

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



Seventy-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 3-8 February 2025

Compliance

National laws for the implementation of the Convention

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.58 to 19.62 on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*, as follows:

Directed to Parties

19.58 *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.*

19.59 *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 19.58, either directly or through the Secretariat.*

Directed to the Standing Committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat

19.60 *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 19.58 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.*

19.61 *Such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade with Parties affected by Decision 19.58 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.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.62 *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 resources, 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 submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee for consideration including, as appropriate, possible amendments to relevant Resolutions, including to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) 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 trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and*
- h) *report at regular meetings of the Standing Committee, as appropriate, and 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 19.58 to 19.62.*

Background

3. 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.

4. It is recalled that each of these four minimum requirements must be met by the legislation of CITES Parties to enable the effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention. It is further recalled that each of these requirements contain several components as further detailed in document [CoP12 Doc.28](#). In consultation with the concerned Party, the Secretariat analyses national legislation of each Party to the Convention and place 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.

These four minimum requirements and their components constitute the basis on which all legislative analyses have been conducted by the Secretariat in the context of the national legislation project (NLP).

5. In paragraph 1 c) of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15), the Secretariat is directed *to report its findings, recommendations or progress to the Standing Committee and at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties*. In paragraph 3 of the same Resolution, the Conference of the Parties instructs *the Standing Committee to determine which Parties have not adopted appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and to consider appropriate compliance measures, which may include recommendations to suspend trade, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on CITES compliance procedures*.
6. In accordance with the Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) and Decision 19.62, this document provides an update on the progress reported by the Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention since the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC77; Geneva, November 2023), other activities undertaken by the Secretariat to support the efforts undertaken by Parties, as well as proposed recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.¹

Summary of progress

7. The legislative status table presenting details of legislative progress reported by each Party is available in the Annex to this document. The main updates since SC77 are as follows:
- a) The legislation of five additional Parties has been placed in Category 1 (see below).
 - b) Forty-four (44) Parties and three (3) dependent territories have provided a written update on legislative progress to the Secretariat, and most of them have reported substantial progress in adopting appropriate legislative measures for the implementation of the Convention.
 - c) Of 185 Parties to the Convention,² 117 (63.2%) have legislation placed in Category 1. Although progress and commitments have been significant for some Parties, there are still a total of 67 (36.2%) Parties and 5 dependent territories whose legislation is placed in Category 2 or 3, many of whom have been Parties to the Convention for decades.
 - d) Concerning ‘recently acceded Parties’, placed in Table 2 of the Annex, Tajikistan and Tonga have acceded to the Convention more than eight years ago and are therefore no longer considered ‘recently acceded Parties’. Based on the Secretariat’s analysis, Tajikistan and Tonga will be added in Table 1 of the Annex, with their legislation placed in Category 3 and 2 respectively. Andorra completed the adoption of its national legislation that meets all requirements for Category 1 and is therefore placed in Category 1. These changes are reflected in the table in paragraph 8 below, and in the Annex.

¹ *Legislation enacted by non-Parties or territories that are under dispute or that are not recognized by the United Nations is not included in the National Legislation Project. Nothing in the National Legislation Project prejudices the claims and legal views of any Party concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The assessment of national legislation to implement CITES does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) concerning those matters.*

² *Turkmenistan is counted as the 185th Party.*

Turkmenistan has acceded to the Convention, which will enter into force for the Party on 2 January 2025. Turkmenistan is therefore considered a 'recently acceded Parties' and is added in the table below, as well as in Table 2 of the Annex to the present document. The legislation of recently acceded Parties is reviewed and placed in Category 1, 2 or 3 eight years after accession to the Convention.

8. The legislative status is as follows as of December 2024:

National Legislation Project Dec-24		
Category	Parties	Percent
Cat. 1	117	63.2%
Cat. 2	47	25.5%
Cat. 3	20	10.8%
Recent Parties	1	0.5%
Total	185	100.0%

New Parties placed in Category 1

9. Since SC77, the legislation of Andorra, Botswana, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Sierra Leone, and Tunisia have been placed in Category 1. This has been made possible through the continued effort of Parties, the legal advice and technical assistance of the Secretariat, and the generous financial support from donor Parties.

Progress of Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3

Parties requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority

10. In accordance with Decisions 17.61 and 17.64, paragraph c), at its 69th meeting, the Standing Committee identified a total of 20 Parties requiring its attention as a priority on the basis of an overall assessment of the following elements:
- Parties that have acceded to the Convention over twenty years ago;
 - Parties that have not indicated any commitment to adopt adequate legislation for implementation of the Convention;
 - Parties that have relatively high volumes of trade as source, transit or destination countries;
 - Parties that have already received legislative assistance; and
 - Parties that are facing compliance procedures under Article XIII.
11. At the conclusion of SC77, a total of 17 Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 were designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority: Algeria, Belize, Botswana, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda and Uzbekistan. The latest updates concerning these Parties are provided below:
- Algeria has regularly engaged with the Secretariat and made significant progress towards the finalization of its national legislation. The final draft reviewed by the Secretariat meets the requirements for Category 1. Algeria now needs to conduct the adoption procedure.
 - Belize's legislation is ready to move to Category 1 as soon as it officially designates its CITES Scientific Authority and informs the Secretariat accordingly. No update has been received from Belize on this matter since August 2023.
 - Botswana has completed the revision of its national legislation and adopted all amendments necessary to meet the requirements for Category 1. Botswana's legislation has been moved to Category 1.

- d) Comoros: The Standing Committee agreed at SC77 to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes from Comoros for failure to adopt adequate national legislation to take effect 60 days after the meeting as set out in Decision 19.61. Comoros submitted an updated draft legislation to the Secretariat on 30 January 2024, with a draft legislative calendar. The Secretariat conducted a legislative analysis in February 2024, and concluded that Comoros had demonstrated significant and substantive progress towards the adoption of a national legislation. Thus, the recommendation to suspend trade did not take effect. However, Comoros has not communicated since then and has not provided a final legislative calendar. For this reason, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be considered again concerning Comoros.
- e) Congo: The Standing Committee agreed at SC77 to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes from the Congo for failure to adopt adequate national legislation to take effect after 60 days as set out in Decision 19.61. The Congo submitted an updated draft legislation to the Secretariat on 29 November 2023, with a draft legislative calendar. A final legislative calendar was subsequently submitted. Meanwhile, three revisions of the draft legislation were done between the end of November 2023 and early 2024, taking into account the advice provided by the Secretariat in the legal analysis of each version. Since the Congo had demonstrated significant and substantive progress towards the adoption of a national legislation, the recommendation to suspend trade did not take effect. While minor delays occurred compared to the planned timeline, Congo is keeping the Secretariat informed and has committed to adopt its law in the first quarter of 2025.
- f) Djibouti is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 30 April 2004 for failure to develop national legislation. Exchanges took place between Djibouti and the Secretariat between July 2023 and February 2024 with the Secretariat providing requested legislative guidance. However, no update has been received from Djibouti since February 2024.
- g) Guinea reported on the progress under its Compliance Assistance Project (CAP). The *Centre Halieutique de Boussoura pour les espèces marines* was designated as an additional Scientific Authority for marine species. Revised draft legislation, developed under the CAP, was shared with the Secretariat in April 2024 and the Secretariat provided a full legislative analysis in May 2024. Guinea has finalized the draft legislation and submitted it for approval and adoption.
- h) Kazakhstan shared draft amendments to its national legislation with the Secretariat in July 2023 and the Secretariat provided comments in August 2023. Further revised draft amendments were sent to the Secretariat in November 2023 and the Secretariat provided an additional legislative analysis the same month. No update has been received from Kazakhstan since then.
- i) Kenya: The Standing Committee issued at SC77 a first formal warning to Kenya for failure to report any legislative progress for more than three years. Based on an update received from Kenya, the Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis in November 2023. In November 2024, Kenya submitted a new report, informing the Secretariat that a decision was taken to repeal the existing legislation and replace it with a new law. A legislative committee has been established.
- j) The Lao People's Democratic Republic has completed the revision of its national legislation,³ which meets the requirements for Category 1. The legislation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has been moved to Category 1.
- k) Liberia is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 15 March 2016 for failure to adopt adequate national legislation. The draft revised legislation analysed by the Secretariat in August 2023 meets the minimum requirements for inclusion in Category 1 and was, at the time, pending with Parliament. However, no information has been received from Liberia concerning the adoption of this revised legislation.
- l) Mozambique has worked in close consultation with the Secretariat to finalize the drafting of its national regulations. The draft regulations have incorporated the legal advice provided by the Secretariat and meet the minimum requirements for inclusion in Category 1. Mozambique now needs to conduct the adoption procedure.

