



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Technical report on the subregional workshop on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and fisheries with Caribbean Countries

30 May to 2 June 2022

FAO Legal Office, Development Law Service
CITES Secretariat

Technical report on the subregional workshop on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and fisheries with Caribbean Countries

30 May to 2 June 2022

Contents

Preparation of the document	v
Abstract	vi
Acronyms and abbreviations	vii
1. Opening of the session	1
2. CITES-specific considerations for the fisheries sector	2
3. Using the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide	3
4. CITES legal implementation in Caribbean Countries	6
4.1 Bahamas	6
4.2 Barbados	6
4.3 Belize	7
4.4 Dominica	8
4.5 Guyana	8
4.6 Grenada	9
4.7 Saint Kitts and Nevis	9
4.8 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	9
4.9 Suriname	10
4.10 Trinidad and Tobago	10
4.11 Saint Lucia	11
5. CITES legal issues in other countries	12
5.1 European Union	12
5.2 United States of America	13
6. CITES and the FAO Agreement on Port States Measures	14
7. CITES legal acquisition findings and Catch Documentation scheme	16
8. CITES and regional organizations	18
8.1 Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission & Caribbean Fishery Management Council	18
9. Group activities, closing remarks and next steps	19
Annex II. Agenda	26
Annex III. Guidance for the Practical Group Exercise on Day 3 (1 June 2022)	29
Annex IV. Guidance for the brainstorming of ideas exercise	35
Annex V. Template checklist on assessing legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks	37
Annex VI. FAO-CITES evaluation form	42

Preparation of the document

This is the report of the subregional training workshop on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and fisheries for the Caribbean Countries. The workshop was jointly organized by the Development Law Service of the FAO Legal Office and the Legal Unit of the CITES Secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean, the FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean and the FAO Offices in the concerned countries. The workshop was held virtually from 30 May to 2 June 2022.

This report was jointly prepared by FAO and the CITES Secretariat. Copy-editing and layout were undertaken by Jessica Marasovic.

Abstract

This document contains the report of the subregional training workshop on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and fisheries for the Caribbean Countries, jointly organized by the Development Law Service of the FAO Legal Office and the CITES Secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, the FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, and the FAO Offices in the concerned countries. The workshop was held virtually from 30 May to 2 June 2022. The workshop aimed at raising awareness and strengthening the understanding of CITES implementation in the fisheries sector; introducing and training participants on the use of the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide; and identifying countries' needs and interests in enhancing national fisheries legislation for a better implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector.

A total of 106 participants joined the workshop, from eleven Caribbean Countries (The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago), other invited CITES parties (European Union and the United States of America), the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the CITES Secretariat and FAO.

The four-day programme included presentations on CITES key principles and requirements and their applicability in the fisheries sector; clarifications on commercially-exploited aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix II; opportunities for collaboration between CITES and fisheries authorities; correlations between CITES and fisheries management; an introduction on how to use the [FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide](#); the relevance of FAO's PSMA and CDS; and knowledge-sharing on practical experiences of CITES implementation at national and regional levels.

This is the second of a series of subregional workshops on CITES and fisheries, organized by the CITES Secretariat and FAO. The first subregional workshop was held with Pacific Island countries. The next subregional workshop is planned for certain Latin American countries in 2023.

Acronyms and abbreviations

CDS	Catch Documentation Scheme
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 1973
CoP	Conference of the Parties
EEZ	exclusive economic zone
FA	Fisheries Authority
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIES	Global Information Exchange System
IFS	introduction from the sea
IUU	illegal, unreported and unregulated
KDE	key data element
LAF	legal acquisition finding
LOSC	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982
MA	Management Authority (of CITES)
MCS	monitoring, control and surveillance
NDF	non-detriment finding
NLP	National Legislation Project (of CITES)
PSMA	Agreement on Port States Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing 2009
RFMO	regional fisheries management organizations
SA	Scientific Authority (of CITES)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
VMS	vessel monitoring system
WECAFC	Western and Central Atlantic Fishery Commission

1. Opening of the session

1. The CITES Secretariat and the Development Law Service (LEGN) of the FAO Legal Office jointly organized a four-day subregional training workshop for Caribbean Countries held virtually from 30 May to 2 June 2022. The FAO Regional Office for Latin American and the Caribbean (FAO-RLC), the FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean (FAO-SLC), and the FAO Offices in the concerned countries also collaborated in organizing the workshop.
2. The workshop's objective was to train representatives of national fisheries administrations, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities and other relevant institutions on strengthening cooperation between fisheries and CITES authorities to effectively implement CITES in the fisheries sector. The workshop also aimed at raising awareness and strengthening the understanding of CITES implementation in the fisheries sector; introducing and training participants on the use of the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide; and identifying countries' needs and interests in enhancing national fisheries legislation for a better implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector.
3. A total of 106 participants joined the workshop, from eleven Caribbean Countries (The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago), other invited CITES parties (European Union [EU] and the United States of America [USA]), the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the CITES Secretariat and FAO.
4. FAO's Fisheries and Aquaculture Division shared vital information and provided critical insights to the workshop participants, in particular on the relevance to CITES of FAO's Port States Measures Agreement (PSMA) and Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS Guidelines) and associated technical guidelines.
5. The virtual workshop was conducted using the Zoom platform. Some participants followed the workshop from a single venue in strict observance of the applicable COVID-19 rules and protocols. The list of participants is provided in [Annex I](#).
6. Ms Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe, Legal Consultant of LEGN, was the workshop's facilitator.
7. On behalf of FAO, Mrs Yvette Diei Ouadi, Fishery and Aquaculture Officer of FAO-SLC, thanked all participants for their time and interest in joining and participating at the workshop. Mrs Ouadi recalled on the importance of the waters of the Caribbean as home to aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices, such as species of sharks and rays, teatfish, and queen conch. These species support livelihoods and economic opportunities for communities in several Parties to the Convention. The sustainable use of these species and the regulation of their trade is of paramount importance for their conservation. Mrs Ouadi noted that FAO has been collaborating with the CITES Secretariat for decades, since the 1990s. The current initiative aims at strengthening the capacity of developing countries to ensure the sustainability, legality and traceability of international trade in CITES-listed species, with a focus on commercially exploited aquatic species. Mrs Ouadi underscored the workshop's objective, which is to train representatives of national fisheries administrations, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities and other relevant institutions on the importance of CITES to the fisheries sector and vice-versa, clarifying the interactions between CITES and fisheries, and strengthening cooperation between fisheries and CITES authorities for the effective implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector. With this workshop, it is hoped that countries' technical capacities in relation to CITES and its relationship with fisheries are enhanced, contributing to achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14, in particular its targets 14.4 and 14.A, through promoting the development and enhancement of scientific knowledge technology and research capacity to assist in the making of non-detriment findings; ensuring lawful harvesting; lawful transport as well as the control and monitoring of

trade in order to avoid over-exploitation of species and ensuring the sustainability of fisheries.

8. On behalf of the CITES Secretariat, Ms Rachel Gaughan, Legal Officer in the CITES Secretariat, welcomed participants to the workshop and thanked FAO for taking the lead in organizing and moderating the event, as well as the EU and the USA for providing the funds, which, through the CITES National Legislation Project (NLP), have been supporting technical assistance activities and the publication of the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide in the three official languages of the Convention (English, Spanish and French). Ms Gaughan recalled that the workshop's objective was to enhance the implementation of CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks. She emphasized that participants would discuss what such implementation entails, why it is important and invited all participants to contribute to the discussion on how implementation could best be achieved, including how fisheries and CITES authorities could work better toward common goals and objectives to ensure the sustainable and legal use of marine resources. In this regard, Ms Gaughan recalled CITES vision statement adopted in 2019, which provided that by 2030:

all international trade in wild fauna and flora [must be] legal and sustainable, consistent with the long-term conservation of species, and thereby contributing to halting biodiversity loss, to ensuring its sustainable use, and to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

9. Ms Julia Nakamura, Legal Consultant of LEGN, shared some housekeeping notes, and presented the workshop's agenda, which is provided in Annex II.

2. CITES-specific considerations for the fisheries sector

10. Rachel Gaughan began her presentation with five facts about CITES, explaining that CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, adopted on 3 March 1973 and entered into force in 1975; it regulates international trade in specimens of 38 000 species of wild fauna and flora with the aim to ensure such trade does not threaten their survival; it is a dynamic and adaptive instrument with three Appendices that are amended regularly at least every three years; and it is almost universally binding with 184 Parties. She then referred to the publication FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide and emphasized that the fisheries sector and the CITES regime interact where there is an international trade transaction (i.e. import, export, re-export, or introduction from the sea) in a CITES-listed aquatic species.
11. An overview of the five key selected aspects of CITES in a fisheries context was presented. The first aspect concerned the obligation of Parties to CITES to designate a Management Authority (MA) and a Scientific Authority (SA). Recommendations relating to these included the importance of establishing a MA through a legally binding instrument, which can clearly specify the powers and responsibilities of the MA; having independent authorities to undertake the functions of MA and SA, respectively, to avoid conflicts of interests; and adequately regulating mechanisms for coordination between the MA, SA and enforcement agencies. Except for Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname, all the other Caribbean countries have included their national fisheries agency as one of the SAs.
12. The second aspect was the regulation by national legislation of trade in all species included in the three Appendices to CITES. These species include non-native species. Specimens include finished products, parts and derivatives and scientific samples. International commercial trade in Appendix I-listed species is generally prohibited; trade is only allowed for non-commercial purposes. While international trade in Appendix II-listed species is permitted but controlled pursuant to a permit system and conditions. In Appendix III-listed species, it is permitted but monitored by the concerned countries.
13. The **third** aspect was the inclusion of 'introduction from the sea' (IFS) in the regulation of international trade. The IFS is a one-State transaction, when a vessel registered in State A harvests a CITES-listed species in the

high seas and lands in State A.

14. The **fourth** aspect was the establishment by national legislation of the conditions for authorizing trade. Before an IFS certificate or export permit can be granted, the State of introduction or the State of export must ensure the non-detriment finding (NDF), the legal acquisition finding (LAF) and the handling of live specimen to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. A sample of a CITES permit was presented to show what the document looks like.
15. The **fifth** aspect was the prohibition by national legislation of trade in specimens in violation of the Convention. Parties must not authorize any trade unless the conditions are fulfilled, must ensure national legislation is in place to penalize trade in or possession of specimens in violation of the Convention, and provide for the confiscation or return of the State of export of illegally traded specimens.

