

## **Implementation report format**

The format below follows the structure of the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020* and aims to collect information to enable the Strategic Vision indicators to be implemented.

### **CITES vision statement**

Conserve biodiversity and contribute to its sustainable use by ensuring that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade, thereby contributing to the significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss and making a significant contribution towards achieving the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention requires each Party to submit to the CITES Secretariat a report on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the provisions of the Convention.

The report format allows Parties to present information in a standard manner, so that it can be easily collated, with three main objectives:

- i) To enable monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of the Convention;
- ii) To facilitate the identification of major achievements, significant developments, or trends, gaps or problems and possible solutions; and
- iii) Provide a basis for substantive and procedural decision-making by the Conference of the Parties and various subsidiary bodies.

Information on the nature and extent of CITES trade should be incorporated into the annual report [Article VIII paragraph 7 (a)], whereas the report provided under Article VIII paragraph 7 (b) should focus on measures taken to implement the Convention.

The report should cover the period indicated in [Resolution Conf. 11.17 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#) which urges that the report should be submitted to the Secretariat one year before each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP). The reason for setting the report to be due a year in advance of the following CoP is to allow information to be collated so it can be considered by the Standing Committee in advance of CoP, and enable publication of the Strategic Vision indicators in advance of CoP.

Reports should be prepared in one of the three working languages of the Convention (English, French, Spanish).

Parties are *strongly* encouraged to prepare and submit their reports in electronic form. This will facilitate timely integration of information from Parties into publication of the Strategic Vision Indicators. If reports are only provided in hard copy, resources will be needed at the Secretariat to make an electronic copy, and this is not good use of Secretariat resources.

The completed report should be sent to:

CITES Secretariat  
International Environment House  
Chemin des Anémones 11-13  
CH-1219 Châtelaine-Geneva  
Switzerland

Email: [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org)  
Tel: +41-(0)22-917-81-39/40  
Fax: +41-(0)22-797-34-17

If a Party requires further guidance on completing their report, please contact the CITES Secretariat at the address above.

Party	<b>Belgium</b>
Period covered in this report	1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017
Department or agency preparing this report	Federal Public Service (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment Directorate General Environment Service Multilateral and Strategic Affairs CITES Unit Eurostation II Place Victor Horta 40 box 10 B-1060 BRUSSELS
Contributing departments, agencies and organizations	<a href="mailto:isabelle.gregoire@environment.belgium.be">isabelle.gregoire@environment.belgium.be</a> <a href="mailto:miet.vanlooy@environment.belgium.be">miet.vanlooy@environment.belgium.be</a>  CITES scientific authority – CITES inspection authorities

## **GOAL 1 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH AND IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONVENTION**

**Objective 1.1** Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through appropriate policies, legislation and procedures.  
All Aichi Targets relevant to CITES, particularly Aichi Target 2, Target 6, Target 9, Target 12, Target 17 and Target 18.

**Indicator 1.1.1:** The number of Parties that are in category 1 under the national legislation project.

1.1.1a	<p>Have any CITES relevant policies or legislation been developed during the period covered in this report? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', have you shared information with the Secretariat? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please provide details to the Secretariat with this report:</p>
1.1.1b	<p>Does your legislation or legislative process allow easy amendment of your national law(s) to reflect changes in the CITES Appendices (e.g. to meet the 90 day implementation guidelines)? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The changes in the Appendices are implemented via amendment of the EU legislation, which is directly applicable on the Belgian territory. Furthermore, the national law of 28/07/1981 provides an article which specifies that for the newly Appendix I listed species, it is mandatory to submit an inventory for the holding of live specimens, so we can monitor newly listed App. I specimens.</p> <p>If 'No', please provide details of the constraints faced: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>

**Objective 1.2** Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens.  
Aichi Target 3.

**Indicator 1.2.1:** The number of Parties that have adopted standard transparent procedures for the timely issuance of permits in accordance with Article VI of the Convention.

		Yes	No	No information
1.2.1a	Do you have standard operating procedures for application for and issuance of permits?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Are the procedures publicly available?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1b	Do you have:			
	Electronic data management and a paper-based permit issuance system?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit information exchange between Management Authorities of some countries If 'Yes', please list countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit information exchange to Management Authorities of all countries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit data exchange between Management Authorities and customs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electronic permit used to cross border with electronic validation by customs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide information on challenges faced or issues overcome:  <a href="#">Our online system for the submission of applications for CITES documents was launched in March 2015. This elaborate electronic system allows CITES "customers" (traders as well as individuals) to apply and pay for their CITES documents online. Treatment and issuance of permits is also done via this system, which allows us to keep records of all applications in a digital form. This system also gives the possibility to ensure a better control of the legal trade, to extract data, discover trends etc. This system is available via our website <a href="http://www.citesinbelgium.be">www.citesinbelgium.be</a></a></p>			
	If 'No', do you have any plans to move towards e-permitting <sup>1</sup> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>If you are planning to move towards e-permitting, please explain what might help you to do so:  <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>			

Indicator 1.2.2: The number of Parties making use of the simplified procedures provided for in [Resolution Conf. 12.3 \(Rev. CoP16\)](#).

1.2.2a	Has your country developed simplified procedures for any of the following?	Tick all applicable		
		Yes	No	No information
	Where biological samples of the type and size specified in Annex 4 of <a href="#">Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16)</a> are urgently required.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of pre-Convention certificates or equivalent documents in accordance with <a href="#">Article VII</a> , paragraph 2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of certificates of captive breeding or artificial propagation in accordance with Article VII, paragraph 5.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	For the issuance of export permits or re-export certificates in accordance with Article IV for specimens referred to in Article VII, paragraph 4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there other cases judged by a Management Authority to merit the use of simplified procedures? If 'Yes', please provide details: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> e-permitting refers to the electronic (paperless) management of the permit business process, including permit application, Management Authority – Scientific Authority consultations, permit issuance, notification to customs and reporting.

**Objective 1.3** Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.  
All Aichi targets relevant to CITES, particularly Target 9, Target 14 and Target 18.

**Indicator 1.3.1:** The number of Parties that have implemented relevant reporting under Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties and/or Standing Committee recommendations.

1.3.1a	<p>Has your country responded to all relevant special reporting requirements that are active during the period covered in this report, including those in the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, Standing Committee recommendations, and Notifications issued by the Secretariat (see [link to location on the CITES website where the reporting requirements are listed])?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> Responses provided to ALL relevant reporting requirements <input type="checkbox"/>  Responses provided to SOME of the relevant reporting requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Responses provided to NONE of the relevant reporting requirements <input type="checkbox"/>  No special reporting requirements applicable <input type="checkbox"/> </p>
1.3.1b	<p>Were any difficulties encountered during the period covered in this report in implementing specific Resolutions or Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide details of which Resolution(s) or Decision(s), and, for each, what difficulties were / are being encountered?  <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>

**Objective 1.4** The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species.  
Aichi Target 1, Target 12, Target 14 and Target 19.

**1.4.1:** The number and proportion of species that have been found to meet the criteria contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 or its successors. This includes both the periodic review and amendment proposals.

1.4.1a	<p>Have you undertaken any reviews of whether species would benefit from listing on the CITES Appendices? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide a summary here, or a link to the report of the work (or a copy of that report to the Secretariat if the work is not available online):  Not during the period concerned.  In 2018 however the Belgian CITES Scientific Authority submitted together with the German CITES Scientific Authority a draft proposal for the listing of <i>Pterocarpus spp</i> in CITES Appendix II at the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Plants Committee. This draft proposal was later withdrawn due to lack of data. Belgium has also worked on a proposal to change the annotation for <i>Pericopsis elata</i>.</p>
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**Objective 1.5** Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings.  
Aichi Target 2, Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 12 and Target 14.

**Indicator 1.5.1:** The number of surveys, studies or other analyses undertaken by exporting countries based on the sources of information cited in Resolution Conf. 16.7 on Non-detriment findings related to:

- the population status of Appendix-II species;
- the trends and impact of trade upon Appendix-II species; and
- the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species and the impact of any recovery plans.

1.5.1a	Have any surveys, studies or other analyses been undertaken <u>in your country</u> in relation to:	Yes	No	Not Applicable	If Yes, How many?
	- the population status of Appendix II species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the trends and impact of trade on Appendix II species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the status of and trend in naturally-occurring Appendix I species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- the impact of any recovery plans on Appendix I species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Have the surveys, studies or analyses integrated relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	<p>If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:</p> <p>A brief summary of the results of the survey, study or other analysis (e.g. population status, decline / stable / increase, off-take levels etc), or provide links to published reference material.</p> <p>Species name (scientific)</p> <p>□□□□□                      □□□□□</p> <p>□□□□□                      □□□□□</p> <p>□□□□□                      □□□□□</p> <p>□□□□□                      □□□□□</p> <p>Remark:</p> <p>The CITES Scientific Authority of Belgium submitted, at the 21th meeting of the Plant Committee (May 2014), an information document drafted by the Service of Wood Biology of the Royal Museum for Central Africa, entitled “Non-detriment findings for timber imports from Central Africa: stepwise approach of collecting documentation on carrying capacity of <i>Pericopsis</i> populations” that contributed to the assessment of international trade in timber species from Central Africa.</p>																									
1.5.1b	<p>How are the results of such surveys, studies or other analyses used in making non-detriment findings (NDFs)? Please tick all that apply</p> <p>Revised harvest or export quotas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Banning export <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Stricter domestic measures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Changed management of the species <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Discussion with Management Authorities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Discussion with other stakeholders? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Other (please provide a short summary):</p>																									
1.5.1c	<p>Do you have specific conservation measures or recovery plans for naturally occurring Appendix-I listed species?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If ‘Yes’, please provide a brief summary, including, if possible, an evaluation of their impact: □□□□□</p>																									
1.5.1d	<p>Have you published any non-detriment findings that can be shared? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If ‘Yes’, please provide links or examples to the Secretariat within this report:</p> <p><a href="https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/pc/21/E-PC21-Inf-04.pdf">in the framework of the “Non detrimental findings” Pericopsis elata report for DRC.</a></p> <p><a href="https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/pc/21/E-PC21-Inf-04.pdf">https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/pc/21/E-PC21-Inf-04.pdf</a></p>																									
1.5.1e	<p>Which of the following (A to F of paragraph a) x) of <a href="#">Resolution Conf. 16.7</a> do you use in making non-detriment findings?</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Yes</th> <th>No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A. relevant scientific literature concerning species biology, life history, distribution and population trends.</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. details of any ecological risk assessments conducted.</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. scientific surveys conducted at harvest locations and at sites protected from harvest and other impacts.</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><a href="#">For wood only</a></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts.</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>F. national and international trade information such as that available via the CITES trade database maintained by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), publications on trade, local knowledge</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Yes	No	A. relevant scientific literature concerning species biology, life history, distribution and population trends.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	B. details of any ecological risk assessments conducted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. scientific surveys conducted at harvest locations and at sites protected from harvest and other impacts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	D. relevant knowledge and expertise of local and indigenous communities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">For wood only</a>			E. consultations with relevant local, regional and international experts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	F. national and international trade information such as that available via the CITES trade database maintained by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), publications on trade, local knowledge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	on trade and investigations of sales at markets or through the Internet for example.
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Indicator 1.5.2: The number of Parties that have adopted standard procedures for making non-detriment findings.