³ See document SC78 Doc. 33.8 on Application of Article XIII in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

- m) Rwanda: the Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis of the Rwandan Law governing Biological Diversity in August 2023 and provided comments and guidance to Rwanda. No update has been received from Rwanda since then.
- n) Somalia is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 30 July 2004 for failure to develop national legislation. The last review by the Secretariat of a legislative draft was conducted in 2019. In February 2024, Somalia requested support from the Secretariat under the NLP. The Secretariat provided further guidance, but no further communication was received from Somalia since then.
- o) Uganda was designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority at SC77. Uganda has worked closely with the Secretariat on the finalization of the drafting of its national legislation. After two full legislative analysis conducted by the Secretariat in 2024, the draft is deemed to meet almost all requirements for Category 1. Uganda is currently working on the finalization of the draft law.
- p) Uzbekistan explained that the draft legislation previously reviewed by the Secretariat was further modified following political reforms in the country. The revised draft was submitted, and the Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis in August 2023. Comments and guidance were provided to Uzbekistan.

Other Parties subject to a warning

12. At present, a total of 18 Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 have received one or two formal warnings from the Standing Committee for failure to report any legislative progress: in chronological order, Mongolia, Tunisia, North Macedonia, Sudan, Dominica, Grenada, Libya, Oman, Sao Tome and Principe, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Zambia, and Kenya:
 - a) Mongolia, first formal warning at SC69: At SC74 (March 2022), the Standing Committee agreed on a recommendation to suspend trade for failure to adopt adequate national legislation concerning Mongolia. As the Secretariat received evidence of significant and substantive progress towards the adoption of a national legislation, the recommendation to suspend trade did not enter into effect. In 2023, in the preparation of SC77, Mongolia was again recommended for a trade suspension for failure to adopt adequate national legislation [see document [SC77 Doc. 33.1 \(Rev.1\)](#)]. However, as the Secretariat received an update on national legislation in November 2023, prior to SC77, Mongolia was removed from the list of countries recommended for a suspension of trade. The Secretariat provided Mongolia with a full legislative analysis in January 2024. However, no further update has been received from Mongolia since January 2024. The Secretariat is concerned that the Standing Committee already issued a formal warning to Mongolia (SC69) and included it twice under a recommendation to suspend trade, without apparent progress being reported by Mongolia on the finalization and adoption of a national legislation meeting the requirements of the Convention. On the contrary, it seems that the reports submitted in 2022 and 2024 only aimed at avoiding the entry into effect of the recommendation to suspend trade. For this reason, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be considered again concerning Mongolia and encourages Mongolia to finalize and adopt a CITES national legislation that meets the criteria for Category 1 of the National Legislation project.
 - b) Tunisia, first formal warning at SC69: Tunisia has completed the adoption of its national legislation, which meets the requirements for Category 1. Tunisia's legislation has been moved to Category 1.
 - c) North Macedonia, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC77: North Macedonia has worked closely with the Secretariat on the finalization of its national legislation. Two full legislative reviews were conducted in December 2023 and August 2024.
 - d) Sudan, first formal warning at SC70: Sudan liaised with the Secretariat in December 2023 to conduct a full legislative analysis of its 1986 Wildlife Law, and shared draft regulations prepared to complement this law in January 2024. The Secretariat provided a full legislative analysis of the regulations in May 2024.
 - e) Dominica, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC71: Dominica is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 10 January 2024 (agreed at SC77) for failure to adopt adequate national legislation. An update on national legislation was sent to the Secretariat in February 2024. The Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis but did not note any

progress. Further advice was provided to Dominica during the Secretariat's mission of March 2024 (see below). No update has been received since then.

- f) Grenada, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC71: Grenada shared a draft legislation with the Secretariat in June 2023. A full legislative analysis was conducted in July 2023, followed by various exchanges with the Management Authority. Grenada recruited a consultant to draft a revised legislation taking into account the comments made by the Secretariat and by other Ministries. Further advice was provided to Grenada during the Secretariat's mission of March 2024 (see below). Additional discussions have since taken place.
- g) Libya, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC71: Libya is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 10 January 2024 (agreed at SC77) for failure to develop national legislation. No update has been received from Libya since May 2022.
- h) Oman, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC71: Oman is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 10 January 2024 (agreed at SC77) for failure to adopt adequate national legislation. Additional information concerning Oman is provided in paragraphs 13-21 below.
- i) Sao Tome and Principe, first formal warning at SC70, second formal warning at SC71: Sao Tome and Principe is subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes since 7 May 2022 for failure to adopt adequate national legislation. Two meetings were held between the Secretariat and Sao Tome and Principe, in coordination with the Food and Alimentation Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in February and September 2024. Guidance has been provided to prepare an analysis and plan for the development of a CITES national legislation.
- j) Azerbaijan, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: at the request of Azerbaijan, guidance has been provided on legislation in December 2023 and February 2024. The Secretariat also proposed to organize a meeting with the Management Authority to discuss but no answer was received.
- k) Belarus, first formal warning at SC74: Belarus has worked closely with the Secretariat between November 2023 and April 2024. Exchanges took place with the Management Authority and the Secretariat conducted legislative analyses. A few points remain to be clarified for the legislation to meet the requirements of Category 1.
- l) Bosnia and Herzegovina, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted an update on national legislation in January 2024. The Secretariat provided a full legislative analysis in February 2024. Additional exchanges and analyses took place between February and June 2024. Bosnia and Herzegovina is working on the comments provided by the Secretariat.
- m) Kyrgyzstan, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: Kyrgyzstan submitted an update on national legislation in December 2023. The Secretariat provided a full legislative analysis in the same month. Then, on the basis of revised draft legislations, the Secretariat conducted additional analysis in June, October, and December 2024. A few points remain to be clarified for the legislation to meet the requirements of Category 1.
- n) Lebanon, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: No update on legislation has been received from Lebanon since October 2016. For this reason, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be considered concerning Lebanon.
- o) Montenegro, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: as reported to SC77, an update on legislation was received from Montenegro in August 2023 and the Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis the same month. No update has been received from Montenegro since August 2023.
- p) Sierra Leone, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: Sierra Leone has completed the adoption of its national legislation, which meets the requirements for Category 1. Sierra Leone's legislation has been moved to Category 1.
- q) Zambia, first formal warning at SC74, second formal warning at SC77: Zambia submitted an update on its national legislation in August 2023, and the Secretariat provided a full legislative analysis. Since then,

Zambia provided additional updates in February and December 2024. The draft legislation is pending with the Ministry of Justice for final editing and should be adopted in the second quarter of 2025.

- r) Kenya, first formal warning at SC77: information on Kenya is provided under paragraph 11 above as Kenya has also been designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority.

Concerning Oman

13. As indicated above, at SC70 (October 2018) and SC71 (August 2019) respectively, the Standing Committee issued a first and a second formal warning to Oman for failure to report any legislative progress. In February 2020, Oman provided an update on national legislation, indicating that the draft 2020 Law and Regulation of Trade in Wildlife (CITES) was approved by the national legal authority and was now awaiting approval from other concerned authorities to be presented for adoption. After SC74 (March 2022), the Secretariat shared its analysis of the draft Royal Decree issuing the Law Regulating Trade in Endangered Fungal Animal and Plant Species (CITES), identifying gaps that needed to be addressed before the legislation (law and decree) would meet the minimum requirements for Category 1. In July 2023, Oman provided a new update, which was identical to the update provided in 2020: the law had been approved by the national legal authority and was awaiting other approvals to be adopted.
14. At SC77 (November 2023), Oman reported that it expected its draft legislation to be finalized over the next months. However, in view of the earlier formal warnings, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in all CITES-listed species for commercial purposes with Oman (see summary record [SC77 SR](#)). As per Decision 19.61, the recommendation was to take effect 60 days after it was agreed unless Oman adopted appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or took significant and substantive steps to do so. Three bilateral meetings were held with Oman during SC77 to provide guidance on the situation and explain the necessary steps to take to avoid the trade suspension entering into effect. Three emails were further sent to the CITES Authorities, providing the same guidance in writing.
15. In December 2023, Oman presented a report on its efforts to implement the Convention. The Secretariat reviewed the report and requested additional information in order to assess whether Oman would be in a position to adopt its legislation or take significant and substantive steps to do so within the 60 days after SC77. The same approach was followed with Comoros, Congo, and Sierra Leone for which the Standing Committee had adopted a similar recommendation to suspend trade. On 31 December 2023, Oman presented a second report providing additional information:
- The draft law contained 21 articles while the last draft reviewed by the Secretariat in 2020 had contained 40 articles;
 - Some comments made by the Secretariat had been taken into account, but due to national procedures, the Secretariat could not obtain a copy of the draft law while it was pending before the Shura Council;
 - They reported that other comments from the Secretariat would be taken into account in regulations to be drafted in the future, but no calendar was indicated; and
 - The calendar proposed for the adoption of the law envisioned a tentative issuance of the Royal Decree for the law in June 2024.