3. Using the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide

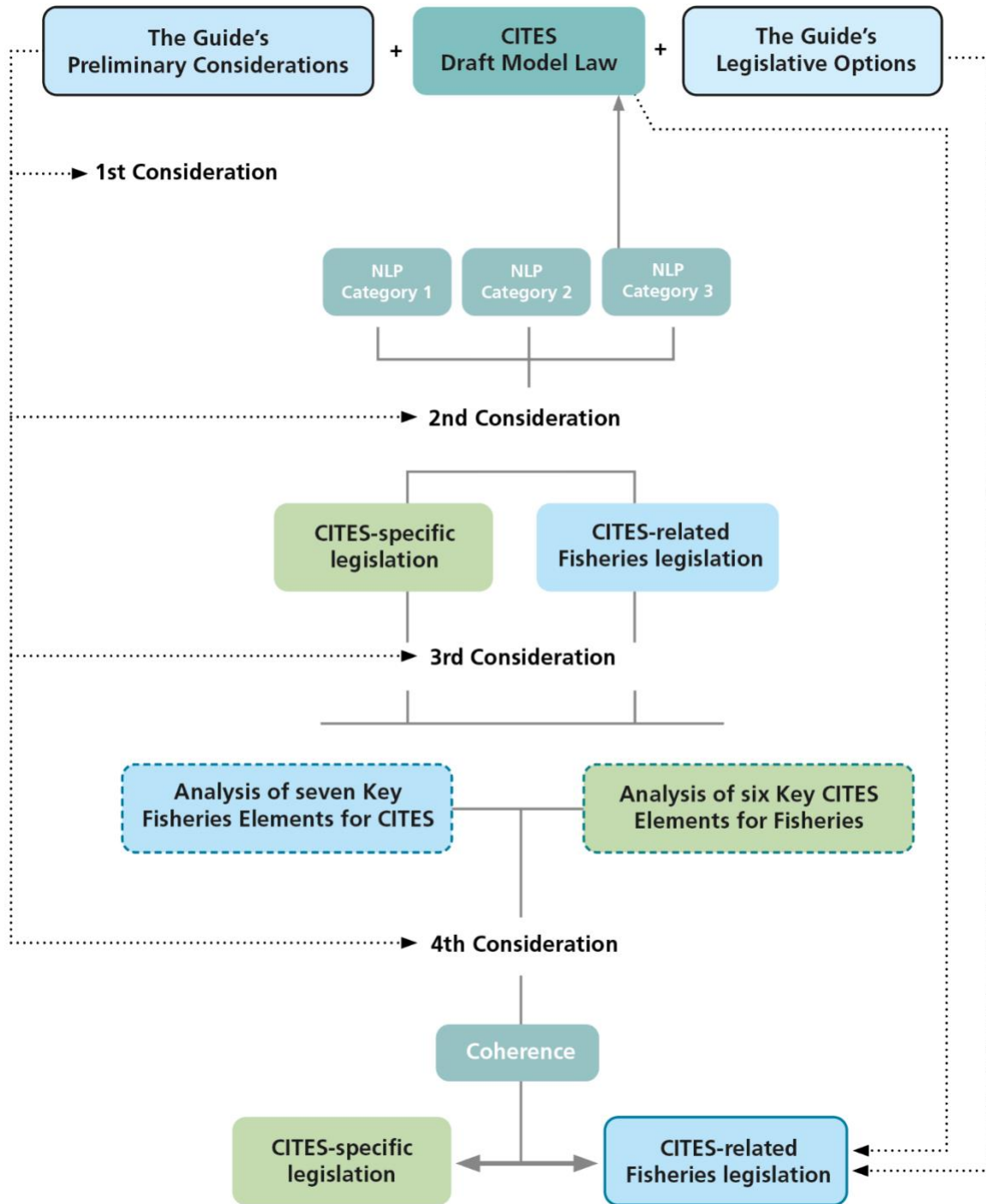
16. Blaise Kuemlengan began the presentation by introducing the [FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide](#), which has two parts. The first part is the Study, which is an awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing component, providing an understanding of the actual CITES regime and how it links to the fisheries sector and related issues, with a view to developing an appreciation of the potential role that CITES regulatory approaches and tools can play in the fisheries sector and vice versa. The other component is the Guide, which is a CITES implementation practical guidance tool, which provides support in reviewing relevant legislation and ensuring that key elements of CITES are taken into account or incorporated in legal provisions, with a view to implement CITES by enhancing national fisheries legal frameworks. Both the Study and Guide can be used by various stakeholders, including fishers, fisheries managers, CITES authorities, customs authorities and maritime authorities. It is important that the relevant stakeholders cooperate and coordinate in their efforts to review existing legislation and implement CITES in national fisheries legal frameworks. An overview of some of the commercially exploited aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix II was presented, highlighting the listing of all species of seahorses, various sharks species, humphead wrasse, manta and devil rays, guitarfishes, wedgefishes, and sea cucumber.
17. Blaise Kuemlengan also emphasized that, while CITES and the fisheries sector do not normally interact at least directly in many cases, there are opportunities for collaboration and convergence, ensuring that stakeholders of the two communities of practice (CITES and fisheries) are aware and work towards the common objectives of sustainably using aquatic resources, including CITES-listed species and, in a wider context, biodiversity and ecosystems. In reference to Table 4 of the Study, the correlations between outputs of the CITES regime and fisheries management were also highlighted. Some examples of conservation and management measures of selected regional fishery bodies (RFBs), including regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), were presented to illustrate their relevance to CITES. In implementing CITES, it is possible to achieve fisheries management objectives and learn from CITES concepts, so it is important that delegates from CITES and RFBs coordinate their work when attending the CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP), RFBs meetings and FAO Committee on Fisheries meetings.
18. Julia Nakamura continued the presentation on how to use the Guide, emphasizing that she will provide a brief overview. She explained that the Guide was developed based on methodologies and approaches adopted by LEGN in previous guidance materials, such as those on the ecosystem approach to fisheries, the deep-sea fisheries guidelines and the small-scale fisheries guidelines. This methodology first entails assessing the existing national legislation of a country, then verifying its alignment with a given international standard, followed by ensuring that it is consistent and coherent, and then moving towards potential need for review of existing legislation and adoption of new ones. In the workshop, the focus will be on first assessing the

CITES-specific legislation (generally referring to wildlife use, protection, or specifically referring to CITES implementation) and CITES-related legislation (generally regulating a sector), which, in the present case, is the fisheries sector. This is followed by verifying that the key elements for fisheries are in CITES legislation and the key elements for CITES are in fisheries legislation. Based on this assessment, users will be better positioned to understand whether there is consistency and coherence between the CITES-specific legislation and the fisheries legislation, and whether there are gaps and needs for improvement in fisheries legislation. Last, where the decision taken is to improve fisheries legislation, the legislative options of the Guide become relevant.

19. Julia Nakamura explained the four preliminary considerations of the Guide. She recalled the meaning of Category 1, 2 or 3 under the CITES NLP prior to going through the first preliminary consideration, which is to identify in which of these categories the legislation of the Party is placed by the CITES Secretariat. Then, she explained the second preliminary consideration, which is to identify the main national CITES-specific legislation and the relevant national fisheries legislation. Based on the selected legislation, the third preliminary consideration can then be evaluated, that is, to assess the key fisheries elements in CITES-specific legislation and assess the key CITES elements in fisheries legislation. Finally, the fourth preliminary consideration is to inform legal drafters, practitioners, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders on the assessment carried out and the approach to follow. The expected outcomes of the preliminary considerations are: identifying potential gaps in the legislation, how legislation can be improved to ensure consistency, coherence and complementarity in both sets of legislation, and whether the fisheries legislation needs amendments or development of new legislation. If the latter is the decision, then the Guide's Legislative Options become pertinent in supporting legislative and amendment drafting. Julia Nakamura briefly showed the Guide's Legislative Options and highlighted that they are organized in a typical primary fisheries legislation structure to facilitate the assessment.

Figure

Guide to implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks



Source: **Nakamura, J.N. and Kuemlangan, B.** 2020. Implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) through national fisheries legal frameworks: a study and a guide. Legal Guide No. 4. Rome, FAO, p. 102.

4. CITES legal implementation in Caribbean Countries

4.1 Bahamas

20. Dr Lester Gittens, Senior Fisheries Officer at the Department of Marine Resources under the Bahamas' Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Family Island Affairs (MAMRFIA), presented on behalf of the Bahamas.
21. The MAMRFIA includes the Department of Agriculture, which is the designated CITES MA, and the Department of Marine Resources, which is the designated CITES SA. This ministry is advised, in relation to CITES issues, by a committee comprised by experts, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other government departments.
22. The legal authority of CITES in the Bahamas is the Wildlife Conservation and Trade Act of 2004, which is implemented by various enforcement agencies acting in collaboration (Royal Bahamas Defence Force, Royal Bahamas Police Force, Customs officers, Agricultural officers, and Fisheries officers). An interesting issue that the act provides is that any amendments to CITES Appendices are automatically incorporated after 90 days, without the need for a public announcement.
23. As part of CITES implementation in fisheries, that the queen conch was the main species commercially exported from the Bahamas. It was a challenge to conduct stock assessments and NDFs for queen conch, because Bahamas has multiple queen conch fishing grounds, with extensive areas to police. Consequently, the commercial export quota served as NDF. As of 2022, a policy decision determined that queen conch is no longer commercially exported in Bahamas, and potentially there will be a regulation on this matter. The decision was implemented by gradually reducing the export quota to zero.
24. Another major initiative in the Bahamas is the Marine Action Partnership, which is a multiyear partnership that coordinates and enhances the efforts of conservation organizations and government agencies to improve marine resources management through effective collaboration with fishing communities and other stakeholders. It also aims at expanding the capacity of government agencies and marine protected areas (MPAs) managers to enforce marine regulations, and the capacity of fishers and the broader industry to adhere to them, with the goal of markedly increasing overall compliance.
25. The main challenges for CITES implementation in the Bahamas include: lack of support from FAO reviews regarding the inclusion of marine species in CITES Appendices, which are provided after Bahamas' co-sponsoring the listing of marine species; the attempts to convert electronic permitting; policing the borders; finding funds to attend CITES CoPs; and the hurricanes and Covid-19 (for example, during the pandemic there was an increase of harvesting of juvenile conchs, due to the lack of alternative options for food).

4.2 Barbados

26. Mr Adrian Bellamy, Assistant Project Coordinator at the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section under the Barbados' Ministry of Environment and National Beautification (MMABE), presented on behalf of Barbados. Barbados became a Party to CITES on 9 December 1992, and the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section within the MMABE serves as the CITES MA. The CITES SA for Barbados is comprised by experts from the University of the West Indies, representatives from the Veterinary Services Department, Plant Quarantine Unit, Entomology and Pathology Division, Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section, Coastal Zone Management Unit, the Fisheries Division, and independent Veterinary officers. By law, the CITES SA in Barbados is constituted of no less than five nor more than 12 members, appointed by the

minister of MMABE, and qualified in various areas including botany, zoology, entomology, and marine ecology.

27. The enforcement of CITES in Barbados is the responsibility of both CITES MAs and SAs. The legislation that facilitates CITES implementation is the [International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act \(CAP 262\) of 2006](#). This act provides several penalties (fines and imprisonment) for offences, such as failing to produce any permit, or producing false permits.
28. CITES is implemented by Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section within the MMABE, serving as the CITES MA, through the following functions: issuing permits and certificates; maintaining records of trade; consulting with the CITES SA; advising the competent minister on matters of policy; and preparing annual reports.
29. There are very few challenges for CITES implementation in Barbados. One of the main ones is the lack of financial and human resources. Consequently, the CITES MA relies on border control officers (Customs and Excise Department, Plant Quarantine Unit, Veterinary Services Department) to enforce CITES provisions at ports of entry; the CITES MA is responsible for facilitating training of border control officers on the importance of proper CITES implementation; Barbados has limited capacity to quickly deliver LAFs and NDFs.
30. Regarding CITES and fisheries, there are very few import and export of CITES listed species. Currently, only imports of caviar are conducted, about once or twice a year. Species include Siberian sturgeon (*Acipenser baerii*), Amur sturgeon (*Acipenser schrenckii*), Kaluya sturgeon (*Huso dauricus*), Russian sturgeon (*Acipenser gueldenstaedtii*), and Beluga (*Huso huso*).

4.3 Belize

31. Mr Mauro Gongora, Fisheries Officer at the Belize Fisheries Department, presented on behalf of Belize.
32. The CITES MA is shared among the Belize's Forest Department (which oversees the sustainable management of forest resources) and Fisheries Department (which has the direct mandate of the management of aquatic and fisheries resources).
33. The legal framework relevant to CITES and fisheries is the [draft Trade in Endangered Species \(CITES\) bill of 2022](#), which is at its last stage of revision with the Attorney General, and the current [Fisheries Resources Act No. 7 of 2020](#).
34. Mr Gongora focused on queen conch, the species that are included in CITES Appendix II, and which represent 24 percent of total exports from Belize. Since 2001, Belize does full queen conch stock assessments every year, with information on historical population, structure, shell length, density, abundance and biomass availability estimates. Thus, there is good information available to develop an NDF for queen conch in Belize.
35. In terms of partnerships, the Belize Fisheries Department works with various stakeholders, including co-managers environmental organizations (e.g., Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association, Southern Environmental Association, Toledo Institute for Development and Environment, Hol Chan Marine Reserve Board of Trustees), different government departments (e.g., Forest Department, Agricultural Health Authority, Customs and Excise, Bureau of Standards – supplies and control unit, Police, Coastal Guard, and High Seas Fisheries Unit), the Fisheries Council, which provides recommendations to improve coordination for the sustainable growth of the fisheries sector, the Working Groups (on national spawning aggregation, sea turtle conservation, coral reef monitoring, manatee, and sharks).