1.5.2a	<div style="text-align: right;"> Yes      No      No  information </div> <p>Do you have standard procedures for making non-detriment findings in line with <a href="#">Resolution Conf. 16.7</a>? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      <input type="checkbox"/>      <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please briefly describe your procedures for making non-detriment findings, or attach as an annex to this report, or provide a link to where the information can be found on the internet:</p> <p>- Transmission by the scientific advisor of useful information to facilitate the delivering of a NDF via a specific pre-filled 'template application review'(already sent in biannual report 2013-2014)</p> <p>- Transmission of information to improve knowledge of CITES: through CIRCABC (EC secure website), Reference Guide, guidelines for the establishment of a scientific advice, guidance book (which contains, among others, the CITES legislation texts, expert contact lists, species lists, ..);</p> <p>- Organisation of meetings with all CITES scientific members approx. 4 times/ year</p>												
1.5.2b	<p>When establishing non-detriment findings, have any of the following guidance been used? <span style="float: right;">Please tick all that apply</span></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Virtual College</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">IUCN Checklist</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Resolution Conf. 16.7</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2008 NDF workshop</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Species specific guidance</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Other</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table> <p>If 'Other' or 'Species specific guidance', please specify details: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>○ Literature searches :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• data sources subscribed to by UNEP-WCMC including Web of Knowledge/Zoological Records.</li> <li>• relevant free access journals listed on intranet <a href="http://intranet.unep-wcmc.org/?action=library&amp;base=elecjournals">http://intranet.unep-wcmc.org/?action=library&amp;base=elecjournals</a></li> <li>• University library resources (Scopus search, online journals, books etc)</li> <li>• UNEP-WCMC library</li> <li>• SCD and literature in Species section</li> <li>• SRG E library (unep-wcmc website)</li> <li>• Google searches including "Google Scholar"</li> <li>• CITES and SRG background information</li> <li>• Trade Information Query Tool for any CITES suspension</li> <li>• Trade Information Query Tool/Species DB for any CITES export quotas</li> <li>• CITES web site for any previous discussions/reports/sig trade reviews – this can provide important context information</li> <li>• SRG electronic library to get information such as: previous reviews of the species in question; summary of previous discussions; etc.</li> </ul>	Virtual College	<input type="checkbox"/>	IUCN Checklist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resolution Conf. 16.7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2008 NDF workshop	<input type="checkbox"/>	Species specific guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.5.2c	<p>How often do you review and/or change your non-detriment findings?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Case by case</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Annually</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Every two years</td><td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table>	Case by case	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annually	<input type="checkbox"/>	Every two years	<input type="checkbox"/>						
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	<p>Less frequently <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>A mix of the above <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please describe the circumstances under which non-detriment findings would be changed:  Scientific opinions for species /country / source are generally valid for many years until changes at the species level : ex: changing in quotas, decisions taken by SRG; populations status, etc. Sometime decision is only valid for a specific case (source, country , quantity..) and must be reevaluate for further applications ex: for sensitive species.</p>
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Indicator 1.5.3: The number and proportion of annual export quotas based on population surveys.

1.5.3a	<p>Do you set annual export quotas?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', do you set quotas based on population survey, or by other means? Please specify, for each species, how quotas are set:</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Species Name (scientific)</th> <th>Population Survey?</th> <th>Other, please specify</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Anguilla Anguilla</i> quota zero for Belgium</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Due to its depleted status within Europe, the EU has been unable to make a positive non-detriment finding for the species since December 2010.</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Currently export and import of this species from and into the EU is not permitted, and all EU Member States have published a zero export quota for European Eel since 2011.</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Species Name (scientific)	Population Survey?	Other, please specify	<i>Anguilla Anguilla</i> quota zero for Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Due to its depleted status within Europe, the EU has been unable to make a positive non-detriment finding for the species since December 2010.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Currently export and import of this species from and into the EU is not permitted, and all EU Member States have published a zero export quota for European Eel since 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.5.3b	<p>Have annual export quotas been set at levels which will ensure sustainable production and consumption?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please describe how this fits into your non-detriment finding process:  <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>												

**Objective 1.6** Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources.  
Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

**Indicator 1.6.1:** The number of bilateral and multilateral agreements that specifically provide for co-management of shared CITES listed species by range States.

1.6.1a	<p>Is your country a signatory to any bilateral and/or multilateral agreements for co-management of shared species? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide brief details, including the names of the agreements, and which other countries are involved: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>
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**Indicator 1.6.2:** The number of cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, in place for shared populations of CITES-listed species.

1.6.2a	<p>Do you have any cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, in place for shared populations of CITES-listed species? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please list the species for which these plans are in place and provide a link or reference to a published plan for each species.</p> <table> <tr> <th>Species Name (scientific)</th> <th>Link or reference to a published plan</th> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="text"/></td> <td><input type="text"/></td> </tr> </table>	Species Name (scientific)	Link or reference to a published plan	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Species Name (scientific)	Link or reference to a published plan								
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>								
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>								
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>								

**Indicator 1.6.3:** The number of workshops and other capacity-building activities that bring range States together to address the conservation and management needs of shared, CITES listed, species.

1.6.3a	<p>Have the CITES authorities <i>received</i> or <i>benefited</i> from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?</p> <p>Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.</p>						
	Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	What were the external sources <sup>1</sup> ?
	Staff of Management Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See beneath
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See beneath
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See beneath
	Traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	For training See beneath
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

<sup>1</sup> Please provide the names of Parties, and any non-Parties, involved.

	Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Technical assistance by the CITES Management Authority for the submission of applications of CITES documents via our CITES online system: Guidance documents to create an account, to fill in the appropriate way applications and to pay on line.</p>
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Other (please specify): participation to meetings, workshops

For Management Authority staff

External sources:

EU : participation to all Management Committee meetings in 2015, 2016 and 2017 ; Meeting with stakeholders (2016) , correspondences with EU Commission on specific cases or interpretation of the legislation

CITES Secretariat : participation to all Standing Committee meetings, correspondence with CITES Secretariat, use of CITES trade database

TRAFFIC Europe : analyses reports

UNEP-WCMC : Species +

CITES Belgian experts

- Training on identification of ivory (2017)
- Training on TCM (2017)

For Scientific Authority staff:

External sources:

- German CITES SA: Workshop on “Non-Detriment Findings” for Imports of CITES-listed Timber into the EU (Wilm, Germany, 11 to 14.11.2015) and with collaboration of Institute of Germany wood research: Organization of meeting on ‘Identification of CITES traded timber’ given (Vilm, June 2017)
- European Commission : workshop *Prunus africana* with participation of stakeholders (Brussels, 19.03.2015)
- Scientific review Group of EU: “participation to SRG trainings 2017”
- Animals and Plants Committee participations to workshops on different issues

For Enforcement Authorities staff

1.CITES trainings given to CITES Inspection Service attached to the Belgian Federal Administration during 2015- 2016 and 2017

By CITES Belgian MA:

- CITES in general (2015); Theoretical and practical training sessions on CITES legislation and enforcement (Brussels, July, August and September 2017); and use of TCM database and practical exercises (Brussels, December 2017)

By CITES experts :

- Theoretical and practical (identification and manipulation) trainings given in CITES tortoises and snakes (Carapace asbl , 2015 and 2017)
- Wood identification ( Royal Museum Central Africa, Tervuren, 2017)
- Ivory identification (Brussels, 2017)

By rescue centers :

- Identification and manipulations of parrots (Nally’s papegaaien – rescue center specialized in parrots, 2015 and 2017)
- Identification, bird of prey manipulation (Rescue center Opglabbeeck, 2017)

By Federal police and legal department of FPS Health, Food Chain Security and Environment :

- legal training (infringement reports, Salduz law..)

By the P&O department of FPS Health, Food Chain Security and Environment :

- Training on how to handle violence and aggression

The CITES inspectors attached to the FPS Health, Food Chain Security and Environment participated during 2015, 2016 and 2017 at several joint federal controlling operations (so-called "BACON OPERATION") taking place, approximately once to twice a month, at different airports in the country (Zaventem, Gosselies, Bierset, Ostende).

It is an initiative by the Belgian Customs in cooperation with the Belgian Federal Sanitary Agency, the Belgian Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products and different departments of the FPS Health, Food Chain Security and Environment. The aim of this initiative is to detect illegal products brought to the EU by passengers coming from third countries.

2. For the Belgian Federal Sanitary Agency :

CITES training : 16.10.2015 (Zaventem Airport); 22.10.2015 (Liège Bierset Airport); 23.10.2015 (Antwerpen haven)

3. For Belgian Customs :

4 CITES training sessions were given by the CITES MA in 2015 (Liège Bierset Airport): presentation of CITES, use of documents, type of CITES specimens which can be found in this airport , routing, risk analysis

4. For French speaking African Customs :

Two days of CITES theoretical and practical sessions given to groups of French speaking African students of the international Customs training course organized by Federal Public Service Finance, Brussels 09 June 2016 and 06 February 2017.

#### For Traders /Associations /other

- For the musical sector: Information session on new CITES wood species given by the CITES MA during the Cordefactum Guitar Festival organized by the CMB (Center for Musical Instruments Construction), Lier 15 April 2017.
- For bird associations: Information session on CITES legislation given by the CITES MA on trade and breeding of birds, Putte, 20 October 2017.
- For veterinarians: Information session by CITES MA on CITES and links to veterinary work at the yearly EXPOVET (exhibition for veterinarians and students), Gent, 28 October 2017.
- For representatives of Chambers of commerce : participation of the CITES MA to one day of information given by FPS Economy Unit Economic Analyses and International Economy , the aim was to explain the use of the CITES documents; Brussels, 21 November 2017.
- For Belgian ambassadors : Presentation by the CITES MA on general CITES rules at the Belgian diplomatic days on Wildlife Trafficking, Egmont's Palace Brussels, 22nd December 2017
- For representatives from the enforcement agencies and the judiciary from the EU Member States "Implementing the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking:

Stronger Engagement with Business" given by the FPS Justice, 8 February 2017, Brussels.

Regarding communication with the CITES stakeholders, Belgium continues to inform the general public and the specialized sector by means of

- leaflets containing information on the CITES regulations in birds of prey, parrots, reptiles and amphibians and also for the caviar consumers. Belgium also continues to inform the tourists with a brochure "An endangered species is no souvenir "
- By mailing list on specific and general subjects
- Via our website [www.citesinbelgium.be](http://www.citesinbelgium.be)

1.6.3b	<p>Have the CITES authorities been the <i>providers</i> of any of the following capacity-building activities to <b>other range</b> States?</p> <p>Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="311 224 730 443">Target group</th><th data-bbox="735 224 826 443">Oral or written advice/guidance</th><th data-bbox="831 224 922 443">Technical assistance</th><th data-bbox="927 224 1018 443">Financial assistance</th><th data-bbox="1023 224 1114 443">Training</th><th data-bbox="1118 224 1209 443">Other (specify)</th><th data-bbox="1214 224 1474 443">Details</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 450 730 929">Staff of Management Authority</td><td data-bbox="735 450 826 929"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 450 922 929"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 450 1018 929"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 450 1114 929"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 450 1209 929"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 450 1474 929">Financial assistance is given yearly since 2014 to the African Elephant Fund, thus providing funding to implement the African Elephant Action Plan. Belgium also is part of the steering committee of the AEF and thus provides also input on technical matters.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 936 730 1097">Staff of Scientific Authority</td><td data-bbox="735 936 826 1097"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 936 922 1097"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 936 1018 1097"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 936 1114 1097"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 936 1209 1097"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 936 1474 1097">Given by CITES Belgian SA in DRC (2018) CITES generality + NDF for wood</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1104 730 1780">Staff of enforcement authorities</td><td data-bbox="735 1104 826 1780"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1104 922 1780"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1104 1018 1780"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1104 1114 1780"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1104 1209 1780"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1104 1474 1780">           Given by CITES Belgian MA to French speaking African students following a international Customs cursus in Brussels in 2016 and 2017. Students came from the following countries : Togo, Benin, Djibouti , Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon             see 1.6.3 a         </td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1787 730 1825">Traders</td><td data-bbox="735 1787 826 1825"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1787 922 1825"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1787 1018 1825"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1787 1114 1825"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1787 1209 1825"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1787 1474 1825">□□□□□</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1832 730 1870">NGOs</td><td data-bbox="735 1832 826 1870"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1832 922 1870"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1832 1018 1870"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1832 1114 1870"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1832 1209 1870"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1832 1474 1870">□□□□□</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1877 730 1915">Public</td><td data-bbox="735 1877 826 1915"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1877 922 1915"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1877 1018 1915"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1877 1114 1915"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1877 1209 1915"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1877 1474 1915">□□□□□</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1921 730 1982">Other Parties/International meetings</td><td data-bbox="735 1921 826 1982"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1921 922 1982"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1921 1018 1982"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1921 1114 1982"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1921 1209 1982"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1921 1474 1982">□□□□□</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 1989 730 2027">Other (please specify) □□□□□</td><td data-bbox="735 1989 826 2027"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="831 1989 922 2027"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="927 1989 1018 2027"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1023 1989 1114 2027"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1118 1989 1209 2027"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td data-bbox="1214 1989 1474 2027">□□□□□</td></tr> </tbody> </table>							Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	Details	Staff of Management Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial assistance is given yearly since 2014 to the African Elephant Fund, thus providing funding to implement the African Elephant Action Plan. 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1.6.3c	In what ways do you collaborate with other CITES Parties?																																																																					

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Very Often	Always	Further detail / examples
Information exchange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Belgian MA and Belgian enforcement authorities do exchange information with other EU Members states during the meetings of Management Committee and EU Enforcement Group, by mail for specific issues, via EU TWIX database, and with third countries during international meetings (Standing Committee, COP..) and by mail for specific issues.
Monitoring / survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Habitat management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Species management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pericopsis elata (DRC)
Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity building	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	see 1.6.3b
Other (please provide details) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>						
•						

**Objective 1.7** Parties are enforcing the Convention to reduce illegal wildlife trade.  
Aichi Target 4, Target 5, Target 6, Target 7, Target 9, Target 10, Target 12 and Target 19.