Based on this information, including the fact that Oman had already foreseen the adoption of implementing regulations, the Secretariat determined that the adoption of the law would not be sufficient to meet the CITES minimum requirements for Category 1. Consequently, and following past practice concerning other Parties in the same situation, the Secretariat concluded that Oman had not adopted appropriate legislation or taken significant and substantive steps to do so within the 60 days' timeframe after SC77. The recommendation to suspend trade for commercial purposes in specimens of CITES-listed species with Oman therefore entered into effect on 10 January 2024 (as for Dominica and Libya).

16. Following the entry into effect of the recommendation to suspend trade, the Secretariat reached out to the Management Authority in January and February 2024, providing guidance on the effects of the suspension. Having received requests for advice, the Secretariat sent two emails to the Permanent Representation of Oman to the World Trade Organization in Geneva, explaining the situation and the consequences of the recommendation to suspend trade. Answering another request for information, the same elements were shared with Kuwait, as Standing Committee Member for Asia. In all these communications, the Secretariat clearly underlined the steps that Oman could take in order to obtain the withdrawal of the recommendation

to suspend trade. In March 2024, Oman provided another report to the Secretariat describing the efforts made to develop its legislation. The report repeated that some comments of the Secretariat had been included in the draft law while others would be tackled in regulations to be developed in the future but no timeline for adoption of these regulations was provided. Meanwhile, the timeline proposed for the adoption of the law moved the issuance of the Royal Decree for the law to “Q2-Q3 2024”.

17. On 2 April 2024, Oman shared the draft legislation with the Secretariat and confirmed that draft regulations were being prepared. The Secretariat conducted a full legislative analysis and provided feedback to Oman on 8 April 2024, highlighting that the current legislation (including the draft pending for adoption) did not meet the requirements for Category 1. Given that the law was still pending adoption, the Secretariat advised that its comments be brought on board in the preparation of the draft regulations.
18. On 9 July 2024, during the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC27), Oman shared a copy of the draft regulations. The Secretariat conducted a review and provided comments the following day. Two bilateral meetings were held with Oman in the margins of the PC27 and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee. Following these meetings, the Secretariat provided a second review of the draft regulations on 26 July. No further information was received until October 2024.
19. On 22 October 2024, Oman provided the Secretariat with a copy of the CITES Law, adopted on 15 October, as well as a revised draft of the regulations. The Secretariat’s analysis of the revised draft regulations was shared with Oman on 30 October, confirming that the revised draft regulations included all the edits and clarifications suggested by the Secretariat. The Secretariat concluded that the CITES Law adopted on 15 October along with the regulations, once adopted, would meet all the requirements for Category 1. In other words, as soon as the regulations are adopted, the Secretariat will be in a position to place the legislation in Category 1 and withdraw the recommendation to suspend trade.
20. On 4 December 2024, Oman submitted document [SC78 Doc. 31.2](#) on *Request by the Sultanate of Oman to Lift the Suspension of International Trade* to the Secretariat as a working document for SC78. The Secretariat notes that the timeline provided in the recommendation section moved the adoption of the regulation to October 2025, whereas Oman had indicated in an earlier communication that the regulations would be adopted in July 2025.
21. The Secretariat notes that Oman has received more support, advice, and guidance from the Secretariat than any other Party since SC77. The latest communication was in October 2024, where the Secretariat concluded that as soon as the regulations are adopted, the Secretariat will be in a position to place the legislation in Category 1 and withdraw the recommendation to suspend trade. This approach is consistent with past practice, whereby a recommendation to suspend trade is withdrawn when legislation meeting the minimum requirements is adopted and in force. The Secretariat further emphasizes that the methodology and criteria applied to conduct its analysis for Oman are the same as those developed under Article VIII of the Convention, Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15), and document [CoP12 Doc.28](#). All countries subjected to a recommendation to suspend trade, a formal warning, or designation by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention have been evaluated using the same consistent criteria, ensuring equal treatment for all Parties.

Progress of other Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3

22. In addition to the updates provided above, the Secretariat has received written updates and conducted legislative analysis for 13 additional Parties and territories with legislation in Category 2 or 3: Benin, Bhutan, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, Eswatini, Gabon, Lesotho, Mali, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, and Togo. Details on the situation of each country and territory is provided in the tables in the Annex to the present document.
23. Considering the progress made in the development of their legislation, the legislation of Bhutan, Côte d’Ivoire, Eswatini, Niger, and Oman are moved from Category 3 to Category 2. As indicated above, the legislation of Tonga (former ‘recently acceded Party’) is also assessed as Category 2.
24. Since SC77, 44 Parties and 3 dependent territories have provided a written update on legislative progress to the Secretariat, and most of them have reported substantial progress in adopting appropriate legislative measures for the implementation of the Convention. The Secretariat commends the efforts of those Parties and dependant territories and encourages Parties still working on their legislation to finalize the legislative process as soon as possible.

25. On the other hand, the Secretariat notes that 18 Parties and 1 dependant territory have not reported any progress in adopting appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention since SC77. This includes Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Eritrea, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Montenegro, Myanmar, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, and Greenland. There has been some progress since SC77 when 46 Parties and 2 dependant territories had not reported any progress on legislation since CoP19 or before. At the same time, in certain cases, Parties have not submitted any report for several years.

Targeted technical and legislative assistance

Assistance provided to Parties and missions

26. Since SC77, the Secretariat continued to provide technical and legislative assistance to Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3. The assistance has mainly consisted in providing written and verbal legal advice on draft legislation to ensure that it will meet the CITES minimum requirements once adopted. Thus, the Secretariat has conducted 64 full legislative analyses and/or provided comments and guidance on the development of national legislation to 43 Parties and one dependent territory. Advice on institutional arrangements, such as the organization of the Management and Scientific Authorities, and on mechanisms for issuing CITES permits and certificates has also been provided to a number of Parties. The Secretariat further engaged with one Party with legislation placed in Category 1 that is currently updating its CITES national legislation.
27. The Secretariat conducted a mission to Dominica and Grenada in March 2024 to participate in the series of *National Workshops to provide technical support to CITES National Authorities to develop national legal framework and institutional guidelines for the implementation of the CITES Convention* organized by the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). In addition to participating in the workshop, in Dominica, the Secretariat met with the Management Authority (MA) to further discuss the development of Dominica's CITES national legislation and the effects of the trade suspension agreed at SC77. Options to move forward were analysed and the Secretariat provided the MA with full guidance on the effects of the trade suspension. The Secretariat also used this opportunity to discuss the matter of the export to Germany of specimens of *Amazona imperialis* and *Amazona arausiaca* in 2018.⁴
28. In Grenada, the Secretariat met with the MA and the consultant hired to revise the draft CITES legislation. The Secretariat provided guidance on the national legislation project, and the requirements for legislation to be placed in Category 1. The Secretariat also used this opportunity to discuss the question of the submission of Grenada's national reports and the effects of a recommendation to suspend trade faced by Grenada due to the failure of submission of annual reports since 2013. Finally, the Secretariat and the MA discussed the question of the implementation of the Review of Significant Trade recommendations on queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) and the effects of the recommendation to suspend its trade faced by Grenada.
29. In the context of the application of Article XIII in Ecuador, the Secretariat conducted a second mission in both Ecuador and Peru.⁵ In the context of this mission, the Secretariat engaged with Ecuador on the finalization of the revision of its CITES national legislation, to ensure that the legislation can be placed in Category 1. The Secretariat also engaged with Peru, in coordination with FAO, concerning the revision of the Peruvian CITES national legislation. These discussions were mainly centred on the national measures to adopt in order to implement the provisions of the Convention relating to introduction from the sea, and the listings of the shark and ray species adopted at CoP19.

CITES website and Model Law

30. To assist Parties in the development of effective and enforceable legislation, the CITES Secretariat has maintained the page of the CITES website on [National laws for implementing the Convention](#). The full translation of the page in French and Spanish is now available. Concerning the revised CITES Model Law, the European Union has kindly provided the Secretariat with a Portuguese translation of the Model Law that is currently being used by Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe. The Secretariat is currently working on the translation of the revised Model Law in Arabic and Russian.