36. Challenges for CITES implementation in Belize include: limited financial and human resources for data collection and catch monitoring of shark landing sites; enforcement of new regulations, such as the *new Fisheries Regulations SI No. 128 of 2021 on sharks*; limited resources mobilization; and need for an e-platform (central hub for sharing and monitoring certificates issued).

4.4 Dominica

37. Ms Shainae Alexander, Public Awareness Assistant at the Ministry of the Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment (MBGEANFS) presented on behalf of Dominica. Ms Alexander recalled that Dominica became a Party to CITES on 4 August 1995. The CITES MA is the MBGEANFS, and both the CITES SA and enforcement focal point include the Fisheries Development Division.
38. The implementation of CITES in fisheries in Dominica works as follows: for import, the exporting country prepares a CITES permit to be taken to authorities in the receiving country, the Fisheries Division receives the permit and prepares an import permit; for export, the Fisheries Division prepares an export permit, and such permit is taken to the CITES MA for the preparation of CITES permit.
39. The main challenges for CITES implementation in Dominica concern legislation and staffing.

4.5 Guyana

40. Ms Alona Sankar, Commissioner of the Guyana's Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission (GWCMC), presented on behalf of Guyana.
41. Two key institutions involved in CITES implementation in the fisheries sector are the GWCMC, which implements the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2016, and the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture, which implements the Fisheries Act of 2002.
42. The Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2016 is the CITES implementing legislation of Guyana, establishing the GWCMC, which serves as the CITES MA, and the Wildlife Scientific Committee, which serves as the CITES SA. Amendments to the schedules of the act (which correspond to CITES Appendices) can be concluded through publication of order in the Official Gazette.
43. Applications to export wild fauna and flora are submitted to the Wildlife Scientific Committee, which makes an NDF and recommendation of whether the GWCMC should approve or not the application. The decision of the GWCMC on accepting or not the advice must be approved by the competent minister in writing. Once approved, the Licensing and Permitting Division issues the export permit, which must be endorsed by officers of the Monitoring and Compliance Division.
44. The Fisheries Act of 2002 provides for the promotion, management and development of fisheries and for matters connected therewith. The Fisheries Department is responsible for managing, regulating, and promoting the sustainable development of the country's fisheries resources for the benefit of the participants in the sector and the national economy. The primary components of the Fisheries Department are marine fisheries, inland fisheries, and aquaculture.
45. The main challenges for CITES implementation in Guyana concern the lack of capability to make LAFs and NDFs for marine species, specially sharks, and to identify sharks specimens. There is also need to put in place a coordination mechanism to facilitate the coordinated work of the GWCMC and the Fisheries Department.

4.6 Grenada

46. Mr Anthony Jeremiah, Senior Forestry Officer at the Forestry and National Parks Department under the Grenada's Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Forestry (MALF), presented on behalf of Grenada.
47. The structure for CITES implementation in Grenada stems from the MALF, under which the Forestry and National Parks Department functions as the CITES MA, and various institutions function as the CITES SA, including the Fishers' Division. The enforcement authorities rely on the Customs Department and the Royal Grenada Police Force.
48. Grenada is currently under a trade suspension, as notified by the CITES Secretariat in March 2022. Such suspension is based primarily on non-submission of annual reporting and illegal trade of queen conch. An ultimatum has been given as a guide to update the current status and reinstate the functioning and implementation of the Convention. Guidance has been provided to address the trade suspension notification, including the need to implement local measures such as writing to the Secretariat requesting the publication of a zero export quota for queen conch, conducting stock assessment as a NDF to justify new quota; drafting amending legislation taking into account comments from the Secretariat; developing CITES legislative plan; and providing annual report 2012–2015.
49. The current challenges for CITES implementation in Grenada include: updating country profile with the CITES Secretariat and appointing a focal-point for effective communication with the Secretariat; staffing, with lack of adequate personnel within Ministries; communication with key stakeholders; public education and awareness.

4.7 Saint Kitts and Nevis

50. Ms Maritza Queeley, Port State Control Officer at the Department of Marine Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Constituency Empowerment (MAMRCE), Presented on behalf of Saint Kitts and Nevis. The CITES MA is the Department of Agriculture within the MAMRCE, but the competent authority for the issuance of CITES permits for marine species is the Department of Marine Resources.
51. The *Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Resources Act of 2016* (section 59) provides for collaboration on postharvest activities among the Department of Marine Resources and the ministries responsible for health, commerce and industry, and other relevant government agencies to ensure regulation of the import, handling, sale, transport, storage, treatment and processing of fish.
52. Major fisheries in Saint Kitts and Nevis include queen conch, which is included in CITES Appendix II. Any person importing or exporting these species require an import permit from the country of origin and and export permit from the Department of Marine Resources, as well as the CITES permit.
53. The main challenges for CITES implementation in Saint Kitts and Nevis include making the research assessment needed for LAFs and NDFs; monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS), especially in transshipment and IUU fishing; human capacity and resources.

4.8 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

54. Mr Kris Isaacs, Senior Fisheries Officer at the Fisheries Division under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour (MAFFRTIL), presented on behalf of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

55. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines joined CITES on 30 November 1988, and CITES entered into force on 28 February 1989. Both the CITES MA and the CITES SA are within the MAFFRITL. The queen conch is the main species of seafood and seafood product exports for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, accounting for 63 percent of total fisheries exports in 2020, bringing over XCD 5 284 413. There was an explosion of queen conch exports from 2017, due to the opening of airports to the international market.
56. The management and regulation of queen conch is carried out through the *Fisheries Regulations of 1987*, which stipulates minimum size of seven inches for conch shells, total meat weight of no less than eight oz / 225 g after removal of the digestive gland, landing requirements that all conch must be landed with a flared lip, and persons wishing to export queen conch must have a CITES permit.
57. Initiatives undertaken in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines include: a desktop review assessing queen conch population with information on the status of the resource; an in-situ conch survey in March 2022 in collaboration with the Blue Marine Foundation and the SVG Environment Fund; the expansion of MPAs; analysis conducted on queen conch value-chain; and the trail of satellite monitoring system for artisanal fishing fleet; and the Blue Biotrade initiative in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat and the Organization for the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).
58. The main challenges for CITES implementation in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines include the Covid-19 pandemic; the April 2021 volcanic eruption; the limited management for a growing industry, which results in the overexploitation and expected intensification of fishing effort; limited capacity of routine monitoring and NDFs.
59. The priorities for action include stock assessment and mapping of critical habitats for conch to refine estimates of potential yield; more rigorous enforcement of existing regulations and continued education of fishers on size limits due to entry of young divers to value-chain; and introducing mechanisms to prevent unsustainable harvest levels.

4.9 Suriname

60. Mr Romeo Lala, Chief Permit Section of the Nature Conservation Division at the Forest Service, CITES MA, presented on behalf of Suriname.
61. Since 15 February 1981 that Suriname is a Party to CITES. The implementation of CITES has been mainly focused on the terrestrial species, for which an annual export quota is being set by the CITES MA based on the advice or approval of the CITES SA. The implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector started with the export of the *Potamotrygon spp* a couple of years ago, as an export quota was set out by the Fisheries Service. This service was advising the CITES MA on the issuance of CITES export permits.
62. Some challenges for CITES implementation in Suriname concerns: the fact that, pursuant to the CITES NLP, Suriname is a category II; lack of compliance with CITES encountered during enforcement patrols, concerning *Asian Arowanas spp*; need to strengthen cooperation with the Fisheries Department to better understand the production and harvest in CITES fish species; the CITES MA has no overview of the registration of the fishing fleets, thus there is need for collaboration and capacity building on this matter; lack of funding to make NDFs on the quota listed species and other relevant marine species.
63. Romeo Lala also raised the issue of measures from the CITES Secretariat to bring export quota to zero for the *Amazonia farinosa*, *Ara Chloropterus*, *Ara ararauna* and *Chelonoidis denticulatus*.

4.10 Trinidad and Tobago

64. Ms Nerissa Lucky, Director of Fisheries at the Fisheries Division under the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, presented on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago.
65. Trinidad and Tobago joined CITES on 18 April 1984 and has, since then, remained a category II country under the CITES NLP. The legal framework is a combination of two pieces of legislation: the *Conservation of Wildlife Act of 1958, as last amended in 2013* and the *Fisheries Act of 1916, as last amended in 2014*. There is no specific CITES legislation, nor the legally designated CITES MA and SA, but informally the competent authority is recognized as the Forestry Division (CITES MA).
66. Trinidad and Tobago is currently reviewing the old fisheries act, and the Fisheries Management Bill of 2020 is before the Parliament, providing for, inter alia: development of fisheries management plans, implementation of licensing and registration system; prohibiting the taking of certain species; regulation of trade, transshipment, in-transit movement of fish; requiring the Director of Fisheries to collaborate closely with other government agencies in the implementation of the act; and addressing international obligations as a flag, coastal, port and market State. There is also a draft National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks. These instruments can support the implementation of CITES in the fisheries sector.
67. Trinidad and Tobago acceded to the PSMA in October 2019, and the plan is to start monitoring the harvesting from foreign vessels, strengthen the national inspection. As a contracting party to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Trinidad and Tobago supports the measures regulating trade of some species of sharks. For such species, there has also been improvements on the monitoring systems to be able to report on bycatch and discards of sharks species prohibited for trade.
68. For CITES-listed species, chilled and frozen fish, a CITES permit is required for all imports/ exports prior to issuance of approval for permit. For export of live fish, CITES permit is required prior to approval; and for import of live fish including coral, CITES permit must be presented upon arrival and inspection of shipment at customs bonded ports of entry. All live fish imports and exports are inspected on arrival or departure.
69. Challenges for CITES implementation in Trinidad and Tobago concerns: inadequate Legal Framework; inadequate staff for monitoring landings at ports; inadequate data and capacity to conduct stock assessment to inform NDF's; limited means of verification of CITES permit number and authorizing signature of different countries; and insufficient communication among government agencies and the conservation community due to high turnover of officers within Ministries.

4.11 Saint Lucia

70. Mrs Sarita Williams-Peter, Chief Fisheries Officer, within the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development (MAFFSRD), presented on behalf of Saint Lucia. The CITES MA and SA are under the MAFFSRD, and the CITES SA includes the Department of Fisheries.
71. The Customs and Excise Department facilitates legitimate trade and travel, effective border management and revenue collection. The digitized process using the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) is evidence of this digitalization. The Royal Saint Lucia Police Force is responsible for interception and evidence handling, and the Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs - Department of Trade deals with the legitimate trade and trade approvals. The MAFFSRD is in charge of the inspections and quarantine.
72. In terms of NDFs, there is information available for stock assessment for queen conch, but there remain issues with the consistency and regular undertaking of records of landings, and regular undertaking or updating of stocks assessments. On LAFs, issues concern the streamline export permission process and the

verification of populations.

73. Challenges for CITES implementation in Saint Lucia include update of PERMIT forms (in progress); training (regular) for new team members; identification of CITES listed species and by-products esp. those not within Saint Lucia waters; ease of doing business and costs associated (e-permits; inspections of items); public Education and awareness (regular and consistent); monitoring of vendors; border management; participation at COP (two Scientific Authorities); streamline export requirements and process; and forged permits from other countries (rare).

