

CMS Comments on Proposals to Amend CITES Appendices I and II at COP17

Introduction:

In accordance with Article XV paragraph 2 (b) of the CITES Convention, the Secretariat to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) was requested to comment on listing proposals for marine species.

The CMS Secretariat will provide comments on the following proposals, being of species listed on the appendices of CMS:

- 1. Include *Carcharhinus falciformis* in Appendix II;**
- 2. Include *Alopias* spp. in Appendix II;**
- 3. Include *Mobula* spp. in Appendix II;**

1. **The Silky Shark *Carcharhinus falciformis*.**

This species was listed on CMS Appendix II in 2014 and on Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks MOU in 2016. Hence, Parties to CMS are encouraged to conclude global or regional Agreements for the conservation and management of this species.

The 40 Signatories to the Sharks MOU, 37 of which are also Parties to CITES (see Table 2), have agreed to cooperate through an international Conservation Plan that aims to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for the species which is listed on its Annex 1.

2. **Thresher Sharks (*Alopias* spp.)**

All three species of thresher sharks were listed on CMS Appendix II in 2014 and on Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks MOU in 2016. Hence, Parties to CMS are encouraged to conclude global or regional Agreements for the conservation and management of this species.

The 40 Signatories to the Sharks MOU, 37 of which are also Parties to CITES (see Table 2), have agreed to cooperate through an international Conservation Plan that aims to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for the species which are listed on its Annex 1.

3. **Mobula or Devil Rays (*Mobula* spp.)**

All nine species of the genus *Mobula* were listed on Appendix I and II of CMS in 2014 as well as Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks MOU in 2016. Consequently, the 124 Parties to CMS, out of which 123 are also Parties to CITES (see Table 2), have committed to strictly protect all species of the genus *Mobula* by: prohibiting the taking of such species, with very restricted scope for exceptions; conserving and where appropriate restoring their habitats; preventing, removing or mitigating obstacles to their migration and controlling other factors that might endanger them. Thus, these 123 Parties to both Conventions have already adopted measures which would preclude the issuing of Non-Detriment Findings for these species.

Refer to Article III of the Convention on Migratory Species for more details (<http://www.cms.int/en/convention-text>).

For ease of reference, Table 1 below provides an overview of the status of the above species under CMS and under the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (Sharks MOU) as well as references to recent reviews of their conservation status.

Table 1: Status and year of listing under CMS and Sharks MOU of shark species which are proposed for listing on CITES Appendices at CITES COP17

Species	CMS Appendix I	CMS Appendix II	Sharks MOU Annex I	Existing CMS Reviews and proposals for listing on CMS
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>		2014	2016	CMS Technical Series No.15 UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.24.1.14/Rev.1 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.6 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.10 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Inf.12
<i>Alopias spp.</i>		2014	2016	CMS Technical Series No.15 UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.24.1.17 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.9 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.10 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Inf.12
<i>Mobula spp.</i>	2014	2014	2016	CMS Technical Series No.15 UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.24.1.10/Rev.1 UNEP/CMS/COP11/Doc.24.1.10/Addendum Rev.1 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.5 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Doc.8.2.10 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Inf.12 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Inf.13 CMS/Sharks/MOS2/Inf.14

Table 2. List of Countries that are Parties to CITES, CMS or Signatories to the Sharks MOU. Note that 123 CITES Parties are also Parties to CMS.

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Afghanistan	Yes	Yes	
Albania	Yes	Yes	
Algeria	Yes	Yes	
Angola	Yes	Yes	
Antigua and Barbuda	Yes	Yes	
Argentina	Yes	Yes	
Armenia	Yes	Yes	
Australia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Austria	Yes	Yes	
Azerbaijan	Yes		
Bahamas	Yes		
Bahrain	Yes		
Bangladesh	Yes	Yes	
Barbados	Yes		
Belarus	Yes	Yes	
Belgium	Yes	Yes	Yes
Belize	Yes		