⁴ See document SC78 Doc. 33.1 on Implementation of Article XIII and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on CITES compliance procedures.

⁵ See document SC78 Doc. 33.6 on Implementation of Article XIII in Ecuador and Peru.

Cooperation with FAO

31. To support national authorities with CITES implementation, the CITES Secretariat and the Development Law Service (LEGN) of the FAO Legal Office have continued working together on matters relating to capacity-building on legislation and legal acquisition findings.⁶ Pursuant to Decision 19.130, the Secretariat has also worked with LEGN on the development of the legal database “[CITES-LEX](#)”⁷, to facilitate access to legislation and related information relevant to the international trade in CITES-listed species and other materials and resources to support legal risk assessments on legal acquisition findings.
32. The Secretariat also participated in an event for the validation of the revised Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme legal diagnostic tool in June 2024 at the FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy. The SWM Programme provides tailored support to strengthen national legislation on sustainable wildlife management. This tool will be used to conduct/update cross-sectoral analysis of national legal and regulatory frameworks enabling the sustainable management of wildlife by integrating One Health and community rights-based approaches, as well as the key principles of relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements and sustainable development agendas. This mission was organized in the framework of the cooperation agreement signed between the Secretariat and FAO.
33. The support provided to Parties described in paragraphs 26 to 32 above was made possible through the generous contribution of the European Union, Switzerland, and the United States of America. The Secretariat appreciates the support provided in this regard.

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

34. Pursuant to Decision 19.62, paragraph e), the Secretariat shall “*subject to available resources, 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 submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee for consideration including, as appropriate, possible amendments to relevant Resolutions, including to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) on Permits and certificates.*”
35. As reported in document SC77 [SC77 Doc. 31 \(Rev. 1\)](#), various Parties have solicited the Secretariat for guidance on how to implement the Convention in “exceptional circumstances”, and specifically how to allow trade and issue the necessary permits and certificates in case of a major weather event, when the Management Authority representatives no longer have access to their offices and/or to official CITES permits and stamps due to armed conflict, or when live animals need to be moved in emergency for their survival.
36. It is the Secretariat’s opinion that the occurrence of “exceptional circumstances” essentially raises the question of the conciliation of two potentially opposed objectives:
 - a) On the one hand, it is important to ensure that the occurrence of such circumstances does not prevent legitimate trade to continue; for instance, trade concerning the development of science or the rescue of live animals under imminent risk;
 - b) On the other hand, it is essential to ensure that any guidance developed to cover “exceptional circumstances” does not create a loophole allowing trade to be conducted in breach of the provisions of the Convention.
37. The Secretariat notes that “exceptional circumstances” are not limited to a specific type of situation but, on the contrary, would cover any circumstances “that impede the proper functioning of CITES at the national level”. From the legal point of view, such “exceptional circumstances” could thus be understood through the concepts of “impossibility of performance” or “*force majeure*” existing under public international law.
38. Although sharing some core substantive elements, these two concepts are intrinsically different. The impossibility of performance refers to circumstances invoked as grounds for terminating or withdrawing from a treaty or, in case of the impossibility being temporary, suspending the implementation of a treaty.

⁶ See documents SC78 Doc. 33.6 on Implementation of Article XIII in Ecuador and Peru and SC78 Doc. 47 on Legal acquisition findings.

⁷ See document SC78 Doc. 47 on Legal acquisition findings.

This customary rule of international law has been codified in Article 61 of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

39. *Force majeure* refers to circumstances precluding the wrongfulness of State conduct otherwise contrary to its international obligations. *Force majeure* has been codified in Article 23 of the International Law Commission draft articles on state responsibility, which states: “*The wrongfulness of an act of a State not in conformity with an international obligation of that State is precluded if the act is due to force majeure, that is the occurrence of an irresistible force or of an unforeseen event, beyond the control of the State, making it materially impossible in the circumstances to perform the obligation.*”
40. The two concepts therefore differ in that the former is a principle solely related to the law of treaties, while the latter is a concept used with regard to State responsibility for internationally wrongful act, which has a larger scope than the sole question of non-execution of a treaty obligation. Yet, it is also recognized that the two concepts are linked in the sense that the “impossibility of performance” is a variety of *force majeure* adapted to the law of treaties.⁸ Both concepts could therefore be useful in developing guidance concerning “exceptional circumstances”, that is to say, situations where the Convention could not be fully implemented by Parties.
41. Public international law provides that the “impossibility of performance” under Article 61 of the Vienna Convention refer to situations that “objectively create a material impossibility of performing the treaty.”⁹ This material impossibility can then be considered under the criteria characterising *force majeure*:
- a) an irresistible force or an unforeseen event,
 - b) beyond the control of the State, and
 - c) making it materially impossible in the circumstances to perform the obligation.¹⁰

International law further indicates that the “*material impossibility of performance giving rise to force majeure may be due to a natural or physical event (e.g. stress of weather which may divert State aircraft into the territory of another State, earthquakes, floods or drought) or to human intervention (e.g. loss of control over a portion of the State’s territory as a result of an insurrection or devastation of an area by military operations carried out by a third State), or some combination of the two. Certain situations of duress or coercion involving force imposed on the State may also amount to force majeure.*”¹¹ However, *force majeure* does not include circumstances in which performance of an obligation has become more difficult, for example due to some political or economic crisis.¹² The situation must also be irresistible, in the sense that the State concerned has no real possibility of escaping its effects. Finally, the suspension of implementation of the treaty should be limited to the duration of the period where circumstances truly impede the implementation of the agreement, and Parties facing such situations should revert to a full implementation of the treaty as soon as circumstances allow, in order to preserve the stability of treaty relations as much as possible.

42. The Secretariat is of the view that these concepts of public international law provide guiding principles that could inform or be included in any guidance on exceptional circumstances impeding the proper functioning of CITES at the national level, such as:
- a) The existence of irresistible or unforeseen circumstances, beyond the control of the Parties, and making it materially impossible in the circumstances to implement the rules of the Convention;
 - b) The possibility, in such circumstances, to suspend fully or partially the implementation of the Convention;

⁸ BODEAU-LIVINEC P., MORGAN-FOSTER J., “Article 61: Supervening impossibility of performance”, in CORTEN O., KLEIN P. (eds), *The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties Vol. 1*, Oxford, 2011, p. 1394.

⁹ BODEAU-LIVINEC P., MORGAN-FOSTER J., *opere citato*, p. 1384 and p. 1394.

¹⁰ BODEAU-LIVINEC P., MORGAN-FOSTER J., *op. cit.*, p. 1395.

¹¹ *Draft articles on Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts, with commentaries, 2001, adopted by the International Law Commission at its fifty-third session, in 2001, and submitted to the General Assembly as a part of the Commission’s report covering the work of that session (A/56/10).*

¹² *Idem.*

- c) The necessity to continue to implement the Convention, including ensuring the normal issuance of permits and certificates to the greatest extent possible; and
 - d) The return to a full implementation of the Convention as soon as possible.
43. However, it would seem necessary to consider additional elements that would ease the Parties' practice in such circumstances, while ensuring that no illegal trade takes place. Such elements could include:
- a) Informing the Parties and the Secretariat concerning the circumstances being faced by the Party invoking exceptional circumstances;
 - b) Informing the Parties and the Secretariat concerning the measures envisaged to pursue the trade in CITES-listed species during the occurrence of the exceptional circumstances if the normal issuance of permits and certificates is no longer possible; or
 - c) Informing the Parties and the Secretariat concerning such measures prior to their implementation of such measures; and
 - d) Informing the Parties and the Secretariat as soon as the situation is stabilized, and the full implementation of the Convention is resumed.
44. It is also worth recalling that, regardless of the circumstances, in accordance with the recommendations in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, importing Parties should exercise due diligence when presented with a CITES permit or certificate, even if they believe it to have been issued by a competent authority, when they have a reason to believe that the CITES specimens may not have been traded in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.
45. The Secretariat notes that it would be valuable to obtain inputs from Parties having experienced situations that could be qualified as exceptional circumstances, information on measures taken to manage such situations, and potential best practices. The Secretariat would also welcome other comments on the suggested draft guidance contained in paragraphs 42-44 above and suggests inviting further inputs through a Notification to the Parties.