**Indicator 1.7.1:** The number of Parties that have, are covered by, or engaged with:

- an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan;
- formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network;
- a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan; and
- formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement committee.

1.7.1a	Do you have, are you engaged in, or covered by:	Yes	No	No Information
	– an international enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– formal international cooperation, such as an international enforcement network?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– a national enforcement strategy and/or action plan?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



– formal national interagency cooperation, such as a national interagency enforcement committee?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please specify the level of engagement and provide additional details: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1) Belgium endorsed the European Union Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking : (UAP) see : <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/trafficking_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/trafficking_en.htm</a>)</p> <p>2) Belgium participated in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpol Wildlife Crime working group: see : <a href="https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/">https://www.interpol.int/Crime-areas/Environmental-crime/</a></li> <li>• Committee-and-Working-Groups/Wildlife-Crime-Working-Group): Johannesburg 2016 (COP) - Singapore 2017 – London 2018</li> <li>• all CITES Enforcement meetings (EM) at EU level in 2015 -2016-2017: 30th to 35st meetings (Brussels/ The Hague)</li> </ul> <p>3) Belgian Enforcement working group is chaired by the Belgian CITES MA and is set up through Article 17 of Royal Decree of 09.04.2003. This group is made of representatives of different Belgian enforcement authorities referred to in Article 7 of the Law of 28/07/1981. The new CITES Inspection coordinator is now part of this group. Major developments such as trends in legal and illegal trade, significant seizures and confiscations, court cases and other enforcement related issues are discussed during these meetings. These meetings usually take place prior to the meetings of the "Enforcement Group" at EU level (one to two times a year) .</p> <p>The main objectives are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Exchange of information and establishment of effective communication networks at national and international level;</li> <li>* Evaluation of measures in place and development of strategies for controls;</li> <li>* Training of controlling authorities.</li> </ul> <p>4) National Cooperation:</p> <p>With Customs, Federal Sanitary Agency and Regions through bilateral meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Memorandum of Understanding for the exchange of information between Customs and the Belgian CITES MA signed in 2014. The CITES MA Belgium is still working out procedures on CITES infractions that they encounter.</li> <li>- Protocols with Federal Sanitary Agency and with administration of the three regions still under discussion.</li> </ul>			

Indicator 1.7.2: The number of Parties with a process or mechanism for reviewing their enforcement strategies, and the activities taken to implement their strategies.

1.7.2a	<p>Do you have a process or mechanism for reviewing your enforcement strategy(ies) and the activities taken to implement your strategy(ies)?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No, but review is under consideration <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', what do you do?</p> <p>In 2015 : Communication from the European Commission entitled "Better regulation for better results" commits the European Commission to cooperate with Member States in examining the best way to ensure compliance with EU law at national level. The EU Agenda on Security stresses the need to strengthen environmental compliance</p>
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	<p>monitoring and enforcement. See  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/legal/law/inspections.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/legal/law/inspections.htm</a>  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/better_regulation/documents/com_2015_215_en">http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/better_regulation/documents/com_2015_215_en</a></p> <p>In 2016: EU Member States were invited by the EU Commission to contribute to the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking through 3 actions (not exhaustive): input given by Belgium in 2016 see table Position EU Action Plan see also EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking - Council conclusions (20 June 2016) see attachment.</p> <p>Since 2017: EU Member States are invited by the EU Commission to contribute to the progress report reflecting the priorities and objectives set out in EU Action Plan. See in attachment progress report by Belgium in 2017.</p> <p>If 'Yes' or 'No, but review is under consideration', which tools do you find of value? <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.2b	<p>Have you used the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, or equivalent tools?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/>  No, but toolkit use is under consideration <input type="checkbox"/>  No <input type="checkbox"/>  No information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide feedback on the parts of the toolkit used and how useful the toolkit or equivalent tools have been. Please specify improvements that could be made:  <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'No', please provide feedback on why not or what is needed to make the toolkit or equivalent tools useful to you:  <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>

Indicator 1.7.3: The number of Parties that have criminal (penal) law and procedures, capacity to use forensic technology, and capacity to use specialized investigation techniques, for investigating, prosecuting, and penalizing CITES offences..

1.7.3a	<p>Do you have law and procedures in place for investigating, prosecuting, and penalizing CITES offences as a crime?</p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide the title of the legislation and a summary of the penalties available <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Article 5 of the law of July 1981 gives the amount of the penalties: minimal fine of 156 (26 x 6) € to 300 000 (50 000 x 6) € and jail sentence of six months to five years.  Article 5 bis of the same law was added to allow administrative sanctions, in particular fines and admonitions.  The payment of administrative fines ends the public action.  This way of working means that no infractions go unpunished as there will be either a judicial or an administrative follow-up.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  No <input type="checkbox"/>  No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.3b	<p>Are criminal offences such as poaching and wildlife trafficking recognized as serious crime<sup>1</sup> in your country?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

<sup>1</sup> The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines serious crime as conduct constituting an offence punishable by imprisonment for at least four years or a more serious penalty.

		No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes', please explain what criteria must be met for poaching or wildlife trafficking offences to be treated as serious crimes: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">see above</a>																				
1.7.3c	Do you have capacity to use forensic technology <sup>1</sup> to support the investigation of CITES offences?  If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary of any samples from CITES-listed species that were collected and submitted to an appropriate forensic analysis facility (located in your country and/or another country) during the period covered in this report: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">In order to assess the legal origin of birds juvenile specimens claimed to be born and bred in captivity, our service requires DNA testing which establishes whether or not the indicated parental stock is indeed the founder stock of the controlled offspring. In 2015, 2016 and 2017, 22 analysis (each analysis with several samples for juveniles and parents declared) were requested and have been carried out by a DNA testing laboratory in the Netherlands (Gendika)</a>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>																				
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Years</th> <th>Amount of DNA forensic analyses</th> <th>Species/ number of specimens (juveniles+ adults)</th> <th>Results</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>11</td> <td> <i>Tyto alba</i> (9)  <i>Primolius maracana</i> (8s)  <i>Amazona oratrix</i> (3)  <i>Falco cherrug</i> (11)  <i>Eunymphicus comutus</i> (3)  <i>Bubo bubo</i> (9)  <i>Falco vespertinus</i> (3)  <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> (12) </td> <td> Links between offspring and parents were established  In all cases except one (3 young <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> were seized and given to a rescue center). </td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>5</td> <td> <i>Amazona rhodororytha</i> (4)  <i>Strix nebulosa</i> (7)  <i>Ara macao</i> (7)  <i>Falco columbarius</i> (4)  <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> (7) </td> <td>Links between offspring and parents were established.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>6</td> <td> <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> (4)  <i>Ara Macao</i> (4)  <i>Ara ambiguous</i> (5)  <i>Ara rubrogenys</i> (4)  <i>Falco columbarius</i> (3)  <i>Tyto alba</i> (3) </td> <td>Links between offspring and parents established.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Years	Amount of DNA forensic analyses	Species/ number of specimens (juveniles+ adults)	Results	2015	11	<i>Tyto alba</i> (9) <i>Primolius maracana</i> (8s) <i>Amazona oratrix</i> (3) <i>Falco cherrug</i> (11) <i>Eunymphicus comutus</i> (3) <i>Bubo bubo</i> (9) <i>Falco vespertinus</i> (3) <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> (12)	Links between offspring and parents were established In all cases except one (3 young <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> were seized and given to a rescue center).	2016	5	<i>Amazona rhodororytha</i> (4) <i>Strix nebulosa</i> (7) <i>Ara macao</i> (7) <i>Falco columbarius</i> (4) <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> (7)	Links between offspring and parents were established.	2017	6	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> (4) <i>Ara Macao</i> (4) <i>Ara ambiguous</i> (5) <i>Ara rubrogenys</i> (4) <i>Falco columbarius</i> (3) <i>Tyto alba</i> (3)	Links between offspring and parents established.					
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<sup>1</sup> Capacity to use forensic technology means the ability to collect, handle and submit samples from crime scenes involving CITES-listed species to an appropriate forensic analysis facility, located either in your country or in another country(ies).

### Caviar

In 2015: We sent samples of caviar seized at Brussels Airport (Zaventem) from a passenger coming from Russia (40 tins of 150 gr) to "Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research" in Germany for identification of the involved sturgeon species. There were two types of caviar tins :

20 tins marked " I " and 20 tins marked " II ". Tins marked " I " contained beluga caviar (*Huso huso*) and those marked " II " contained caviar of the "complex *gueldenstaedtii*" (meaning either *Acipenser gueldenstaedtii*, *A. persicus*, *A. baerii* or *A. naccarri*). Species of this complex are difficult to differentiate one from another. This institute was going to proceed to additional analyses with the nuclear DNA (instead of mitochondrial DNA as for the former analysis) but there were no more information received.

### Bush meat

In 2017 a two-year study was commissioned by DG Environment of FPS Health, Food Chain Security and Environment with a view of sampling and analyzing illegal meat seized at Brussels Airport (Zaventem) in the luggage of passengers flying from the Sub-Saharan Region. General objective was to assess the wild species concerned on basis of DNA analysis and whether CITES species are concerned. This study is still ongoing and is organized with the help of Customs and the Federal Agency for the Food Chain Safety. Results should be available by the end of 2018.

1.7.3d

Did your authorities participate in or initiate any multi-disciplinary<sup>1</sup> law enforcement operation(s) targeting CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?

Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
No information	<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'Yes', please provide a brief summary, including any lessons learned which might be helpful for other Parties: ☐☐☐☐☐

- In 2015, international Operation COBRA III: participation of law enforcement teams and agencies from 62 countries in Europe including Belgium, Africa, Asia and America. This operation was conducted in two phases between mid-March and the end of May 2015 for results see attachment,.
- November 2016, Control of passengers organized by the Customs with collaboration of CITES MA, Brussels Airport, 21 to 27 November 2016.
- In 2016, Joint investigation team with Netherlands in the framework of a suspicion of international traffic of reptiles, still in course in 2018
- In 2017, Joint investigation team with Netherlands in the framework of a suspicion of international traffic of birds, still in course in 2018.
- In 2017, 'Control of CITES live animals and documents at time of export' organized by Belgian Federal Sanitary Agency, Brussels Airport, 6 days in total

<sup>1</sup> A multi-disciplinary law enforcement operation is one that involves officers from all relevant enforcement disciplines as appropriate, for example officers from Police, Customs and the wildlife regulatory authority. It could be either sub-national, national or international in scope.

