

CITES Brief Country Presentation FIJI

Department of Environment-CITES MA

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CITES Management in Fiji

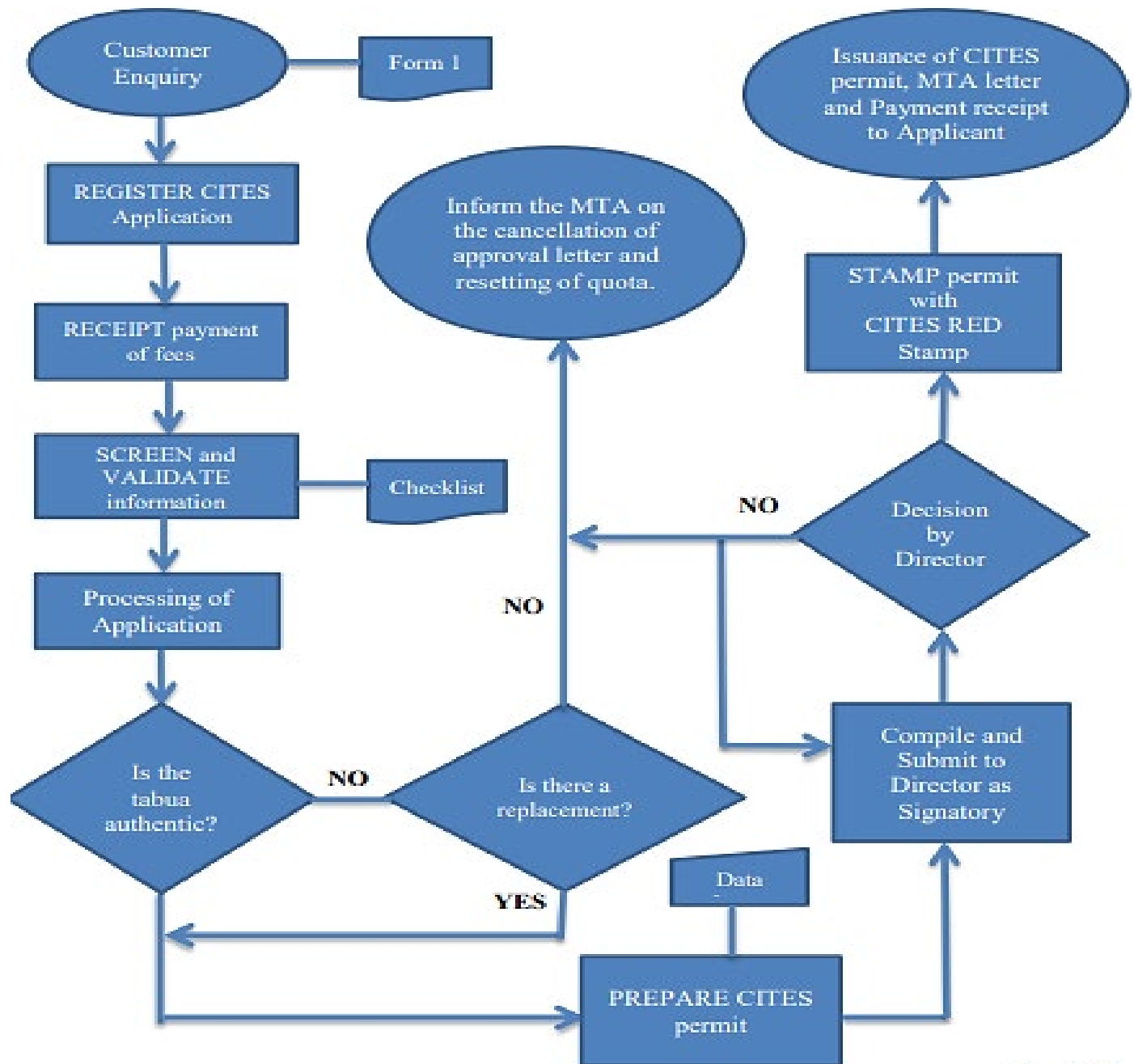
- **National administrative and decision making bodies**

- ❖ Fiji Islands CITES Management Authority (**FCMA**) and the Fiji Islands CITES Scientific Council (**FCSC**);
- ❖ Sets and monitor annual export quota;
- ❖ Advises and liaises with CITES Secretariat on matters relating to CITES;
- ❖ Advise the government on its obligations under the CITES

- **Scientific Study or Non Detrimental Finding (NDF)**

- ❖ A NDF is a scientific assessment /survey which is mandatory for all CITES species to be undertaken by exporting countries;
- ❖ Helps determine population status, trends in trade and impacts of trade upon Appendix II species; status and trends and recovery plans for Appendix I species, etc.;
- ❖ Tool used to ensure trade in any species must be based on sustainable harvest;
- ❖ NDF is yet to be enforced for Schedule listed species under the EPS Act.

Current Practice



Benefits:

- ▶ To control illegal trade / regulate illegal wildlife trafficking - for example, giant clams
- ▶ The Department of Environment is a “one stop shop” for CITES permitting in Fiji.
- ▶ CITES fosters national/ regional/ international collaboration

Challenges

- ▶ Paper processing - accessibility; and hence the step towards e-CITES
- ▶ Resource and finance mobility
- ▶ Lack of awareness and education and/ or advocacy - geographical isolation and connectivity
- ▶ Capacity building in terms of prosecution
- ▶ Cultural and socio-economic aspects
- ▶ Illegal trade/ trafficking

Future plans for e-CITES

- ▶ Earlier stages of planning/ proposal of implementing e-CITES
- ▶ Funds for the implementation of e-CITES is part of the govt budget next financial year proposal
- ▶ Capacity building and knowledge sharing from this workshop
- ▶ Work with the Secretariat to do a pilot run of the e-CITES system for Fiji

Thank You