5. CITES legal issues in other countries

5.1 European Union

74. Ms Agata Sobiech, Team Leader with the CITES and wildlife trafficking at the Director-General Environment of the European Commission, provided a brief overview of CITES implementation in the EU and the Common Fisheries Policy, which are binding on all 27 Member States. The legal implementation of CITES is operationalized through the *EU Wildlife Trade Regulations* – which include the EU Council Regulation 338/79 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora ('Basic Regulation'), EU Implementing Regulation 865/2006, EU Permit Regulation 792/2012, and EU Suspension Regulation 2019/1587.
75. The EU also has a non-legislative framework, which is the Wildlife Action Plan, listing different actions relating to prevention (awareness-raising, demand/supply reduction, engaging with communities and business, anti-corruption), implementation and enforcement (strategic approach to checks, capacity-building, focus on organized crime), global partnership (targeted official development assistance, bilateral/inter-regional cooperation, and multilateral). There is a review process ongoing to update the plan. For the upcoming CITES CoP-19, the EU plans to propose two marine species – *Thelenota spp* (sea cucumber) and *Sphyrnidae* (hammerhead sharks).
76. The Director-General in charge of fisheries and seas is frequently included in the discussions regarding CITES SAs, Mas, and marine species.
77. The EU Fisheries Management System is regulated by the Common Fisheries Policy, which is a set of rules on the conservation of marine biological resources and the management and control of fisheries and fleets exploiting them. The CFP aims to 'ensure that fishing activities are environmentally sustainable in the long-term and are managed in a way that is consistent with the objectives of achieving economic, social and environmental benefits, and of contribution to the availability of food supplies'. There are several measures agreed at the EU level, including catch limits, conservation reference points, minimum conservation reference sizes, technical measures, fishing efforts restrictions, fishing capacity reductions, and obligations to land all catches.
78. The *IUU Regulation No. 1005 of 2008* prevents IUU fishing products from entering the EU market, and allows the EU to work with other countries to promote and ensure compliance with international obligations and standards for the fight against IUU fishing. Based on these regulations, the EU has received notifications from over 90 countries regarding the necessary instruments and arrangements in place, and there is an ongoing dialogue with 60 countries to evaluate the arrangements in place to prevent IUU fishing. Such dialogue with the EU involves: (i) 'pre-identification' (yellow card), when the European Commission opens a formal dialogue within a minimum of six months and, if the country improves its situation, the six-month period can be prolonged and ultimately the pre-identification can be removed; (ii) 'delisting', when the continued dialogue can lead to restoring the import of legally caught fisheries products; (iii) 'identification' (red card),

when the country does not address the problems and the EU identifies such country as non-cooperating and it is imposed a ban of all products for which the catch certificate is validated after the decision enters into force; and (iv) 'listing by the EU', when the fisheries products caught by fishing vessels flying the flag of these countries cannot be imported into the EU while the countries remain listed, triggering further measures such as the ban for EU fishing vessels in these countries.

5.2 United States of America

79. Dr Mary Cogliano, Acting Chief of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) (the designated CITES MA), presented on behalf of the United States of America. The Convention is implemented through the [US Endangered Species Act](#) and the details of US implementation are provided in the CITES-implementing regulations, which are part of the Code of Federal Regulations. In the USA, there is one CITES MA, a single office for CITES policy and coordination, which issues all permits, except for some delegation of permit issuance to Law Enforcement. There is also only one CITES SA, a single office for CITES science policy, responsible for both plants and animals, and for providing all NDFs for permits and findings.

80. The CITES MA works together with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - Fisheries, which is the fisheries management and regulatory authority in the USA. Mary Cogliano explained the main differences between FWS and NOAA-Fisheries. For instance, FWS is within the US Department of Interior while NOAA-Fisheries is within the US Department of Commerce; FWS is responsible for conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and plants, and their habitats, while NOAA-Fisheries is responsible for the stewardship of the country's ocean resources and their habitats.
81. As the CITES MA, FWS is responsible for issuing IFS certificates, export, re-export, and import permits. Prior to the issuance of permits or certificates, the FWS CITES MA and SA make the relevant permit findings and determinations. The FWS consults with the NOAA-Fisheries on permit applications for marine species, and on the making of NDFs and LAFs. The FWS requests information to the NOAA-Fisheries, which then provides information to the FWS. The FWS makes the findings and issues or denies the CITES permits, which are mailed to the permittees, and the FWS clears the shipment at port.
82. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is the agency responsible for the management of marine species in federal waters. Conservation and management measures adopted by RFMOs to which the USA is a member are implemented domestically by the NMFS through regulations. Federal fisheries management provides a framework to support US implementation of CITES. NMFS supports the CITES SA within the FWS in the making of NDFs by providing information on applicable US federal management plans and regulations (including quota, size limits, seasonal closures), RFMO conservation and management measures, and other scientific information as appropriate. When the CITES MA receives the permit application, the NMFS reviews compliance with all relevant requirements, including fisheries management regulations, licensing requirements, and regulations implementing RFMO measures.
83. The current challenges for CITES implementation in the USA include implementing some of the IFS requirements, particularly the clearance of IFS shipments at US ports, due to the logistical challenges at ports.

6. CITES and the FAO Agreement on Port States Measures

84. Mrs Minmin Lei, Fisheries Officer with the Fisheries Global and Regional Processes Team, shared an overview of the PMSA, a legally binding instrument adopted under FAO auspices. The freedom of the high seas, as provided under Article 87 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOSC), is not absolute, and States must comply with certain obligations, including that to meet the relevant treaties obligations. Many other international instruments have been adopted since the LOSC. Some of legally binding nature, such as the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, the Compliance, and the PSMA. Others are voluntary, and there are also the measures adopted through RFMOs. It is on States' duty to implement obligations as flag, coastal, port and market States to ensure the sustainable management of marine resources. In fact, this week Members of FAO are attending a technical consultation to negotiate the text of a new instrument, the Voluntary Guidelines on Transshipment. All these instruments provide the legal framework for sustainable fisheries, but this is undermined by IUU fishing.
85. Minmin Lei explained that the International Plan of Action on IUU fishing is often referred to as delineating the scope of IUU fishing. As such, illegal fishing stands for 'fishing and fishing-related activities conducted in contravention of national and international law'; unreported fishing concerns 'non-reporting, misreporting or under-reporting of information on fishing operations and their catches'; unregulated fishing includes different activities, such as fishing by Stateless vessels, fishing in convention areas of RFMOs by non-party vessels, and fishing activities which are not regulated by States. In connection with IUU fishing is the crimes

in the fisheries sector. For FAO, it is important to distinguish IUU fishing and crimes in the fisheries sector, which are categorised in two different types: (i) crimes associated with fisheries (not connected to fishing operations but which take place within the fisheries sector, such as trafficking of arms and terrorism using fishing vessels) and (ii) fisheries-related crimes (closely linked to fisheries activities, such as forgery documents to obtain a fishing license, and slavery in fishing vessels). It is fundamental to have strong fisheries MCS, control schemes and other inspections that are coordinated among different institutions. In this respect, FAO collaborates with IMO, ILO and UNODC on these and related matters. In relation to CITES, it is important to note that endangered species can be involved in all these different operations, and there may be situations where IUU fishing, crimes in the fisheries sector, and fisheries-related crimes may overlap. For example, a fishing vessel targeting a protected species, in contravention of a fisheries legislation (IUU fishing), operating with crew in slavery conditions (fisheries-related crimes), and transporting a CITES Appendix I-listed species to be landed in a foreign port without a CITES permit (crime associated with fisheries). To tackle this problem, the competent agencies should coordinate, share information and intelligence.

86. The PSMA is the first international agreement to specifically target IUU fishing, building on the port States' jurisdiction over its port and the fact that ports are the bottleneck of fishing operations, as all operations and activities supporting fishing are supported by ports. The FAO Members interested in port States measures grow as concerns continue in relation to flags of convenience and IUU fishing. The PSMA, adopted in 2009 and entered into force in 2016, is a cost-effective instrument to combatting IUU fishing because the port State may deny entry into port by the foreign fishing vessels engaged in IUU fishing, preventing products derived from IUU fishing from entering national and international markets.

There are currently 70 Parties, including the 27 Member States of the EU, thus, almost 100 States adhering to this Agreement.

87. Minmin Lei presented one slide representing the PSMA implementation. The Agreement addresses foreign fishing vessels requesting entry into port. It is the duty of the Port State to ensure that that vessel entering into port has not engaged in IUU fishing. Prior to allowing entry into port, the Port State must ensure that the fishing vessel has been behaving properly through the collection of information. The Port State can also further inspect the fishing vessel at port. Based on information supply and inspection procedures, the PSMA allows or not entry into port and allows or not the use of port. The Port State can also take other actions, such as detecting, investigating IUU fishing, prosecuting and reporting. After every inspection, the information must be shared to track records for each vessel. The Global Record of Fishing Vessels is managed by FAO and provides very useful information to the Port States, such as information on CDS and other tools. The PSMA provides an opportunity for CITES implementation in that it allows the Port State to request CITES-relevant documentation by the vessel during the inspection, prior to entry into port or using the port.
88. Information exchange is an important aspect of the PSMA and it is enshrined in different provisions of the Agreement. A Party should designate port and national contact points and inform to FAO, which serves as the PSMA Secretariat. Information on port denial, inspections results should be transmitted to relevant flag States, coastal States, RFMOs and FAO. Flag States should report to port States, coastal States, RFMOs, and FAO about the actions taken on its flag fishing vessels found to be engaged in IUU fishing, as result of the PSMA. At the request of the PSMA Parties, FAO is developing the PSMA Global Information Exchange System (GIES) to facilitate the reporting and collection of relevant information from the vessels. A Technical Group of Information Exchange was established to provide guidance on GIES. It was agreed that GIES is an integrated system, following a modular and phased implementation approach, and FAO was required to work closely with RFMOs to ensure that the parallel systems support and interlink each other. Another slide provides a snapshot of the GIES and how it is linked to the national, regional and global systems, how they interact and complement each other.

89. The PSMA relevance to CITES can be explained by the following: (i) reference to CITES in the PSMA Annex B, where port States' inspectors are required to review relevant documentation, including those required under CITES; (ii) reference in the PSMA Annex C to reporting of results of inspection, including information and verification of compliance with applicable trade information schemes; (iii) legality aspects of CITES, as CDS can support the making of LAFs and PSMA can block fish derived from IUU fishing from entering the international market; and (iv) interagency collaboration between the fisheries authority and the CITES authorities.
90. Minmin Lei also explained FAO's global programme to support countries to meeting their obligations under the PSMA. This programme is being undertaken since 2017, covering different aspects, including policy and legislation, institutional set-up and capacity, and MCS operational procedures. Up to May 2022, about 55 countries have received support from FAO. In the Caribbean region, there has been different initiatives and regional commitments adopted to combat IUU fishing, such as: the Regional Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate IUU Fishing in WECAFC Member Countries, and the WECAFC Joint-regional Working Group on IUU Fishing. Among the participants of the workshop, eight are Parties to the PSMA and FAO has been assisting eight countries to develop a National Strategy to combat IUU Fishing.