	<p>during April , May and July 2017. No specific results, but action will be taken up again in 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2017, 'TEMBO operation': This operation is a joint effort of Europol, RILO WE and the EU Wildlife Trade Enforcement Group represented by UK Border Force, October 2017. The Belgian customs took part to this joint Customs-Police operation, looking for antique ivory illegally carried out in parcels to Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan without CITES export license.</li> <li>- In 2017, Belgian Customs participated to: "Thunderbird operation" organized by Interpol at <u>international</u> level: a total of 4 weeks of CITES target controls were organized in 2017 to this purpose at Brussels Airport and Liege airport. For results see global result in attachment and attachement public awareness.</li> </ul> <p>2015, 2016 and 2017: Joint Federal controlling operations (so-called "BACON" actions ) previously called EBOLA action that have taken place approximately twice a month at different airports in the country (Brussels Airport, Gosselies, Bierset and Oostende). This is an initiative conducted by the Belgian Customs in cooperation with the Belgian Federal Sanitary Agency, the Belgian Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products and different departments of the Federal Public Service Public Health, Food Chain Security and Environment. The aim of this initiative was to detect illegal products brought back in the EU by passengers coming from third countries.</p> <p>results for 2015 and 2017: No seizure identified as CITES seizures but strong probability that meats seized in foodstuffs coming from Africans countries could to be consider as CITES specimens (bushmeat).</p> <p>results for 2016: seizures of bodies of <i>Manis spp</i> (3.5kg) , <i>Varanus spp</i> (4.5kg) , <i>Hyxtrix cristata</i> (4 kg) , <i>Testudinae spp</i> (1 piece).</p>				
1.7.3e	<p>Do you have a standard operating procedure among relevant agencies for submitting information related to CITES offences to INTERPOL and/or the World Customs Organization?</p> <p>Belgian police use ' Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA)' platform that enables the swift and user-friendly exchange of operational and strategic crime-related information among Europol's liaison officers, analysts and experts, Member States and third parties with which Europol has cooperation agreements.</p> <p>Customs use 'ENVIRONET' real-time communication tool for information exchange and cooperation in the area of environmental issues among Customs administrations, competent national agencies, international organizations and their regional networks to share CITES information with WCO.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>			
1.7.3f	<p>Do you have legislative provisions for any of the following that can be applied to the investigation, prosecution and/or sentencing of CITES offences as appropriate?</p>	Yes	No	No information	If yes, how many times was this used during the period covered

				by this report?
General crime <sup>1</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0
Predicate offences <sup>2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0
Asset forfeiture <sup>3</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Corruption <sup>4</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0
International cooperation in criminal matters <sup>5</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Organized crime <sup>6</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
Specialized investigation techniques <sup>7</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1
<p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, please explain how each is used for CITES offences? Please provide a brief summary, including any lessons learned which might be helpful for other Parties:</p> <p>1/ Asset forfeiture: first time in Belgium that the assets obtained gained from criminal activities were taken into account in the framework of sentences :</p> <p>On 27 June 2014, a Belgian court declared 4 persons guilty of forging breeding declarations and CITES certificates for specimens of more than 20 species of birds, mainly birds of prey.</p> <p>The Criminal Court of First Instance of East Flanders also found the defendants guilty of participating in an international criminal organization operating across Europe. The organization illegally took eggs and chicks from the wild in France and Spain, hand-reared birds and then sold them on commercial markets with forged breeding declarations and CITES documentation. The species targeted by the defendants included CITES Appendix I-listed species Imperial Eagle (<i>Aquila heliaca</i>) and Peregrine (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), and many Appendix II-listed species including Egyptian Vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>), Bonelli's Eagle (<i>Hieraetus fasciata</i>), Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), Booted Eagle (<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>), Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>), Hobby (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>), Red-footed Falcon (<i>Falco vespertinus</i>), Lesser Kestrel (<i>Falco naumanni</i>), Blackwinged Kite (<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>), Red Kite (<i>Milvus milvus</i>), Black Kite (<i>Milvus migrans</i>), Snowy Owl (<i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>) and Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>).</p> <p>Sanctions</p> <p>The defendants were sentenced to 4 years (1 year suspended), 2 years (1 year suspended), 18 months (suspended) and 1 year (suspended) and fines amounting to, respectively, EUR 90 000, 30 000 and 12 000 with EUR 835 800 of illegal gains of the trade (including real estate) confiscated.</p> <p>See also 1.7.5b point 2</p>				

<sup>1</sup> General crime laws relate to offences such as fraud, conspiracy, possession of weapons, and other matters as set out in the national criminal code.

<sup>2</sup> Article 2, paragraph (h) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines a predicate offence as an offence whose proceeds may become the subject of any of the money-laundering offences established under the Convention.

<sup>3</sup> Asset forfeiture is the seizure and confiscation of assets obtained from criminal activities to ensure that criminals do not benefit from the proceeds of their crimes.

<sup>4</sup> Provisions against corruption include national laws to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption covering offences such as bribery of officials, embezzlement or misappropriation of public funds, trading in influence and abuse of functions by public officials.

<sup>5</sup> International cooperation in criminal matters includes legislation through which a formal request for mutual legal assistance and/or extradition of a person for criminal prosecution can be forwarded to another country.

<sup>6</sup> Article 2, paragraph (a) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime defines an organized criminal group as a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with the Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

<sup>7</sup> Specialized investigation techniques are techniques that are deployed against serious and/or organized crime when conventional law enforcement techniques fail to adequately address the activities of crime groups. Examples include controlled deliveries and covert operations.

	2/ International cooperation in criminal matters and Organized crime: several countries involved (see above) 3/ Specialized investigation techniques: using of phone tabs for an investigation still in course in 2018 for an investigation on reptiles trafficking		
1.7.3g	Do you have institutional capacity to implement the legislative provisions listed in question 1.7.3f against CITES offences? No priorities given to Illegal wildlife trafficking in this regards during this period. If 'No', please provide a brief summary of your major capacity-building needs: □□□□	Yes No No information	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 1.7.4: The number of Parties using risk assessment and intelligence to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species.

1.7.4a	<p>Do you use risk assessment to target CITES enforcement effort?</p> <p><u>Customs:</u> Risk and intelligence assessment is used daily during controls of the passengers, cargo shipments and postal parcels. This is needed since it is impossible for the Customs to check all goods and passengers entering the country.</p> <p><u>CITES Management Authority</u></p> <p>“Risk and intelligence assessment” are also used when evaluating the applications submitted by the customer to obtain a CITES permit or EU certificate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for sensitive species ex: species not frequently bred in captivity</li> <li>- in case of suspicion of fraud: doubtful applicant declaration</li> <li>- person already involved in CITES infringements</li> <li>- information received by enforcement authorities at national or EU level</li> <li>- following check of available data on illegal trade species (EU-TWIX etc.) to get some overview.</li> </ul> <p><u>CITES inspection service:</u></p> <p>“Risk and intelligence assessment” are used for CITES controls in function of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- information transmitted by CITES MA</li> <li>- complaints (public, other EU CITES MA, public prosecutor..)</li> <li>- information received by other enforcement authorities at national and EU level</li> </ul> <p>Preventive and at random controls: without a specific complaint; can be based on animal welfare list of agreements of pet shops.</p> <p><u>Ivory Risk Questionnaire:</u></p> <p>In 2017, contribution of CITES Belgian Management authority to the ‘Ivory Risk Questionnaire’ set up by the European Commission. The purpose of this questionnaire is to map out ivory risks within the European Union. Results will lay a basis from which both resources and specific operations can then be targeted in order to maximize the effectiveness of controls.</p> <p>See link</p>	<p>Always <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very often <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Rarely <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Never <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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1.7.4b	<p>Do you have capacity to analyse information gathered on illegal trade in CITES-listed species?</p> <p>Although we do not have a specific “analyst” that collects information on illegal trade, we do undertake information gathering at different levels. We use information available through EU TWIX, Traffic reports, Statistics or compiled by our inspection service.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.4c	<p>Do you use criminal intelligence<sup>1</sup> to inform investigations into illegal trade in CITES-listed species?</p> <p>1/ Judicial and local Police make always use of a national secure database ‘Banque de données nationale générale (BNG)’ for CITES investigation on wildlife trafficking. This databank compiles personal data of more than 2 000 000 Belgian people (which have committed infringements, are victims or witnesses of an offence; etc.)</p> <p>2/ CITES Inspection and CITES MA have no access to the BNG but makes use of an internal “black list” of persons involved in CITES infringements which contains all pertinent information relating to offenders and is electronically available to CITES MA and CITES inspection. This “black list” is an excel sheet with list of ongoing investigations, name and address of offenders, species involved, seizures, etc. Specific details of each offence are also kept in a digital form.</p> <p>3/ Using the Illegal trade analysis made by “Traffic”</p>	<p>Always <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very often <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Rarely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Never <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.4d	<p>Have you implemented any supply-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?</p> <p>Yes, see EU Action plan against wildlife trafficking</p> <p>Objective 1.1 action 1 and 2 + see also attachment 2 on awareness raising</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No, but activities are under development <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>
1.7.4e	<p>Have you implemented any demand-side activities to address illegal trade in CITES-listed species during the period covered in this report?</p> <p>Yes, see EU Action plan against wildlife trafficking</p> <p>Objective 1.1 action 1 and 2 see also attachment 2 on awareness raising</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No, but activities are under development <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>

<sup>1</sup> Criminal intelligence is information that is compiled, analyzed and disseminated in an effort to anticipate, prevent and/or monitor criminal activity. Examples include information on potential suspects held in a secure database and inferences about the methods, capabilities and intentions of specific criminal networks or individuals that are used to support effective law enforcement action.

Indicator 1.7.5: The number of administrative measures, criminal prosecutions and other court actions for CITES-related offences.

During the period covered in this report:		Yes	No	No Information												
1.7.5a	<p>Have any administrative measures (e.g. fines, bans, suspensions) been imposed for CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', please indicate how many and for what types of offences. If available, please attach details: □□□□□</p> <p>These records have resulted in administrative fines (Article 5. bis of the Royal Decree of 9 April 2003) (see below) set out by our legal department (within the Federal Public Service of Public Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment). Once the offender has paid the administrative fine, the prosecution ends. If the offender doesn't pay the fine, it will be collected by a bailiff.</p> <p>The amount of administrative fines is determined by using a weighting points system which takes into account: the seriousness of the offence, the nature of the offender (trader or private person), the value of the specimens involved, the notion of recurrence.</p> <p>Other records (called criminal) were directly transferred to the prosecutor of the region where the offence had taken place.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2015</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service</td> <td>81</td> <td>70</td> <td>78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total fines*</td> <td>€19.641</td> <td>€20.262</td> <td>€29.308</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* the total amount of <u>proposed</u> fines. There are always a number of PV's send to public prosecutor's office for which our legal department has no record.</p>		2015	2016	2017	Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service	81	70	78	Total fines*	€19.641	€20.262	€29.308	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2015	2016	2017													
Total of infringements reports of administrative offences set out by CITES MA and inspection service	81	70	78													
Total fines*	€19.641	€20.262	€29.308													
1.7.5b	<p>Have there been any criminal prosecutions of CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If 'Yes', how many and for what types of offences? If available, please attach details:</p> <p>- 2017: imprisonment of three Chinese : 15 months – half effective and seizure of €6000 due to illegal export of 1900 seahorses from Sierra Leone to China. First time in Belgium that there is a conviction of transit of illegal specimens and the people were actually detained.</p> <p>-2017: imprisonment of a Belgian (with Moroccan roots) to 9 months jail and a fine of €600 for illegal import of 334 live tortoises. The person was also sentenced to pay the costs of the housing and care of the tortoises during the investigation which amounted to €100 000. He made appeal to the sentence.</p> <p>-2017: fine of €900 given to a Belgian for keeping and possibly trading tortoises without the necessary documents. A 6 months jail and a fine of €1500 sentence was also given for animal welfare infractions.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>												

	<p>- 2016: 6 months jail and a fine of €6000 given to an Hungarian for intra-EU trade of parrots without the necessary documents.</p> <p>- 2016: imprisonment of a Belgian (from Viet Nam originally) for 5 months (not effective) and a fine of €3000 for the export of 60 kg ivory (hidden in wooden clocks) without the necessary CITES documents and 100 kg ivory seized after a house search (case of 2012)</p> <p>- 2016 imprisonment of a citizen of Mali for 15 months (not effective) due to illegal import of ivory pieces</p> <p>- 2016 2 sentences for the illegal trade in skulls and skeletons of several mammals: fine of €30 000 (3 years delay)</p> <p>- 2016: sentence for the illegal import of afrormosia sawn wood : 6 months jail sentence and a fine of €60 000 (€6 000 effective the rest with a delay of one year) to the manager of the firm who appealed the sentence.</p> <p>- 2016: final sentences by the “Court of Cassation” for our long running birds of prey case. The original sentence was followed by the court of appeal earlier that year. 4 people were convicted. Only the main suspect went to the “Court of Cassation”. He was sentenced to a fine up to €90 000 and imprisonment of 4 years (only 2 years effective) and €900 000 of gains were seized. The first sentence was in 2014. Appeal in 2016, which was confirmed by the Court of Cassation. This was the first case in Belgium qualified as “organized crime” as there were links to Germany and Spain.</p> <p>2015: First year that our CITES Inspection Service was effectively split off from the Animal Welfare Inspection Service, since some investigations take relatively long time, as well as the waiting time at the prosecutor's office to bring a case to court, so no cases were taken to court yet as a result of investigations by this team.</p>			
1.7.5c	<p>Have there been any other court actions against CITES-related offences?</p> <p>If ‘Yes’, what were the offences involved and what were the results? Please attach details: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.7.5d	<p>How were any confiscated specimens disposed of? <span style="float: right;">Tick all that apply</span></p> <p>– Return to country of export <b>yes</b> <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p>It is quite exceptional and occurs only with the agreement of the country of origin and when the MA gets the assurance that the animal welfare requirements will be met.</p> <p>In 2016, we have tried to return 334 <i>Testudo graeca</i> of wild origin seized in Brussels to Morocco see attachment document public awareness. We had several exchanges with the Moroccan CITES MA and the Belgian sanitary authority but finally it was not possible to return the animals for sanitary reasons.</p> <p>In 2017, we tried to return 4 <i>Testudo graeca</i> seized in Charleroi south airport to Tunisia but the as the precise origin of these specimens was not known the CITES Tunisian Management Authority decided not to repatriate them.</p> <p>– Public zoos or botanical gardens <span style="float: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span></p>			

For live animals

The Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp is the only rescue center officially recognized.

