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



Joint sessions of the thirty-first meeting of the Animals Committee and twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee Geneva (Switzerland), 17 July 2020

RAPID ASSESSMENT OF APPENDIX-I TAXA THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BENEFIT FROM FURTHER CITES ACTION

The attached information document has been submitted by the Secretariat on behalf of UNEP-WCMC and IUCN in relation to agenda item 9 of the 31st meeting of the Animals Committee and agenda item 10 of the 25th meeting of the Plants Committee.*

The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

Rapid assessment of Appendix I taxa that could potentially benefit from further CITES action: Output

The CITES Vision Statement, adopted at CoP18, aims to ensure the long-term conservation of taxa in trade, thereby contributing towards halting biodiversity loss and the wider goals of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Within this context, Decision 18.28 was adopted to develop a framework that could be used to improve the conservation status of CITES-listed Appendix-I taxa. Specifically, the Decision calls for a rapid assessment of Appendix-I taxa, detailed assessments of selected taxa, and identification and prioritization of those Appendix-I taxa that could potentially benefit from future CITES action.

This Information document provides the results of a rapid assessment of all 1130 Appendix I-listed species and subspecies to identify taxa that could potentially benefit from further CITES action and thus contribute to Decision 18.28. It is intended to accompany and supplement AC31 Doc. 9 and PC25 Doc. 10, which provide the context and details of the methodology. For ease of reference, a summary of the methodology is also provided again here as an Annex (see Table A.1 in Annex).

From the outset, it was assumed that Appendix I taxa should be prioritised most highly if they were facing a real extinction risk, were threatened by international trade, were vulnerable to trade due to biological factors, and were not subject to existing management efforts. Based on these categories, datasets were collated and scoring criteria were developed for individual taxa.

The results output, provided in Excel (Annex 1), presents three different scoring approaches for consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees, with each approach providing a slightly different final list of scored taxa depending on specific weightings. It is envisioned that the Committees would decide on a preferred approach to prioritise and select species for more detailed assessments, as well as, potentially, for future iterations of this rapid assessment process. The Excel output can also be used as a tool for filtering and ranking taxa to address different priorities based on individual criteria or contextual information of interest.

Proposed weighting approaches

Based on discussion with the Secretariat and an informal advisory group¹, it was agreed that "threat from trade" (category 2, see Annex 2) was the key category that CITES could influence, and that weighting the overall scoring of taxa in favour of trade threats should be explored. The Excel output therefore provides three different scoring options: one unweighted (**Option 1**) and two potential weighting approaches for consideration (see Table 1). **Option 2** multiplies the taxa scores for category 2 ("threat from trade") by a factor of two (i.e. doubles the individual scores for the criteria "threat from use", "in legal trade" and "in illegal trade"). **Option 3** also applies a two times multiplication factor to the "threat from trade" criteria, as well as to "existing measures under CITES" (i.e. weighting in favour of taxa that are not subject to existing Decisions or Resolutions).

¹ Informal advisory group members in attendance were Mexico and the United Kingdom, in addition to the CITES Secretariat.

Scoring Option	Description	Excel output column reference
1	Unweighted: no multiplication factors applied to any score	Columns AB-AC
2	Weighting by "threat from trade" (category 2): a multiplication factor of two was applied to the scores for criteria 2.1-2.3 (see Annex 2) prior to the final mean score being taken. This prioritises taxa that are considered threatened by intentional use and are in trade (legal and/or illegal).	Columns AD-AE
3	Weighting by "threat from trade" (category 2) and "existing CITES measures" (criterion 4.2): a multiplication factor of two was applied to the scores for criteria 2.1-2.3 and 4.2 (see Annex 2) prior to the final mean score being taken. This prioritises taxa that are considered threatened by intentional use and are in trade (legal and/or illegal) and which are not currently covered by CITES measures.	Columns AF-AG

 Table 1: Overview of the three different scoring approaches under consideration

All final scoring approaches (those provided in columns AB-AG) were based on the mean score across individual criteria that could be assigned a score (see AC31 Doc 9/PC25 Doc 10 for details). Weightings were applied ahead of the final mean score being calculated for Options 2 and 3.

