

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

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Thirty-first meeting of the Animals Committee  
Online, May-June 2021

SUMMARY OF PARTIES' RESPONSES TO NOTIFICATION 2020/016 ON THE REQUEST FOR  
NEW INFORMATION ON SHARK AND RAY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES,  
INCLUDING LEGISLATION

1. This information document has been submitted by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 25 on *Sharks and rays*.
2. The document summarizes the information contained in Parties' responses to Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/016](#), requesting new information on shark and ray conservation and management activities, including legislation. This Notification was issued in fulfilment of paragraph a) of Decision 18.220. Responses were received from Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the European Union, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Thailand and the United States of America. The information contained in the responses received was organized according to the categories listed in paragraph 1 a) of Notification 2020/016, as follows:
  - a) Concise summaries of new information on their shark and ray conservation and management activities;
  - b) The making of non-detriment findings;
  - c) The making of legal acquisition findings;
  - d) The identification of CITES-listed shark products in trade;
  - e) Recording, stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-convention shark parts and derivatives for CITES Appendix-II elasmobranch species and controlling the entry of these species into the trade; and
  - f) Questions, concerns or difficulties Parties are having in writing or submitting documentation on authorised trade of the CITES Trade Database.
3. The Secretariat has also included the response from the Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP) as a non-Party observer.
4. Moreover, the Secretariat has analysed whether, in their responses, the 20 Parties and one observer organization, SPREP, provided information relating to the following categories: "Shark and Ray Conservation and Management", "Non-detriment Findings", "Legal Acquisition Findings", "Identification of CITES-listed Shark and Ray Products", "Stockpiles and Controlling entry to trade" and "Questions and Concerns". Thirteen Parties reported on shark and ray conservation and management; 14 Parties reported on non-detriment findings; 13 on legal acquisition findings; 12 on identification of CITES-listed shark and ray products; 11 on stockpiles and controlling entry to trade; and four on questions and concerns. The response of the observer

organization, SPREP, reported on shark and ray conservation and management, non-detriment findings, and identification of CITES-listed shark and ray products.

5. Challenges in compiling information and submitting annual reports for the CITES Trade Database are specifically pointed out in four responses (Colombia, Indonesia, Mexico, and Thailand). These include data recording, no trade data integration at national and international level, changes in species name, inefficient coordination and reporting of shark range and distribution, lack of integrated information and shark resource management, inconsistent rules and measurements for management of domestic fisheries with international obligations, inadequate budgets for conducting shark research and management, unclear fisheries statistics, insufficient species information, and limited number of government officials with shark and ray knowledge.
6. Measures taken by Parties to address some of the challenges encountered include: improving species information; assessing status and threats posed by fisheries; developing knowledge and classification; developing educational and organizational databases for biology, ecology, fisheries and shark utilization; assessing the status and threats posed by fisheries; establishing conservation measures such as the establishment of a traceability system for shark and ray products and the determination of marketing measures against consumption; and developing and building networks between governmental agencies and the private sector.
7. Nine Parties (Costa Rica, Colombia, the European Union, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru and the United States of America) have reported on domestic activities relating to the making of NDFs. Three countries (Costa Rica, New Zealand and the United States of America) have submitted NDFs for uploading to the CITES shark Portal.
8. Six Parties (Costa Rica, the European Union, Mexico, Senegal, Thailand, the United States of America) reported on their National or Regional Plans of Action for the Conservation and Management of Shark and Ray species.
9. Several responses make reference to other existing international and regional instruments, most importantly regional fisheries management organizations, and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and its Shark Memorandum of Understanding.

