1. This document has been submitted by Switzerland.

2. During the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee the Nomenclature Working Group recommended to adopt the "Catalogue of Fishes" extract (http://www.cites.org/common/com/AC/26/E26-20-A4.pdf) as nomenclature standard reference for all fish species, with the exception of the genus Hippocampus. The primary reason for excluding Hippocampus was due to the numerous differences identified between the species names currently accepted under CITES which have been derived from several publications and the Catalogue of Fishes. The members of the Working Group agreed to recommend to retain the existing nomenclature references for Hippocampus species [listed in the Annex of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15)], with the addition of the five new Hippocampus species described and referred to on page 14 of Annex1 of AC26 Doc 20 (http://www.cites.org/common/com/AC/26/E26-20-A1.pdf)

Unfortunately, due to an oversight, this latter recommendation of accepting the five new Hippocampus species was missed from the WG's report to the Animals Committee and therefore could not be considered by the AC members.

The species concerned are:

- Hippocampus paradoxus Foster & Gomon, 2010
- Hippocampus pontohi Lourie & Kuiter, 2008
- Hippocampus satomiae Lourie & Kuiter, 2008
- Hippocampus severnsi Lourie & Kuiter, 2008
- Hippocampus tyro Randall & Lourie, 2009

The corresponding references are:


It is therefore proposed to accept the five new Hippocampus species referred to above as valid under CITES and request that nomenclature references also mentioned above be adopted and added to the fish section under “Elasmobranchii and Actinopterygii” in the “Annex - List of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties” in Resolution. Conf. 12.11 (Rev CoP15).

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

A. The Secretariat supports the proposal from Switzerland to amend the Annex (‘List of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties’) to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15) on Standard nomenclature by including three additional references for the genus Hippocampus, referring to five new Hippocampus species. These should be indicated under the section dealing with Fauna, Elasmobranchii, Actinopterygii and Sarcopterygii.

B. The Secretariat notes that the proposal from Switzerland is compatible with and complements the recommendations made by the Animals Committee in document CoP16 Doc. 43.1 Annex 2, regarding the adoption of a new, updated CITES nomenclatural standard reference for fish species (except the genus Hippocampus).