7. CITES legal acquisition findings and Catch Documentation scheme

91. Dr Shelley Clark, FAO Shark and Bycatch Expert, presented on CDS, explaining from the onset that the purpose of the presentation is to clarify some of the similarities and differences between CDS and LAF. The CDS is a system used to determine, throughout the supply chain, whether fish originate from catches taken in compliance with all applicable management measures. In other words, CDS is documenting the legal provenance of catch (that is, the origin and the record of ownership throughout the supply chain). It is an example of an internationally agreed market-related measure to combat IUU fishing. Adopted in 2017, the *Voluntary Guidelines on Catch Documentation Scheme* (VGCDs) is a guide to creating new CDS or harmonizing existing CDS. FAO has later developed a specific guidance document to national authorities so they can understand how to better implement the CDS already in place. This document is titled *Understanding and implementing Catch Documentation Schemes: a guide for national authorities* (CDS Guidance Document) was published this year. It can help inform the discussion of the CITES WG on sharks and rays and is also potentially helpful for other species' LAFs. Existing CDS include various schemes run by RFMOs. There are schemes on species such as bluefin tuna and toothfish, regardless of whether the species enter international trade or not and cover both international and domestic schemes. There are other schemes that only cover internationally traded species and market-related schemes for the European Union and similar schemes in the United States of America.
92. Shelley Clark identified four main differences between CDS and LAF: (i) LAF is required at the point of export or IFS, whereas CDS is passed throughout the entire supply chain, not stopping at the boundary of a country; (ii) LAF is a process by a single country, whereas CDS is a means of sharing the legal provenance from one country to the next; (iii) LAF is always required for CITES-listed species, while the CDS is required only for some species and fisheries; and (iv) in LAF, there is no specific document required but an encouragement to keep the records on file, while CDS is about having the document, which can be electronic or on paper. She also identified the similarities between CDS and LAF. Pursuant to the requirements for LAF, under the CITES Resolution Conf. 18.7, Annex 1, LAF should consider the legality, particularly the licences and permits; the marking or identification of the specimen; and the tracing of ownership or chain of custody. Similarly, the legality and ownership are elements found in the CDS, and the marking and identification can also be found in certain CDS.

93. Shelley Clark noted that, in terms of LAF, there may be various roles that the country may play in terms of which activities need to be determined as legal for that specimen. If the specimen was caught in coastal waters, it is the Coastal State. If the specimen was caught in a fishing vessel, it is the Flag State. If the specimen landed in the port, it is the Port State. In developing the CDS guidance document for national authorities, an analysis of all CDS operating in different regions was conducted, based on which key data elements (KDEs) were selected from those used in at least two of the existing schemes. Shelley Clark explained the basic and enhanced KDEs regarding each of the following: vessel, catch, transshipment and landing.
94. The basic KDEs for vessels include the vessel name, vessel flag, registration number, authorization number, home port, call sign, and fishing licence number. Enhanced KDEs for vessels include additional information on vessel contact details, quota, length overall, fishing vessel master's name, and fishing authorization validity period. Underneath these very specific KDEs, there are some basic principles that the national authority has been asked to be assured about, which are essentially two functional requirements for vessels: the establishment of the identity of the fishing vessel and confirmation that the fishing vessel had all the necessary authorizations to produce the fish legally.
95. The basic KDEs for catch include species, estimated weight to be landed, product type, catch area, catch month and/or date, number of fish, and gear. Enhanced KDEs for catch include trip dates, fishing dates, applicable CMMs. Underneath these specific KDEs, the two key functional requirements are to: establish the identity and quantity of fish, and confirm whether its timing, location and method of capture was legal.
96. The basic KDEs for transshipment include receiving vessel name, location (port or sea coordinates), transshipment date, transshipment in port authority name, fishing vessel master's name, receiving vessel call sign, receiving vessel flag, estimated weight transshipped. Enhanced KDEs for transshipment include receiving vessel authorization number, intended landing port, intended landing date, name of transshipment observer. Underneath these specific KDEs, the three key functional requirements are to: establish the identity of the transport vessel receiving the fish; confirm the identity of the fish received; and document the transfer event and establish whether it was compliant with any applicable rules.
97. The basic KDEs for landing include landed weight by product type, name of landed product receiver, name of fishing vessel master, landing location, landing date, contact details for landed receiver. Enhanced KDEs for landing include landed quantity by product type, net weight solid, and landing authority name. Underneath these specific KDEs, the three key functional requirements are to: establish the details (who, what, when and where) of the landing event; confirm that the landing complied with all applicable rules; and identify the first, usually land-based buyer/receiver of catch.
98. In conclusion, Shelley Clark shared that there is no "best" set of KDEs for all species and fisheries. Instead, it is important to consider what assurances are being provided (vessels, catch, transshipment, landing) and what KDEs are necessary to support those assurances. It is important to focus on the most important KDEs supporting each assurance and develop protocols for data verification. She also emphasized the reasons why data verification is so relevant. When countries certify LAFs, they are expected to have the necessary level of oversight to affirm that the information is correct, otherwise, trade sanctions or other penalties may apply. There will be a higher risk of failing to detect IUU fishing and its products in trade if the tools and systems available for verification are insufficient, or these tools and systems are not used or under-used. Verification tools and systems include vessel registries, fishing licence databases, logbook reporting, observer reports, a vessel monitoring system (VMS), a transshipment authorization system, a landing authorization system, inspection records and licenced fish receiver reports. Functional requirements for product tracking were also highlighted as they support maintaining the claim of legal provenance, from the moment when the species are landed, then processed, to the point of export.

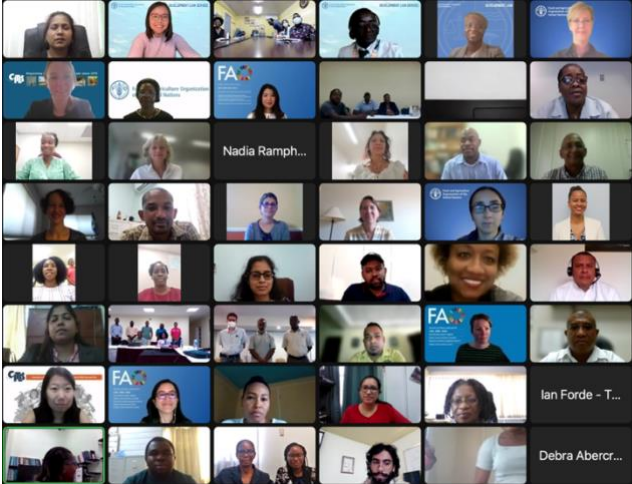
8. CITES and regional organizations

8.1 Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission & Caribbean Fishery Management Council

99. Ms Martha Prada, Scientist Liaison for the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) Regional Working Group on Queen Conch, presented about the implementation of the Queen Conch Regional Fisheries Management Plan. She explained the developments and improvements in managing these species over the course of the five years, since this initiative was approved. One of the difficulties faced is obtaining precise catch data of queen conch. However, based on the data collected from FAO and the Sea Around Us, it is possible to note the historical variation of the species' meat production. The regional plan is based on the ecosystem-based management approach, and calls for improving the level of sustainability of queen conch populations, for the maintenance of a healthy fishery and the livelihoods of the people involved in the fishery, and for enhancing partnerships and collaboration throughout the wider Caribbean region to improve the long-term governance of the species across the Caribbean.
100. The regional management plan contains 14 measures, namely: (a) harmonized and simplified categories of queen conch meat conversion factors; (b) improvement of catch and effort monitoring programs; (c) a harmonized regional closed season; (d) non-detriment finding for all export of queen conch meat and its by-products; (e) licensing of all queen conch fishers, processors and exporters; (f) adoption of stricter regulations on autonomous diving techniques; (g) coordination in patrolling; (h) extended use of satellite based-VMS systems (boats exceeding 10m-long); (i) continuous education and outreach programmes for stakeholders; (j) national level queen conch conservation and management plans; (k) traceability throughout the value chain; (l) collaborative arrangements to map habitats at proper scale; (m) sub-regional mechanisms to evaluate the fishery potential; and (n) progressive inclusion of co-management.
101. Martha Prada presents a table, which shows the level of implementation of each measure by the countries in the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) region, based on the responses to questionnaire submitted to the countries. The level of implementation ranges from zero to three, the latter being the best degree of implementation. For instance, Jamaica has reached level three in most of the measures, except the last three measures, whereas Trinidad and Tobago has not implemented any of the measures yet. Another table presented shows the level of implementation of measures from countries in the OSPESCA, USA and France regions. The fact that queen conch is a CITES-listed species has helped countries to improve the management of such species, taking a precautionary approach. However, there remains lack of information in respect of national trade in queen conch species. It is fundamental to improve the information about queen conch harvesting and trade at different levels to ensure that its management is sustainable.
102. The Queen Conch Working Group has been making recommendations throughout the region with a view to improve the management of the species. Martha Prada highlights the Recommendations WECAFC/XVII/2019/13, determining each WECAFC member country to establish the number of individual queen conch harvested to support stock assessments; ensure that the conversion factor (for different processing levels within a country) is used to back calculate the whole animal weight extracted from the shell for the purpose of supporting stock assessments; and report their total conch production and exports.
103. The regional management plan focuses on three main points: (i) statistical, scientific and technical advisory group (SST AG); (ii) education and outreach; and (iii) governance. Martha Prada emphasizes on the actions taken by the SST AG, aimed at improving scientific guidance on regional conversion factors, providing technical recommendations on NDF determination, identifying priority research at the regional level, and defining its internal protocols and agreeing on future steps.

9. Group activities, closing remarks and next steps

104. On day 3, participants were divided into country teams and carried out the practical exercises as per the guidance in Annex III. Country teams were asked to coordinate their work in filling in a questionnaire and assessing the key fisheries elements for CITES in the CITES-specific legislation and vice versa.
105. On day 4, participants were divided again into country teams and carried out the brainstorming of activities exercises, as per the guidance in Annex III. Based on the practical exercise conducted the day before, they were asked to discuss the way forward in implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks and share preliminary ideas on what would or could be these next steps.
106. As part of the next steps, participants were asked to fill in: a template checklist on assessing legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks (Annex V) and the FAO-CITES evaluation form (Annex VI).
107. Finally, concluding remarks were made by the CITES Secretariat and FAO LEGN.
108. On behalf of the CITES Secretariat, Rachel Gaughan thanked all participants, including Parties and observers, for the very productive four days of workshop, as well as FAO for leading and co-organizing this event. She also expressed the CITES Secretariat's appreciation for the funding provided by the EU and the USA to support this workshop. The workshop provided the opportunity for the valuable sharing of experiences which has highlighted the importance of collaboration between fisheries authorities and CITES authorities, so as to avoid working in silos in respect of CITES and fisheries matters and promote the interlinkages between CITES and fisheries, facilitating the communication so it is easier for the fisheries sector to support compliance with CITES requirements. This workshop is just the beginning of a continuous journey toward enhancing CITES implementation through national fisheries legal frameworks, contributing to the achievement of SDG 14. Rachel Gaughan encouraged participants to share good practice among each other and within the region, and to contact the CITES Secretariat in case they need assistance, including countries subject to a trade suspension, in which case the CITES Secretariat can provide support towards taking the right steps for lifting such suspension. She also reminded participants that in November 2022, the 19th Conference of the Parties to the CITES will be held in Panama, encouraging Parties to participate and share their experiences there too. There will be discussions on the IFS regime, discussion of further guidance on LAF and various other matters. Finally, she thanked again all participants for spending their valuable time at the workshop, and urged them to continue to cooperate toward CITES-compliant ocean trade.
109. On behalf of FAO, Blaise Kuemlangan recalled certain important points raised in the workshop, including the linkages between fisheries conservation and management, CITES commercially exploited aquatic species, IUU fishing, and LAF. There are many points of convergence from a fisheries management perspective and from a CITES perspective, and many common outputs, which the group practical exercises have helped participants to understand better their national context. With these exercises, it was hoped that participants could also identify areas where collaboration between CITES and fisheries authorities could be more effective, aiming toward the common high-level objective of ensuring responsible, legal, sustainable utilization of resources, species, biodiversity, and ecosystem, and achieving SDG 14. Blaise Kuemlangan recalled the need for FAO to understand how it can provide further support to overcome challenges faced by the Parties, and the potential support that FAO can provide through its country offices and subregional office. Lastly, he thanked all participants for their high level of participation and engagement; the CITES Secretariat and partners for the support and funding provided; FAO representatives in the region, subregion, and country offices; and all FAO colleagues who supported the organization, and facilitation of the workshop.



