Enactment and agreement between VC and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	March 2022
69	Uganda	16.10.1991	3	Enabling legislation adopted by the Parliament in late 2019. Implementing regulations drafted and observations provided by the Secretariat. Revised draft of regulations submitted and comments provided by the Secretariat in Feb. 2022.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Finalization of implementing regulations, followed by agreement between UG and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	Oct. 2021
70	United Republic of Tanzania	27.02.1980	2	Implementing regulation for United Republic of Tanzania in place. Regulations for Zanzibar have also been adopted.	Official designation of the Scientific Authority and Official publication of the appendices to be sent to the Secretariat. Agreement between TZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Apr. 2021
71	Uzbekistan	08.10.1997	2	Identified as priority Party by SC69. Draft revised legislation prepared and additional observations by the Secretariat provided in July 2018. Meeting organized with the new CITES Focal Point in August 2021 to address some gaps in the draft legislation.	Finalization and submission of revised legislation	SC74
72	Zambia	22.02.1981	2	CITES legislation enacted; observations on draft implementing rules provided by Secretariat in January 2018. Warning letter after SC74.	Finalization and submission of draft supplemental legislation	January 2018

Table 2: Recently acceded Parties⁷

	Party	Entry into force	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps/needs	Last update
1	Andorra	4 January 2022	P			
2	Iraq	06.05.2014	P	National committee for the preparation of national CITES legislation has been established. Observations on draft legislation provided by the Secretariat. Participated in online meeting in July 2020	Finalization and submission of draft legislation	March 2021
3	Tajikistan	30.03.2016	P	Consultations between TJ and Secretariat are in early stages. Formal request for assistance.	Review of existing CITES-related legislation and preparation of draft to fill possible gaps	May 2018
4	Tonga	20.10.2016	P	Draft CITES-related legislation (regulations) prepared with input from the CITES Secretariat, submitted to the Ministry of the Environment for approval before being submitted to the Minister's office Assistance provided by NZ	Finalization of regulations. Adoption, gazetting and submission to the CITES Secretariat for analysis.	Jan. 2022

⁷ P: Parties acceding less than eight years ago - pending submission of legislation to the Secretariat

Table 3: Dependent territories⁸

Dependent territory	Cat.	Dep.	Progress summary	Next steps/needs	Last update
American Samoa	1	US			CoP17
Anguilla	1	GB			CoP17
Aruba	2	NL	CITES legislation enacted. Documents in English submitted to the Secretariat for review.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between NL and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
Bailiwick of Guernsey	1	GB			April 2019
Bailiwick of Jersey	1	GB			CoP17
Bermuda	2	GB	Draft bill is near completion	Finalization, submission and enactment of amended legislation. Agreement on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
British Virgin Islands	2	GB	Final draft legislation has been prepared and is passing through the legislature	Adoption and entry into force of legislation. Agreement between GB and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including likely Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
Caribbean Netherlands	1	NL	CITES legislation enacted. Documents in English submitted to the Secretariat for review.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between NL and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
Cayman Islands (CIG)	1	GB			March 2017
Curacao	1	NL	CITES legislation enacted. Documents in English submitted to the Secretariat for review.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between NL and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
French Guiana	1	FR			CoP17
French Polynesia	1	FR			July 2019
Gibraltar	1	GB			CoP17
Greenland	2	DK	Comprehensive CITES legislation enacted; review by Greenland and Secretariat identified important gaps; comments by the Secretariat provided on draft revised legislation	Agreement by Greenland and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including Category 1 status	March 2020
Guadeloupe	1	FR			CoP17
Guam	1	US			CoP17
Hong Kong SAR	1	CN			CoP17
Isle of Man	1	GB			CoP17
Macao SAR	2	CN	Comprehensive legislation and implementing regulation adopted and entered into force. Submitted to the Secretariat in Oct. 2017.	Agreement between Macao SAR and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Oct. 2017
Martinique	1	FR			CoP17
Montserrat	2	GB	Amended Trade in Endangered Species Act passed but not yet	Formal approval of the designation of MA and SA and	Dec. 2021

⁸ Dep.:

two-letter ISO code of the State of which the territory is a dependency

Dependent territory	Cat.	Dep.	Progress summary	Next steps/needs	Last update
			commenced.	update of the schedule of species. Commencement of legislation and agreement on revised legislative analysis, including Category 1 status	
New Caledonia	1	FR			July 2019
Northern Mariana Islands	1	US			CoP17
Pitcairn Islands	1	GB			CoP17
Puerto Rico	1	US			CoP17
Réunion	1	FR			CoP17
Saint Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha	2	GB	<p>St Helena's Ordinance entered into force in February 2016 and achieved Category 1 status, subject to MA and SA designation. MA appointed in 2017. SA designation is in progress.</p> <p>Legislation of Tristan da Cunha and Legislation of Ascension Island have been placed in Category 1.</p>	For St Helena, establishment of the Scientific Authority under the provisions of the Ordinance. Agreement that the legislation can be placed in Category 1 as soon as the SA is operational.	Dec. 2021
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	1	FR			CoP17
Sint Maarten	1	NL	CITES legislation enacted. Division of tasks/separation of duties between the CITES MA and CITES SA arranged in 2020. Documents in English submitted to the Secretariat for review.	Comments to be provided by the Secretariat. Agreement between NL and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	Dec. 2021
Virgin Islands of the United States	1	US			CoP17
Wallis and Futuna Islands	2	FR	CITES legislation enacted	Agreement between FR and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status	July 2019