Scoring is not possible for all criteria due to (a) missing data (e.g. a Red List assessment does not yet exist or data for fields such as "generation length" have not been provided); (b) data reported as unknown or insufficient (e.g. taxa considered "Data Deficient" or with "unknown" population trends); or (c) data are not yet available (e.g. taxa that were listed in Appendix I at CoP18). The conditions under which taxa would not be scored for a specific criterion are detailed in the "not scored" field in Annex 2. In the output provided here, taxa were assigned scores for between two and ten (i.e. all) criteria depending on data availability.

Annex 1 (Excel output) considered an integral part of this Information document, contains the following information:

- Taxonomic details for each Appendix I taxon (columns A F);
- Unweighted **score for each criterion** (see Annex 2 for criteria), together with the data underpinning each criterion score, where possible² (columns G-AA);
- **Final scores** for each taxon based on three proposed weighting approaches along with the associated **ranking** in comparison with other Appendix I taxa (columns AB-AG); and
- **Metadata**: Non-scoring **contextual information**, including: the year listed in Appendix I; Appendix I Reservations; the year of the most recent IUCN Red List assessment; the number of range States; estimated population size; and number of criteria for which a score could be given.

The species are presented in unweighted rank order (i.e. according to the Option 1 ranking). The Excel file also contains an overview of the taxonomic breakdown by group for each scoring approach, and a separate tab detailing the upper and lower order-specific thresholds calculated for scoring criteria 2.2 (in legal trade) 3.1 (range size) and 3.2 (gestation length).

² Only where these data are publicly available.

Provisional results and next steps

The three scoring approaches presented in this document each address slightly different priorities in ranking Appendix I taxa. Option 1 considers extinction risk, threat from trade, biological vulnerability and management effort to all be of equal importance; Option 2 prioritises taxa that are considered threatened by trade; and Option 3 prioritises taxa considered threatened by trade that are not currently subject to CITES management attention. Despite these varying priorities, there was notable consistency between the results of the different scoring approaches, with 34 taxa being ranked in the top 50 using all three approaches (Table 2). For example, *Scleropages formosus* (Arowana) ranked 1, 2 and 3, and *Encephalartos lehmannii* (Karoo cycad) ranked 5, 11 and 9 for Options 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

Despite the relatively high level of consistency in the top 50 taxa from each approach, the differences also need to be considered when deciding on a scoring approach to take forwards.

Option 1 takes the mean of all criteria that could be scored. However, because this option doesn't prioritise threat from trade, some traded taxa (e.g. *Manis tricuspis* (Three-cusped pangolin) and *Euphorbia decaryi* (Wrinkled leaf spurge)) might be ranked lower than taxa that are less threatened by trade, but which scored highly for biological vulnerability or extinction risk (e.g. *Neophocaena phocaenoides* (Black finless porpoise)). Given that the purpose of the rapid assessment is to identify taxa that may benefit from CITES action, taxa that are in legal/illegal trade or are considered threatened by use, might warrant higher prioritisation.

Option 2 weights the final score in favour of taxa that are in trade or that are considered threatened by intentional use (category 2). However, because the Red List threat classifications for intentional resource use do not differentiate between international and domestic/subsistence use (criterion 2.1), this may elevate taxa that are threatened primarily by domestic consumption. Furthermore, the seizure data used in criterion 2.3 may be more complete for certain taxa (e.g. those more easily identifiable or prioritised by law enforcement), leading to more recognisable taxa being weighted higher, resulting in an overall higher rank.

Option 3 aims to identify taxa that are both threatened by trade (i.e. Option 2) and that have received less CITES attention to date (e.g. through CoP Decisions or specific Resolutions). The approach aims to elevate taxa at risk that may be completely "under the CITES radar", by weighting them more than taxa that are subject to existing CITES measures. However, it is important to note that some CITES measures may be at a higher taxonomic level (e.g. Decisions 18.210-18.217 cover all marine turtles and Resolution 13.4 (Rev. CoP18) covers all great apes). In addition, some existing Decisions may not have been funded, and therefore may not have been actioned. Because criterion 4.2 (CITES measures) is one of the few criteria for which all Appendix I taxa receive a score, Option 3 is particularly notable for the presence of several taxa in the top 50 that were ranked much lower under the other two options (e.g. the eight taxa at the bottom of Table 2 that ranked 24 under Option 3). This may genuinely represent taxa in need of further attention, however many of these taxa had few scored criteria so this may also be an artefact of disproportionately weighting criterion 4.2.