Review of progress by the Standing Committee

46. Pursuant to Decisions 19.60 and 19.61, the Standing Committee is expected to review progress of Parties in adopting legislation for the effective implementation of the Convention and to take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or to take significant and substantive steps to do so. Decision 19.61 provides that such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade in particular with regard to Parties requiring attention as a priority.
47. At the time of writing, the progress of nine countries has been assessed as insufficient since they have failed to report progress or to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention despite being Parties to the Convention for several years, support and/or advice provided by the Secretariat and, for some, the significant volumes of trade that they authorize:
- Afghanistan: no update since August 2019
 - Antigua and Barbuda: no update since June 2020
 - Cabo Verde: no update since August 2019
 - Chad: no update since August 2019
 - Eritrea: no update since December 2021
 - Iraq: no update since March 2021
 - Myanmar: no update July 2020
 - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: no update since February 2020

- Syrian Arab Republic: no update since December 2021.

In accordance with Decisions 19.60 and 19.61, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be taken with regard to these nine countries.

48. In addition, as indicated in paragraphs 11 and 12 above, the Secretariat also recommends that compliance measures also be taken with regard to Comoros, Lebanon, and Mongolia.

Recommendations

49. The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) commend Andorra, Botswana, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sierra Leone and Tunisia for the efforts leading to their legislation being placed in Category 1 and other Parties or territories that have made substantial progress in adopting measures for the effective implementation of the Convention;
- b) agree on a recommendation to all Parties to suspend trade in all CITES-listed species for commercial purposes with Comoros, Lebanon, and Mongolia. The Secretariat shall inform the Parties concerned of this measure immediately after the present meeting. The recommendation shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed unless the Party concerned adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or takes significant and substantive steps to do so. Upon the expiry of the 60 days after the recommendation is agreed, the Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties informing them of the recommendations to suspend commercial trade taking effect from that date;
- c) request the Secretariat to issue a formal warning to the Parties that have not reported any legislative progress for more than three years, requesting them to immediately take steps to ensure progress before SC81 and to report such progress to the Secretariat 90 days before the 81st meeting of the Standing Committee. At the time of writing, this includes:
 - Afghanistan: first formal warning;
 - Antigua and Barbuda: first formal warning;
 - Cabo Verde: first formal warning;
 - Chad: first formal warning;
 - Eritrea: first formal warning;
 - Iraq: first formal warning;
 - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: first formal warning; and
 - the Syrian Arab Republic: first formal warning.
- d) consider the preliminary elements of a draft 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
- e) request the Secretariat, taking into account any comments made by the Standing Committee, to make this Guidance available on the CITES website before the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

50. The Standing Committee is also invited to recognize and welcome the support provided by Parties, development partners as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the development and adoption of national measures to effectively implement and enforce the Convention.

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS FOR IMPLEMENTING CITES
(UPDATED DECEMBER 2024)**

PARTIES WITH LEGISLATION IN CATEGORY 1
Parties in bold have been added since SC77

Albania	Kuwait	United Republic of Tanzania
Andorra	Lao People's Democratic Republic	United States of America
Angola	Latvia	Uruguay
Argentina	Liechtenstein	Vanuatu
Australia	Lithuania	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Austria	Luxembourg	Viet Nam
Bahamas	Madagascar	Yemen
Barbados	Malaysia	Zimbabwe
Belgium	Malawi	
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Maldives	
Botswana	Malta	
Brazil	Mauritania	
Brunei Darussalam	Mauritius	
Bulgaria	Mexico	
Cambodia	Monaco	
Cameroon	Morocco	
Canada	Namibia	
Chile	Netherlands	
China	New Zealand	
Colombia	Nicaragua	
Costa Rica	Nigeria	
Croatia	Norway	
Cuba	Pakistan	
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	Sierra Leone	
Guatemala	Singapore	
Guinea-Bissau	Slovakia	
Guyana	Slovenia	
Honduras	Solomon Islands	
Hungary	South Africa	
Iceland	Spain	
India	Sweden	
Indonesia	Switzerland	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Thailand	
Ireland	Tunisia	
Israel	Türkiye	
Italy	Ukraine	
Jamaica	United Arab Emirates	
Japan	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
Jordan		

Table 1: Parties, except recently acceded Parties, with legislation in Category 2 or 3¹³

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
1	Afghanistan	28.01.1986	3	Enabling environmental legislation enacted. Implementing regulations have been prepared and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis but in national language only. Awaiting finalisation of regulations and translation. No answer to any request for update from the Secretariat since August 2019.	Finalization and submission of draft revised legislation and implementing regulations to the Secretariat for review.	Aug.2019
2	Algeria	21.02.1984	2	Draft legislation presented to the Council of Ministers on 3 July 2022. Revised draft sent to Secretariat on 10 March 2024. Various legislative reviews and exchanges. Last revised draft and legislative review by the Secretariat on 31 October 2024. Revised legislation should allow for move to Category 1.	Transmission of the draft to Parliament, adoption and promulgation. Agreement between Algeria and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Oct. 2024
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. No answer to any request for update from the Secretariat since June 2020.	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	2	Elements of CITES covered in existing legislation translated and submitted to the Secretariat. Additional legislation / regulations being developed, with advice from the Secretariat. Legislative analysis done by the Secretariat in August 2023 and comments provided to Armenia. Follow up in November 2023 and early 2024. Revised legislative analysis pending with the Secretariat.	Finalisation of revised legislation / regulations by Armenia. Agreement between Armenia and the Secretariat on the legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Feb. 2024
5	Azerbaijan	21.02.1999	2	CITES legislation enacted. English translation provided to the Secretariat. First formal warning issued at SC74. Second formal warning issued at SC77. Guidance requested by Azerbaijan in Nov. 2023. Further guidance on 18.12.2023. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024 and meeting proposed, as requested by Azerbaijan. No answer received.	Agreement between AZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2023
6	Bahrain	17.11.2012	2	Legislation adopted and published in March 2021. Legislative analysis done in July 2023. Request for clarifications was sent to Bahrain.	Agreement between BH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2023