Responses of Parties

a) Concise summaries of new information on shark and ray conservation and management activities	
<b>Cambodia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five species of shark inhabit Cambodian waters and only one species (whale shark) is listed in CITES</li> <li>• Whale sharks are classed as Endangered Fisheries Resource through Sub-degree No. 123 issued in 2009 by Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, prohibiting any wild catch of this species.</li> <li>• Two Marine Protected Areas (MPAS) have been established</li> <li>• Public disseminations organised in the fishing villages to increase understanding of fisheries resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Canada</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No targeted fisheries for pelagic sharks in Canada.</li> <li>• Non-targeted, retained harvest of some pelagic sharks is licensed in the tuna and swordfish longline fisheries and in groundfish fisheries in Atlantic Oceanwaters.</li> <li>• Harvesting pelagic sharks in Pacific waters is prohibited.</li> <li>• Regularly reviews fisheries management and works to identify ways to strengthen domestic shark management.</li> <li>• Implemented a new prohibition on retention of Shortfin Mako in Canada beginning in 2020 (included in licence conditions for the 2020 pelagic longline fisheries). All licence holders are now prohibited from retaining Shortfin Mako on board fishing vessels.</li> <li>• Amendments to Canada's Fisheries Act legislation came into force in August 2019, prohibiting the import and export of shark fins not naturally attached into and out of Canada, and the practice of shark finning.</li> <li>• Implemented a mandatory fins-attached management measure for all pelagic sharks retained as bycatch (fully implemented for all fisheries in March 2018).</li> <li>• Changes to a large number of fisheries' license conditions to minimize risk to White Sharks to ensure fisheries were compliant with the listing of White Shark under the domestic Canadian Species at Risk Act.</li> <li>• Canada continues to undertake scientific research and monitoring activities and produces science advice related to the conservation and management of sharks.</li> <li>• A new analysis of post-release mortality of Porbeagle and Shortfin Mako sharks, including analysis of recovery times, was completed through the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Scientific Committee on Research and Statistics.</li> <li>• Fisheries and Oceans Canada is taking a lead role in the upcoming ICCAT assessment for Porbeagle in 2020 by developing an Incidental Catch Model to evaluate current stock status.</li> <li>• Canada is collaborating with the U.S.A. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to update Porbeagle age parameters which will contribute to the upcoming stock assessment.</li> <li>• A research project to evaluate historical removals of White shark in the North Atlantic has been completed.</li> <li>• Ongoing collaborative research with partners to investigate the distribution and habitat use of White shark.</li> <li>• A population abundance estimate of Basking Shark in Atlantic Canadian waters from aerial survey data is underway, which will be compared to data from 2008 to evaluate recent trends in Basking Shark abundance.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing research to examine Greenland Shark bycatch in Canadian waters, with a focus on the inshore, to support research into bycatch mitigation for Greenland Shark in Canadian fisheries.</li> <li>• A framework review of modelling approaches and a stock assessment of Northwest Atlantic Spiny Dogfish was completed in 2018 and 2019.</li> <li>• A comprehensive field guide on all Canadian Pacific chondrichthyans was published through the British Columbia Royal Museum, offering improved identification guides of sharks, skates, rays and rattfish.</li> <li>• An analysis is underway examining the misidentification of Bluntnose Six gill sharks as Pacific Sleeper Sharks in the groundfish longline fisheries, which will improve the relative index of abundance used for both species, with direct implications for assessing the status of these species under domestic species at risk legislation.</li> <li>• Fisheries and Oceans Canada collaborated in the recent stock assessment for Blue Shark in the North Pacific conducted by the International Scientific Committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific (ISC) shark working group. Status and recommendation will be made to the ISC Plenary in July 2020.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Costa Rica</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of Sharks in Costa Rica in collaboration with international experts on sharks.</li> <li>• Pelagic Species Monitoring Program, established in 2015, continues to be implemented.</li> <li>• Declaration of the Golfo Dulce Hammerhead Shark Sanctuary, prohibiting the fishing, capture, exploitation, transfer, transport and commercialization of hammerhead sharks within said Sanctuary, which includes a total of 4210.3 hectares protected within the Golfo Dulce.</li> <li>• Hammerhead sharks are under-represented in the landings of pelagic shark species and each year their representation in the landings decreases.</li> <li>• Hammerhead catches have decreased in recent years.</li> <li>• High percentage of <i>Sphyrna</i> sharks landed in Costa Rica have not reached first sexual maturity.</li> <li>• Hammerhead sharks are listed as Critically Endangered and Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List and are the only sharks in the category that are landed nationally</li> </ul>
<p><b>European Union</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the EU Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (EUPOA) is progressing well.</li> <li>• General prohibition on fishing of those threatened species, listed under Article 16 of Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 of 27 January 2020. Listed species caught as bycatch must be released unharmed.</li> <li>• For demersal and pelagic sharks: Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 of 27 January 2020 fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters.</li> <li>• For deep-sea sharks: Council Regulation (EU) 2018/2025 of 17 December 2018 fixing for 2019 and 2020 the fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks.</li> <li>• In October 2018, GFCM adopted Recommendation 42/2018/2 on fisheries management measures for conservation of sharks and rays in the GFCM area, which amends Recommendation 36/2012/3 in order to align it with the “fins-naturally-attached” policy</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GFCM also cooperates with the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity (SPA/BD) of the Barcelona Convention.</li> </ul> <p><u>Croatia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All CITES listed Elasmobranchii species are strictly protected by Nature Protection Act (Official Gazette No. 80/2013, 15/2018, 14/2019, 127/2019) and Ordinance on strictly protected species(Official Gazette No. 144/2013, 73/2016), prohibiting the fishing, catching or any kind of disturbance of these species, and trade in parts or derivatives or any kind of commercial activity. Offenders will face legal prosecution.</li> <li>• “Currently reviewing Ordinance for financial compensation for damage caused by prohibited action on wild strictly protected species occurring on national territory”. Offenders will be heavily fined per individual specimen of CITES listed Elasmobranchii species to compensate for damage, in addition to the fine determined by the court.</li> <li>• Prepared expert background document for the development of Management Plan with Action Plan for the protection of cartilaginous fishes.</li> <li>• Although the Management Plan has not yet been finalized and adopted, some conservation activities have been carried out, including monitoring of bycatch through the National Stranding Network.</li> </ul> <p><u>Italy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 shark species listed in the Annex II and 9 species listed in the Annex III of the Protocol SPA/BD of the Barcelona Convention.</li> <li>• Listed species are subject to data requirements and their catch should be recorded (GFCM/42/2018/2; Regulation (EU) 2015/2102).</li> <li>• <i>Alopias superciliosus</i>, <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> and <i>Sphyrna tudes</i> are very rare or not occurring in Italian seas and shall be released following the ICCAT recommendations (Rec. 09-07; 11-08).</li> <li>• 24 species of threatened sharks and rays are now strictly protected in the Mediterranean Sea.</li> <li>• Regulation (EU) No 2015/2102 amending Regulation (EU) No 1343/201115 on certain provisions for fishing in the GFCM Agreement area provides conservation measures on sharks, prohibiting the retention, landing, sale etc. of sharks and rays listed in Annex II of the Barcelona Convention.</li> <li>• Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EC) No 1984/2003 and (EC) No 520/200716 .</li> <li>• NAFO: Regulation (EU) 2019/833 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2115/2005 and (EC) No 1386/200717 .</li> </ul>
<b>Israel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All sharks and rays are fully protected in all Israeli waters.</li> <li>• All sharks and rays were first given protected status in 2005 and their status was renewed under new regulations adopted in late 2019: Proclamation on National Parks, Nature Reserves, National Sites and Memorial Sites (Protected Species) (Amendment), 5780-2019</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2014, the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA) began a public campaign in Hebrew and Arabic to discourage illegal fishing of sharks and rays, which successfully partially reducing shark and ray fishing.</li> <li>• Launched a large publicity campaign to make the fishermen aware of the new strict level of enforcement.</li> <li>• Stricter enforcement of the fishing regulations in January 2018, eliminating illegal shark and ray fishing.</li> </ul>
<b>Monaco</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of the Sea provides for general measures for the protection of marine fauna and flora.</li> <li>• Special measures are provided for the species listed in Annex II of the Barcelona Protocol of 10 June 1995 on Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity (Art. O. 230-1), for sharks and rays.</li> <li>• 14 species protected.</li> <li>• Two protected marine areas in Monegasque territorial waters: Larvotto and the Tombant des Spélugues.</li> </ul>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The shortfin mako shark (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>) is found in temperate and tropical oceanic waters, including in the New Zealand Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).</li> <li>• About 94% of shortfin mako are caught as bycatch on surface longlines targeting tuna and swordfish, especially around the North Island and off the west coast of the South Island.</li> <li>• Catches were likely very high when 25 million hooks were set each year, but since they entered the Quota Management System (QMS) in October 2004 (2005 fishing year) fewer than 4 million hooks have been set each year.</li> <li>• Fisheries indicators, such as proportion of zero captures and catch per unit effort, show that the New Zealand population has been stable or increasing in recent decades.</li> <li>• Reasonable to allow exports of shortfin mako shark products that were legally obtained within the New Zealand EEZ under the QMS on the basis that the recent levels of take are at least sustainable.</li> <li>• Tagging studies show that New Zealand stocks of shortfin mako are shared with those of other nations in the southwest Pacific.</li> <li>• Most satellite-tagged juveniles and adult males made forays northwards to tropical waters, especially to waters of New Caledonia, Fiji and Tonga.</li> <li>• Because of shared stocks, a local and a regional approach to mako shark fisheries management is required, and a formal stock assessment of the entire southwestern Pacific mako shark population is required to better elucidate its current status.</li> <li>• Evidence suggests that up to 20 tonnes per year of shortfin mako can be sustainably introduced to New Zealand from the high seas within 500 nautical miles of the New Zealand EEZ. This quantity is arbitrarily set at half of the combined recreational take (30 tonnes) and customary take (10 tonnes) allowed under the QMS, on the basis that it appears that neither of these allowances are anywhere near reached.</li> </ul>
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both legislations below provide Schedules that include shark species that were adopted prior to CITES CoP15. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International Trade (Fauna and Flora) (Amendment) Act 2003</li> <li>- International Trade (Fauna and Flora) Regulation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Samoa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2018, amendments were made to the Marine Wildlife Protection Regulations 2009 (the Principal Regulations) to strengthen provisions relating to the Oceania Parties' conservation, protection and management of sharks that are recognized under the National Marine Sanctuary for Samoa.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2009 regulations and their amendments (2018) ban commercial fishing, and possession, trade, and sale of sharks and rays, and shark and ray products throughout Samoa’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and establish Samoa as a shark sanctuary.</li> <li>• Developed public outreach materials to raise awareness on all shark and ray species protections and regulations in Samoa and aid in CITES implementation and compliance.</li> </ul>
<b>Senegal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the final stages of updating the Hunting and Wildlife Protection Code, legislation implementing the provisions of CITES. Under this Code, all species, including sharks and rays, listed in CITES Appendix I will be fully protected now and in the future, and any species listed in CITES Appendix II will require management measures in accordance with CITES provisions, thus eliminating the need to amend the Code after each CoP, as all listed species will automatically be included in the relevant section of the Code.</li> <li>• At the level of the Fishing Code, legislative provisions are made to indicate the minimum regulatory catch size, the prohibition of catching and marketing of the species of skates and rays listed in the CITES Appendix.</li> <li>• Sub-Regional Commission (SRFC) has developed management plans for all member countries.</li> </ul>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any shark of the species (silky, oceanic whitetip and whale shark) are protected under the Fisheries Management Regulations 2017, banning shark finning, commercial fishing, and possession, trade, and sale of sharks and rays, and shark and ray products throughout Solomon Island’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ).</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Fisheries Act, B.E. 2490- the Ministry of Fisheries passed this law as important legislation on the management of all fishery resources by 2015.</li> <li>• United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, United Nations Agreement on the Practice In accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea dated 10 December 1982 regarding Conservation and management of animal populations.</li> <li>• In supporting the Code of Conduct Responsible fisheries and the Royal Fisheries Regulations 2015, have realized the importance of animal resource management sustainability in Thailand.</li> <li>• Manage sharks in Thailand (National Plan of Action for Conservation and Management of Sharks, Thailand) within the framework of the International Action Plan for Shark Conservation and Management. (International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks: IPOA-Sharks).</li> <li>• Marine Fisheries Management of Thailand 2009-2018 National Action Plan to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries.</li> <li>• National Plan of Action for Shark Conservation and Management contains historical data on Thailand's shark resources and guidelines for managing this group of resources. Integration from all sectors in the country ensures that the conservation and management of sharks is carried out for further sustainable use.</li> <li>• IUCN, CITES, and CMS indicate that the shark resources are at risk of extinction, raising concerns.</li> <li>• Data from the Department of Fisheries in the years 2002-2014 indicates that the amount of sharks caught declines steadily.</li> <li>• Catch statistics show that the shark volume continued to decline.</li> </ul>

