



## Side Event Programme – Joint Session and Animals Committee

Room 4 (level -1, CICG Geneva)

### JOINT SESSION 12 – 13 July 2024

#### Friday, 12 July

**12:15-13:45**

##### **Launch of the CITES Export Quota Tool**

*CITES Secretariat*

The CITES Secretariat will present the new CITES Export Quota Tool before its upcoming launch. The new tool will allow Parties to upload their nationally managed export quotas directly on the CITES website. The side event will include a presentation of the tool by the CITES Secretariat, followed by a hands-on workshop allowing participating Parties to try the new tool to upload their export quotas.

**17:15-18:45**

No side event scheduled.

#### Saturday, 13 July

**12:15-13:45**

##### **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: Use and application in CITES**

*IUCN*

IUCN invites you to a side event showcasing the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and its critical role in the implementation of CITES. This session will highlight how the Red List informs and enhances CITES processes and detail important updates to the Red List since CoP19, including the first global reptile assessment, first global tree assessment and the second global shark and ray reassessment. Furthermore, experts from IUCN, SSC Specialist Groups and Red List Partnership organisations will share insights on how the Red List is helping to guide and build capacity among CITES policy makers and stakeholders through innovative scientific methods, guidance documents and online tools.

Invited speakers:

Richard Jenkins/ Oliver Tallwin - IUCN

Megan Barstow – Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Dan Challender – University of Oxford

Rima Jabado – IUCN SSC Deputy Director and IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group Chair

**17:15-18:45**

No side event scheduled.

## ANIMALS COMMITTEE

15 – 19 July 2024

### Monday, 15 July

**12:15-13:45**

#### **NDF Support Tool**

*The UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and IUCN*

This side event will introduce a new online NDF Support Tool to assist SA's with non-detriment findings. The tool brings together, for the first time, over 30 species and trade datasets used in the NDF process onto a single platform. Users can search by CITES-listed species and country/territory locations to quickly explore and compile data they need for assessments - this gives a starting point in deciding what level of risk might be posed by international trade.

Confirmed speakers include:

Claire Mclardy – UNEP-WCMC

Kelly Malsch – UNEP-WCMC

Olliver Tallowin – IUCN

**17:15-18:45**

#### **Progress toward national plans of action for seahorses (Decision 19.229)**

*IUCN*

The IUCN SSC Seahorse, Pipefish, and Seadragon Specialist Group (IUCN SPS SG) is hosting a side event where Parties will share their progress on Decision 19.229. This decision urges those with evidence of illegal or unsustainable international trade in dried seahorses to create national or regional action plans to enhance CITES implementation for these species. Several Parties have made good progress on this issue, and this event will provide an opportunity for them to share updates on their efforts and discuss future steps.

Confirmed speakers include:

Dr Sarah Foster – IUCN SPS SG, Canada

Dr Ratanawalee Phoosawat – Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Invited speakers include CITES Authority representatives from Indonesia, Peru and the Philippines.

### Tuesday, 16 July

**12:15-13:45**

No side events scheduled.

**17:15-18:45**

#### **Hidden threats beyond the fin trade: Ongoing trades impacting sharks and rays**

*Wildlife Conservation Society*

The global trade in shark meat – Presenter: Aaron MacNeil

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The trade in stingray leather and other products – Presenter: Rima Jabado

The trade in deep water shark oil – Presenter: Brit Finucci

The ongoing trade in CITES listed manta and mobula gills – Presenter: Nuno Barros

## Wednesday, 17 July

**12:15-13:45**

### **Building a wildlife economy: Sustainable use and conservation of wildlife resources**

*International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)*

The side event will focus on the importance of building a wildlife economy that balances sustainable use and conservation of wildlife resources. It will highlight the role of the wildlife economy in supporting biodiversity conservation, community livelihoods, and economic growth.

Objectives:

1. Provide a platform for diverse stakeholders: The event will bring together experts from various sectors, including government agencies, local communities, indigenous groups, and the private sector, to share insights and experiences on the wildlife economy.
2. Examine challenges and opportunities: The event will discuss the challenges and opportunities of wildlife-based economies globally, including issues related to biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource management, community empowerment, and wildlife trade regulations.
3. Highlight innovative approaches: The event will showcase successful examples of innovative approaches to sustainable wildlife management and conservation, including cost recovery programs, environmental charges, and other instruments to fund conservation efforts.

List of speakers for the opening remarks and panel discussion:

Ivonne Higuero – Secretary-General of CITES

Sebastian Winkler – Director General of the International Council of Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)

Dr. Francis Vorhis – Director, African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI), Stellenbosch University

Shane Mahoney – IUCN; Consultant to UNEP on Global Wildlife Economy Report; Founder of Conservation Visions

Hesiquio Benitez – Director of Biodiversity Cooperation and Implementation, CONABIO

Carolina Caceres – Director, International Biodiversity Policy, Canadian Wildlife Service Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada, Chair of CITES Indigenous People and Local Communities Working Group

Dr. Michael 't Sas-Rolfes – CIC Expert on the South African Wildlife Economy

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**17:15-18:45**

**The global fish maw trade, its impact on marine species including CITES listed species, and how CITES can help regulate the trade**

*Animal Welfare Institute*

This side event will examine the impact of the global trade in fish maws on target species (croakers) as well as CITES listed species including small cetaceans, sharks, rays, and other marine organisms. While CITES has engaged for years in efforts to address the illegal trade in totoaba maws to protect the vaquita porpoise, recently published scientific studies demonstrate that the trade in fish maws is expanding, is dramatically impacting various croaker species, and is adversely affecting CITES listed marine species. The side event will include presentations on; the impact of the trade on croaker species; on CITES listed dolphins, sharks, rays, and other marine species; an analysis of Mexico's ongoing efforts to implement its Compliance Action Plan on totoaba; and a concluding presentation on the actions CITES can take to understand and respond to the growing trade in fish maws. Event speakers may include Zak Smith (Natural Resources Defense Council), Tanya Sanerib (Center for Biological Diversity), DJ Schubert and Sue Fisher (Animal Welfare Institute), Stan Shea (Bloom Associates), as well as potential video presentations by a member of the IUCN Cetacean Specialist Group and Brian Smith (Wildlife Conservation Society).

**Thursday, 18 July**

**12:15-13:45**

**Integrating environmental and fisheries worlds to better conserve sharks**

*The Shark Trust*

A Shark League – WCS Side Event

International trade is a key driver in the global shark and ray overfishing crisis. Because sharks and rays are perceived as both commodities and wildlife, governments' approaches to conservation under fisheries and environment agreements are often misaligned. Proper implementation at the national level is vital to the success of international safeguards, regardless of the overarching treaty.

Analysis by the Shark League coalition, previewed at AC32, evaluates the performance of Parties to the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) with respect to various conservation obligations for Atlantic shark and ray species listed under CITES. This side event will highlight key gaps and recommendations from the final report. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) will provide global context to these findings, particularly with respect to CITES compliance action, and tools available to support Parties to implement CITES shark listings.

WCS, Shark Trust (ST), and Shark Advocates International (SAI) collaborate toward shared goals under grants from the Shark Conservation Fund. ST and SAI, along with Ecology Action Centre and PADI AWARE Foundation, are founding members of the Shark League.

Speakers:

Sonja Fordham – President, Shark Advocates International

Ali Hood – Director of Conservation, The Shark Trust

Luke Warwick – Wildlife Conservation Society

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