For live plants

The National Botanic Garden of Meise is the only rescue center officially recognized for plants.

In 2014, steps were taken for another rescue centre in Walloon Region (Liege University) but not yet formalized.

For dead specimens

- Royal Institute of Natural Sciences of Belgium, Brussels
- Royal Museum of Central Africa, Tervuren
- Sea Life, Blankenberge : for educational purposes (ex dried seahorses)
- Customs: for educational purposes
- CITES Management Authority: for educational purposes

– Designated rescue centres ☒

- “Carapace” for reptiles/amphibians and turtles in particular.
- “Revalidation center of Opglabbeek” mainly for birds and mammals
- “Aquarium of Liège University” for fish and corals.
- “Museum of Natural History” in Tournai for reptiles and live amphibians.
- “Nally’s Papegai” rescue centre specialised in parrots since 2015

– Approved private facilities ☒

When housing is not possible in one of the previous mentioned institutions, the service will look at alternative housings with adequate facilities to accommodate the specimens. Naturally this housing require an agreement of the CITES Scientific Coordinator and the CITES Management Authority .

– Euthanasia ☒

It is quite seldom and occurs only if there is no other solution. Two seized specimens of bird of prey hybrids were euthanized since it was not possible for the rescue center to keep them at long term and not possible to release them into the wild.

– Other (please specify): ☐☐☐☐ ☐

Public sale: only for seized Annex BII species

A load of 147.282 m3 of Afrormosia (*Pericopsis elata*) seized at Antwerp haven (see attachment 4) has been offered in public sale in April 2014. (see biannual report 2013-2014) ,

In 2017, steps were taken for the public sale of 850 kg of pygeum barks (*Prunus africana*) and of 35 pairs of boots in CITES reptile skin. Those steps are to be finalized in 2018.

	<p>Have you encountered any challenges in disposing of confiscated specimens?</p> <p>We do sometime encounter problems of lack of place for seized animals in rescue centers, particularly when judicial decisions take a long time. We do sometime send seized animals to rescue centers in other Member States when needed ex 'Stichting Aap' in the Netherlands .</p> <p>Do you have good practice that you would like to share with other Parties? □□□□□</p>
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**Objective 1.8** Parties and the Secretariat have adequate capacity-building programmes in place.  
Aichi Target 1, Target 12 and Target 19.

**Indicator 1.8.1:** The number of Parties with national and regional training programmes and information resources in place to implement CITES including the making of non-detriment findings, issuance of permits and enforcement.

1.8.1a	<p>Do you have information resources or training in place to support:</p> <p>The making of non-detriment findings? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no via our Scientific advisor</p> <p>Permit officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> the new administrative collaborators have followed a full CITES training in 2017</p> <p>Enforcement officers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the new Species (incl. CITES) inspectors and controllers have followed a full CITES training in 2017, We have given training for police officers in 2018 and for agents of the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (AFSCA) see 1.6.3a</p>		
1.8.1b	<p>Is the CITES Virtual College used as part of your capacity building work?</p> <p>For customs, CITES inspectors</p> <p>What improvements could be made in using the Virtual College for capacity building? □□□□□</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
1.8.1c	<p>Is the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Toolkit used in the development of capacity-building programmes, or does it form part of the curriculum of such programmes?</p> <p>What improvements could be made in using the ICCWC Toolkit for capacity building? □□□□□</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

## **GOAL 2 SECURE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MEANS FOR THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Objective 2.1** Financial resources are sufficient to ensure operation of the Convention.

Information to be provided through records held by the Secretariat on financial management of the Convention.

**Objective 2.2** Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention.  
Aichi Target 1, Target 2, Target 3, Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.

Indicator 2.2.1: The number of Parties with dedicated staff and funding for Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and wildlife trade enforcement agencies.

2.2.1a	<p>Do you have an approved service standard(s)<sup>1</sup> for your Management Authority(ies)?</p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.</p> <p>If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards? □□□□□</p> <p>According to Art 8 .3 of EU Commission regulation No 865/2006 of 4 May 2006 laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation, Management Authorities shall decide on the issue of permits and certificates within <b>one month</b> of the date of submission of a complete application. If we need to consults third parties, we inform the applicants of significant delays in the process their applications.</p> <p>During some periods of high demand of documents (a.o breeding seasons or new Appendix I listing ex African Grey parrots) and/or summer holidays (less staff available) it was not possible to issue the EC certificates within a month of date of submission. In such circumstances, the stakeholders are kept informed.</p> <p>We have no specific Key Performance Indicator to estimate the performance of our standards.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>								
	<p>If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards<sup>2</sup>? □□□□□</p> <p>If 'Yes', what are your performance targets? □□□□□</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>								
	<p>Do you publish your performance against service standard targets? □□□□□</p> <p>If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report: □□□□□</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>								
	<p>If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <p>– availability of funding? □</p> <p>– number of staff? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>not enough staff , in 2018 steps have been undertaken to recruit additional staff.</p> <p>– a shortage of skills? □</p> <p>If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of? In</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Yes	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	No									
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>									
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
2.2.1b	<p>Do you have an approved service standard(s)<sup>47</sup> for your Scientific Authority(ies)?</p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.</p> <p>If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards? □□□□□</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>								

<sup>1</sup> For example, a time frame in which you are required to provide a response on a decision to issue or not issue a permit, certificate, or re-export certificate.

<sup>2</sup> For example, 85% of all decisions will take place within the service standard.

	<p>The Belgian Scientific Committee consists of one coordinator and experts from different universities, museums, institutes, botanical gardens and zoos around the country. These experts are included into five different sections: mammals (3 experts), birds (3), reptiles and other vertebrates (5), invertebrates (3) and plants (6). The members of this Belgian Scientific Committee work on CITES related matters on a voluntary basis but they are entitled to reimbursement for their travel expenses and for the drafting of their expertise reports. This committee meets 3 to 5 times a year, usually before each meeting of the EU Scientific Review Group. The Belgian Scientific Committee works with an 'internal rules' procedure which enabling the Committee to work effectively and plans the deadlines for scientific advices .</p> <p>If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards<sup>48</sup>? <span style="float: right;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></span>          If 'Yes', what are your performance targets? <span style="float: right;">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p style="text-align: right;">□□□□□</p> <p>If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report: <span style="float: right;">□□□□□</span></p> <p>If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"></td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>– availability of funding?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>– number of staff?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>– a shortage of skills?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> <p>If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of?  <a href="#">Need of more experts for the invertebrates section of our Scientific Committee.</a></p>		Yes	No	– availability of funding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	– number of staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	– a shortage of skills?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No											
– availability of funding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>											
– number of staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>											
– a shortage of skills?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>											
2.2.1c	<p>Do you have an approved service standard(s)<sup>47</sup> for your enforcement authority(ies)? <span style="float: right;">Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>  <span style="float: right;">No <input type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p>If 'No', please go to Question 2.2.1d.</p> <p>If 'Yes', for which services are there standards, and what are those standards? <span style="float: right;">□□□□□</span></p> <p><a href="#">The CITES Inspection Service that deals with CITES controls has set up internal procedures to standardized decisions in the framework of controls and irregularities (ex. guidance for the control of Annex BII species, decisions tree , etc.).</a></p> <p><a href="#">Law 28 July 1981 art 7.4 provides that the infringement reports have to be sent to the public prosecutor office within 15 days of date of control.</a></p> <p>If 'Yes', do you have performance targets for these standards<sup>48</sup>? <span style="float: right;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></span>          If 'Yes', what are your performance targets? <span style="float: right;">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p style="text-align: right;">□□□□□</p> <p>If possible, please provide your performance against service standards during the period covered in this report: <span style="float: right;">□□□□□</span></p> <p>If you did not meet your performance targets then was this shortfall a result of:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"></td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Yes</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>– availability of funding?</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		Yes	No	– availability of funding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
	Yes	No											
– availability of funding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>											

	– number of staff? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> – a shortage of skills? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> If 'Yes' to a shortage of skills, which skills do you need more of? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>																
2.2.1d	Please only complete this question if you answered 'No' to the first part of question 2.2.1a, 2.2.1b, or 2.2.1c, relating to the existence of approved service standards for your authorities: Do you have sufficient of the following for your authorities to function effectively? <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Management Authority(ies)</th><th>Scientific Authority(ies)</th><th>Enforcement Authority(ies)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Funding?</td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Staff?</td><td>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Skills?</td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Management Authority(ies)	Scientific Authority(ies)	Enforcement Authority(ies)	Funding?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Skills?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Skills?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>														

Indicator 2.2.2: The number of Parties that have undertaken one or more of the following activities:

- changed the budget for activities;
- hired more staff;
- developed implementation tools;
- purchased technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement.

2.2.2a	Have any of the following activities been undertaken during the period covered in this report to enhance the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level? <div style="text-align: right;">Tick if applicable</div> <p>Hiring of more staff</p> <p>In March 2017 the Belgian CITES MA recruited two new administrative assistants in order to manage CITES documents applications submitted through our online system (available on the website of the Belgian CITES administration since March 2015).</p> <p>From July 2017 onwards, the CITES Inspection Service dealing with CITES controls recruited two controllers and five inspectors as well as one Inspection Service coordinator.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <hr/> <p>Development of implementation tools</p> <p>In March 2015, the CITES Management Authority launched a new online application system for the submission of applications for CITES documents. This elaborate electronic system allows CITES 'customers' (traders as well as individuals) to apply for their CITES documents online and to pay online. The aim of this database is to have a digitalized system that meets both the need of most of our clients as well as our own needs. Electronic applications of documents is more efficient, more environmental friendly (less paperwork) and more customer-friendly. This system also gives the possibility to ensure a better control of the legal trade as it is easier to extract data, discover trends etc.</p> <p>Access to this online application through <a href="http://www.citesinbelgium.be">www.citesinbelgium.be</a>-&gt; guichet électronique ,</p> <p>Between March 2015 and end 2017 more than 24 000 CITES documents have been issued through this electronic system in Belgium. The CITES-documents themselves however remain in paper form.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <hr/> <p>Purchase of technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement</p> <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div>
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	Other (please specify): Creation of an extensive CITES Inspection Service (see above) and therefore need for technical equipment: microchip readers, equipment for the capture of animals, for the collection of samples, for the marking of ivory tusks. Also portable printers were purchased so the document of a hearing, or a formal report of the infractions can be printed on the spot, thus gaining time. access to the CITES database , access to EUTWIX database + compendiums with all relevant legislation information , identification books..				
2.2.2b	During the period covered in this report, was the budget for your:	Increased	Stable	Decreased	
	Management Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Scientific Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Enforcement authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2.2c	Have you been able to use international development funding assistance to increase the level of implementation of your	Yes	No	Not applicable	
	Management Authority(ies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Scientific Authority(ies)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Enforcement authorities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2.2.2d	What is the respective level of priority for enhancing the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level through the following activities?				
	Activity	High	Medium	Low	Not a Priority
	Hiring of more staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development of implementation tools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Purchase of new technical equipment for implementation, monitoring or enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	e-permitting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2.2e	Do you have a operational system (e.g. electronic database) for managing	Yes	Under development	No	
	Species information <a href="#">via CITES Checklist Species+ (WCMC)</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Trade information <a href="#">our CITES database see above 2.2.2.a , CITES trade database ( CITES Secretariat), for illegal trade EU TWIX database</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Non-detriment findings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Indicator 2.2.3: The number of Parties raising funds for CITES implementation through user fees or other mechanisms.