**United States of America**

- The 2000 Shark Finning Prohibition Act amended the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), prohibiting shark finning by any person under U.S. jurisdiction. Report can be found here: <https://media.fisheries.noaa.gov/dam-migration/2017-shark-finning-report-to-congress.pdf>
- Stocks assessment of shortfin mako completed in 2018 using data from fisheries from 1975 – 2016.
- In 2019 the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) conducted a stock assessment update for North Atlantic shortfin mako through 2070 (two generation times). Report can be found here: [https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019\\_SMA\\_SA\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019_SMA_SA_ENG.pdf)
- Stock Synthesis projections show that there is a long lag time between when management measures are implemented and when stock size starts to rebuild.
- Regardless of the TAC (including a TAC of 0 t), the stock will continue to decline until 2035 before any biomass increases can occur.
- A benchmark assessment for the Atlantic stock of blacktip sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) began in 2019 and is anticipated to be completed in late 2020 (SEDAR 65).
- Assessment update for the Gulf of Mexico stock of blacktip sharks was completed in 2018 determined the stock was not overfished or experiencing overfishing (SEDAR 29 Update).
- Atlantic shark research activities conducted by U.S. scientists as part of the SCRS Shark Research and Data Collection Program (SRDCP).
- Four projects covering different aspects of the life history, stock structure, and fisheries of the shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*): a pan-Atlantic age and growth study; a population genetics study to estimate the stock structure and phylogeography of Atlantic shortfin mako; a post-release mortality study focusing on pelagic longline fisheries; and a satellite tagging study for determining movements and habitat use. More information available here: [https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019\\_SMA\\_SA\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019_SMA_SA_ENG.pdf)
- On February 21, 2019, NMFS published the final rule for Amendment 11 to address overfishing of North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks in HMS recreational and commercial fisheries (84 FR 5358). Amendment 11 implemented management measures to reduce fishing mortality on shortfin mako sharks and established the foundation for rebuilding the shortfin mako shark population consistent with legal requirements. The final rule and associated materials can be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/amendment-11-2006-consolidated-hms-fishery-managementplan-atlantic-shortfin-mako-sharks>
- On November 29, 2019, NMFS published a final rule regarding the commercial quotas, retention limits, and season opening dates for the 2020 shark fishing season. All fishing seasons opened on January 1 but the retention limits differed by management group and region. The final rule can be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/2020-commercial-atlantic-shark-fishing-quotas-datesretention-limits>
- Between 2019 and 2020, the following actions have been taken by NMFS for sharks in the Pacific Ocean: In June 2019, the National Marine Fisheries Service placed the following regulatory requirements on the Hawaii Pelagic Shallow-Set Longline Fishery to minimize the impact of incidental take of giant manta rays and oceanic whitetip sharks in that fishery, and temporal and spatial data on oceanic whitetip shark and giant manta ray interactions will be used to inform decision making, and modify fishing practices to