In general, weighting specific criteria (as with Options 2 and 3) may disproportionately amplify scores amongst taxa with fewer scored criteria, leading them to be ranked more highly than other taxa with more data available. This needs to be acknowledged when interpreting the final scores. Ultimately, a minimum threshold for the number of scored criteria when identifying taxa for further assessment could be applied. These data-poor taxa may, however, be priorities for research and primary data collection in order to better understand their biology, ecology and the impact of trade.

Table 2: Appendix I taxa ranked within the top 50 of at least one scoring approach³. The taxa are listed in the table according to their rank under Option 1 (unweighted); ranks exceeding 50 under any scoring approach are in grey (meaning they did not rank in the top 50 for the corresponding option). The individual criteria scores are coloured from high (dark) to low (light) score, and criteria that could not be assigned a score remain white (see Annex 2 for criteria).

Group	Order	Taxon	Rank			Criteria scoring									
Group	Order	Τάχομ	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.2	2.3	3.1	3.2	4.1	4.2	4.3
Fish	Osteoglossiforme	s Scleropages formosus (Arowana)	1	2	3										
	Pholidota	Manis gigantea (Giant ground pangolin)	2	1	1										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Amazona finschi (Lilac-crowned amazon parrot)	3	3.5	4										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Cacatua goffiniana (Goffin's cockatoo)	4	33	42										
Plants	Cycadales	Encephalartos lehmannii (Karoo cycad)	5	11	9										
Mammals	Sirenia	Trichechus senegalensis (African manatee)	6	13.5	6										
Mammals	Carnivora	Lontra longicaudis (Long-tailed otter)	7	9	7										
Plants	Orchidales	Aerangis ellisii	8	6	2										
Reptiles	Crocodylia	Crocodylus siamensis (Siamese crocodile)	9	16	11										
Reptiles	Sauria	Gonatodes daudini (Grenadines clawed gecko)	10	44	40										
Mammals		Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	11.5	7	10										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Amazona auropalliata (Yellow-naped amazon parrot)	11.5	22	32										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Psittacus erithacus (Grey parrot)	13	3.5	14										
Reptiles	Testudines	Eretmochelys imbricata (Hawksbill turtle)	14	5	8										
Mammals	Primates	Pongo pygmaeus (Bornean orangutan)	15	10	24.5										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Cacatua sulphurea (Lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo)	16	35	43										
Mammals	Primates	Lemur catta (Ring-tailed lemur)	17	17	13										
Reptiles	Crocodylia	Tomistoma schlegelii (False gavial)	18	23	33										
Mammals	Artiodactyla	Addax nasomaculatus (Addax)	20	52	49										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Amazona oratrix (Yellow-headed amazon parrot)	21	24	39										
Mammals	Carnivora	Ursus thibetanus (Asian black bear)	22	8	12										
Fish	Cypriniformes	Probarbus jullieni (Esok)	24.5	20	24.5										
Plants	Liliales	Aloe pillansii (Bastard quiver tree aloe)	24.5	40.5	24.5										
Mammals	Artiodactyla	Hippotragus niger variani (Giant sable antelope)	24.5	40.5	24.5										
Reptiles	Sauria	Cophotis dumbara (Knuckles pygmy lizard)	24.5	121	24.5										I
Reptiles	Testudines	Astrochelys radiata (Radiated tortoise)	27	43	71										
Reptiles	Sauria	Brachylophus fasciatus (Fiji banded iguana)	28	61	62										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus (Hyacinth macaw)	29.5	31.5	44.5										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Ara militaris (Military macaw)	29.5	31.5	44.5										
Birds	Psittaciformes	Cacatua moluccensis (Moluccan cockatoo)	31	54	61										
Mammals	Artiodactyla	Oryx leucoryx (Arabian oryx)	32	29.5	34										

³ When multiple taxa had the same score, the mean score was taken.