2.2.3a	Does the Management Authority charge fees for:	Tick all that are applicable
	– Administrative procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Issuance of CITES documents (e.g. for import, exports, re-export, or introduction from the sea)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Shipment clearance (e.g. for the import, export, re-export, or introduction from the sea of CITES-listed species)	<input type="checkbox"/>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Licensing or registration of operations that produce CITES species <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>– Harvesting of CITES-listed species <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>– Use of CITES-listed species <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>– Assignment of quotas for CITES-listed species <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>– Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>																		
2.2.3b	<p>Is a fee schedule publicly available? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If 'Yes', please provide an internet link, or a copy of the schedule to the Secretariat:  <a href="#">Fees valid since 2014</a></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Document</th><th>Fees animals</th><th>Fees: Plants</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Application of European certificate</td><td>20 EUROS per certificate</td><td>20 EUROS per certificate</td></tr> <tr> <td>Application of import or export permit, re-export certificate</td><td>30 € per species with a maximum amount of 300 € per permit</td><td>30 € per genus with a maximum amount of 300 € per permit</td></tr> <tr> <td>Applications for ownership, travelling exhibition and sample collection certificates</td><td>40 EUROS € per certificate</td><td>40 EUROS € per certificate</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Document	Fees animals	Fees: Plants	Application of European certificate	20 EUROS per certificate	20 EUROS per certificate	Application of import or export permit, re-export certificate	30 € per species with a maximum amount of 300 € per permit	30 € per genus with a maximum amount of 300 € per permit	Applications for ownership, travelling exhibition and sample collection certificates	40 EUROS € per certificate	40 EUROS € per certificate						
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Applications for ownership, travelling exhibition and sample collection certificates	40 EUROS € per certificate	40 EUROS € per certificate																	
2.2.3c	<p>Have revenues from fees been used for the implementation of CITES or wildlife conservation?</p> <p>Entirely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Partly <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not relevant <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The fees for CITES documents and others outcomes (fines) are supplying the 'Belgian CITES Fund'. This fund is used to finance several staff members of the MA and the enforcement team, but also for subjects related to CITES for examples: a project of sustainable use of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in DRC (see above), the EU TWIX database, the ETIS project, DNA analyses, fees for keeping seized specimens in rescue centers, etc.</p>																		
2.2.3d	<table> <tr> <td></td><td>Yes</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Do you have case studies on charging or using fees?</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table>		Yes	No	Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do you have case studies on charging or using fees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If 'Yes' to any of the above, please provide brief details: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																	

If 'Yes', please provide brief details:  
[Public sales](#) (see above point 17.5d)

Indicator 2.2.4: The number of Parties using incentive measures as part of their implementation of the Convention.

2.2.4a	<p>Do you use incentive measures<sup>1</sup> such as those described in <a href="#">CoP14 Doc 14.32</a> to implement the Convention?</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Yes</th><th>No</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Due diligence</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Compensatory mechanisms</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Certification</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Communal property rights</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Auctioning of quotas</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Cost recovery or environmental charges</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement incentives</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>If 'Yes' to any of the above, or if you use other measures, please provide a summary or link to further information: <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><a href="#">The fact that all infringements have a follow-up (either via the judiciary system for bigger offences or via the administrative system for minor offences) will have a dissuasive effect. Also, the system allows us to recover the cost of for example the keeping of confiscated animals from the offender.</a></p>		Yes	No	Due diligence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compensatory mechanisms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Communal property rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Auctioning of quotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cost recovery or environmental charges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes	No																							
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Auctioning of quotas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																							
Cost recovery or environmental charges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
Enforcement incentives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																							
2.2.4b	<p>Have incentives harmful to biodiversity been eliminated? Not at all <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very little <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Completely <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>																								

<sup>1</sup> Defined as 'Social and economic incentives that promote and regulate sustainable management of and responsible trade in, wild flora and fauna and promote effective enforcement of the Convention'. The intent of such measures is not to promote wildlife trade as such, but rather to ensure that any wildlife trade undertaken is conducted in a sustainable manner.

**Objective 2.3** Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to implement capacity-building programmes.  
[Aichi Target 12, Target 19 and Target 20.](#)

**Indicator 2.3.1:** The number of capacity building activities mandated by Resolutions and Decisions that are fully funded.

2.3.1a	How many training and capacity building activities <sup>1</sup> have you run during the period covered in this report?		Without assistance from the Secretariat	Conducted or assisted by the Secretariat			
	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	2-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	11-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	More than 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Please list the Resolutions or Decisions involved: <a href="#">See point 1.6.3a</a>						
2.3.1b	What sorts of capacity building activities have taken place? <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>						
2.3.1c	What capacity building needs do you have?						
	Please tick all boxes which apply to indicate which target group and which activity.						
	Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	Details
	Staff of Management Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ongoing process with EU commission
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	More technical assistance of specialized CITES experts (ex: ivory, taxidermy etc.) training : Ongoing process Guidance: Ongoing process with Cites MA Enforcement working groups, European commission etc.
	Traders / other user groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> An activity might be a single day training e.g. for a group of staff from the Management Authority, or a longer course / project undertaken by an individual.

**GOAL 3 CONTRIBUTE TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THE RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND TO ACHIEVING RELEVANT GLOBALLY-AGREED GOALS AND TARGETS BY ENSURING THAT CITES AND OTHER MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS AND PROCESSES ARE COHERENT AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE**

**Objective 3.1** Cooperation between CITES and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support CITES-related conservation and sustainable development projects, without diminishing funding for currently prioritized activities.

[Aichi Target 2](#) and [Target 20](#).

**Indicator 3.1.1:** The number of Parties funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

3.1.1a	Has funding from international financial mechanisms and other related institutions been used to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please provide brief details: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
3.1.1b	During the period covered in this report, has funding for your country from international funding mechanisms and other related institutions:	Increased	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Remained stable	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Indicator 3.1.2:** The number of countries and institutions that have provided additional funding from CITES Authorities to another country or activity for conservation and sustainable development projects in order to further the objectives of the Convention.

3.1.2a	Have you provided technical or financial assistance to another country or countries in relation to CITES?						Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
							No	<input type="checkbox"/>
							No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please tick boxes to indicate type of assistance provided								
Country(ies)		Species Management <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Management <sup>2</sup>	Sustainable use	Law Enforcement	Livelihoods	Other (specify)	Details (provide more information in an Appendix if necessary)
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See beneath
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> Use species conservation column for work directly related to species – e.g. population surveys, education programmes, conflict resolution, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Use habitat conservation column for work that will indirectly support species conservation – e.g. habitat management, development of policy frameworks for how land is managed, etc.

Since 2014, the Belgian government contributes financially to the African Elephant Fund and is member of its Steering Committee. Belgium has contributed financially up to now a total USD130.000 to this fund and has pledged another €50.000 for 2018.

Belgium also provided financial contributions to:

- €25 000 to the development of AFRICA-TWIX and €15 000 for the maintenance of EU-TWIX
- € 50 000 to the Museum for Central Africa for project focusing on sustainable timber production and legal trade in Afromosia.
- €50 000 to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgium (parc Virunga)

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**Objective 3.2** Awareness of the role and purpose of CITES is increased globally.  
Aichi Target 1, Target 4, Target 12 and Target 18.

**Indicator 3.2.1:** The number of Parties that have been involved in CITES awareness raising activities to bring about better awareness by the wider public and relevant user groups of the Convention requirements.

3.2.1a	Have CITES authorities been involved in any of the following activities to bring about better awareness of the Convention's requirements by the wider public and relevant user groups?	Wider public	Relevant User Groups
	– Press conferences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Press releases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Newspaper articles, brochures, leaflets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Television appearances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Radio appearances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Presentations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Public consultations / meetings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Market surveys	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Displays	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Information at border crossing points	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Telephone hotline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Website(s) – if so please provide link(s) <a href="http://www.citesinbelgium.be">www.citesinbelgium.be</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Other (specify): □□□□□	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Please attach copies of any items or describe examples: see attachement		

**Indicator 3.2.2:** The number of visits to the CITES website.

3.2.2a	How regularly do your Authorities consult the CITES website?					
	Please tick boxes to indicate the most frequent usage (decide on an average amongst staff if necessary).					
Target group		Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less frequently	Not known

	Staff of Management Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2.2b	<p>What has been your experience with using the CITES website?</p> <p>Excellent <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Average <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Poor <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Very Poor <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Any further comments on the CITES Website? (e.g. useful aspects, any difficulties encountered, which authorities find which functions/tools most useful, what is missing, etc): <input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/></p>					

**Indicator 3.2.3:** The number of Parties with web pages on CITES and its requirements.

A question relating to this indicator is within question 3.2.1a.

**Objective 3.3** Cooperation with relevant international environmental, trade and development organizations is enhanced.

**Indicator 3.3.1** The number of Parties which report that they have achieved synergies in their implementation of CITES, other biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental, trade and development agreements.

3.3.1a	Have measures been taken to achieve coordination and reduce duplication of activities between the national CITES authorities and national focal points for other multilateral environmental agreements (e.g. the other biodiversity-related conventions: CBD, CMS, ITPGR, Ramsar, WHC) <sup>1</sup> to which your country is party?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', please give a brief description: An official mailing list exist in Belgium that is used for information exchange between experts in the different biodiversity conventions. This way information is exchanged and more in depth exchange is done on a case-by-case basis. This information exchange is also used when determining the Belgian position for the different biodiversity conventions thus providing synergies and avoiding duplication.			

**Indicator 3.3.2:** The number of biodiversity conservation or sustainable use projects, trade and development goals, or scientific and technical programmes that integrate CITES requirements.

3.3.2a	How many international projects which integrate CITES issues has your country contributed towards?	Belgium has contributed since 2014 on a yearly basis to the African Elephant Fund.	
3.3.2b	In addition to 3.2.2a, how many national level projects has your country implemented which integrate CITES issues?	0	
3.3.2c	Have there been any efforts at a national scale for your CITES Management or Scientific Authorities to collaborate with:	Yes	No
	Agencies for development?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Agencies for trade?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities? <a href="#">Cooperation with the regions for indigenous species</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Local authorities or communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Indigenous or local peoples?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Trade or other private sector associations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NGOs?see 3.2.1a (attachement)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3.2d	Are CITES requirements integrated into?	Yes	No
	National and local development strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	National and local poverty reduction strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity; CMS = Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, ITPGR = International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Ramsar = The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, WHC = World Heritage Convention.



Planning processes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
National accounting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Indicator 3.3.3: The number of Parties cooperating / collaborating with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in and/or fund CITES workshops and other training and capacity-building activities.

3.3.3a	Has funding been provided or received to facilitate CITES workshops, training or other capacity building activities to / from:	Tick if applicable	Which organizations?
	Inter-governmental organizations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Non-governmental organizations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

**Objective 3.4** The contribution of CITES to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the relevant *Aichi Biodiversity Targets*, and the relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels.

This objective may also be assessed by a variety of means beyond the reporting format, including action taken to implement many of the CITES resolutions and decisions.

[Aichi Target 1](#), [Target 2](#), [Target 3](#), [Target 4](#), [Target 5](#), [Target 6](#), [Target 7](#), [Target 12](#), [Target 14](#), [Target 17](#), [Target 18](#) and [Target 19](#).

Indicator 3.4.1: The conservation status of species listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved.

3.4.1a	Do you have data which shows that the conservation status of naturally occurring species in your country listed on the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved?			
		Yes	No	Not Applicable
	Appendix I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Appendix II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Appendix III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If there are such studies that you are willing to share, please provide:				
The population of <i>Falco peregrinus</i> (App. I) has increased in Belgium, as well as for several other indigenous birds of prey.				
The European eel ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> ) was listed in CITES Appendix II at CoP14 and the listing came into force in 2009. The biological status of the species has notably been monitored for years by the ICES/GFCM/EIFAAC2 Working Group on Eels (WGEEL). Due to its depleted status within Europe, the EU has been unable to make a positive non-detriment finding for the species since December 2010. Currently export and import of this species from and into the EU is not permitted, and all EU Member States have published a zero export quota for European Eel since 2011.				
	Species name (scientific)	Link to the data, or a brief summary		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
3.4.1b	Do you have examples of specific examples of success stories or emerging problems with any CITES listed species?		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
			No	<input type="checkbox"/>
			No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If 'Yes', please provide details: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			

Indicator 3.4.2: The number of Parties incorporating CITES into their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

3.4.2a	Has CITES been incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
3.4.2b	Have you been able to obtain funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) or other sources to support CITES aspects of NBSAP implementation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

**Objective 3.5** Parties and the Secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited.  
[Aichi Target 2](#), [Target 4](#), [Target 5](#), [Target 6](#), [Target 7](#), [Target 10](#), [Target 12](#), [Target 14](#) and [Target 19](#).

**Indicator 3.5.1:** The number of cooperative actions taken under established bilateral or multilateral agreements to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade.