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Benin	Yes	Yes	
Bhutan	Yes		
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Yes	Yes	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes		
Botswana	Yes		
Brazil	Yes	Yes	
Brunei Darussalam	Yes		
Bulgaria	Yes	Yes	
Burkina Faso	Yes	Yes	
Burundi	Yes	Yes	
Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	
Cambodia	Yes		
Cameroon	Yes	Yes	
Canada	Yes		
Central African Republic	Yes		
Chad	Yes	Yes	
Chile	Yes	Yes	Yes
China	Yes		
Colombia	Yes		Yes
Comoros	Yes		Yes
Congo	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cook Islands		Yes	
Costa Rica	Yes	Yes	Yes
Côte d'Ivoire	Yes	Yes	
Croatia	Yes	Yes	
Cuba	Yes	Yes	
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	
Czech Republic	Yes	Yes	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Yes	Yes	
Denmark	Yes	Yes	Yes
Djibouti	Yes	Yes	
Dominica	Yes		
Dominican Republic	Yes		
Ecuador	Yes	Yes	
Egypt	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Salvador	Yes		
Equatorial Guinea	Yes	Yes	
Eritrea	Yes	Yes	
Estonia	Yes	Yes	
Ethiopia	Yes	Yes	
European Union	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fiji	Yes	Yes	
Finland	Yes	Yes	

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
France	Yes	Yes	
Gabon	Yes	Yes	
Gambia	Yes	Yes	
Georgia	Yes	Yes	
Germany	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ghana	Yes	Yes	Yes
Greece	Yes	Yes	
Grenada	Yes		
Guatemala	Yes		
Guinea	Yes	Yes	Yes
Guinea-Bissau	Yes	Yes	
Guyana	Yes		
Honduras	Yes	Yes	
Hungary	Yes	Yes	
Iceland	Yes		
India	Yes	Yes	
Indonesia	Yes		
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	
Iraq	Yes	Yes (as of 1 August, 2016)	
Ireland	Yes	Yes	
Israel	Yes	Yes	
Italy	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jamaica	Yes		
Japan	Yes		
Jordan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kazakhstan	Yes	Yes	
Kenya	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kuwait	Yes		
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Yes	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Yes		
Latvia	Yes	Yes	
Lebanon	Yes		
Lesotho	Yes		
Liberia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Libya	Yes	Yes	Yes
Liechtenstein	Yes	Yes	
Lithuania	Yes	Yes	
Luxembourg	Yes	Yes	
Madagascar	Yes	Yes	
Malawi	Yes		
Malaysia	Yes		
Maldives	Yes		

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Mali	Yes	Yes	
Malta	Yes	Yes	
Mauritania	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mauritius	Yes	Yes	
Mexico	Yes		
Monaco	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mongolia	Yes	Yes	
Montenegro	Yes	Yes	
Morocco	Yes	Yes	
Mozambique	Yes	Yes	
Myanmar	Yes		
Namibia	Yes		
Nauru			Yes
Nepal	Yes		
Netherlands	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Zealand	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nicaragua	Yes		
Niger	Yes	Yes	
Nigeria	Yes	Yes	
Norway	Yes	Yes	
Oman	Yes		
Pakistan	Yes	Yes	
Palau	Yes	Yes	Yes
Panama	Yes	Yes	
Papua New Guinea	Yes		
Paraguay	Yes	Yes	
Peru	Yes	Yes	
Philippines	Yes	Yes	Yes
Poland	Yes	Yes	
Portugal	Yes	Yes	Yes
Qatar	Yes		
Republic of Korea	Yes		
Republic of Moldova	Yes	Yes	
Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes
Russian Federation	Yes		
Rwanda	Yes	Yes	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Yes		
Saint Lucia	Yes		
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Yes		
Samoa	Yes	Yes	Yes
San Marino	Yes		
São Tomé and Príncipe	Yes	Yes	
Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Senegal	Yes	Yes	Yes
Serbia	Yes	Yes	
Seychelles	Yes	Yes	
Sierra Leone	Yes		
Singapore	Yes		
Slovakia	Yes	Yes	
Slovenia	Yes	Yes	
Solomon Islands	Yes		
Somalia	Yes	Yes	
South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	
Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	
Sudan	Yes		Yes
Suriname	Yes		
Swaziland	Yes	Yes	
Sweden	Yes	Yes	Yes
Switzerland	Yes	Yes	
Syrian Arab Republic	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tajikistan	Yes	Yes	
Thailand	Yes		
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Yes	Yes	
Togo	Yes	Yes	Yes
Trinidad and Tobago	Yes		
Tunisia	Yes	Yes	
Turkey	Yes		
Tuvalu			Yes
Uganda	Yes	Yes	
Ukraine	Yes	Yes	
United Arab Emirates	Yes	Yes	Yes
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Yes	Yes	Yes
United Republic of Tanzania	Yes	Yes	
United States of America	Yes		Yes
Uruguay	Yes	Yes	
Uzbekistan	Yes	Yes	
Vanuatu	Yes		Yes
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Yes		
Viet Nam	Yes		
Yemen	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zambia	Yes		
Zimbabwe	Yes	Yes	