Mammals CarnivoraLutra lutra (Common otter)332537.5ReptilesTestudinesAstrochelys yniphora (Ploughshare tortoise)343666Mammals CarnivoraPanthera pardus (Leopard)36.51251Mammals CarnivoraLutrogale perspicillata (Indian smooth-coated otter)36.51251Mammals CingulataPriodontes maximus (Giant armadillo)36.549.551Mammals ProboscideaElephas maximus (Asian elephant)36.51556.5Mammals PrinatesAlouatta pigra (Guatemalan howler)40.526.516.5Mammals PrimatesAlouatta pigra (Guatemalan howler)40.526.516.5Mammals CataceaNeophocaena phocaenoides (Black finless porpoise)42116.5130Mammals CarnivoraPanthera tigris (Tiger)454792BirdsPsittaciformesCocalet macaw)465156.5Mammals CarnivoraPanthera tigris (Tiger)454792BirdsPsittaciformesAra macao (Scarlet macaw)46.551.56Mammals CarnivoraPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum costachild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum costachild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum costachild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchida	0	Quality	-		Rank Criteria scoring											
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ReptilesSauriaCyclura cornuta (Rhinoceros iguana)43.545.555.5BirdsPsittaciformesEos histrio (Red-and-blue lory)43.545.555.5MammalsCarnivoraPanthera tigris (Tiger)454792BirdsPsittaciformesAra macao (Scarlet macaw)465158MammalsCetaceaPhyseter macrocephalus (Sperm Whale)471837.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodyliaCrocodylia cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPreissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Primates	Hylobates pileatus (Capped gibbon)	40.5	26.5	16.5										
BirdsPsittaciformesEos histrio (Red-and-blue lory)43.545.555.5MammalsCarnivoraPanthera tigris (Tiger)454792BirdsPsittaciformesAra macao (Scarlet macaw)465158MammalsCetaceaPhyseter macrocephalus (Sperm Whale)471837.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsGroidylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPresodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Cetacea	Neophocaena phocaenoides (Black finless porpoise)	42	116.5	130										
Mammals CarnivoraPanthera tigris (Tiger)454792BirdsPsittaciformesAra macao (Scarlet macaw)465158Mammals CetaceaPhyseter macrocephalus (Spern Whale)471837.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPrimatesPrimates6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygthrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Reptiles	Sauria	Cyclura cornuta (Rhinoceros iguana)	43.5	45.5	55.5										
BirdsPsittaciformesAra macao (Scarlet macaw)465158MammalsCetaceaPhyseter macrocephalus (Spern Whale)471837.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodyliaCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Birds	Psittaciformes	Eos histrio (Red-and-blue lory)	43.5	45.5	55.5										
MammalsCetaceaPhyseter macrocephalus (Sperm Whale)471837.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Carnivora	Panthera tigris (Tiger)	45	47	92										
PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodyliaCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Birds	Psittaciformes	Ara macao (Scarlet macaw)	46	51	58										
PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum dayanum (Day's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5PlantsOrchidalesPaphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)48.581.576.5ReptilesCrocodyliaCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Cetacea	Physeter macrocephalus (Sperm Whale)	47	18	37.5										
ReptilesCrocodyliaCrocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)50.562.571BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Plants	Orchidales		48.5	81.5	76.5										
BirdsGruiformesGrus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)50.562.571MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Plants	Orchidales	Paphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rothschild's slipper orchid)	48.5	81.5	76.5										
MammalsPrimatesGorilla gorilla (Gorilla)52.540.568MammalsSireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Reptiles	Crocodylia	Crocodylus cataphractus (African sharp-nosed crocodile)	50.5	62.5	71										
Mammals SireniaDugong dugon (Dugong)54.53836Mammals PholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863Mammals PerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535Mammals PrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741Mammals PerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Birds	Gruiformes	Grus leucogeranus (Siberian crane)	50.5	62.5	71										
MammalsPholidotaManis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)581946ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Primates	Gorilla gorilla (Gorilla)	52.5	40.5	68										
ReptilesTestudinesChelonia mydas (Green turtle)614863MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535MammalsPrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741MammalsPerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Sirenia	Dugong dugon (Dugong)	54.5	38	36										
Mammals PerissodactylaCeratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)6313.535Mammals PrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741Mammals PerissodactylaCeratotherium simum simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Mammals	Pholidota	Manis tricuspis (Three-cusped pangolin)	58	19	46										
Mammals PrimatesPygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)653741Mammals PerissodactylaCeratotherium simum simum (Southern white rhino)702847	Reptiles	Testudines	Chelonia mydas (Green turtle)	61	48	63										
Mammals Perissodactyla Ceratotherium simum (Southern white rhino) 70 28 47	Mammals	Perissodactyla	Ceratotherium simum (White Rhinoceros)	63	13.5	35										
	Mammals	Primates	Pygathrix nemaeus (Red-shanked douc)	65	37	41										
Plants Eunhorbiales Eunhorbia decarvi (Wrinkled leaf spurge) 85.5 34 15	Mammals	Perissodactyla	Ceratotherium simum simum (Southern white rhino)	70	28	47										
	Plants	Euphorbiales	Euphorbia decaryi (Wrinkled leaf spurge)	85.5	34	15										
Plants Liliales Aloe bakeri (Baker aloe) 105 68 5	Plants	Liliales	Aloe bakeri (Baker aloe)	105	68	5										
Mammals Proboscidea Loxodonta africana (African elephant) 125 29.5 82.5	Mammals	Proboscidea	Loxodonta africana (African elephant)	125	29.5	82.5										
Reptiles Serpentes Boa constrictor occidentalis (Argentine boa constrictor) 211 81.5 24.5	Reptiles	Serpentes	Boa constrictor occidentalis (Argentine boa constrictor)	211	81.5	24.5										
Plants Orchidales Dendrobium cruentum 211 81.5 24.5	Plants	Orchidales	Dendrobium cruentum	211	81.5	24.5										
Reptiles Serpentes Python molurus molurus (Indian python) 211 81.5 24.5	Reptiles	Serpentes	Python molurus molurus (Indian python)	211	81.5	24.5										
Reptiles Sauria Varanus nebulosus (Clouded monitor) 211 81.5 24.5	Reptiles	Sauria		211	81.5	24.5										
Inverts Lepidoptera Achillides chikae hermeli (Mindoro peacock swallowtail) 211 228.5 24.5	Inverts	Lepidoptera	Achillides chikae hermeli (Mindoro peacock swallowtail)	211	228.5	24.5										
Reptiles Sauria Ceratophora erdeleni (Erdelen's horn lizard) 211 228.5 24.5	Reptiles		Ceratophora erdeleni (Erdelen's horn lizard)	211	228.5	24.5										
Reptiles Sauria Ceratophora karu (Karunaratne's horn lizard) 211 228.5 24.5	Reptiles	Sauria	Ceratophora karu (Karunaratne's horn lizard)	211	228.5	24.5										
Reptiles Sauria Cophotis ceylanica (Pygmy lizard) 211 228.5 24.5	Reptiles	Sauria	Cophotis ceylanica (Pygmy lizard)	211	228.5	24.5										