3.5.1a	Has your country taken action under established bilateral or multilateral agreements other than CITES to prevent species from being unsustainably exploited through international trade? If 'Yes', please provide details: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**Indicator 3.5.2:** The number of times other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources are consulted on issues relevant to species subject to unsustainable trade.

3.5.2a	Average number of times per year that international organizations or agreements have been consulted by CITES Authorities	Once	2-5 times	6-20 times	More than 20 times	No consultation	Optional comment about which organizations and issues consulted on
	Management Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Scientific Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IUCN
	Enforcement Authority(ies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

### General feedback

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make, including comments on this format.

Item		
Copy of full text of CITES-relevant legislation if changed	Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Web link(s) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Previously provided	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please list any materials annexed to the report, e.g. fee schedules, awareness raising materials, etc: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Have any constraints to implementation of the Convention arisen in your country requiring attention or assistance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Information <input type="checkbox"/>	
If 'Yes', please describe the constraint and the type of attention or assistance that is required. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
Are there examples of good practice you would like to share with other Parties?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If 'Yes' please provide details / links: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
How could this report format be improved? <b>Format not user friendly when you have to text, some questions could be formulated more clearly.</b>		

Thank you for completing the report. Please remember to include relevant attachments referred to in the report when it is submitted to the Secretariat.

18 June 2015

Embargoed till 18 June 2015, 10:00 am (AMST time)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Europol supports largest ever coordinated operation against wildlife crime**

### **The Hague, the Netherlands**

Operation COBRA III, the biggest ever coordinated international law enforcement operation targeting the illegal trade in endangered species, has led to the recovery of a huge amount of wildlife contraband, including over 12 tonnes of elephant ivory and at least 119 rhino horns. European seizures included 11 439 dead and live specimens, almost 2000 parts and products, and over 6 tonnes of timber, plants and animal parts. In addition, 100 000 pills of traditional Asian medicine were confiscated. Several individuals have been arrested and investigations are continuing in many countries.

The illegal trafficking of endangered species remains a problem in the EU and beyond. The EU is a destination, source and transit region for trafficking in endangered species, which involves live and dead specimens of wild fauna and flora, or parts of products made from them. Elephants and rhinos are mainly poached in Africa and India. Their tusks and horns are in high demand by customers, particularly in South-East Asia, where there is a long ivory carving tradition. Powdered rhino horn, like many other animal and plant based powders, is used in non-evidence based traditional Asian medicine. Sales generate significant profits for the organised crime groups involved.

Operation COBRA III, conducted in two phases between mid-March and the end of May 2015, saw the participation of law enforcement teams and agencies from 62 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and America. Europol supported the operation across Europe by facilitating operational information exchange and coordinating the activities of police, customs, forestry and other law enforcement authorities from 25 participating EU Member States (1). The operation was organised by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), and supported by numerous international agencies and organisations such as Interpol (2).

Within the EU, key activities included the interception and seizure of: 20 kg of live leeches and 25 kg of coral in Bulgaria; 10 000 dead seahorses and over 400 live turtles/tortoises in the UK (and another 300 in Croatia); over 90 kg of coral and more than 50 kg of animal parts (including heads and horns) in Spain; more than 500 kg of frozen eel in Poland; over 800 cacti in a joint German/Chinese operation; 16 whale ribs in the Netherlands; and 50 kg of raw (unworked) ivory in France.

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Commenting on Operation COBRA III Commissioner for Migration, Home affairs and Citizenship, Dimitris Avramopoulos, said: "The illegal trade in wildlife and other forms of environmental crime are among the most damaging and lucrative forms of transnational organised crime. They destroy habitats and bring endangered species to the brink of extinction with major security consequences. This operation underlines our willingness, our commitment to tackle all forms of criminal markets with a holistic approach, encompassing international cooperation, the fight against corruption and public-private partnerships."

Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, declared: "Wildlife crime is a threat to sustainable development, and it has to be combated globally. This joined-up operation sends a clear signal that the EU and its Member States are serious about wildlife crime and are ready to act with our partners worldwide. We have intensified cooperation with European and international police networks to strengthen enforcement against these crimes. We are currently developing strategies for more targeted support for wildlife conservation, and a new EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking is due by the end of the year. An important part of the fight against wildlife crime is the CITES convention, and the EU is soon to become part of it."

Rob Wainwright, Director of Europol, stated: "The trafficking of endangered species remains a problem in the EU and beyond. It is often underestimated and not given the recognition or priority it deserves. Poaching and the illegal trade in species are dominated by organised crime groups, who operate worldwide and make huge profits from these activities. Operation COBRA III once again shows the true global dimension of these crimes but also demonstrates that Europol and its international partners are determined to crack down on wildlife crime. We will continue our efforts to fight these cruel crimes, to ensure a safe environment for endangered species in Europe and all over the world."

On a global scale, Thai Customs made one of the biggest ever seizures of elephant ivory in its history (over 4 tonnes). The ivory was hidden in containers originating in the Democratic Republic of Congo and en route for Laos. This was followed by a seizure, a week later, of 3.1 tonnes of elephant tusks from Kenya. The 511 pieces seized, worth USD 6 million (EUR 5.3 million), were hidden in sacks of tea in containers that were also bound for Laos. As a result, a criminal network involved in the illegal trade of elephant ivory from Kenya to Laos was identified and various suspects arrested. Investigations are still ongoing.

For an overview of the results from Operation COBRA III within the EU, please see: <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/operation-cobra-iii>

For global results, please visit: <http://lusakaagreement.org/>

Social media: Op #COBRAIII

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

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## **ABOUT EUROPOL**

As the European Union's law enforcement agency, Europol was requested by the EU Wildlife Trade Enforcement Group (chaired by DG Environment, European Commission) to coordinate COBRA III actions across Europe. Over the years, Europol has supported several actions and operations to tackle wildlife and environmental crime by providing analytical and operational support. Europol published a [Threat Assessment on Environmental Crime in 2013](#). In addition, Europol hosts the permanent Secretariat for the informal Environmental Crime Network (EnviCrimeNet). Earlier this year, Europol and the EnviCrimeNet finished the Intelligence Project on Environmental Crime (IPEC) and published the outcome in the [IPEC Report on Environmental Crime in Europe](#).

([links to reports published on our website](#)).

### **(1) EU Member States participating**

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

### **(2) International agencies and organisations involved**

#### **Organisers:**

The global wildlife enforcement operation was organised by the Association of South East Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN), the European Union's law enforcement agency Europol (on request of the EU Wildlife Trade Enforcement Group), China, South Africa and the USA.

**Participating agencies:** ASEAN-WEN, LATF, SAWEN, Interpol, World Customs Organization (WCO) and its Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices Asia Pacific (RILO AP) and Eastern and Southern Africa (RILO ESA), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), CITES Secretariat, India Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), China National Interagency CITES Enforcement Coordination Group (NICECG), ASEAN Police (ASEANAPOL), US Fish and Wildlife Service, Eurojust and Europol.

#### **CITES Secretariat**

**Financial supporters:** Interpol, ASEAN-WEN Law Enforcement Extension Office (LEEO), and participating countries, and China Wildlife Conservation Association through LATF.

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# Operation Thunderbird

## Week One Results

The first week of Operation Thunderbird was carried out between January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 5<sup>th</sup> 2017. Since then, INTERPOL has received and collected information sent by participating countries through the reporting template which was shared with them prior to the Operation. Below are the initial results.

### REPORTING

INTERPOL has received responses from 17 countries for the first week of the operation: Belgium, Botswana, Canada, El Salvador, France, India, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Norway, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

### SEIZURES

Authorities have seized a number of live animals and plants, as well as whole or parts of animal bodies and their derivatives:

- More than 16,500 specimens of plants;
- More than 1,460 animals (live or recovered entire bodies), including, but not restricted to:
  - Approximately 300 birds;
  - More than 520 specimens of fish;
  - At least 26 reptiles, including crocodiles, turtles and snakes;
- More than 2,000 tonnes of meat (mainly bush meat and shark meat);
- More than 11,200 by-products and derivatives, including, but not limited to, medicine, leather products and jewelry.

### PROSECUTION

At least 248 offenders have been identified. Current reports indicate that there have been at least 57 prosecuted cases, including 16 completed ones.





# Operation Thunderbird

## Week Two Results

The second week of Operation Thunderbird was carried out 6 to 12 February 2017. Since then, INTERPOL has received and collected information sent by participating countries through the reporting template which was shared with them prior to the Operation. Below are the results from the last week of the Operation.

### REPORTING

INTERPOL has received responses from 27 countries for the second week of the operation: Botswana, Canada, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Myanmar, Norway, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, and the United States.

### SEIZURES

Authorities have seized a number of live animals and plants, as well as whole or parts of animal bodies and their derivatives:

- At least 2,000 birds (alive in general);
- More than 540 turtles/tortoises;
- At least 278 skins from diverse animals;
- More than 5,600 pieces of wood, representing at least 58 tonnes of wood;
- More than 180 corals;
- More than 28 tonnes of fish and shellfish.

### PROSECUTION

At least 190 offenders have been identified. Current reports indicate that there have been at least 150 prosecuted cases, including 10 completed ones.



# Operation Thunderbird

## Week Three Results

The third week of Operation Thunderbird was carried out 13 to 19 February 2017. Since then, INTERPOL has received and collected information sent by participating countries through the reporting template which was shared with them prior to the Operation. Below are the results from the last week of the Operation.

### REPORTING

INTERPOL has received responses from 35 countries for the second week of the operation: Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong (China), Hungary, India, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

### SEIZURES

Authorities have seized a number of live animals and plants, as well as whole or parts of animal bodies and their derivatives:

- More than 2,350 birds worth more than \$ 84,000;
- At least 600 reptiles;
- Approximately 1080 pangolin scales worth \$ 300,000;
- More than 28.5 kg of raw and worked ivory worth more than \$ 49,500;
- More than 192 kg of skin worth approximately \$ 58,500;
- More than 21 tonnes of animal parts, such meat;
- More than 13,500 tonnes of fish and other marine products worth approximately \$ 2,500,000;
- More than 8,450 tonnes of wood worth more than \$ 878,000.

### PROSECUTION

At least 236 offenders have been identified. Current reports indicate that there have been at least 132 prosecuted cases, including 32 completed ones.



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 21 June 2016  
(OR. en)

10512/16

ENV 444  
JAI 606  
CRIMORG 71  
RELEX 558  
DEVGEN 144  
COMER 82  
EUROJUST 89  
ENFOPOL 216  
ENFOCUSTOM 103

#### OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	20 June 2016
To:	Delegations

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No. prev. doc.:	9721/1/16 REV 1
Subject:	EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking
	- Council conclusions (20 June 2016)

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Delegations will find in the Annex the Council conclusions on the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, adopted by the Council at its 3476th meeting held on 20 June 2016.

**EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking****- Council conclusions -**

The Council of the European Union,

NOTING with deep concern that wildlife trafficking has become one of the world's most profitable organised criminal activities; that it is facilitated by corruption and weak governance structures; that in some regions it threatens national security and fuels conflicts by providing funding to militia and terrorist groups <sup>1</sup>; and that it occurs in a multitude of sectors, thus requiring a cross-cutting approach;

UNDERSCORING that wildlife trafficking has a devastating impact on biodiversity and very damaging effects on sustainable development and poverty eradication;

UNDERLINING that protecting wildlife and preserving biodiversity and ecosystems effectively contributes to eradicate poverty and provide a sustainable future for millions of people living in developing countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that despite its comprehensive legal framework regarding wildlife protection <sup>2</sup>, the EU continues to play an important role as a transit point and end market for illegal wildlife trade, but also a source region for some endangered domestic species;

1. WELCOMES the UN General Assembly Resolution 69/314 on Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife and the UN Environment Assembly Resolution 1/3 on Illegal trade in wildlife;

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<sup>1</sup> Council conclusions on The fight against the financing of terrorism of 12 February 2016 (doc. 6068/16).

<sup>2</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (OJ L 61, 3.3.1997, p. 1) and European Parliament and Council Directive 2008/99/EC of 19 November 2008 on the protection of the environment through criminal law (OJEU L 328, 6.12.2008, p. 28).

