Amendment of the Appendices

Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

SECRETARIAT'S ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSALS TO AMEND APPENDICES I AND II

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

2. Article XV, paragraph 1 (a), of the Convention, states that:

   Any Party may propose an amendment to Appendix I or II for consideration at the next meeting [of the Conference of the Parties]. The text of the proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Secretariat at least 150 days before the meeting.

3. By 24 December 2018, i.e. 150 days before the opening date of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 65 Parties had communicated to the Secretariat their proposals or their support to proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II, for consideration at that meeting. These were Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Honduras, India, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Palau, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Ukraine, United States of America, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The proposals were accompanied by supporting statements presented in accordance with the format recommended by the Conference of the Parties [Annex 6 to Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II].

4. The list of the proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II together with the Secretariat's conclusions and recommendations thereon is provided in Annex 1 of the present document.

5. The Secretariat consulted Parties on the proposed amendments in accordance with the provisions of Article XV, paragraphs 1 (a), 2 (b) and (c), through Notification to the Parties No. 2019/004 of 14 January 2019. Responses were received from the following nine Parties before the deadline of 23 March 2019: Benin, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Niger, Peru, Sierra Leone and the United States of America. The full text of their comments in the language in which they were provided are presented in document CoP18 Doc. 105.2.

6. Provisional assessments by the Secretariat for each of the 57 proposals based on Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II were communicated to the Parties through Notification to the Parties No. 2019/018 of 15 March 2019. The Secretariat had prepared these provisional assessments in the context of its responsibilities under Article XV, paragraph 1 (a), of the Convention, and in accordance with Resolution Conf. 5.20 (Rev. CoP17) on Guidelines for the Secretariat when making recommendations in accordance with Article XV.

7. In accordance with the provisions of Article XV, paragraphs 1 (a) and 2 (b), of the Convention, the Secretariat has consulted intergovernmental bodies having a function in relation to marine species regarding the amendment proposals for marine species, including the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Food
and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) and a number of relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs). In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15), on Implementation of the Convention for timber species, the Secretariat has sought the views of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), FAO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) regarding the amendment proposals for timber species. Comments were received from Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), CMS, FAO, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), ICES, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) and South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO). The full text of their comments are available in document CoP18 Doc. 105.3 and its Annexes.

8. On the basis of the consultation procedure and comments received, the Secretariat prepared its final assessments of the proposals and recommendations, that are contained in Annex 2 to the present document.