Of the 1130 taxa listed in Appendix I, 200 (18%) were reported in wild-sourced legal and/or illegal international trade (under the criteria 2.2 and 2.3 data parameters; see Annex 2for full details). Almost all taxa featuring in the top 50 of one or more scoring options were also in wild-sourced legal and/or illegal trade; the only exceptions were six taxa (one butterfly and five reptiles) that were listed at CoP18 and did not yet have any CITES trade data available.

The number of taxa by taxonomic groups (i.e. the number of taxa) within the top 50 of each scoring approach roughly reflected their representation in wild-sourced legal and/or illegal trade (Table 3). For example, mammals accounted for 45% of Appendix I taxa in trade (89 of the 200 Appendix I taxa recorded in trade) and were also the main taxonomic group in the top 50 for each scoring approach (accounting for between 42% and 52% of the top 50 taxa depending on the scoring option). Whilst plants have the most taxa listed in Appendix I (36%, 411 species), only 22 of these were in wild-sourced legal and/or illegal trade (accounting for 11% of the Appendix I taxa in trade). Proportionally, this aligns with the 4-6 plant taxa in the top 50 (8-12% of taxa depending on the scoring option).

Table 3: Taxonomic breakdown of Appendix I taxa ranked in the top 50 of each scoring approach. The total number of Appendix I taxa in each group, along with the number of taxa in legal trade (based on CITES trade data reported for the parameters outlined in criterion 2.2; Annex 2) or illegal trade (based on seizure data used in criterion 2.3; Annex 2) is also provided for context.