Annex I. List of participants

	Country	Name	Title	Institution
1.	Bahamas	Mr Lester Gittens	Senior Fisheries Officer	Department of Marine Resources
2.	Bahamas	Ms Candice Webb	Assistant Fisheries Officer	Department of Marine Resources
3.	Bahamas	Mrs Ervanna Moss-Rolle	Assistant Fisheries Officer	Department of Marine Resources
4.	Bahamas	Mrs Daniel Hanna-Lamm	Assistant Agricultural Officer	Department of Agriculture
5.	Bahamas	Mr Roscoe Kemp	Assistant Agricultural Officer	Department of Agriculture
6.	Bahamas	Mr Tamico Nelson	Assistant Agricultural Officer	Department of Agriculture
7.	Barbados	Mr Christopher Parker	Fisheries Biologist	Fisheries Division, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy (MMABE)
8.	Barbados	Mr Colvin Taylor	Principal Fisheries Assistant (Ag)	Fisheries Division, MMABE
9.	Barbados	Mr Gregory Franklin	Data Collector	Fisheries Division, MMABE
10.	Barbados	Ms Therese Moore	Data Collector	Fisheries Division, MMABE
11.	Barbados	Mr Adrian Bellamy	Assistant Project Coordinator	Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section, Ministry of Environment and National Beautification (MENB)
12.	Barbados	Mr Connor Blades	Field Assistant	Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section, MENB
13.	Barbados	Ms Joyce Leslie	Chief Fisheries Officer (Ag)	Fisheries Division, MMABE
14.	Belize	Mr Mauro Gongora	Fisheries Officer	Belize Fisheries Department
15.	Belize	Ms Adriani Nicholson	Fisheries Officer	Belize Fisheries Department
16.	Belize	Mr Leonard Chavarria		TIDE, Belize
17.	Belize	Ms Jane Salazar McLoughlin		
18.	Dominica	Ms Wynonna Joseph	Senior Fisheries Officer	Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture & National Food Security (MBGEANFS)
19.	Dominica	Ms Shernaie Alexander	Public Awareness Assiatant	Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment
20.	Dominica	Dr Reginald Thomas	Chief Veterinary Officer	MBGEANFS
21.	Dominica	Mr Jullan Defoe	Chief Fisheries Officer	MBGEANFS
22.	Dominica	Mr Kurt Hilton	Fisheries Officer	MBGEANFS
23.	Dominica	Dr Lennox St Aimee	Veterinary Officer	MBGEANFS
24.	European Union	Ms Agata Sobiech	Team Leader – CITES and wildlife trafficking	Global Environmental Cooperation and Multilateralism, DG Environment, European Commission
25.	Grenada	Mr Anthony Jeremiah	Forestry Officer	Forestry and National Parks Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry & Fisheries (MALFF)
26.	Belize	Ms Jane Salazar McLoughlin		

	Country		Name	Title	Institution
27.	Dominica	Ms	Wynonna Joseph	Senior Fisheries Officer	Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture & National Food Security (MBGEANFS)
28.	Dominica	Ms	Shernaie Alexander	Public Awareness Assiatant	Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment
29.	Dominica	Dr	Reginald Thomas	Chief Veterinary Officer	MBGEANFS
30.	Dominica	Mr	Jullan Defoe	Chief Fisheries Officer	MBGEANFS
31.	Dominica	Mr	Kurt Hilton	Fisheries Officer	MBGEANFS
32.	Grenada	Mr	Francis Calliste	Fisheries Officer	MALFF
33.	Grenada	Mrs	Lisa Chetram	Fisheries Officer	MALFF
34.	Grenada	Mr	Michael Church	National Correspondent for Grenada	FAO-GD
35.	Guyana	Mr	Marlon Glasgow	Monitoring Officer	Monitoring and Compliance Division, GWCMC
36.	Guyana	Mr	Johann Waldron	Research Officer	Research Division, GWCMC
37.	Guyana	Mr	Charles Stephen	Research Assistant	Research Division, GWCMC
38.	Guyana	Ms	Hanan Lachmansingh	Research Assistant	Research Division, GWCMC
39.	Guyana	Mr	Denzil Roberts	Chief Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Department
40.	Guyana	Mr	Rabani Gajnabi	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Department
41.	Guyana	Ms	Sophia Raghunandan	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Department
42.	Guyana	Mr	Kadeem Jacobs	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Department
43.	Guyana	Ms	Alona Sankar	Commissioner	Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission
44.	Guyana	Mr	Corwin D'Anjou	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Department
45.	Guyana	Ms	Gillian Smith	FAOR for Guyana	FAO Guyana
46.	Guyana	Ms	Dawn Maison	National Professional Officer	FAO Guyana
47.	Saint Lucia	Mrs	Sarita Williams Peter	Chief Fisheries Officer	Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFPFRD)
48.	Saint Lucia	Mr	Thomas Nelson	Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
49.	Saint Lucia	Ms	Petronila Polius	Fisheries Officer	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
50.	Saint Lucia	Ms	Makeba Felix	Fisheries Biologist	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
51.	Saint Lucia	Ms	Monique Calderon	Fisheries Biologist	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
52.	Saint Lucia	Mr	Charlie Prospere	Fisheries Biologist	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
53.	Saint Lucia	Ms	Yvonne Edwin	Fisheries Biologist	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
54.	Saint Lucia	Mr	Daniel Medar	Fisheries Extension Officer	Department of Fisheries, MAFPFRD
55.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Ms	Andrea Browne	GIS Officer	Department of Marine Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Constituency Empowerment (MAMRCE)
56.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Ms	Delcia Brookes	Assistant Fisheries Officer	Department of Marine Resources, MAMRCE
57.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Ms	Maritza Queeley	Port State Control Officer	Department of Marine Resources, MAMRCE
58.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Mr	Kharim Saddler	Fisheries Assistant	Department of Marine Resources, MAMRCE

	Country		Name	Title	Institution
59.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Ms	Tricia King	Marine Management & Habitat Monitoring Officer	Department of Marine Resources, MAMRCE
60.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Dr	Marc Williams	National Correspondent for SKN	FAO-SKN
61.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Mr	Kris Isaac	Senior Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation (MAFFRT)
62.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ms	Cheryl Jardine Jackson	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division, MAFFRT
63.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ms	Shamal Connell	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division, MAFFRT
64.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ms	Allison Thomas	Senior Fisheries Assistant	Fisheries Division, MAFFRT
65.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ms	Jennifer Cruickshank Howard	Chief Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division, MAFFRT
66.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Ms	Coleen Phillips	National Correspondent for SVG	FAO-SVG
67.	Suriname	Mrs	Tania Tong Sang	Senior Policy Advisor in charge of ICCAT related matters and represent of fisheries in the CITES SA	Directorate of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries (MAAHF)
68.	Suriname	Mrs	Aartie Tedjoe	Aquaculture Technologist	Directorate of Fisheries, MAAHF
69.	Suriname	Mr	Ranjit Soekhradj	Chief Fisheries Officer	Statistics and Research Division – MAAHF
70.	Suriname	Ms	Vineshma Ridaie	Fisheries Data Analyst	Statistics and Research Division – MAAHF
71.	Suriname	Mr	Somaroe Kiran	Head of CITES SA	Ministry of Land Policy and Forest Management (MLPFM)
72.	Suriname	Ms	Sewpersad Patricia	Secretary of CITES SA	MLPFM
73.	Suriname	Mr	Romeo Lala	Chief Permit Section	Nature Conservation Division, Forest Service
74.	Suriname	Mr	Ulrich Pina	Policy Advisor	MLPFM
75.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Nerissa Lucky	Director of Fisheries (Ag)	Fisheries Division - Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF)
76.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Elizabeth Mohammed	Senior Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division – MALF
77.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Shane Durgah	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division – MALF
78.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Chelsea Elvin	Fisheries Researcher	Fisheries Division – MALF
79.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Nadia Ramphal	Fisheries Officer	Fisheries Division – MALF
80.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Bria de Costa	Fisheries Researcher	Fisheries Division – MALF
81.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Asha Hearnreaves	Fisheries Researcher	Fisheries Division – MALF
82.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Brandon Dookie		Aquaculture Unit, Fisheries Division – MALF
83.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Denny Dipchansingh	Conservator of Forests/Chief Game Warden	Forestry Division – MALF
84.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	David Mahabir	Assistant Conservator of Forest/Wildlife Biologist	Forestry Division – MALF
85.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mrs	Esther Tobias Clarke	Research Officer	Division of Marine Resources and Fisheries, Tobago House of Assembly (THA)
86.	Trinidad and Tobago	Ms	Crystal Edwards	Ag Director	Division of Marine Resources and Fisheries – THA
87.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mrs	Trudy Caraballo	Legal Officer	Division of Food Security, Natural Resources, the Environment and Sustainable Development – THA

25. Technical report on the subregional workshop on CITES and fisheries with Caribbean Countries [Annexes](#)

	Country		Name	Title	Institution
88.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Christopher Nakhid	CITES Research Assistant	Wildlife Section
89.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Virun Lutchman		
90.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Devern Calvin	Programme Assistant	FAO Trinidad and Tobago
91.	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr	Ian Forde		Customs and Excise Department
92.	United States of America	Ms	Mary Cogliano	Acting Chief	US Fish and Wildlife Service, CITES Management Authority
93.	United States of America	Ms	Angela Somma	Chief, Endangered Species Division	Office of Protected Resources, US National Marine Fisheries Service
94.	United States of America	Ms	Laura Cimo		US National Marine Fisheries Service
95.	United States of America	Ms	Debra Abercrombie	Biologist	US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Scientific Authority
	Regional Organization		Name	Title	
96.	WECAFC	Ms	Martha Prada	Lead of the Scientific, Statistics and Technical Advisory Group (SSTAG) of the Queen Conch Working Group	
	Observers		Name	Title	
97.	UNCTAD	Ms	Maria Durleva	Legal Consultant	
	Resource Persons		Name	Title	
98.	CITES	Mr	Juan Carlos Vasquez	Chief, Legal Affairs	
99.	CITES	Ms	Sofie H. Flensburg	Legal Officer	
100.	CITES	Ms	Hyeon Jeong Kim	Associate Scientific Support Officer	
101.	FAO	Mr	Blaise Kuemlangan	Chief	
102.	FAO	Mr	Buba Bojang	Legal Officer	
103.	FAO	Ms	Julia Nakamura	Legal Consultant	
104.	FAO	Ms	Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe	Legal Consultant	
105.	FAO	Ms	Minmin Lei	Fishery Officer	
106.	FAO	Dr	Shelley Clarke	Shark and Bycatch Expert	
107.	FAO	Ms	Manuela Cuvi	Legal Officer	
108.	FAO	Ms	Kysseline Cherestal	Legal Officer	
109.	FAO	Ms	Nargis Bozorova	Legal Officer	
110.	FAO	Ms	Marie Emilie Guele	International Policy and Legislation Consultant	
111.	FAO	Ms	Yvette Diei-Ouadi	Fishery Officer	
112.	FAO	Ms	Jeri Keri	National Correspondent	

Annex II. Agenda

(Times correspond to **Eastern Caribbean time AST**)

