

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



Twenty-eighth meeting of the Animals Committee
Tel Aviv (Israel), 30 August-3 September 2015

Species trade and conservation

Conservation and management of sharks [Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16)]

RESPONSE TO THE NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES NO. 2015/027
REQUEST FOR NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERY MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR SHARKS
INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY COLOMBIA

The attached information document has been submitted by the Management Authority of Colombia*, as response to Notification to the Parties No. 2015/027, in relation to agenda item 17.

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Colombia
Submission for Notification No. 2015/027 Request for New Information on Fishery Management Measures for Sharks

Colombia presents the main activities carried out, according to the commitments:

a) Summary of main events.

- I. International Shark Workshop:** Between of November 25 to 27/2014, Colombia Host the *CITES International Sharks Workshop: Articulation of experiences and strategies for implementing the inclusion of species in Appendix II*. The workshop was attended by representatives of 25 countries, 6 organizations, the CITES Secretariat, and 17 representatives of the country. The main objective was to assess the monitoring and control mechanisms necessary to ensure traceability of international trade of shark species and their products (fins and meat) included in CITES Appendix II, and define strategies for the development Non detrimental Findings for the newly listed species.
- II. Freshwater stingrays Expert Workshop:** This Workshop took place in Bogota, Colombia, on October 28 and 29/2014. The workshop was attended by representatives of 12 countries including expert ichthyologist's and CITES Scientific and Management Authorities.
- III. Assessment and mitigation Workshop of the implications of the CITES appendices inclusion.** Attended by members of CITES working group and livelihoods. The purpose was to conduct a dialogue on the implementation of CITES decision 16.25 to enhance a quick guide with tools and guidelines prepared by the General Secretary of OAS and CITES.
- IV. First phase CITES II shark fins Identification campaigns.** Attended by Control and monitoring Authorities (AUNAP, ICA, CARs) in marketing and high trading Cities.
- V. Trade codes associated with marine and coastal resources Workshop,** with emphasis in CITES Appendices I and II Shark Species Products (Fins and body). Attended by Environmental, Fishing and Trade Control authorities. The purpose is to develop a proposal for the decoding of the trade codes for Sharks products, because actually they are very wide and general.
- VI. Training Workshop for shark identification through its Fins, using the ISHARKFIN tool, developed by FAO.** Attended by Environmental, Fishing and Trade Control authorities.

b) Other Activities

- I. Colombian Chondrichthyans meeting.** The purpose is to provide scientific and technical knowledge on fish species (with emphasis on sharks and rays), through the development of research projects and the strengthening of inter-institutional relations, in order to provide necessary basis for the conservation of these resources. Develop environmental education programs on fish species (particularly sharks and rays), to generate attitudes toward conservation and scientific advice and / or technical support processes through the formulation, implementation and evaluation of research, conservation and use of fishery resources projects.
- II. Conformation of the Colombian Chondrichthyan researchers Network.** The purpose is to create a socialization space of all issues related to the investigation of the cartilaginous fishes (researchers, projects, publications, etc.) and make available the information generated in the Country, to all users, serving as a starting point and context for those who wish to advance in any investigation (see: <http://www.squalus.org/redcondrictios/>). Also creating a virtual documentation center for sharks and rays, (See: <http://www.squalus.org/biblioteca.html>).
- III.** Through the Colombian Fishing Authority (AUNAP) there was an increase in the effort to improve collection of specific statistical information on sharks, through the creation of the Fisheries Statistical Service information protocol application (SEPEC) and Fishery Observer Program (POPC), which will strength the digital databases for generating scientific information in assessing shark populations.

IV. Through the Colombian Fishing Authority (AUNAP) in 2015, the second stage of the identification and prioritization of potential critical habitats for sharks and rays project was carried out, in the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve (San Andres, Old Providence and Santa Catalina Archipelago).