	Number o	of	Number o Appendix I t		Top 50* ta	g approaches				
	Appendix I t		in trade*		Option 1		Option 2	2 Optio		
Group	No of taxa	%	No of taxa	%	No of taxa	%	No of taxa	%	No of taxa	%
Mammals	338	30%	89	45%	21	42%	26	52%	23	46%
Birds	162	14%	42	21%	12	24%	10	20%	8	16%
Reptiles	103	9%	43	22%	10	20%	8	16%	11	22%
Amphibians	24	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Fish	16	1%	4	2%	2	4%	2	4%	2	4%
Inverts	76	7%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%
Coral	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Plants	411	36%	22	11%	5	10%	4	8%	6	12%
Total	1130		200		50		50		*51	

* Due to several taxa receiving the same score, 51 were included under Option 3.

** Either in legal trade (based on CITES trade reported for the data parameters outlined in criterion 2.2) or illegal trade (based on seizure data used in criterion 2.3). Full details of criteria in Annex 2.

Next Steps

The methodology presented in Annex AC31 Doc. 9/ PC25 Doc. 10, together with the provisional results presented in this Information document provide several potential approaches for prioritising Appendix I taxa that may benefit from further CITES action. The Animals and Plants Committees are invited to review these documents and identify whether any of these scoring approaches could be taken forward to prioritise species for more detailed assessment as directed by Decision 18.28.

Annex 1: Appendix I rapid assessment results output

Annex 1 provides the complete results output containing scores and rankings for all Appendix I taxa under the different scoring options as an accompanying Excel document (AC31 PC25 Inf doc Annex 1). The following information is included in the Excel document:

- **Taxonomic details** for each Appendix I taxon (columns A F);
- Unweighted **score for each criterion** (see Annex2 for criteria), together with the data underpinning each criterion score, where possible⁴ (columns G-AA);
- **Final scores** for each taxon based on three proposed weighting approaches along with the associated **ranking** in comparison with other Appendix I taxa (columns AB-AG); and
- **Metadata**: Non-scoring **contextual information**, including: the year listed in Appendix I; Appendix I Reservations; the year of the most recent IUCN Red List assessment; the number of range States; estimated population size; and number of criteria for which a score could be given.

The species are presented in unweighted rank order (i.e. according to the Option 1 ranking). The Excel file also contains an overview of the taxonomic breakdown by group for each scoring approach, and a separate tab detailing the upper and lower order-specific thresholds calculated for scoring criteria 2.2 (in legal trade) 3.1 (range size) and 3.2 (gestation length).

⁴ Only where these data are publicly available.

Annex 2: Appendix I rapid assessment scoring methodology

Table A.1: Overview of Appendix I rapid assessment scoring criteria to address stage a) i) of Decision 18.28. Where data were available, all criteria were scored between 1 (high) and -1 (low). Each taxon was assigned a final score based on the mean score across all criteria that could be assessed; criteria with missing or incomplete data were not scored to avoid distorting the final outcome. Further details on methodology provided in documents AC31 Doc. 9 and PC25 Doc. 10.

Criteria	Data source	Methods	Scoring criteria	Not scored ⁵
Extinction risk				•
1.1 Red List status	IUCN Red List ⁶	Taxa considered globally threatened are prioritised.	1: CR & EW ⁷ 0.8: EN	Red List status: DD (Data Deficient).
category		Red List status according to IUCN Red List assessment.	0.6: VU	
			0.4: NT	Taxon not yet
			0: EX	assessed by IUCN.
			-1: LC	
1.2 Population	IUCN Red List ⁶	Taxa with declining population trends are prioritised.	1: Decreasing	Population trend:
trend			0.5: Stable	unknown.
		Population trend according to IUCN Red List assessment.	0: Increasing	
				Taxon not yet
		This aligns with biological criterion in Annex 1 C (i-ii) of Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on "marked decline".		assessed by IUCN.
Threat from tra	de			
2.1 Threat from use	IUCN Red Lis ⁶	Those taxa where "trade/use" is a documented threat are prioritised.	1: Considered a threat (severity: very rapid decline	Red list status: LC.
		Whether the IUCN Red List assessments considered intentional	or rapid decline)	Taxon not assigned a
		biological resource use to be a threat (threat classifications: 5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.2, 5.4.2) ⁸ , and if so, how severe those threats were	0.66: Considered a threat (severity: unknown or	threat classification.
		considered to be. Where there were multiple threats and severity, the	fluctuating)	Taxon not yet
		highest score was taken.	0.33: Considered a threat (severity: decline negligible,	assessed by IUCN.
		Threats considered "Past, Unlikely to Return" were excluded.	slow or no decline)	

⁵ When a criterion could not be scored for a given taxon, it was excluded to avoid skewing the taxon's final score.

⁶ Available at <u>www.iucnredlist.org</u>. Version 2020-1. Data accessed on 23 March 2020. Subspecies that did not have their own Red List assessments were scored based on the species-level Red List assessment where this was available.

⁷ Extinct in the Wild (EW) was given an equal score to CR on the assumption that re-introductions of taxa that are extinct in the wild would have small population sizes, and these taxa may still be vulnerable to trade threats (e.g. *Cyanopsitta spixii*).

⁸ Available at <u>https://www.iucnredlist.org/resources/threat-classification-scheme</u>. Version 3.2.

Criteria	Data source	Methods	Scoring criteria	Not scored ⁵
			0: Not considered a threat	
2.2 In legal trade	CITES Trade Database ⁹	Taxa documented to be in international trade (as reported by CITES Parties) are prioritised.	1: > upper threshold 0.66: Between upper and lower threshold	Trade data not yet available (i.e. taxa first listed at CoP18)
		Upper (top 33%) and lower (bottom 33%) thresholds were calculated for each order based on the annual mean level of trade for each taxon (across all Appendices) using the data parameters below. The total level of trade for each Appendix I taxon ¹⁰ was scored	0.33: < lower threshold 0: no trade in data parameters or total trade in data parameters <1/year -1: no evidence of wild-	
		against these thresholds.	sourced legal (criterion 2.2) or illegal (criterion 2.3)	
		Data parameters: Direct trade only Report type: Gross exports ¹¹	trade in any term or unit	
		Year range: 2014-2018 Trade terms ¹² : baleen, bark, bodies, bones, bone carvings, bone pieces, carapaces, carvings, caviar, chips, cloth, cultures, derivatives (<i>Moschus</i> and plants only), dried plants, eggs, eggs (live), extract, fingerlings, fins, flowers, flower pots, fruit, furniture, gall, gall bladders, horn carvings, horn pieces, horns, ivory pieces, ivory carvings, ivory jewellery, jewellery, leaves, live, logs, meat, musk, piano keys, plates, plywood, powder, raw corals, roots, sawn wood, scales, seeds, shells, skin pieces, skins, skeletons, skulls, stems, teeth,		
		timber, timber carvings, timber pieces, trophies, tusks, veneer, wax, wood product Units of measure : number (unit = blank) and weight (kg); additionally, for plants: length (m), area (m ²) and volume (m ³ and l) Source codes ¹³ : ranched (R), unknown (U), wild (W) and no source reported Purpose codes ⁷ : all except scientific (S)		
		Taxa with no reported trade from wild sources (sources 'R', 'U', 'W' and unreported) in any term or unit, and which were not reported in seizures under criterion 2.3, were deprioritised (see "scoring criteria").		

⁹ Available at <u>trade.cites.org/</u>. Data accessed on 13 May 2020.

¹⁰ Where populations were split listed, only trade exported from the populations listed in Appendix I were included. For taxa transferred from Appendix II to Appendix I during the time period, only trade in or after the year of Appendix I listing was included. ¹¹ Gross exports: the quantities reported by the exporter and importer were compared and the larger quantity was used. ¹² A full list and description of "trade terms" (i.e. descriptions of specimens in trade) is available in the <u>Annex to Notif. 2019/072</u>.

¹³ A full list and description of source and purpose codes is specified in Res. Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18).