Day 1 – 30 May 2022 (Monday)	
Moderator: Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe , Legal Consultant of LEGN	
10.00 – 10.15	Welcome and opening remarks Ms Yvette Diei-Ouadi , FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, on behalf of Dr Renata Clarke , Coordinator of FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean Rachel Gaughan , Legal Officer of CITES Secretariat
10.15 – 10.25	Overview of the workshop Julia Nakamura , Legal Consultant of LEGN
10.25 – 10.55	Presentation: <i>CITES-specific considerations for the fisheries sector</i> Rachel Gaughan , Legal Officer of CITES Secretariat
10.55 – 11.30	Presentation: <i>Using the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide</i> Blaise Kuemlangan , Chief of the Development Law Service (LEGN) of FAO Legal Office Julia Nakamura , Legal Consultant of LEGN
11.30 – 11.50	Q&A and discussion
10.50 – 11.00	Break
12.05 – 12.20	5-minute presentation per country
12.05 – 12.10	Presentation: <i>The Implementation of CITES in Bahamas</i> Dr Lester Gittens , Senior Fisheries Officer, Department of Marine Resources (CITES Scientific Authority in Bahamas), Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Resources and Family Island Affairs
12.10 – 12.15	Presentation: <i>CITES in Barbados</i> Mr Adrian Bellamy , Assistant Project Coordinator, Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section, Ministry of Environment and National Beautification
12.15 – 12.20	Presentation: <i>CITES Implementation in Belize</i> Mr Mauro Gongora , Fisheries Officer, Belize Fisheries Department
12.20 – 12.35	Q&A and discussion
12.35 – 12.55	5-minute presentation per country
12.35 – 12.40	Presentation: <i>CITES Implementation in Dominica</i> Ms Shainae Alexander , Public Awareness Assistant, Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment
12.40 – 12.45	Presentation: <i>FAO-CITES Workshop on CITES and Fisheries: EU perspective</i> Ms Agata Sobiech , Team Leader, CITES and wildlife trafficking
12.45 – 12.50	Presentation: <i>CITES and Fisheries in Guyana</i> Ms Alona Sankar , Commissioner, Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission
12.55 – 13.10	Q&A and discussion
13.10	Closing

Day 2 – 31 May 2022 (Tuesday)

Moderator: **Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe**, Legal Consultant of LEGN

10.00 – 10.10	Recap of Day 1 Buba Bojang , Legal Officer of LEGN
10.10 – 10.30	5-minute presentation per country
10.10 – 10.15	Presentation: <i>CITES implementation in the United States of America</i> Dr Mary Cogliano , Acting Chief, U.S. CITES Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
10.15 – 10.20	Presentation: <i>CITES implementation in Grenada</i> Mr Anthony Jeremiah , Senior Forestry Officer, Forestry and National Parks Department, Ministry of Agriculture Lands and Forestry
10.20 – 10.25	Presentation: <i>CITES implementation in Saint Kitts and Nevis</i> Ms Maritza Queeley , Port State Control Officer, Department of Marine Resources
10.25 – 10.30	Presentation: <i>CITES implementation in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</i> Mr Kris Isaacs , Senior Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour
10.30 – 10.45	Q&A and discussion
10.45 – 11.00	5-minute presentation per country
10.45 – 10.50	Presentation: <i>Short overview of relevant CITES aspects - CITES implementation in Suriname</i> Mr Romeo Lala , Chief Permit Section of CITES Management of Authority of Suriname
10.50 – 10.55	Presentation: <i>An Overview of CITES Procedures and Implementation in Trinidad and Tobago</i> Mr David Mahabir , Wildlife Biologist/Assistant Conservator of Forests/Head of Wildlife Section, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
10.55 – 11.00	Presentation: <i>CITES implementation: the Case of Saint Lucia</i> Mrs Sarita Williams-Peter , Chief Fisheries Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development
11.00 – 11.15	Q&A and discussion
11.15 – 11.30	Break
11.30 – 11.50	Presentation: <i>Requirements of the FAO Agreement on Port States Measures relevant for CITES</i> Minmin Lei , Fisheries Officer, Global and Regional Processes (Fisheries), FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
11.50 – 12.20	Presentation: <i>Catch documentation scheme (CDS) Principles for CITES legal acquisition findings (LAFs)</i> Dr Shelley Clarke , Shark and Bycatch Expert, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
12.20 – 12.40	Q&A and discussion
12.40 – 12.50	Presentation: <i>Implementing the Queen Conch Regional Fisheries Management Plan</i> Ms Martha Prada , Scientist Liaison for the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) Regional Working Group on Queen Conch
12.50 – 13.05	Q&A and discussion
13.10	Closing

Day 3 – 1 June 2022 (Wednesday)

Moderator: **Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe**, Legal Consultant of LEGN

10.00 – 10.10	Recap of Day 2 Buba Bojang , Legal Officer of LEGN
10.10 – 10.20	Explaining the Practical Exercise Julia Nakamura , Legal Consultant of LEGN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be invited to follow the guide’s preliminary considerations, that is, the three-step analysis of key elements in the selected CITES-specific and fisheries-specific legislation. • Participants will be divided into virtual breakout rooms by country, if needed, so that they are able to work together in the event they are at different locations. • Each country team will nominate a chair to coordinate the works and a rapporteur to report the findings on the next day.
10.20 – 13.00	Breakout rooms for the Practical Exercise An FAO or CITES representative will be with each country team to provide technical assistance and clarify questions if necessary.
13.00 – 13.10	Virtual plenary: checking on the progress made by the country teams Closing

Day 4 – 2 June 2022 (Thursday)

Moderator: **Elizabeth-Rose Amidjogbe**, Legal Consultant of LEGN

10.00 – 10.10	Recap of Day 3 Buba Bojang , Legal Officer of LEGN
10.10 – 10.40	5-minute reporting by country on the Practical Exercise Suriname Bahamas Barbados Belize Dominica Grenada Guyana
10.45 – 11.00	Q&A and discussion
11.00 – 11.15	Break
11.15 – 11.45	5-minute presentation per country, continuation St Kitts and Nevis St Lucia St Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago
11.45 – 12.00	Q&A and discussion
12.00 – 12.45	Breakout rooms for discussion and brainstorming of ideas on the next steps in implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks Distribution of Evaluation Forms
12.45 – 13.00	Virtual plenary: sharing ideas on next steps and discussion
13.00 – 13.10	Final closing of the workshop Rachel Gaughan , Legal Officer of CITES Secretariat Blaise Kuemlangan , Chief of the Development Law Service (LEGN) of FAO Legal Office

Annex III. Guidance for the Practical Group Exercise on Day 3 (1 June 2022)

Part 1. Please carefully fill in this sheet with information, as requested:	
Questions about your group	Your answers:
Country name	
Total number of participants (including those participating virtually)	
Chair (to facilitate the discussions within the group)	
Rapporteur (to complete this form and present the findings of the group on Day 3)	

Part 2. Based on the <i>status of legislative progress for implementing CITES (as of February 2022)</i> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Kitt & Nevis and the United States of America are placed in Category 1 → Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago are placed in Category 2 → Belize and Dominica are placed in Category 3 	<p>But what does this mean for the fisheries sector?</p> <p>Please discuss in group and fill in the questionnaire below.</p>
Questions	Please include your elaborated answers:
<p>1. a. Are fisheries authorities aware of and apply CITES-specific legislation?</p> <p>b. Where there is no CITES-specific legislation, is there equivalent legislation to what would be required under CITES?</p> <p>→ On the interaction between the CITES regime and the fisheries sector, see part 2.2.2 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (pp. 12-13).</p>	

Questions	Please include your elaborated answers:
<p>2. Are CITES authorities aware that legal acquisition findings (LAFs) can be used to support fisheries enforcement officers and Port Authorities in their activities to tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing?</p> <p>→ On the relationship between LAF and fisheries, see part 3.3 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (pp. 18-19).</p>	
<p>3. Would fisheries authorities be able to recognize ‘introduction from the sea’ (IFS) transaction?</p> <p>→ On the meaning of ‘introduction from the sea’, see part 3.1 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (pp. 15-17).</p>	
<p>4. a. How often do fisheries authorities and CITES Management Authority (MA) and Scientific Authority (SA) interact?</p>	
<p>b. What other authorities have a role to play in the implementation and enforcement of CITES-related legislation in your country?</p> <p>→ On the opportunities for cooperation, coordination and mutual complementarity between CITES and fisheries authorities, see part 2.2.3 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (p. 14).</p>	
<p>5. Do the fisheries authorities provide support and data in the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) for commercially-exploited aquatic species? If yes, how?</p> <p>→ On the meaning of non-detriment findings, see part 3.2 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (pp. 17-18).</p>	
<p>6. Are data and information from relevant RFMO/As or national CITES Scientific Authorities of other countries used to prepare NDFs?</p> <p>→ On the potential contributions of regional fishery bodies to CITES implementation, see part 4.3 of FAO-CITES Legal Study (pp. 26-28). See also CITES, Article IV, para. 7.</p>	

Part 3. In the list below, please review the respective instruments of your country, which correspond to the law(s) and regulation(s) relevant to CITES and fisheries (**please suggest the removal and/or inclusion of instruments, if necessary**). Instruments were selected using the FAOLEX database. See Annexes D and E of *FAO- CITES Legal Study* for examples of CITES-specific legislation and fisheries-specific legislation.

Country	Selected CITES-specific legislation (and environmental-related legislation)	Selected fisheries-specific legislation
Bahamas	Wildlife Conservation and Trade Act of 2004 Marine Mammal Protection Act of 2005 Marine Mammal Protection Regulations of 2005	Fisheries Resources (Jurisdiction and Conservation) Act of 1977 (Amendment 1985) Fisheries Resources (Jurisdiction and Conservation) Regulations of 1986 (Amendments 2015, 2013, 2012, 2007, 2005, 2003)
Barbados	Act on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora of 2006	Fisheries Act of 1993 (Amendment 2000) Fisheries (Management) Regulations SI No. 102 of 1998
Dominica	Forestry and Wildlife Act of 1976 Hunting and Fishing (Open Season) Notice of 2015	Fisheries Act of 1987 Fisheries Management Authority Notice of 1998
Grenada	Environmental Protection Levy Act of 1997 (Amendment 2015) Environmental Protection Levy Order of 2015	Fisheries Act of 1986 (Amendment 2014) Fisheries Regulations of 1987 Fish and Fishery Products Regulations of 1999 Importation of Fish (Regulations) Ordinance No. 24 of 1951
Guyana	Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2016 Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Use Regulations of 2019 Wildlife Licensing Procedures of 2019	Fisheries Act of 2003 Fisheries Regulations No. 3 of 2018 Fisheries (Aquatic Wildlife Control) Regulations of 1966
St Kitts & Nevis	International Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora Act No. 41 of 2009	Fisheries Aquaculture and Marine Resources Act No. 1 of 2016
St Lucia	Wildlife Protection Act No. 9 of 1980 Environmental Protection Levy Act of 2002	Fisheries Act No. 10 of 1984 Fisheries Regulations SI No. 9 of 1994

Country	Selected CITES-specific legislation (and environmental-related legislation)	Selected fisheries-specific legislation
St Vincent & the Grenadines	Wildlife Protection Act of 1987	Fisheries Act of 1986 Fisheries (Fish and Fish Products) Regulations No. 12 of 2006 Fisheries Regulations No. 1 of 1987 (Amendment 1989)
Suriname	Environmental Framework Act No. 97 of 2020 Nature Conservation Act of 1954	Sea Fishery Act of 1980 Fish Stock Protection Law of 1961 Fish Stock Protection Decree of 1961
Trinidad & Tobago	Environmental Management Act of 2000 Conservation of Wildlife Act of 1958 Conservation of Wildlife Regulations of 1991 (Amendment 2017) Environmentally Sensitive Species Rules of 2001 Environmentally Sensitive Species (Loggerhead Turtle) Notice of 2014 Environmentally Sensitive Species (Green Turtle) Notice of 2014 Environmentally Sensitive Species (Olive Ridley Turtle) Notice of 2014 Environmentally Sensitive Species (Leatherback Turtle) Notice of 2014	Fisheries Act of 1916 Fisheries Regulations of 1926 Fisheries (Conservation of Marine Turtles) Regulations Protection of Turtle and Turtle Eggs Regulations of 1975
United States of America	Wildlife Conservation Act of 1983 Protection and Conservation of Wildlife (16 USC Ch. 5A, §§661-668ss) Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-616) Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-666c) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act (P.L. 109-294) General endangered and threatened marine species - (50 CFR 222.101-222.404)	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (revised edition) Lacey Act (18 USC 42-43; 16 USC 3371-3378) Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015 (PL. No 114-81)

Part 4. Please examine the CITES-specific legislation and the fisheries legislation, and fill in the table below:			
	Does the selected CITES-specific legislation:	Yes / No / Not quite	Comments and explanatory notes
Key Fisheries Elements for CITES	1. provide for a clear definition of introduction from the sea (IFS)? → see interpretation given by the Parties on Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16), clarifying that the specific provisions on IFS apply to one-State transactions		
	2. provide for a clear definition of non-detriment findings (NDF) and legal acquisition findings (LAF)? → see the Convention, Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) and Resolution Conf. 18.7		
	3. refer to compliance with and applicability of other relevant legislation (general terms) or fisheries legislation (specific terms)?		
	4. designate the Fisheries Authority (FA) or other relevant authority responsible for fisheries management, conservation, development and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), maritime matters among the CITES Scientific Authority (SA) and/or the Management Authority (MA)?		
	5. clearly outline the mandates and responsibilities of the FA, the CITES SA and MA, ensuring coherence and including the duty to cooperate and coordinate with other authorities?		
	6. promote or provide mechanisms for effective cooperation and coordination between those authorities as well as with other relevant authorities?		
	7. protect all the CITES-listed species commercially-exploited and managed, including the recent listing of sharks and rays?		