	<p>minimize the respective incidental capture and mortality of oceanic whitetip sharks and giant manta rays to the maximum extent possible, based on this information. Further minimization measure(s) will be evaluated and developed as appropriate to reduce the incidental bycatch and increase survivability of oceanic whitetip shark and giant manta rays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NMFS will coordinate with Western Pacific Fishery Management Council to explore options for minimizing the incidental bycatch of oceanic whitetip and giant manta rays.</li> </ul>
b) The making of non-detriment findings	
<b>Colombia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing development of NDFs for hammerhead sharks "<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>" carried out in 2017 based on information on catch volumes of the species due to the scarce biological information available.</li> <li>• Participated in several regional NDF construction workshops, where the need for technical assistance from CITES to provide methodologies for the development of NDFs when little biological information on the species is available is recommended.</li> </ul>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEGATIVE NDF for hammerhead sharks for a period of 18 months.</li> <li>• Scientific Advisory Board recommends a POSITIVE NDF for thresher sharks for a period of 6 months.</li> <li>• Recommended to improve fishery statistics in order to have better information to improve future NDFs.</li> <li>• POSITIVE NDF for grey or silky sharks for a period of 18 months.</li> </ul>
<b>European Union</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In June 2017, SRG concluded that it was not possible for the scientific authorities in the EU to deliver an NDF for any import of porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>) from Norway and Faroe Islands where the conditions for sustainable trade were not considered to be met.</li> <li>• The EU Member States are not able to deliver permits allowing import of the species from Norway and the Faroe Islands into the EU.</li> <li>• SRG on 3 March 2020 considered NDFs for mako shark as presented by Spain.</li> </ul> <p><u>Italy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently the only species listed in CITES that might be legally caught accidentally and landed in Italy is the thresher shark (<i>A. vulpinus</i>). It is not expected that this species will be exported, therefore Italy is not issuing any NDF.</li> </ul> <p><u>The Netherlands</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Netherlands actively supports international co-operation and efforts to develop adequate NDFs.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed NDFs for Silky Shark (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>) and submitted to the CITES Secretariat in 2018. Currently being improved and updated by adding new data and information.</li> <li>• NDFs for Hammerhead sharks (<i>Sphyrna</i> spp.), formulated in 2017, are currently being improved by updating information on the species production and capture fisheries condition, and will be submitted to the Secretariat after improvement.</li> <li>• Currently formulating the NDFs for Mako sharks (<i>Isurus</i> spp.) and Rhinidae (<i>Rhynchobatus</i> spp. dan <i>Rhina ancylostoma</i>), through broad national consultation as well as data collection. Both documents are targeted to be finalized and submitted to the CITES Secretariat before reservation period is over (26 May 2021).</li> <li>• The Government of Indonesia (GOI) consider capacity strengthening is essential in NDFs formulation and improving the conservation and management measures of the sharks and rays in Indonesia.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The capacity building activities that have been conducted since 2018 include guidance on NDF formulation, trainings and workshops, as well as socialisation.</li> <li>• In 2019, the Indonesia Institute of Sciences endorsed the guidance on NDFs formulation for sharks species (in Bahasa Indonesia), which was then followed with a series of national consultations, socialisation, as well as training and workshop activities that were participated by universities, relevant government and research institutions at central and regional level, CITES exporter associations as well as NGOs.</li> <li>• Among the capacity buildings activities are the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. National Workshops on NDFs in September 2019 held by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) in collaboration with The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC).</li> <li>b. Training on the formulation of NDFs for sharks held by the Indonesia Institute of Sciences in January 2020.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Japan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NDFs regarding CITES-listed shark and ray species other than shortfin mako have not yet been possible due to lack of relevant scientific information thereon.</li> <li>• In response to the listing of shortfin mako in Appendix II at CoP18, Japan has developed an NDF thereof.</li> <li>• Since the entry into force of the listing in November 2019, Japan has issued some export permits along with the NDF.</li> </ul>
<b>Mexico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CONABIO is using the estimated volume information as a further element in the issuance of NDFs for Mako sharks in the North Pacific.</li> <li>• In June 2017, the CEC approved the Project "Supporting Sustainable Trade in CITES Species" as a follow-up to the Project "Strengthening Conservation and Sustainable Production of Selected Appendix II Species in North America" initiated in 2015-2016, as an effort to implement priority actions of the "North American Action Plan for Sustainable Trade in Shark Species".</li> <li>• Compiling species-specific data on shark catch and fishing activities in Mexico, with emphasis on CITES-listed species (2019) is an effort included among the priority activities, presenting a draft strategy for capacity building for the management of CITES-listed shark species. This activity supports the development of non-detriment findings (NDFs).</li> <li>• CONABIO and INAPESCA convened more than 40 experts from academia, civil society, the private sector and national authorities to the "Workshop on Strengthening technical and administrative capacities in the issuance of CITES-listed Mexican shark export permits" (June, 2019) to analyse strategies for legal, sustainable and traceable harvesting and trade of CITES-listed sharks.</li> <li>• Aims to improve the technical/scientific support of the opinions that endorse the extraction and export of shark parts and derivatives.</li> <li>• Collaboration strategies between authorities on legality and traceability issues to strengthen the process of issuing export permits and continue the reliable registry throughout the entire value chain.</li> <li>• INAPESCA and CONABIO are reviewing joint methodologies to strengthen the issuance of NDFs.</li> <li>• Developing a workshop with Tierra Peninsular A.C. that will compile and define the most appropriate methodologies based on the type of data available, such as historical catches of CITES-relevant species, and estimating maximum sustainable yield.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CONABIO and WWF-Mexico are collaborating to implement the first phase of the strengthening capacities for the for the management of CITES-listed shark species.</li> </ul>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NDF are shared with other CITES Parties and non-Parties in the Oceania region because stocks are shared, and was submitted to the CITES Secretariat on 3 March 2020 for inclusion on the Sharks and Rays portal on the CITES website for others to use when preparing their NDFs</li> <li>• NDF was relatively easy to prepare because New Zealand has only one species of mako shark, the shortfin mako, which is included in our Quota Management System aimed to manage the stocks sustainably.</li> </ul>
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended the regional training and capacity building workshop held in Fiji, 2016, for the implementation of CITES shark listings.</li> <li>• Discussed the proposed regional NDF template, the information needed for an NDF, and the need to develop a regionally coordinated approach to sustainable management of shared stocks of CITES listed sharks and rays.</li> </ul>
<b>Peru</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following are the NDFs and advisory reports prepared during the 2019-2020 period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NDF for "hammerhead shark" <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> - 2019.</li> <li>○ NDF for "thresher shark" <i>Alopias vulpinus</i> - 2019.</li> <li>○ NDF for "pelagic thresher shark" <i>Alopias pelagicus</i> - 2019.</li> <li>○ NDF for "diamondback shark" <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> - 2019.</li> <li>○ Advisory Report on Introduction from the Sea of "diamondback shark" <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> - 2019.</li> <li>○ "diamondback shark" <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>- 2020.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Samoa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended the regional training and capacity building workshop held in Fiji, 2016, for the implementation of CITES shark listings.</li> <li>• Discussed the proposed regional NDF template, the information needed for an NDF, and the need to develop a regionally coordinated approach to sustainable management of shared stocks of CITES listed sharks and rays.</li> </ul>
<b>Senegal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No studies to make NDFs.</li> <li>• Info provided by the Fishery Department and the Sub-regional Fishery Commission clearly attest to the viability of the populations of the species authorized for fishing.</li> </ul>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended the regional training and capacity building workshop held in Fiji, 2016, for the implementation of CITES shark listings.</li> <li>• Discussed the proposed regional NDF template, the information needed for an NDF, and the need to develop a regionally coordinated approach to sustainable management of shared stocks of CITES listed sharks and rays.</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Gulf of Thailand, a maximum sustainable yield of sharks is 1,516 tonnes.</li> <li>• In the Andaman Coast a maximum sustainable yield of sharks is 347 tonnes</li> <li>• Data indicates overfishing on the Andaman Coast</li> </ul>
<b>United States of America</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issued a total of 15 NDFs to support shark and rays export permits, including 66 live wild-caught lesser devil rays, 5, live wild-caught oceanic manta rays and 2 live wild-caught bentfin rays.</li> <li>• A general advice was prepared for mako shark in the Pacific.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exports of shortfin mako in 2019 and 2020 are not detrimental to the survival of the species</li> <li>Exports of <i>Mobula thurstoni</i>, <i>Mobula hypostoma</i>, and <i>Manta birostris</i> are non-detrimental to the species' survival</li> </ul>
c) The making of legal acquisition findings	
<b>Colombia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No legal acquisition reports.</li> </ul>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical analysis of the number of national vessels fishing and unloading in our country, including the vessel number, the number of trips, and the duration of these trips recommended.</li> </ul>
<b>European Union</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 of 29 September 2008 concerning illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing requires catch certificates for imports of most marine fisheries products.</li> </ul> <p><u>Italy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently the only species listed in CITES that might be legally caught accidentally and landed in Italy is the thresher shark (<i>A. vulpinus</i>). It is not expected that this species will be exported, therefore Italy is not issuing any NDF nor legal acquisition findings.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In December 2018, the Ministry of Marine and Fisheries Affairs (MMAF) issued Minister Regulation number 61 of 2018, serving as the legal umbrella for CITES Implementation on Aquatic Species, particularly for sharks and rays.</li> <li>Under this regulation, every person/entity that utilise CITES sharks and rays species is required to have following permits/documentations (Letter of utilisation for trade, Letter of fish transport for both domestic and export, Certificate of pre-convention, Certificate of Introduction from the Sea, Capture quota, Export quota).</li> <li>A letter of recommendation is required for transporting lookalike sharks and rays species (similar morphology but not included as CITES Appendices), issued by the MMAF Marine and Coastal Resources Management Agencies.</li> <li>Minister regulation N0 61/2018 also cover permit mechanism for Introduction From the Sea (IFS).</li> </ul>
<b>Japan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where mako sharks are landed, relevant information are recorded including the names of fishing vessels which caught them, quantity of catch, date of landing and selling, and name of retailer or processor to whom sharks are sold, enabling management authorities to trace a unit of export products back to the origin and check whether or not those vessels have complied with relevant regulations.</li> </ul>
<b>Mexico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In June 2017, the CEC approved the Project "Supporting Sustainable Trade in CITES Species" as a follow-up to the Project "Strengthening Conservation and Sustainable Production of Selected Appendix II Species in North America" initiated in 2015-2016, as an effort to implement priority actions of the "North American Action Plan for Sustainable Trade in Shark Species".</li> <li>Compiling species-specific data on shark catch and fishing activities in Mexico, with emphasis on CITES-listed species (2019) is an effort included among the priority activities, presenting a draft strategy for capacity building for the management of CITES-listed shark species. This activity supports the development of legal acquisition findings.</li> </ul>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is unlikely to be a problem for New Zealand because exports of mako shark specimens from New Zealand will require submission of evidence that they were obtained under a licence issued as part of the Quota Management System.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catch logs would need to demonstrate that specimens imported from the high seas were obtained within 500 nautical miles of the New Zealand EEZ.</li> </ul>
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No legal acquisition findings have been undertaken.</li> </ul>
<b>Peru</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following requirements are requested for exports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request addressed to the Director General of the General Directorate of Fisheries for Direct and Indirect Human Consumption, according to Form DECHDI-016.</li> <li>- Certificate of identification of the specimens, signed by a registered biologist specialized in taxonomy.</li> <li>- Shark Landing Certificates verifying the identification of the species, the quantity extracted, as well as the date of extraction.</li> <li>- Proof of the place where the fin-drying process was carried out before being exported.</li> <li>- General Directorate of Fisheries for Direct and Indirect Human Consumption (Dirección General de Pesca para Consumo Direct and Indirect Human Consumption of PRODUCE, issues Export and Import Permits, CITES and CITES Re-export Certificates in accordance with national and international regulations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Samoa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No legal acquisition findings have been undertaken</li> </ul>
<b>Senegal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expected to hold a regional workshop on legal procurement in March 2020.</li> <li>• Postponed due to COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No legal acquisition findings have been undertaken.</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing genetic banks for sharks and rays to be used as a database for examination and comparison Genetic code.</li> <li>• Department of Fisheries issue a certificate of animal species for export</li> </ul>
d) The identification of CITES-listed shark products in trade	
<b>Colombia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed and organized workshops to improve shark data collection and training courses on shark identification.</li> <li>• Participated in the different meetings convened to address issues related to the implementation of the CITES agreements and is working on the development of measures for their compliance.</li> <li>• Collaborated with the National Tax and Customs Directorate (Dirección de Impuestos y Aduanas Nacionales, DIAN) and the National Aquaculture Authority AUNAP for the preparation of a proposal for the splitting of tariff codes for the species included in the appendices.</li> <li>• Training workshops have been conducted with port control entities (Customs, Police, Fishing Authority, Environmental Authority, etc.), on shark identification methodologies through their fins, as well as socialization of national regulations and control procedures.</li> </ul>
<b>Costa Rica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In May 2019, two training workshops were held for Incopescas inspectors at the national level on the identification of species and legal sizes of first catch to help improve data quality.</li> <li>• Further training on species identification in Incopescas's Wet Lab, for which samples of species were taken and used for identification by the inspectors. Also given to officers of the National Coast Guard Service and prosecutors from the Public Prosecutor's Office.</li> <li>• Further training is planned for 2020.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working on implementing a training program for professionals or technicians who can become on-board observers.</li> <li>• Training workshops for first catch sizes of grey shark are already being held for prosecutors of the Public Prosecutor's Office, Officers of the National Coast Guard Service, and Incomesca officials.</li> </ul>
<b>European Union</b>	<p><u>Croatia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for identification of <i>Elasmobranchii</i> species have been prepared and distributed to fishermen.</li> <li>• In order to collect data for risk assessment of incidental catch by different fishing gear, necessary changes in the fishing logbooks have been made by Ministry of Agriculture in 2018. All fishing logbooks now have sections concerning data on incidental catch of <i>Elasmobranchii</i> species.</li> </ul> <p><u>Italy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A pilot project of shark product in trade have been conducted in southern Italy.</li> <li>• Frozen fillets of imported shortfin mako called “smeriglio” (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>) have been frequently observed.</li> <li>• The enforcement officers of the coastal guards in their routine observation at the market noted the presence of imported shortfin mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>).</li> <li>• Developed quick reference material for identifying regulated shark species in Italian seas, and distributed identification material to enforcement officers and fishers.</li> <li>• In 2019, two training courses were conducted at the national specialistic training school for enforcement officers of the Coastal Guard, focussing on identifying sharks and rays in the Italian Seas and elasmobranch management measures. Training will be extended to other enforcement authorities.</li> <li>• In 2018-19, a pilot investigation on the mislabelling of shark products and improvements to the supply chain were carried out in the southern Italy (WWFSafeShark Project).</li> </ul> <p><u>The Netherlands</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Netherlands will investigate improving identification skills, where necessary, for enforcement officers as well as fishermen and those working in the auctions to be able to recognise the species and their derivatives on board and in the fish auctions.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High diversities of CITES-listed sharks and ray products and derivates in trade in Indonesia, including fin (dried or frozen), trunk (headless or finless), meat (slice), and cartilage. Gill plates and skins are the internationally traded products for rays.</li> <li>• The diversity of traded products and derivatives of sharks and rays pose challenge in identification for sharks and rays product inspectors at the 6 MMAF Marine and Coastal Resources Management Agencies (include 18 regional offices that located in 24 provinces across Indonesia).</li> <li>• The Government of Indonesia carried out capacity building activities to enhance the skills of its personnel in product identification, developed by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries in collaboration with The Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture (CEFAS)-United Kingdom and Wildlife Conservation Society -Indonesia.</li> <li>• The notable capacity improvement programs are as follows:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sharks and ray identification training modules and curricula, composing of 8 modules in shark and ray identification which were applied in Technical Assistance in November 2019 and Training of Trainers in January 2020, and are nationally standard and internalised into MMAF routine training program.</li> <li>b. Training of trainers in sharks and ray identification as a part of Reducing Illegal Sharks and Rays Product Trade Project funded by the UK Government, under the International Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund. On January 2020, MMAF, CEFAS and WCS Indonesia trained 20 sharks and rays product inspectors from MMAF Marine and Coastal Resources Management Agencies as future trainers in shark and ray identification.</li> <li>c. Formulation of the first visual trunk identification guide for CITES-listed species, aimed to help inspectors quickly and reliably identify shark and ray species. Expected to be finalised in the end of 2020.</li> <li>d. Formulation of National Work Competency Standard on Sharks and Rays Utilisation, which is a follow up activity on previously developed training modules to create a standardized competence in sustainable shark and ray utilization.</li> <li>e. Trainings, workshops and awareness programs, which were implemented mostly by MMAF's Marine and Coastal Resources Management Agencies at their respective operational areas (6 regions across Indonesia) and focus on training and disseminating shark and ray species that are nationally protected, as well as CITES appendices to key stakeholders and main actors in sharks and rays utilisation in Indonesia. Targeted participants include officers from Marine and Fisheries Resource Surveillance - MMAF, Fish Quarantine Inspection Agency -MMAF, Customs Agency, as well as fishers and trader/exporter associations. The programs run annually since 2014.</li> </ul>
<b>Mexico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training workshop on shark fin identification and transnational illegal trade in shark fins. In this theoretical-practical workshop, as a result of the implementation of the Project "Support for Sustainable Trade of CITES Species", representatives of the CITES Authorities of Canada, USA and Mexico, as well as Customs personnel, were trained in the identification of shark fins (Vancouver, 2018).</li> </ul>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification has not proven to be a problem, although it is possible that CITES-listed sharks have been included in fish meal exports which would rely on regular DNA testing of samples.</li> </ul>
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shark-fin ID training provided for participants including Papua New Guinea representatives from Environment, Customs and Fisheries during a regional CITES workshop in 2017.</li> </ul>
<b>Peru</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed capacity building workshops aimed at professionals of the Ministry of Production and enforcement agencies.</li> <li>• II Peruvian Symposium on Sharks, Rays and Related Species- from November 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 and attended by approx. 300 people. Aimed to exchange of experiences and knowledge to strengthen shark management.</li> <li>• Capacity-building workshops on shark fin identification.</li> <li>• Two workshops were held on November 4 and December 5 and 6, 2019, aimed to strengthen the ID capacities of the Enforcement Entities and authorities.</li> <li>• Annual Workshop of the CITES Plants and Fauna Committees- from November 19 to 21, 2019, aimed to generate a space for the exchange of information between CITES Scientific Experts and the CITES and</li> </ul>