Criteria	Data source	Methods	Scoring criteria	Not scored ⁵
		The trade terms, units of measure, source codes and report type used align with methods used for selection of taxa in Stage 1 of Res. Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on Review of Significant Trade.		
2.3 In illegal trade	CITES illegal trade reports ¹⁴ TRAFFIC wildlife trade portal ¹⁵	Taxa documented to be in international trade (as reported by CITES Parties or in the TRAFFIC wildlife trade portal) are prioritised. One or more seizure(s) reported at species or subspecies level only ¹⁶ in the most recent five years of CITES data (2014-2018) ¹⁷ and most recent seven years of TRAFFIC data (2014-2020). Only data reported as "seizure" or "smuggling/illegal trade" were included from the TRAFFIC wildlife trade portal.	1: Taxon seizure reported	No seizure reported for the taxon
Biological vuln	erability			
3.1 Range size	IUCN Red List ⁶	Taxa with comparatively small range sizes prioritised. Upper (top 33%) and lower (bottom 33%) thresholds were calculated for each order based on the Extent of Occurrence (EOO) for each taxon assessed by IUCN. Where EOO was provided as a range, the mean value was used. The mean EOO for each Appendix I taxon was scored against these thresholds. This aligns with biological criterion in Annex 1 B (i-iv) of Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on "restricted area of distribution"	1: < lower threshold 0.5: Between upper and lower threshold 0: > upper threshold	EOO data not available from IUCN. Taxon not yet assessed by IUCN.
3.2 Generation length	IUCN Red List ⁶	Taxa with longer generation lengths (e.g. those that are slow-growing and slow to mature) are prioritised as likely to be more vulnerable. Upper (top 33%) and lower (bottom 33%) thresholds were calculated for each order based on the generation length for each taxon	1: > upper threshold 0.5: Between upper and lower threshold 0: < lower threshold	Generation length not available. Taxon not yet assessed by IUCN.

 ¹⁴ Data received from UNODC (via the CITES Secretariat) January 2020.
 ¹⁵ TRAFFIC International (2020). Wildlife Trade Portal. Available at <u>www.wildlifetradeportal.org</u>. Data accessed on 11 May 2020. Only direct taxonomic mapping between accepted names was included.

 ¹⁶ Seizures reported at higher taxonomic level were excluded.
 ¹⁷ Due to the CITES reporting cycle, data from the CITES illegal trade reports are only available for the years 2014-2018.

Criteria	Data source	Methods	Scoring criteria	Not scored ⁵
		assessed by IUCN. Where generation length was provided as a range, the mean value was used.		
		The mean generation length for each Appendix I taxon was scored against these thresholds.		
Management e	ffort			
4.1 Compliance with CITES	CITES Trade Database ¹⁸	 Taxa with trade linked with potential compliance issues are prioritised. Whether there was evidence of at least one of the following during the most recent five years of trade data as reported by either importers or 	1: potential compliance issue(s) 0: no potential compliance issue(s)	Trade data not yet available (listed at CoP18).
		 exporters (2014-2018): (a) direct and/or indirect commercial trade (purpose 'T') in wild-sourced (source 'W') specimens¹⁹; and/or (b) direct trade exceeding CoP-approved quotas (defined as quotas in Resolutions or listing annotations) 		
4.2 Existing measures under CITES	CITES ²⁰	Taxa without CITES measures are prioritised. Whether Appendix I taxa were currently covered by at least one of the following CITES measures: CITES Resolution(s); CITES Decision(s); CITES Task Force; and/or had CoP-approved quotas in place (quotas defined in Resolutions or listing annotations).	1: No existing measures 0.5: Measures exist at higher taxonomic level 0: Dedicated measures exist for the taxon	
4.3 Conservation actions in place	IUCN Red List ⁶	 Taxa where no or little conservation action is taking place are prioritised. Whether IUCN Red List assessments considered conservation actions to be in place for the following IUCN conservation action classifications: Action Recovery Plan; systematic monitoring scheme; harvest management plan; ex-situ conservation; and/or recent education or awareness programmes. 	1: Where classified, all are No 0.5: Where classified, more No than Yes 0: Where classified, all or most are Yes	All Conservation Actions "unknown". Taxon not yet assessed by IUCN.

 ¹⁸ Available at <u>trade.cites.org/</u>. Data accessed on 13 May 2020.
 ¹⁹ For split listed and recently uplisted taxa, this only applies to populations and years when listed in Appendix I.
 ²⁰ Available at <u>www.cites.org</u>.