	Does the selected fisheries legislation:	Yes / No / Not quite	Comments and explanatory notes
Key CITES Elements for Fisheries	1. provide for a clear definition of international trade as comprising import, export, re-export and IFS transactions?		
	2. refer to relevant definitions in CITES-specific legislation, particularly of the MA, SA, IFS, NDF and LAF?		
	3. make cross-reference to compliance with and applicability of other relevant legislation (general terms), to the Convention itself, or the relevant CITES- specific legislation (specific terms)?		
	4. clearly outline the mandates and responsibilities of the FA, port authorities, and other relevant authorities responsible for fisheries management, conservation, development and MCS and enforcement, and maritime matters, ensuring coherence and including the duty to cooperate or collaborate with other relevant authorities?		
	5. promote or provide mechanisms for effective cooperation, collaboration, coordination and interaction between the FA and other relevant authorities?		
	6. protect and/or provide for conservation and management measures of CITES- listed aquatic species commercially-exploited and managed, including the recent listing of sharks and rays?		

Annex IV. Guidance for the brainstorming of ideas exercise



What is next?

Based on the practical exercise on Day 3, you are now invited to reflect on the current practice and consider where there is room for improvement, including the possible review of national fisheries legislation with a view to enhancing the existing framework for better implementation of CITES.

Please discuss and fill the table below with your preliminary ideas on the next steps for strengthening CITES implementation in relation to CITES-listed aquatic species:

How can the following be improved?	Please include your elaborated answers:
1. Institutional arrangements for the implementation of CITES in national frameworks a. Coordination	
b. Cooperation	
c. Exchange of information	
2. Operations a. Legal acquisition findings (LAF)	
b. Non-detriment findings (NDF)	
c. Scientific research on CITES-listed species	
3. Fisheries legislation a. Which concepts of CITES (e.g. introduction from the sea, NDF, LAF) should be included?	
b. Which CITES requirements should be included?	

How can the following be improved?	Please include your elaborated answers:
4. Monitoring, control, surveillance (MCS) and enforcement b. Data collection to include CITES-listed species by observers on board fishing vessels, at sea	
c. MCS activities and enforcement relating to CITES-listed species by inspectors, enforcement officers and other authorized officers on board fishing vessels, at sea, port or other facilities	

Annex V. Template checklist on assessing legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks

For future assessment

The **FAO-CITES Legal Guide** provides a summary table of legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks (pp. 124–129). The Guide’s legislative options were placed in the template checklist below. Participants of the FAO-CITES workshop are encouraged to assess these legislative options in their existing legislation relevant for CITES and fisheries. This exercise will help identify the specific areas where legislation can be amended or support the process of developing new fisheries legislation to support CITES implementation.

Kindly note that:

- ➔ The table below is organized in topics which are usually found in a typical national fisheries legislation.
- ➔ You may modify the topics to reflect what your country fisheries legislation provides.

Template checklist on assessing legislative options for implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks

	Guide’s legislative options	Preliminary assessment in selected fisheries legislation	Comments and explanatory notes
Part I Preliminary	1. cross-refer to CITES definitions, highlighting the definitions of CITES-listed species, MA, SA, and international trade, including IFS, NDF and LAF	Example: YES = ✓ Indicate the legal basis: art. ... of the ... law or regulation. NO = X NOT SURE = Ø	Example: Regulation is unclear because it refers to another terminology that has a similar meaning to NDF.

	Guide's legislative options	Preliminary assessment in selected fisheries legislation	Comments and explanatory notes
	2. in case these particular terms have not yet been defined, provide definitions in accordance with the Convention and relevant Resolutions and, in relation to IFS, clarifying that it occurs when species or specimens are caught by a State's vessel in areas beyond national jurisdiction (defining it as well) and landed in its own port.		
	3. provide any other relevant definition or interpretation which may not be clearly defined or interpreted in the CITES legislation		
	4. consider the State's general obligations under CITES		
	5. recognize the complementarity of fisheries and CITES legislation, and apply the fisheries legislation in a manner consistent, coherent and complementary with the Convention and/or CITES legislation		
	6. include the objective of ensuring coordination and complementarity with the CITES legislation, especially cooperation and coordination between the relevant national authorities		
	7. reinforces the legislation's role in creating the conditions for the implementation of CITES and any other relevant international instrument		
	8. clearly establish the application of the legislation to foreign fishing vessels engaged in fishing and fishing-related activities in the country's maritime zones, pursuant to the applicable fishing agreement		
	9. clearly establish the application of the legislation to Flag State vessel fishing in areas beyond national jurisdiction in accordance with the international law and the applicable international conservation and management measures		
	10. include the objective of ensuring responsible, sustainable and legal fisheries trade, with particular attention to CITES-listed species and specimens		
	11. outline any other relevant principle, including the Enforcement Authorities Forum, stakeholder participation, transparency, and non-discrimination		
Part II Administration	12. clearly delineate the mandate of the FA, including the duty to cooperate and coordinate with any relevant authority (in general terms) or with designated CITES MAs and SAs (in specific terms)		

	Guide's legislative options	Preliminary assessment in selected fisheries legislation	Comments and explanatory notes
	13. allow for the delegation of power from the FA to other relevant authorities to ensure effective cooperation and coordination, taking into account that such delegation does not relieve the MA or SA from their own duties as provided in the CITES legislation		
	14. promote stakeholder's participation, including by small-scale fishers, in discussions and consultations on the possible listing of aquatic species on CITES Appendices		
	15. establish an advisory council comprising a range of stakeholders from different societal sectors and levels of authority to share information about CITES implementation		
	16. outline proceedings for public meetings or hearings related to CITES, ensuring timely notification of the public and active participation of interested stakeholders		
	17. promote awareness of CITES legislation, requirements for international trade in CITES-listed aquatic species		
	18. include, within the minimum conditions of access agreements and chartering agreements, the requirement of compliance with international obligations and CITES		
Part III Management	19. ensure fisheries management and trade are conducted in accordance with international and regional legally binding and non-legally binding instruments, including CITES, CITES regulations and RFBs' conservation and management measures		
	20. communicate stock assessments and other data concerning CITES-listed species to the CITES authorities and relevant RFBs		
	21. deny or cancel an application for a fishing licence by a national or foreign fishing vessel, if proved that the applicant has engaged in IUU fishing or has violated CITES requirements for commercial trade in Appendix I-listed species		
	22. include within the fishing licence conditions the duty to report to the FA and the CITES MA catch of any CITES-listed species, including by-catch, and the location where the species was caught		
	23. make cross-reference of CITES legislation in the provisions on trade in fisheries and aquaculture products, highlighting the occurrence of all trade transactions, including IFS and re-export		

	Guide's legislative options	Preliminary assessment in selected fisheries legislation	Comments and explanatory notes
	24. ensure the fisheries management plan prohibits the commercial trade in species listed in CITES Appendix I and, with respect to live species listed in CITES Appendix I, that it requires their prompt and unharmed release, to the extent possible		
	25. require any fishing licence to be accompanied by a list with the common names of CITES-listed aquatic species		
	26. may impose a moratorium or prohibition on the capture, whenever possible, and commercial trade of CITES species listed in Appendix I		
	27. establish marine protected areas, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, in which capture and commercial trade of CITES species listed in Appendix I are prohibited		
	28. promote research on CITES-listed species and information-sharing between research institutions, FA, CITES authorities and RFBs		
Part IV Monitoring, Control and Surveillance	29. ensure observer programmes provide for mechanisms of data-sharing with the FA, MA, SA, RFBs and any other relevant authority		
	30. include the duty of the appointed observer to collect, record and report data, including documents and records in electronic format and other CITES-related information related to export and import permits, re-export and IFS certificates and export quotas		
	31. provide specific training to observers and inspectors about CITES, its requirements, implementation, and identification of CITES-listed species		
	32. promote cooperation and coordination between authorized personnel within fisheries inspection schemes and any other relevant authority, including the CITES enforcement officer		
	33. ensure that authorized fisheries personnel have the power to inspect and collect and, where necessary and appropriate, retain any documentation, including documents and records in an electronic format that is relevant for CITES implementation		
Part V Enforcement	34. treat the trade of CITES-listed aquatic species in violation of the Convention and application of national legislation as an offence		

	Guide's legislative options	Preliminary assessment in selected fisheries legislation	Comments and explanatory notes
	35. outline applicable penalties, and define aggravating circumstances such as the illegal trade of Appendix I-listed species		
	36. provide a broad range of penalty options and enforcement procedures, including treating and imposing higher penalties for serious violations and for the compounding of minor offences		
	37. establish the possibility of special legal proceedings to which the alleged offender can choose to be subjected to for expediency		
	38. establish legal proceeding which permits the FA, MA or SA to consider the petition by the alleged offender, asking to be subjected to alternative enforcement processes in respect of illegal trade of aquatic species listed in CITES Appendices		
	39. allow for the FA, MA and SA to appropriately deal with such cases		
Part VI Regulations	40. clearly define the authority with the power to enact secondary legislation or to issue orders or notices on any matters concerning CITES implementation		
	41. designate the power of the competent authority to update fisheries legislation and/or regulations and/or schedules, where appropriate, to incorporate any amendments to CITES Appendices		

Annex VI. FAO-CITES evaluation form

Evaluation form

FAO-CITES Virtual subregional training workshop on **CITES & FISHERIES**

30 May to 2 June (on Zoom)

About you	Your answers
Country	
Name	
Email	
Affiliation	
Your experience with implementing CITES in the fisheries sector	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which of your work activities relate to this implementation? How do you think this implementation could be improved? 	

About the FAO-CITES virtual subregional training workshop on **CITES & FISHERIES**

Place an 'X' to indicate your answer in the tables below. Not sufficient 1 2 3 4 5 Sufficient

Content	Not sufficient	1	2	3	4	5	Sufficient
1. How was the information given to you before the workshop?							
2. How were the practical exercises?							
3. How were the presentations delivered?							
4. How would you qualify your knowledge on the use of FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide after the workshop?							
Operational/technical issues							
5. Was the length of the workshop appropriate?							
6. How was the internet connection during the workshop?							
7. Were you able to follow the entire workshop?							

If your answer is **1** or **2**, please share your concerns (e.g. problems with information provided, workshop duration, connection, venue) and recommendations (e.g. topics you would like to see more):

Your reply:

About implementing CITES through national fisheries legal frameworks

Place an 'X' to indicate your answer in the tables below.

Not sufficient	1	2	3	4	5	Sufficient
----------------	---	---	---	---	---	------------

FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide

8. How easy is it to understand the study?						
9. How easy is it to use the guide?						
10. Is the approach used in the guide clear?						
11. Is the study comprehensive?						

12. Do you or your organization have the capacity to fill in the FAO-CITES Legal Study and Guide?

- Yes, we have the team to do so.
- Yes, but we will need to coordinate the work with other institutions.
- No**, and we will engage with another institution to do this work.
- No**, we do not have sufficient capacity for completing this work.

If your answer was no, please provide the reasons for it:

Your reply:

