

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



Twenty-third meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 19-24 April 2008

Conservation and management of sharks

LINKAGES BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SHARK FINS AND MEAT AND ILLEGAL,
UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 14th meeting (The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decision:

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.117 The Animals Committee, in consultation with FAO, shall examine and report on linkages between the international trade in shark fins and meat and IUU shark fishing activities, including where possible:

- a) the main species of sharks taken by IUU fishing; and*
- b) the relative importance of fins compared to meat in international trade arising from IUU fishing.*

3. In order to assist the Animals Committee in its work, the CITES Secretariat communicated with the FAO Secretariat seeking input in relation to implementing the Decision and will report orally at the present meeting on the outcome.
4. The Secretariat suggests that it may be best for a working group to be established during the present meeting to consider this issue and provide recommendations for the Committee as to how to proceed.