¹³ **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
				Answer by Bahrain in Nov. 2023. Analysis made by the Secretariat on 17.11.2023. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024.		
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. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024. Bangladesh still working on revising its draft legislation. Further Advice provided in March 2024.	Article XIII process ongoing. Finalization and submission of implementing regulations. Agreement between BD and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	March 2024
8	Belarus	08.11.1995	2	First formal warning issued at SC74. Enabling and implementing legislation enacted. Legislations and regulations translated in English sent to the Secretariat in Oct. 2023. Legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 23.10.2023. Further submission by Belarus in Nov. 2023. Various exchanges and legislative analysis conducted between Dec. 2023 and March 2024.	Agreement between BY and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	March. 2024
9	Belize	21.09.1981	2	Bill introduced to Parliament in September 2020. Due to change of government, the bill was put on hold. In Nov. 2021, the bill was reintroduced to the Cabinet and was expected to be reintroduced to Parliament in 2022. Legislative analysis and request for clarifications sent in July 2023. Legislative analysis by the Secretariat in August 2023. No answers to requests for update sent in Oct., Nov. 2023, and Jan., Feb. 2024.	Legislation ready to move to Category 1 when appointment of SA is finalised. This appointment might be done by September.	Aug. 2023
10	Benin	28.05.1984	2	SSFA with the Secretariat completed. CITES legislation enacted in July 2021. Implementing regulations being developed; comments provided by the Secretariat. Update submitted by Benin on 19 Feb. 2024 with copies of the enacted law and draft regulations. Full legislative analysis done 11.4.2024.	Finalization and submission of implementing regulations. Agreement by Benin and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	April 2024
11	Bhutan	13.11.2002	2	Comments by the Secretariat provided on draft legislation. Updates received from Bhutan in May, Oct. and Nov. 2024. Legislation adopted. Three legislative analyses conducted by the Secretariat.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation. Agreement by Bhutan and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Oct. 2024
12	Bosnia and Herzegovina	21.04.2009	2	Legislation enacted and published. Submitted in English for analysis and placed in Category 2. First formal warning issued at SC74. Engagement with the Secretariat in	Identified gaps in national legislation to be addressed by BA. Agreement by BA and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including	June 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				October 2023, for submission of updated legislation. Second formal warning issued at SC77. Update on national legislation received in Jan. 2024. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat sent on 27 Feb. 2024. Further exchanges and analysis by the Secretariat in June 2024.	possible Category 1 status.	
	Botswana	12.02.1978	1	Finalization and submission of revised legislation. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Legislation placed in Category 1.	Nov. 2024
13	Burkina Faso	11.01.1990	2	Commitment at ministerial level to prepare draft legislation in the form of a decree. Formal request for assistance. Letter received on 19 Feb. 2024, BF to submit a full update soon. However, no update received.	Preparation of draft legislation and sharing with the Secretariat for analysis.	March 2022
14	Burundi	06.11.1988	2	CITES enabling legislation enacted in 2011 and submitted to the Secretariat in 2016. Certain gaps identified by the Secretariat. A consultant was hired in Burundi to work on the legislation. New draft legislation prepared. Comments provided by the Secretariat in Nov. 2021. Finalized draft legislation submitted to the Council of Ministers for further analysis. Estimated date for enactment is by end of year 2023. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024. No answer received.	Endorsement draft legislation from the Council of Ministers. Adoption and promulgation. Agreement by Burundi and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Feb. 2024
15	Cabo Verde	08.11.2005	3	Strong commitment to prepare legislation. Legislative plan in place but progress is slow. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024. No answer received.	Preparation of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed.	Aug.2019
16	Central African Republic	25.11.1980	3	Draft legislation prepared and comments provided by the Secretariat. Comments sent to CAR in May 2022. Update on 19 Feb. 2024: legislative work is relaunched. CAR submits its Code on Fauna and draft implementing decrees. Full legislative analysis done by the Secretariat on 4 June 2024.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation. Agreement between CF and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	June 2024
17	Chad	03.05.1989	2	Draft amendment law and specific CITES regulation to be prepared. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024. No answer received.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; drafting assistance possibly needed.	Aug. 2019
18	Comoros	21.02.1995	3	SSFA with the Secretariat completed. Comments on draft legislation provided by Secretariat. Delays in the validation of the draft due to Covid-19. No update in 2022 / 2023. Recommendation to suspend trade at SC77. Guidance	Finalization and submission of the legislation to the Secretariat for analysis. Agreement between Comoros and Secretariat on revised legislative	Feb. 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				sent on 15.11.2023. Updated draft law received on 30 Jan. 2024. Legislative analysis sent on 1 Feb. 2024. Trade suspension not implemented. No report on any progress on legislation since Feb. 2024.	analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	
19	Congo	01.05.1983	2	Observations on draft legislation provided by Secretariat in early 2019. Recommendation to suspend trade at SC77. Draft legislation and revised legislative calendar sent 29 Nov. 2023. Legislative reviews done 5, 18 and 22 Dec. 2023. Trade suspension not implemented. Regular updates on progress received in 2024. Legislation finalised and estimated date of adoption: first quarter 2025.	Finalization and adoption of the legislation by Congo. Agreement between Congo and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Sept. 2024
20	Côte d'Ivoire	19.02.1995	2	SSFA with the CITES Secretariat completed. Comments by the Secretariat on revised draft law and regulations. Draft CITES legislation received on 19 Feb. 2024. Full legislative analysis done in March 2024. CITES legislation and other environmental legislations adopted in June 2024. Update received in Oct. 2024. Revised legislative analysis by the Secretariat in Dec. 2024. Legislation moving to Category 2, and clarifications being sought from Côte d'Ivoire to consider move to Category 1.	Clarifications being sought from Côte d'Ivoire to consider possible Category 1 status.	Dec. 2024
21	Djibouti	07.05.1992	3	Subject to a recommendation to suspend all commercial trade since 30 April 2004. Letter from the Secretariat to Djibouti in March 2019. No response and no progress. Update received in July 2023. Analysis by the Secretariat in Aug. 2023. Further elements and copy of the Environmental Code provided by DJ on 15 Nov. 2023. Revised legislative analysis by the Secretariat on 21 Dec. 2023. Meeting with Sec. and further NLP guidance on 5 Feb. 2024.	Preparation of draft CITES legislation and submission to the Secretariat for legislative analysis. Agreement between Djibouti and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Feb. 2024
22	Dominica	02.11.1995	3	Draft legislation prepared and reviewed by DM and Secretariat. First formal warning at SC70. Second formal warning issued at SC71. Revised draft legislation April 2022. No report since 2022. Recommendation to suspend trade at SC77. Update on NLP and draft law sent on 6 Feb. 2024. Legislative analysis by the Secretariat on the same day. Trade suspension in effect. Further guidance provided during Secretariat mission to	Finalisation and adoption of CITES legislation. Agreement between DM and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	March 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				Dominica in March 2024. No update received since.		
23	Ecuador	01.07.1975	2	Legislation enacted but gaps identified by the Secretariat. No update in 2022 and 2023. Full report on legislative framework and updated legislative calendar submitted at SC77. Analysis by Secretariat at SC77. Further update and full legislative analysis done by the Secretariat on 21 May 2024. Further exchanges with the Secretariat in 2024 and during a mission in Sept. 2024.	Article XIII process ongoing. Finalization of implementing legislation. Agreement between Ecuador and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including for placement in Category 1.	Sept. 2024
24	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. No update received since Dec. 2021.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; agreement between Eritrea and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis.	Dec. 2021
25	Eswatini	27.05.1997	2	Comprehensive revised draft legislation finalized and submitted. Submission draft legislative bill in May 2024. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 8 August 2024. Update on national legislation and designation of authorities received in Oct. 2024. Legislation adopted. Further analysis by the Secretariat.	Adoption and enactment of legislation. Agreement between Eswatini and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including for placement in Category 1.	Oct. 2024
26	Gabon	14.05.1989	2	Comments provided by the Secretariat on draft legislation in January 2017. Revised draft submitted in July 2018. Observations on revised draft prepared by the Secretariat in 2019. Update on NLP and CITES Decree received in June 2024. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat in Oct. 2024.	Finalization and submission of revised legislation. Agreement between Gabon and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including for placement in Category 1.	Oct. 2024
27	The Gambia	24.11.1977	2	SSFA with the UNEP completed. Draft Bill finalized and validated by all CITES Stakeholders. Update received on 20 Feb. 2024: Gambia still working on its draft bill. Revised draft bill and January 2024 comments from Government shared with the Secretariat. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 16 April 2024.	Cabinet approval and submission of legislation. Agreement between GH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including the need for implementing legislation.	April 2024
28	Ghana	12.02.1976	3	Bill has been through second reading in Parliament. Submission Wildlife Resources Management Act 2023 in May 2024. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 8 August 2024.	Enactment, and submission to the Secretariat for analysis. Agreement between GH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including the need for implementing legislation.	August 2024
29	Grenada	28.11.1999	3	Draft legislation prepared and reviewed by GD and Secretariat; formal request for assistance. First	Finalization and submission of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed.	March 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				formal warning SC70. Second formal warning at SC71. Revised legislative analysis conducted by the Secretariat and request for clarifications sent in July 2023. Further guidance provided during Secretariat mission to Grenada in March 2024.	Agreement between Grenada and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including the need for implementing legislation.	
30	Guinea	20.12.1981	2	Subject to a recommendation to suspend trade since 16 May 2013. Several decrees adopted in 2019 and 2020. Observations by the Secretariat in July 2020. Objective to replace various instruments by one single decree to facilitate implementation and enforcement. Consultant recruited under CAP to draft this decree and share it with the Secretariat. Meeting Secretariat and submission revised legislation in April 2024. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 14 May 2024. Draft legislation finalized and submitted for adoption.	Finalization and submission of new CITES decree for legislative new analysis by the Secretariat. Follow-up under CAP.	May 2024
31	Iraq	06.05.2014	3	National committee for the preparation of national CITES legislation established. Observations on draft legislation provided by the Secretariat. Online meeting in July 2020. Request for update sent on 18 Feb. 2024. No answer received.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation and submission to the Secretariat for analysis.	March 2021
32	Kazakhstan	19.04.2000	2	Legislation enacted and submitted in English in July 2016. Legislation reviewed various times by the Secretariat from 2016 to 2022. Submission of amendments being prepared in July 2023. Legislative analysis conducted by the Secretariat in Aug. 2023. Further information provided in Nov. 2023. Revised legislative analysis on 30 Nov. 2023.	Clarifications and potential amendment of legislation. Agreement between KZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2023
33	Kenya	13.03.1979	2	Wildlife legislation enacted, but amendments underway to address concerns raised by the Secretariat in 2021/2022. Update on legislation sent on 3 Nov. 2023. First formal warning issued by SC77. Legislative analysis done by Secretariat in Nov.2023. Update received in Nov. 2024: Kenya to repeal existing legislation and replace it by new legislation. Legislative committee established.	Finalisation of new legislation. Agreement between KE and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2024
34	Kyrgyzstan	02.09.2007	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. First formal warning issued at SC74. Request for assistance and national legislation submitted in Oct. 2023. Second formal warning issued	Finalization and adoption of revised legislation. Agreement between KG and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Dec. 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				by SC77. Legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 5 Dec.2023. Further analysis done in Oct. and December 2024.		
	Lao People's Democratic Republic	30.05.2004	1	Finalization and submission of revised legislation. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Legislation placed in Category 1.	Nov. 2024
35	Lebanon	26.05.2013	3	Initial consultations between LB and the Secretariat. First formal warning issued at SC74. Second formal warning issued at SC77. No update received on legislation since Oct. 2016.	Transmission of existing CITES-related legislation to the Secretariat for analysis.	Oct. 2016
36	Lesotho	30.12.2003	3	Environmental legislation enacted. Comments provided by the Secretariat on revised draft legislation. SSFA with UNEP completed. Delays due to COVID19 in 2020/2021 and change of Government in 2022. New update received in March 2024. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat on 6 June 2024.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation. Agreement between Lesotho and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	June 2024
37	Liberia	09.06.1981	2	Subject to a recommendation to suspend commercial trade since 15 March 2016. New wildlife legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat. Revised draft amendment to the National Wildlife Conservation and Protected Area Management Law has been submitted to the Secretariat. Comments provided by the Secretariat in Oct. 2021. A revised draft (Nov. 2021) was submitted to the Secretariat in Aug. 2023. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat. Draft currently pending with the Liberian Legislature. Legislation placed in Category 2 at SC77. No update since SC77.	Finalisation and adoption of amended legislation. Agreement between LR and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis including possible Category 1 status.	Aug. 2023
38	Libya	28.04.2003	3	Draft legislation prepared but no translation provided to Secretariat. First formal warning at SC70. Second formal warning at SC71. Exchanges about an English version in 2022. No update received since May 2022. Recommendation to suspend trade at SC77. Trade suspension in effect.	Finalisation and translation of legislation. Agreement between LY and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	May 2022
39	Mali	16.10.1994	2	Legislation provided to the Secretariat for analysis. Gaps in legislation to be addressed. New update received on 25 March 2024. Full legislative analysis done by the Secretariat on 6 August 2024.	Finalization of legislation and submission for enactment. Agreement between Mali and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category	Aug. 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
					1 status.	
40	Mongolia	04.04.1996	2	First formal warning after SC69. Comments provided by the Secretariat on draft revision of legislation in August 2019. Update on national legislation received in Nov. 2023. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat sent on 29 Jan. 2024.	Finalization of draft and submission for enactment. Adoption and submission to the Secretariat for analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Jan. 2024
41	Montenegro	03.06.2006	2	CITES enabling legislation enacted in 2016. First formal warning issued at SC74. Rulebook on Trade in protected wild species of plants, animals, and fungi enacted in 2017. Legislative analysis sent to Montenegro in August 2023. No update received since August 2023.	Agreement between ME and the Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Aug. 2023
42	Mozambique	23.06.1981	2	CITES-specific legislation enacted. A comprehensive implementing regulation (Decree 34/2016) has been adopted and submitted to the Secretariat. Regulations translated in English in Aug. 2023 and transmitted to the Secretariat for legislative analysis. Comments and clarifications sent to Mozambique. Additional full legislative analysis done by the Secretariat in July and further in September 2024. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Legislation pending adoption. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Oct. 2024
43	Myanmar	11.09.1997	2	Revised CITES legislation enacted in May 2018. Implementing rules and regulations have been submitted for adoption by the Government. No update on legislation received since July 2020.	Finalization, adoption and submission of implementing rules; agreement between MM and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis	July 2020
44	Nepal	16.09.1975	2	Legislation enacted in April 2017 and in force; recently submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. Implementing regulations have been promulgated in 2019. Update received on 19 Feb. 2024: 2017 CITES Act translated in English, awaiting translation of implementing regulations.	Submission of English translation of the implementing regulations to the Secretariat for analysis; agreement between Nepal and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Cat. 1 status.	Feb. 2024
45	Niger	07.12.1975	2	Comprehensive legislation adopted by Parliament and submitted to the Secretariat. Update received in Feb. 2024: transfer 2019 CITES Law and draft regulations for analysis. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 6 March 2024. Additional update and legislative analysis done in Oct. 2024.	Implementing regulations to be finalized and submitted to the Secretariat for revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Oct. 2024
46	North Macedonia	02.10.2000	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted in English to the Secretariat. Comments provided in August 2016. Formal warning issued at SC70. Second formal warning	Finalisation and adoption of the legislation. Agreement between MK and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including	August 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				issued at SC77. Update on development new CITES law received 27 Dec. 2023. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat on 29 Dec. 2023. Second legislative analysis done on 6 August 2024.	possible Category 1 status.	
47	Oman	17.06.2008	2	First formal warning at SC70. Second formal warning at SC71. Draft legislation received in Feb. 2020. Comments by Secretariat in March 2020. Online meeting in July 2020. Revised draft law submitted and comments provided. New update in August 2023; however identical to the one from Feb. 2020. Recommendation to suspend trade at SC77. Trade suspension in effect. Numerous emails with MA, WTO PR and Kuwait to provide detailed guidance to Oman. Various legislative analysis of the CITES Law and draft regulations. Various meetings held in person and online. Legislation moved to Category 2. Draft regulations are finalised. Adoption would allow for move to Category 1.	Trade suspension in effect. Adoption of the Regulations complementing the Law on wildlife would move the legislation of Oman to Category 1.	Nov. 2024
48	Palau	15.07.2004	3	Secretariat provided comments on comprehensive draft legislation in Dec. 2014. Legislative analysis conducted by the Secretariat on updated draft legislation and comments provided in July 2023. Last update received 19 Feb. 2024: revised draft legislation submitted to the Bureau of Environment for review.	Endorsement of the updated draft legislation by the Minister and issuance of the final draft legislation (Est. date: September 2023). Enactment and adoption of the legislation.	Feb. 2024
49	Philippines	16.11.1981	2	CITES enabling and implementing legislation enacted. Observations on the draft legislation provided in Feb. 2020. Submission of a revised timetable to finalize the Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) on Introduction from the Sea to the Secretariat in August 2023: New estimated date of publication of the FAO: May 2024. Request for update sent 18 Feb. 2024. Update on 16 April 2024: FAO on IFS finalized and scheduled for public consultation.	Agreement between PH and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	April 2024
50	Rwanda	18.01.1981	2	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. Legislative analysis conducted by the Secretariat in Aug. 2023. Comments and request for	Agreement between RW and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	August 2023

