

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

CMS COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS TO AMEND CITES APPENDICES I AND II AT COP18

AQUATIC SPECIES

Introduction

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

The CMS Secretariat will provide comments on the following proposals for species that are included in CMS Appendices and/or Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks Memorandum of Understanding (Sharks MOU):

- Include Shortfin Mako (*Isurus oxyrinchu*) in Appendix II of CITES
- Include Longfin Mako (*Isurus paucus*) in Appendix II of CITES
- Include Rhinidae spp. in Appendix II of CITES

The Shortfin Mako (*Isurus oxyrinchu*) and the Longfin Mako (*Isurus paucus*) were listed in CMS Appendix II in 2008 and Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU in 2010.

The White-spotted / Bottlenose Wedgefish (*Rhynchobatus australiae*) was listed in CMS Appendix II in 2017 and Annex 1 of the Sharks MOU in 2018.

Rhynchobatus djiddensis and *Rhynchobatus leavis* were included in Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks MOU in 2018.

As both CMS and CITES Parties have called for harmonization between the two conventions. ([CMS CITES Joint Work Programme 2015-2020](#)), CITES Parties may wish to include the species on Appendix II of CITES as proposed.

An overview of the listing status of the above species and supporting documents are provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Status and year of listing under CMS and the Sharks MOU of species which are proposed for listing on CITES Appendices at CITES COP18 and the relevant documents.

Species	CMS Appendix II	Sharks MOU Annex I	Reviews and proposals for listing on CMS or the Sharks MOU
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	2008	2010	CMS COP9 listing proposal: UNEP/CMS/COP9_II/9
<i>Isurus paucus</i>	2008	2010	CMS COP9 listing proposal: UNEP/CMS/COP9_II/9
<i>Rhynchobatus australiae</i>	2017	2018	CMS COP12 listing proposal: UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.25.1.25/Rev.2 CMS Scientific Council recommendations: UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.25.1.25/Add.1 UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.25.1.25/Add.In-S.1/F Sharks MOU MOS3 listing proposal: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1.3 Sharks MOU Advisory Committee recommendations: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1/Rev.1
<i>Rhynchobatus djiddensis</i>		2018	Sharks MOU MOS3 listing proposal: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1.3 Sharks MOU Advisory Committee recommendations: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1/Rev.1
<i>Rhynchobatus laevis</i>		2018	Sharks MOU MOS3 listing proposal: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1.3 Sharks MOU Advisory Committee recommendations: CMS/Sharks/MOS3/Doc.9.1/Rev.1

CMS Appendices / CMS Sharks MOU

According to CMS Article IV (1) "Appendix II shall list migratory species which have an unfavourable conservation status and which require international agreements for their conservation and management, as well as those which have a conservation status which would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement."

According to CMS Article IV (4), which encourages Parties to conclude agreements for species listed in Appendix II, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (Sharks MOU) was established in 2010.

This specialized agreement aims to achieve and maintain a favorable conservation status for migratory sharks listed in Annex 1 of the MOU. Signatories to the Sharks MOU have agreed a comprehensive Conservation Plan (Annex 3 of the MOU), which i.a. requires Signatories to:

“Develop and implement strategies that seek to ensure that sharks and shark products entering international trade are harvested and traded in accordance with existing conservation and management measures and applicable regulations including those of CITES and RFMOs.”

– Annex 3: Conservation Plan Section 7.2.1 of the Sharks MOU

and to:

“Develop and implement additional measures to ensure legal and sustainable international trade in sharks and shark products.”

– Annex 3: Conservation Plan Section 7.2.2 of the Sharks MOU

“Shark” is defined by the Sharks MOU as:

“Shark” means any of the migratory species, subspecies or populations in the Class Chondrichthyes (which includes sharks, rays, skates and chimaeras) that are included in Annex 1 of this Memorandum of Understanding.

- Paragraph (1)(3)(p) of the Sharks MOU

CMS and CITES Parties

It should be noted that 126 Parties which are Parties to CMS are also Parties to CITES and that 46 out of 48 Signatories to the Shark MOU are also Parties to CITES. This is outlined in Table 2 below.

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

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		
Benin	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bhutan	Yes		

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Yes	Yes	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	Yes	
Botswana	Yes		
Brazil	Yes	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 (Republic of)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Congo (Democratic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	
Cook Islands		Yes	
Costa Rica	Yes	Yes	Yes
Côte d'Ivoire	Yes	Yes	Yes
Croatia	Yes	Yes	
Cuba	Yes	Yes	
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	
Czech Republic	Yes	Yes	
Denmark	Yes	Yes	Yes
Djibouti	Yes	Yes	
Dominica	Yes		
Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	
Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Yes
Egypt	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Salvador	Yes		
Equatorial Guinea	Yes	Yes	
Eritrea	Yes	Yes	
Estonia	Yes	Yes	
Eswatini	Yes	Yes	
Ethiopia	Yes	Yes	
European Union	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fiji	Yes	Yes	
Finland	Yes	Yes	
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	

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
Guyana	Yes		
Honduras	Yes	Yes	
Hungary	Yes	Yes	
Iceland	Yes		
India	Yes	Yes	
Indonesia	Yes		
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Yes	Yes	
Iraq	Yes	Yes	
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
Korea (Republic of)	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	Yes
Malawi	Yes		
Malaysia	Yes		
Maldives	Yes		
Mali	Yes	Yes	
Malta	Yes	Yes	
Mauritania	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mauritius	Yes	Yes	
Mexico	Yes		
Moldova (Republic of)	Yes	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	
North Macedonia (Republic of)	Yes	Yes	

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
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		
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	Yes
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	Yes
South Africa (Republic of)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	
Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sudan	Yes		Yes
Suriname	Yes		
Sweden	Yes	Yes	Yes
Switzerland	Yes	Yes	
Syrian Arab Republic	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tajikistan	Yes	Yes	
Thailand	Yes		
Togo	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tonga	Yes		
Trinidad and Tobago	Yes	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

Country	CITES Party	CMS Party	Sharks MOU Signatory
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	