	<p>MINAM as the CITES Scientific Authority, and strengthen the capacities of the CITES Flora and Fauna Committees as support bodies to the CITES Scientific Authority of Peru.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Shark Fin Identification Workshop" Held from October 29 to 31, 2019, organized by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in coordination with the Scientific Authority, aimed to strengthen capacities in the recognition of different traded products of marine origin, improve knowledge around the basics of international trade of shark fins, socialize trade law enforcement scenarios, improve the recognition of shark fins at different stages of processing, among other forensic aspects.</li> <li>• "Capacity building for the implementation of the CITES Convention in Peru" event from September 18 to 20, 2019 attended by 50 people, and aimed to strengthen the knowledge and skills of officials involved in the implementation of the Convention.</li> <li>• Training on "National Fisheries Legislation and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora".</li> <li>• International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora", carried out on April 30, 2019, was aimed to provide general information on the Convention and the national regulations related to the professionals of the professionals of the National Police of Peru, and shark identification and conservation was discussed.</li> <li>• "Shark Specimen Identification Guides". The organization Oceana Inc. in coordination with the Scientific Authority and shark specialist, have developed the "Shark fin identification guide in Peru" (2018) and the "Shark trunk identification guide in Peru" (2020), as support tools for the identification of shark fins and trunks included in the CITES Appendices.</li> </ul>
<b>Samoa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A shark-fin ID and national implementation workshop was held in 2018.</li> </ul>
<b>Senegal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in and hosted six national and/or regional workshops since 2014, to provide training on visually identifying shark fins commonly traded.</li> <li>• Recent research was distributed during the workshops as educational material.</li> </ul>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shark-fin ID training provided for participants including Solomon Islands representatives from Environment, Customs and Fisheries during a regional CITES workshop in 2017.</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on shark classification for officials from public and private sectors</li> <li>• Training the knowledge of shark products.</li> <li>• As part of the NPOA, the following will be done: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop knowledge and competencies in personnel shark-related management</li> <li>- Develop a field shark classification guide</li> <li>- Organize an academic conference on sharks</li> <li>- Prepare public relations media about shark resource conservation to disseminate knowledge about shark and ray species in Thailand.</li> <li>- Organize a training course on shark species classification.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