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				clarifications sent to Rwanda. Legislation placed in Category 2 at SC77. No update received from Rwanda since August 2023.		
51	Saint Lucia	15.03.1983	2	Comments by the Secretariat provided on draft legislation. Clarifications to be provided by LC. Update received in March 2024. The 2019 draft CITES Regulations are still pending. Full legislative analysis done by Secretariat on 14 May 2024. Additional support and training requested from the Secretariat in Oct./Nov 2024. Initial support provided to Saint Lucia.	Finalization and submission of draft implementing legislation. Agreement between LC and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	May 2024
52	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	28.02.1989	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. Observations provided by the Secretariat. Request for update sent 18 Feb. 2024. Holding answer received on 5 March 2024. But no update received on NLP since Feb. 2020.	Finalisation of legislation and transmission to the Secretariat for analysis. Agreement between VC and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Feb. 2020
53	Samoa	07.02.2005	3	Draft legislation prepared. Assistance provided by NZ. Revised draft legislation prepared and submitted for enactment. Revised draft sent to Secretariat for analysis. Legislative analysis sent in Nov. 2023. Additional guidance Dec. 2023. Further revised draft in Jan. 2024 and revised legislative analysis on 12 Feb. 2024. Updated legislative analysis on 5 August 2024.	Submission of legislation. Agreement between LC and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Aug. 2024
54	Sao Tome and Principe	07.11.2001	3	Commitment to prepare draft legislation. No recent information on status. Second formal warning at SC71. Under suspension of all commercial trade since 7 May 2022. Proposal for meeting with FAO LEGN to discuss development of CITES legislation, 29 Nov. 2023. Meeting held on 21 Feb. 2024 to discuss legislation, annual reports, and capacity-building. Follow-up meeting on 16 Sept. 2024.	Trade suspension in effect. Preparation of draft legislation; drafting assistance needed.	Sept. 2024
55	Seychelles	09.05.1977	2	Enabling legislation adopted. Implementing regulations under preparation with the Attorney General's Office. Update received on 20 Feb. 2024 and submission CITES regulations for analysis. Full legislative analysis done by the Secretariat on 6 March 2024. Further revisions and legislative analysis by the Secretariat in Oct. and Nov. 2024.	Finalization of implementing regulations and transmission to the Secretariat. Agreement between Seychelles and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2024
	Sierra Leone	26.01.1995	1	Finalization and submission of revised legislation. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat.	Legislation placed in Category 1.	Feb. 2024

