

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



Intersessional work of the Standing Committee  
2020-2021

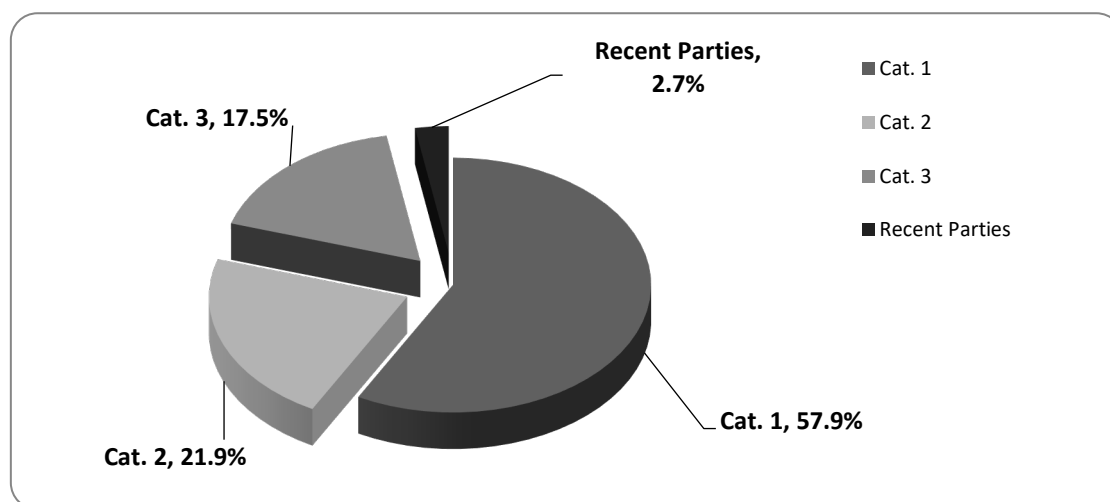
NATIONAL LAWS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION:  
UPDATE ON PROGRESS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat. It gives a brief update on legislative progress made by Parties and analyses completed by the Secretariat since CoP18 under the National Legislation Project (NLP).

Summary

2. The national legislation of a number of Parties has improved since CoP18 as indicated in the updated table on Status of legislative progress for implementing CITES (October 2020) available on the [CITES website](#). In particular:
- a) The legislation of Mauritania and of Saint Kitts and Nevis has been placed in Category 1.
  - b) Antigua and Barbuda, Guinea, Jordan, Niger, Pakistan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania have adopted revised legislation, but some issues remain to be clarified before the legislation can be placed in Category 1.
  - c) A number of additional Parties have finalized and/or submitted draft legislation for adoption.
  - d) Bahrain acceded to the Convention eight years ago; the Party has therefore been moved from table 2 of recently acceded Parties and added to table 1 and its legislation has been placed in Category 3, pending the adoption of CITES implementing legislation.
  - e) Updates to the progress summary and/or next steps have been included for 37 Parties and ten territories which have reported progress since November 2019.
3. At the end of October 2020, the legislative status is as follows:

Category	Parties		Dependent Territories	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Category 1	106	57.4%	19	63,3%
Category 2	40	22.4%	11	36,7%
Category 3	32	17.5%	0	0
Recent Parties	5	2.7%	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>



#### Updated legislative status

- The Secretariat has continued to support the CITES Parties and their activities related to the National Legislation Project. Several meetings and workshops were held online, given the COVID-19 pandemic, and amendments to legal instruments were signed with two Parties to extend the schedule of planned activities. The Secretariat would like to thank all Parties for their efforts in maintaining communication with the Secretariat and carrying out activities during this period.

#### *Parties requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority*

- The Secretariat recalls that the following Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 have been designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority (Parties marked with \* are currently subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for lack of national legislation): Algeria, Belize, Botswana, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti\*, Ecuador, Guinea, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia\*, Mauritania, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia\*, United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan.
- The Secretariat notes that progress has been reported by 16 of these Parties with only Congo, Djibouti and Uzbekistan not providing any legislative updates since CoP18. After providing further clarifications, the legislation of Mauritania has been placed in Category 1.

#### *Other Parties subject to a warning*

- Following the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat sent a second warning letter to Dominica, Grenada, Libya, Oman and Sao Tome and Principe. In response, Oman submitted draft legislation to the Secretariat in February 2020, whereas none of the others have responded to the Secretariat to date. Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had received a first warning letter. Since then, Saint Kitts and Nevis adopted and submitted legislation that has been placed in Category 1 and the legislative process is underway in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

#### Targeted legislative assistance

##### *Caribbean Parties*

- In consultation with the Bahamas as a Member of the Standing Committee, the CITES Secretariat organized on 18 June 2020 an online meeting related to CITES implementation in the Caribbean. The following Parties were represented: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Haiti (Non-CITES Party, invited as an observer), Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

##### *West Asian Parties*

- The CITES Secretariat and the Regional Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for West Asia organized an online meeting on 21 July 2020 on national legislation for the effective implementation of the Convention for selected CITES Parties in West Asia. The online meeting brought together representatives of the CITES Management Authorities of the following Parties: Bahrain, Iraq,

Jordan, Oman, Kuwait and the Syrian Arab Republic. A number of specific questions with regard to the NLP were clarified. It was agreed to pursue with additional online workshops on eCITES (November 2020), national legislation and on non-detriment findings.

### Conclusion

10. The Secretariat notes that legislative progress has been reported by over half of the Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 since CoP18 as indicated in the [updated legislative status table](#). It's interesting to note that the online meeting with selected Parties in West Asia provided the opportunity for Parties to share their needs for other types of online training, such as NDF and eCITES.