e) Recording stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-convention shark parts and derivatives for CITES Appendix-II elasmobranch species and controlling the entry of these species into trade	
<b>Cambodia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharks are not the target species for catch (bycatch).</li> <li>• Used for local consumption only.</li> <li>• Cambodia has no commercial trade in CITES-listed Sharks and Rays.</li> </ul>
<b>Colombia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Records of information on international trade of shark products and by-products up to 2015, which was the result of an analysis of tariff codes carried out in the country through joint work (Partnership Agreement 288 of 2015) between the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the Association of Regional Autonomous Corporations (ASOCARS).</li> <li>• Information presented is generalized to sharks, taking into account: the records of trade statistics of the National Customs Directorate; FAO information and data from the Bloom Foundation; and the catch values for sharks recorded in official fishing statistics documents at the national level (statistical bulletins of the National Institute of Natural Resources and Environment - INDERENA, National Institute of Fishing and Aquaculture - INPA, Colombian Institute of Rural Development - INCODER, Colombia International Corporation - CCI, which date from 1975 to the present).</li> <li>• Values recorded in FAO's Fishstat Plus database, which presents information from 1950 for the Caribbean region and 1963 for the Pacific, up to 2008 for both regions.</li> <li>• Uncertainty on the level of exploitation of sharks and rays over the years in Colombia.</li> <li>• Based on the analysis of the values recorded in the country's trade tariff codes, it was estimated that the average volume of shark fin exports from Colombia is 18.1 tons, where the main destination country for these exports is Hong Kong, which has maintained the records over the years.</li> <li>• Likely that Latin American countries will become transit points to Hong Kong.</li> <li>• In relation to shark meat export and import data, values recorded from 1992 to date indicated an increase in shark meat imports, with an opposite trend to the export of the same product.</li> <li>• Imports fresh or frozen fins (Clarke, 2003) and since there is no export tariff code for this type of product, it is very likely that fins that are not dried or salted are exported in the tariff for frozen or refrigerated shark meat. Therefore, it's very important to establish an inter-institutional coordination in the commercialization of shark products to generate adequate controls for the management and conservation of elasmobranchs.</li> <li>• From the information recorded for the modified tariff codes, data was only obtained for shark fin exports since 2012.</li> <li>• Essential that Colombia develops mechanisms allowing adequate registration and monitoring of international trade at the species level (specific tariff codes). This requires implementing registration and control strategies that support the possible obligations that the country could have in the future if some species distributed Colombia are included in Appendix II of CITES (Caldas and Puentes, 2012).</li> <li>• Reports from the Colombian National Tax and Customs Directorate (DIAN) show that there are only import records of 8,201 kg of fresh product (presumed shark meat) of <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> for the year 2017 and 35,208 kg of fresh product (presumed shark meat) of Cazonos in general (Non-CITES Species) for the year 2019.</li> </ul>