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
				Legislation ready for Category 1.		
56	Somalia	02.03.1986	3	Subject to a recommendation to suspend all commercial trade since 30 July 2004. Observations provided on revised draft legislation in Nov. 2019. No report since. Request support on NLP on 6 Feb. 2024. Preliminary guidance provided by the Secretariat on 12 Feb. 2024.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation for revised legislative analysis by the Secretariat.	Feb. 2024
57	Sri Lanka	02.08.1979	3	Draft and comprehensive revised draft legislation prepared and submitted for enactment. Implementing regulation underway. Legislative analysis conducted in Aug. 2023. Final draft regulations transmitted to the Secretariat on 1 st Nov. 2023. Analysis sent on 21 Nov. 2023. No update on NLP received since Nov. 2023.	Finalization of implementing regulations and agreement between LK and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2023
58	Sudan	24.01.1983	2	Draft revised legislation submitted to parliament several years ago. Sudan submitted draft legislation, but gaps still need to be addressed. Formal warning at SC70. Engagement with the Secretariat in 2022/2023. Full legislative analysis of 1986 Wildlife Law done in Dec. 2023. Advice on preparation of CITES Regulations provided by the Secretariat in Jan. 2024. Legislative analysis of draft Regulations done on 15 May 2024.	Review by SD and Secretariat and necessary revision/updating of legislation to align it with the requirements of the Convention.	May 2024
59	Suriname	15.02.1981	2	CITES legislation enacted and submitted to the Secretariat for analysis. Gaps identified. Legislation addressed through CAP. Regular reports submitted under the CAP. Last update Nov. 2024.	Revised legislation to be developed to address identified gaps. Further submission to the Secretariat for review.	Nov. 2024
60	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. No update on legislation received since Dec. 2021.	Review/revision of draft legislation by SY and Secretariat; finalization and submission of draft legislation.	Dec. 2021
61	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. Update received 19 Feb. 2024: transfer draft CITES legislation and draft regulations for analysis. Full analysis done by the Secretariat on 11 April 2024.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation. Agreement between Togo and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	April 2024
62	Trinidad and Tobago	18.04.1984	2	Comprehensive draft legislation prepared and reviewed by Secretariat; commitment at Ministerial level to complete the legislative process; formal request for assistance. No update on legislation received since March 2022.	Finalization and submission of draft legislation.	March 2022

	Party	Entry into force of the Convention	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps	Last update
	Tunisia	01.07.1975	1	Finalization and submission of legislation. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Legislation placed in Category 1.	Sept. 2024
63	Uganda	16.10.1991	3	Enabling legislation adopted by the Parliament in late 2019. Implementing regulations drafted and comments provided by the Secretariat. Revised draft of regulations and comments provided by the Secretariat in Feb. 2022. New update received on 31 Jan. 2024: transfer draft CITES legislation for review. Full legislative analysis done on 4 Nov. and additional comments 11 Nov. 2024. Legislation almost ready for Category 1.	Finalization of implementing regulations, followed by agreement between UG and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2024
64	Uzbekistan	08.10.1997	2	Draft revised legislation prepared and comments by the Secretariat in July 2018. Meeting with the new CITES Focal Point in Aug. 2021 to address gaps in the draft legislation. Draft legislation further revised in 2021/2022. Legislative analysis by the Secretariat in Aug. 2023. New update received in Feb. 2024: comments on draft CITES UZ working on a revised version for resubmission in 2024.	Finalization and submission of revised legislation to CITES Secretariat for further legislative analysis. Agreement between UZ and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Feb. 2024
65	Zambia	22.02.1981	2	CITES Statutory Instrument enacted. Comments provided by Secretariat in Jan. 2018. First formal warning issued at SC74. New Wildlife Bill being drafted. CITES Statutory Instrument to be revised after adoption of the redrafted Wildlife Bill. Legislative analysis of both instruments sent in Aug. 2023. Further updates received in Feb. and in Dec. 2024. Draft amended Bill pending with Ministry of Justice for final official drafting. Adoption expected for second quarter 2025.	Finalization and submission of revised draft Bill and transmission for legislative analysis. Agreement between Zambia and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Dec. 2024

Table 2: Recently acceded Parties¹⁴

	Party	Entry into force	Cat.	Progress summary	Next steps/needs	Last update
	Andorra	04.01. 2022	1	Finalization and submission of legislation. Full legislative analysis by the Secretariat. Legislation ready for Category 1.	Legislation placed in Category 1.	Nov. 2023
	Tajikistan	30.03.2016	3	Consultations between TJ and Secretariat are in early stages. Formal request for assistance. No update on national legislation received since May 2018. Tajikistan is no longer consider a recently acceded Party and will be included in the Table 1 in Category 3.	Review of existing CITES-related legislation and preparation of draft to fill possible gaps.	May 2018
	Tonga	20.10.2016	2	Draft CITES regulations prepared with inputs from the CITES Secretariat and submitted to the Ministry of the Environment for approval before being submitted to the Minister's office. Assistance provided by NZ. Update on legislation received in Nov. 2024. National legislation pending before Parliament. Tonga is no longer consider a recently acceded Party and will be included in Table 1 above in Category 2.	Finalization of regulations. Adoption, gazetting and submission to the CITES Secretariat for analysis.	Nov. 2024
1	Turkmenistan	02.01.2025	P	Turkmenistan has acceded to the Convention. The Convention will enter into force in Turkmenistan on 2 January 2025.	/	/

¹⁴ P: Parties acceding less than eight years ago - pending submission of legislation to the Secretariat

Table 3: Dependent territories¹⁵

Dependent territory	Cat.	Dep.	Progress summary	Next steps/needs	Last update
American Samoa	1	US			
Anguilla	1	GB			
Aruba	1	NL			
Ascension	1	GB			
Bailiwick of Guernsey	1	GB			
Bailiwick of Jersey	1	GB			
Bermuda	1	GB			
British Indian Ocean Territory	1	GB			
British Virgin Islands	1	GB			
Caribbean Netherlands	1	NL			
Cayman Islands (CIG)	1	GB			
Curacao	1	NL			
French Guiana	1	FR			
French Polynesia	1	FR			
Gibraltar	1	GB			
Greenland	2	DK	Comprehensive CITES legislation enacted. Review by Greenland and Secretariat identified significant gaps. Comments provided by the Secretariat on draft revised legislation. No update received on legislation since March 2020.	Agreement by Greenland and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including Category 1 status	March 2020
Guadeloupe	1	FR			
Guam	1	US			
Hong Kong SAR	1	CN			
Isle of Man	1	GB			
Macao SAR	2	CN	Comprehensive legislation and implementing regulation adopted and entered into force in Sept. 2017. Submitted to the Secretariat in Oct. 2017. Analysis conducted 12 October 2023. Exchanges for clarifications on LAF requirement with Macao SAR MA in October, November, December 2023, and June and July 2024.	One element to clarify before possible placement of the legislation in Category 1.	July 2024
Martinique	1	FR			
Montserrat	2	GB	Amended Trade in Endangered Species Act entered into force on 31 January 2022. Work underway to amend the Act's Schedule of CITES-listed species so that it reflects the updated Appendices. The Act provides for amendment of its Schedule by Order of the Governor. Since SC77, Montserrat's Management Authority and Scientific Authority have been designated and established. Work continues to update the Act's Schedules and reflect changes in the Appendices.	Update of the schedule of species. Commencement of legislation and agreement on revised legislative analysis, including Category 1 status.	Nov. 2024

¹⁵ **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
New Caledonia	1	FR			
Northern Mariana Islands	1	US			
Pitcairn Islands	1	GB			
Puerto Rico	1	US			
Réunion	1	FR			
Saint Helena	2	GB	St Helena's Ordinance entered into force in Feb. 2016 and achieved Category 1 status, subject to MA and SA designation. MA appointed in 2017. Since SC77, St Helena continues to work towards the appointment of its Scientific Authorities.	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.	Nov. 2024
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	1	FR			
Sint Maarten	1	NL			
Tristan da Cunha	1	GB			
Virgin Islands of the United States	1	US			
Wallis and Futuna Islands	2	FR	CITES legislation enacted. No update since July 2019. Contact taken with France during SC77 but no update on legislation received since Nov. 2023 despite multiple requests.	Agreement between FR and Secretariat on revised legislative analysis, including possible Category 1 status.	Nov. 2023