1. This document has been submitted by Japan in relation to proposal CoP19 Prop. 10.

2. In the annex of the notification No. 2022/067 dated 19 September 2022, China commented on the proposal COP19 Prop. 10 submitted by the United States of America. The Chinese comments in the annex of the notification is not acceptable for the Government of Japan for the following reasons.

   a) There is no doubt that the Senkaku Islands are indisputably an inherent territory of Japan, in light of historical facts and based upon international law.

   b) Indeed, the Senkaku Islands are under the valid control of Japan. There exists no issue of territorial sovereignty to be resolved concerning the Senkaku Islands.

3. In this regard, the Government of Japan would like to express that the Chinese comments have no place to be discussed at meetings of CITES, including the upcoming COP 19.

* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.