<b>Costa Rica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marketing Department of Incopesca has been keeping records of exports and imports of hammerhead shark fins since 2018.</li> <li>The Scientific Advisory Committee considers it unnecessary to carry out an inventory of stockpiled hammerhead shark fins due to the species' negative NDF.</li> </ul>
<b>European Union</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blue shark has the highest landing volumes by EU vessels, which is not prohibited by EU regulations in view of the advice from ICCAT's scientific committee that the stock is not overfished.</li> <li>Shortfin mako is also caught and commercialised by EU vessels, albeit to a lesser extent than blue shark.</li> </ul> <p><u>Croatia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No import or export of CITES listed shark species nor did we identify any kind of illegal activities or trade.</li> <li>One case of attempted illegal import of mako shark jaws (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>) by private person.</li> </ul> <p><u>Italy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In February 2020, the CITES Management Authority in Italy (SCS) has received two requests of imports for a total of 4,558.50 kg of fresh meat of shortfin mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>). Such requests are still under evaluation.</li> <li>In February 2020, the enforcement officers of the coastal guards communicated informally to shark specialists the presence of shortfin mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>) for assistance in the identification.</li> <li>One event of frozen trunks was an import from Spain occurred in September 2019.</li> <li>These events induced the SCS to coordinate with shark specialists to guarantee a common protocol among the two enforcement authorities responsible for the control. For example, it is necessary that the observation of shark products derivate by CITES Appendix-II elasmobranch species are correctly identified.</li> <li>No exports of CITES-listed Elasmobranches have been recorded from 2000 to present.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the CoP 16 (2013) decision to listed <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> (oceanic whitetip shark), <i>Sphyrna lewini</i>, <i>S. mokarran</i> and <i>S. zygaena</i> as Appendix II CITES species, from 2014-2018 Indonesia prohibited export product and derivatives of Oceanic Whitetip Shark (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>) and Hammerhead Sharks (<i>Sphyrna</i> spp.). Similarly, following the CoP 17 (2016), in 2017 Indonesia imposed zero export quota for Silky Shark (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>). Thus, there have been stockpiling of fins product for these species since 2014.</li> <li>Following the formulation of NDFs for Silky Sharks and Hammerhead Sharks, in 2019, the Indonesia CITES SA and MA conducted stockpiles assessment and recorded there were 26,732.02 kg and 23,252.7 kg of stockpile fins for Silky Shark and Hammerhead sharks, respectively. The Indonesian CITES Management Authority had set export quota in 2019 for Silky Shark stockpiles with 100% export realisation (26,732.02 kg). Otherwise, the stockpile of Hammerhead Shark is allocated for the export quota in 2020.</li> <li>To control and monitor the trade of these stockpiles, Indonesia has taken several measures such: the Government required that every shark and ray product/cargo must be accompanied by a recommendation letter before transported between islands, provinces as well as for exports. The recommendation letter is issued by MMAF's Marine and Coastal Resources Management Agencies after the product has been inspected and cleared to transport by the shark and ray product inspectors.</li> </ul>

<b>Israel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Few cases of small numbers of live sharks imported for the educational displays at Israel's two public aquaria.</li> <li>• Import permits are also granted for preserved sharks used in biological teaching.</li> <li>• No other commercial imports or exports of sharks and rays (live or otherwise) are permitted.</li> <li>• No stocks or stockpiles in Israel of parts and derivatives of sharks.</li> <li>• No demand for them in the Israeli market.</li> <li>• No sharks and rays are exported from Israel.</li> </ul>
<b>New Zealand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No known stockpiles of CITES-listed sharks in New Zealand before the listings came into effect.</li> </ul>
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-Convention shark parts have been recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>Samoa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-Convention shark parts have been recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>Senegal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimens and quantities exported from Senegal are well controlled and recorded in the database of the focal point issuing the permits.</li> <li>• Refer to the Annual Report of Senegal for more info.</li> </ul>
<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-Convention shark parts have been recorded.</li> </ul>
f) Questions, concerns or difficulties Parties are having in writing or submitting documentation on authorized trade of the CITES Trade Database	
<b>Colombia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem in Colombia is the illegal trade in species.</li> <li>• Reports of unidentified products coming from the country despite the various controls in place.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges that are currently faced by Indonesia in terms of trade database include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Difficulties in data recording since national shark production is not recorded at the species level, therefore, no country-wide species-specific production data is currently available.</li> <li>○ Different data field and unfamiliar with terms used in CITES Trade Database which make the trade data recording could not be synchronised nationally.</li> <li>○ There are currently no trade data integration both at national and regional level</li> <li>○ Changes in species scientific name</li> <li>○ Moreover, Indonesia's challenges and concerns on NDF formulations are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Complexity of Indonesian capture fisheries condition that include by -catch, multigears, as well as different catch and landing location.</li> <li>- Data availability. Data is only available in several locations, which not fully represent Indonesian shark and ray fisheries condition.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Mexico</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From March to October 2018, the Management Authority of Mexico did not authorize the export of shark fin, as a precautionary measure, because exporters did not fully guarantee the legal provenance of CITES-listed shark fins. As a result, that year exports dropped considerably.</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inefficient coordination and reporting of information about sharks present in Thailand and migrating far away or in the high seas.</li> <li>• Inconsistent rules and measures for management of domestic fishery resources with international obligations.</li> <li>• Sharks, or reducing fisheries that affect sharks, such as IOTC and WCPCF, are not applicable to ships that are not in a member state and the current information on distribution still lacks continuity.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inadequate budget for the conducting research, and monitoring research.</li><li>• Inadequate management of shark operations.</li><li>• Lack of taxonomists.</li><li>• Limited number of government officials with knowledge and skills to identify shark species at the Family or type level and lack of understanding in collecting data for correct shark resource management.</li><li>• Too little coordination between governmental departments due to the lack of integrated information and shark resource management of the agency.</li><li>• No clear data on the resource condition of sharks in Thai territorial waters due to the lack of continuous data collection and analysis.</li><li>• Unclear Fisheries Statistics because there is no classification of volume of capture by type. Therefore, unable to identify the true state of the shark resource was clear.</li><li>• Insufficient information on shark resources.</li><li>• The lack of continuity makes it difficult to survey and assess shark resource conditions.</li></ul> |
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Response from Non-Party Observers

<b>a) Concise summary of new information on their shark and ray conservation and management activities</b>	
Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided technical and advisory support to the Government of Tonga through a national CITES workshop in partnership with the CITES Secretariat to discuss the development of a national legislation for the trade of CITES listed species in Tonga.</li> <li>• Provided technical and advise on the drafted Trade in Endangered Species Bill for Samoa</li> </ul>
<b>b) The making of non-detriment findings</b>	
Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A regional workshop scheduled for May 2020, aimed at providing capacity building support to the Pacific CITES Parties (Government Scientific and Management Authorities officers) on preparing NDFs for sea cucumbers and sharks. The workshop will be held virtually with countries.</li> </ul>
<b>c) The identification of CITES-listed shark and ray products in the trade</b>	
Pacific Regional Environmental Program (SPREP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A shark-fin ID training was held during the regional capacity building workshop held in Fiji, 2016.</li> <li>• All 7 Pacific CITES Parties attended the workshop as well as 6 Pacific non-Parties.</li> <li>• Shark-fin ID training were also provided for the Governments of Tonga and Samoa during their national workshops.</li> </ul>