2. WELCOMES the outcome document of the UN Sustainable Development Summit “Transforming our world - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and in this context UNDERSCORES the commitment set out in its target 15.7 to take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products;
3. WELCOMES UNEA resolution 2/14 on Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products adopted at the second session of the UN Environment Assembly (Nairobi, 23-27 May 2016);
4. STRESSES the key importance of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) as the major international instrument to regulate legal and counter illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, and LOOKS FORWARD to its 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties in South Africa (COP 17), as an excellent opportunity to further strengthening global efforts against wildlife trafficking, including through new listings of endangered species;
5. UNDERSCORES that combating wildlife trafficking in an effective manner requires a comprehensive, cross-sectoral approach at all levels and the use of all relevant EU and national policies and instruments, while respecting EU and Member States competences, building on existing initiatives and efforts by EU Member States <sup>3</sup>;
6. UNDERLINES the need to enhance dialogue and cooperation with source, consumer and transit countries as well as relevant international organisations, and to involve as appropriate local authorities in source countries as well as all relevant non-state actors, including local communities, non-governmental organisations and the business sector;

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<sup>3</sup> Such as the recent Save Wildlife Conference (The Hague, 1-3 March 2016: <http://www.savewildlife.nl/>).

7. WELCOMES the Commission Communication of 26 February 2016 on an EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (EUAP) <sup>4</sup> as an important instrument with concrete proposals to raise awareness and step up action at all levels, whilst noting that this is without prejudice to the Council's competence to exercise its policy-making and legislative functions under the Treaties and without prejudice to Member States' competence on matters covered by the EUAP;
8. SUPPORTS the three priority areas of the EUAP, ie.
  - preventing wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes,
  - implementing and enforcing existing rules and combating organised wildlife crime more effectively, and
  - strengthening the global partnership of source, consumer and transit countries against wildlife trafficking;
9. WELCOMES the wide scope of the EUAP, which targets not only wildlife products but also live specimens;
10. INVITES all relevant actors identified in the EUAP (the Commission, the High Representative, the Member States, Europol and Eurojust), within the scope of their respective competences to implement the relevant actions by the indicated timelines and in a coordinated and complementary manner;
11. INVITES all relevant actors to use and improve the efficiency of existing structures and resources for the implementation of the EUAP, and HIGHLIGHTS the need to ensure efficient, risk-based and proportionate in-country compliance monitoring and enforcement in order to improve the rate of detection of illegal wildlife-related activities;
12. URGES all relevant actors to give urgent consideration to those EUAP actions where concrete results are expected to be delivered by the end of 2016;

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<sup>4</sup> Docs 6570/16 - COM(2016) 87 final + ADD 1 - SWD(2016) 38 final.

13. CALLS ON the Commission and the Member States to actively promote the adoption by CITES COP 17 of international criteria on sustainable and legal trade of hunting trophies of CITES-listed species; and URGES Member States to ensure that imports of these trophies are of legal and sustainable origin in accordance with relevant EU legislation <sup>5</sup> taking account of the opinion of the Scientific Review Group;
14. URGES in particular Member States not to issue export or re-export documents for raw pre-Convention ivory from elephants on the basis of EU guidelines <sup>6</sup> and to consider further measures to put a halt to commercial trade in ivory from elephants;
15. EMPHASISES the importance of a well-regulated, responsible and sustainable wildlife management; RECOGNISES that sustainable use including the legal commercial trade in wildlife products can be beneficial to biodiversity conservation; and UNDERLINES the need to ensure that local communities in source countries are engaged in and benefit from wildlife conservation and to support the development of sustainable and alternative livelihoods for communities living in and adjacent to wildlife habitats;
16. CALLS ON Member States and the Commission to improve cooperation, coordination, communication and data sharing between their implementation and enforcement agencies, as well as with agencies in third countries and other wildlife enforcement networks, including through the promotion of existing tools such as the EU-Twix database and the EPIX database;
17. EMPHASISES the key role of customs control and customs authorities in combating wildlife trafficking;

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<sup>5</sup> In particular Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.

<sup>6</sup> Reference: EUAP, Action 2.

18. RECALLS that all actors involved in the fight against serious and organised crime must retain a margin of flexibility to address unexpected or emerging threats to EU internal security, in particular regarding environmental crime and energy fraud <sup>7</sup>; in order to better understand the level of those threats, INVITES Europol to consider the wildlife crime threats when preparing its next EU Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA); and INVITES Member States to provide relevant information on wildlife crime to Europol, including through the SOCTA questionnaire;
19. UNDERLINES the need to enhance awareness raising and education about wildlife protection and the impacts of illegal trade in wildlife, as well as to step up training for all parts of the enforcement chain in source, consumer and transit countries;
20. URGES all relevant EUAP actors to investigate the increasing illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products via internet, including via the "dark web", with a view to developing guidelines on how to address this problem at EU level;
21. REAFFIRMS its intention to remain closely involved in the implementation process by adopting the necessary positions and decisions in the relevant policy areas, facilitating cooperation between the different actors both at EU level and with source, consumer and transit countries, and ensuring policy coherence;
22. INVITES the Commission and the Member States to ensure the regular monitoring of the implementation of the EUAP; and INVITES the Commission to keep the Council informed of progress made, and to prepare by 31 July 2018 a report assessing mid-term progress, as well as, in 2020, an evaluation of the EUAP to establish whether further measures are needed.

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<sup>7</sup> EU's priorities for the fight against serious and organised crime 2014-2017 (doc. 12095/13).



## Template for input to the progress report on the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking

*EU Member States are invited to contribute to the progress report by filling in the 3 tables hereafter reflecting the priorities and objectives set out in the Commission Communication on the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking, for the actions which fall within their responsibility.*

*As far as possible, EU Member States should provide their input for each of the actions under their responsibility contained in the EU Action Plan.*

In addition, EU Member States are invited to respond to the following two questions:

1. Have you experienced difficulties in achieving the actions contained in the EU Action Plan?  
If yes, which difficulties and for which actions? How could these difficulties be overcome?
2. Do you consider that the priorities and objectives of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking are still relevant and appropriate?

*As a reminder, the Commission and Member States reported on the actions taken to implement the EU Action Plan in February 2017<sup>1</sup>.*

*Thank you for your contribution.*

*Emmanuelle Maire  
European Commission  
Head of Unit ENV.F3*

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<sup>1</sup> See [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/pdf/Achievements\\_WAP\\_overview.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/pdf/Achievements_WAP_overview.pdf)

## Priority 1 – Preventing wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes

Objective	Actions taken by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
1) 1.1 Reduce the demand and supply for illegal wildlife products	<p><b><u>Action 1:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) information on CITES is now included in a brochure made by Belgian Customs. This brochure directs passengers through a QR code to a website for more information.</li> <li>2) Belgian Customs have contacted the Brussels Airport Company (BAC) to improve the dissemination of information (on CITES and other topics) across the airport.</li> <li>3) Presentation on general CITES legislation by the CITES Management Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 22/03/2017 at a high school specialized in animal welfare at Roeselare.</li> <li>○ 09/12/2017 for the Flemish Rescue Centers (VOC's).</li> <li>○ 18/10/2017 for bird association at Putte.</li> <li>○ 21/11/2017 for the Chambers of commerce.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Action 1:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) project with the BAC will be further finalized.</li> </ol>

Objective	Actions taken by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 22/12/2017 for the Belgian ambassadors at the Belgian Diplomatic Days.</li> </ul> <p>4) Presentation on new listed species after COP17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 15/04/2017 on timber species during Cordefactum – Guitar festival by the CMB (Centrum voor Muziekinstrumenten Bouw) at Lier.</li> <li>○ 4/06/2017 on Grey Parrot at Nally's Papegaaien rescue center specialized in parrots.</li> </ul> <p>5) Drafting practical guidelines on CITES Customs clearance for import and (re) export of CITES specimens this in order to make the importers/(re)exporters aware of the need to submit CITES documents for Customs clearance.</p> <p><b><u>Action 2:</u></b></p> <p>The Belgian CITES Management Authority participated actively to the dissemination of the public consultation on the trade in ivory within the EU. The questionnaire was sent to</p>	

Objective	Actions taken by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	stakeholders and specific firms and available on Belgian CITES website. .	
1.2 Ensure that rural communities in source countries are engaged in and benefit from wildlife conservation	<p><b><u>Action 4:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Belgium is a member of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund (since December 2014).</li> <li>2) Belgian made a financial contribution to the African Elephant Fund of € 50,000</li> <li>3) Belgium made a financial contribution to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgique of € 50,000</li> <li>4) In the wider anti-poaching realm, Belgium supports sustainable tourism projects in Tanzania that train villagers to become ‘wild scouts’ who engage themselves alongside government rangers in the fight against poachers (<a href="http://bdf.belgium.be/resource/static/files/import/sdgs_rapport/2017-06-20-sdgs-1st-voluntary-report-belgium-15721belgium_english.pdf">http://bdf.belgium.be/resource/static/files/import/sdgs_rapport/2017-06-20-sdgs-1st-voluntary-report-belgium-15721belgium_english.pdf</a>)</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Action 4:</u></b></p> <p>Belgium stays actively involved as a member of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.</p>

Objective	Actions taken by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
1.3 Increase business sector engagement in effort to combat wildlife trafficking and encourage sustainable sourcing of wildlife products	<p><b><u>Action 6/7:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) information on CITES is available in Customs folder. This folder directs passengers through a QR code to a website where more information on CITES legislation can be found.</li> <li>2) Belgian customs have contacted the Brussels Airport Company (BAC) in order to improve the dissemination of information on CITES and other related topics across the airport.</li> <li>3) Presentation on general CITES rules by the CITES Management Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 10/10/2017 for the air transport sector at Brucargo Zaventem.</li> <li>○ 28/10/2017 for veterinarians at Ghent University.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Meeting planned with DHL on 16/1/2018 to come up with concrete actions to improve the situation.</li> </ol>

Objective	Actions taken by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p>4) Presentation on new listed species after COP17 by the CITES Management Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 15/04/2017 on timber species during Cordefactum – Guitar festival by the CMB (Centrum voor Muziekinstrumenten Bouw) at Lier.</li> <li>○ 4/06/2017 Grey Parrot at Nally's Papegaaien rescue center that is specialized in parrots.</li> </ul> <p>5) First contact made with several express courier (DHL, Fedex) due to some irregularities (loss of permits, CITES documents not submitted to the Customs)</p>	
1.4 Tackle corruption associated with wildlife trafficking		

**Priority 2 – Making implementation and enforcement of existing rules and the fight against organised wildlife crime more effective**

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
2.1 - Ensure more even implementation of EU rules on the wildlife trade and develop a more strategic approach to checks and the enforcement of rules against wildlife trafficking at EU level	<p><b><u>Action 9 :</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Negotiations on 14/03/2017-27/06/2017-5/10/2017 between the CITES Management Authority and the regional authorities to resolve legal issues regarding the Belgian competence concerning CITES and to draft a cooperation agreement/MoU.</li> <li>2) A Belgian working group has been set up to identify gaps at the national level on wildlife trafficking of non CITES infringements and to propose possible solutions for reporting, tracing and cross check with possible other violations. A special attention was given to the possible links of wildlife trafficking and the financing of terrorists networks.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Action 10:</u></b></p> <p>Enlargement of the national CITES inspection department with the addition of 7 new inspectors/controllers to the 2 existing ones.</p>	<p><b><u>Action 13:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Finalizing controls of importers of rhino hunting trophies</li> <li>2) Organization of the BACON actions (control of air passengers entering the EU) by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain and Customs with active participation of the CITES Inspection department.</li> </ol>

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p><b><u>Action 12:</u></b></p> <p>Brainstorm session by the CITES Management Authority on 23/03/2017 on priority I – objective 1.1 en priority II – objective 2.1</p> <p><b><u>Action 13:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Participation to the Thunderbird I operation.</li> <li>2) Specific operation on export shipments of animals by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain and the CITES Inspection department on 25/04-27/04-15/05-17/05-4/07-13/07/2017 at Brussels Airport (Brucargo)</li> <li>3) Organization of the BACON actions (control of air passengers entering the EU) by the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain and Customs with the active participation of the CITES inspection department: two actions each month at Brussels Airport; once per month at Brussels South Charleroi Airport; during April, June, July, August en September once per month in Liège Airport; two times in Ostend-Bruges Airport.</li> <li>4) Participation of the Belgian Customs to Operation Tembo: joint Customs-Police</li> </ol>	



Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p>operation looking for ivory antiques that are illegally exported to Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Laos, Vietnam and Taiwan)</p> <p>5) Targeted inspection of importers of rhino hunting trophies</p>	
2.2 Increase capacity to combat wildlife trafficking of all parts of the enforcement chain and the judiciary	<p><b><u>Action 15:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Negotiations on 14/03/2017-27/06/2017-5/10/2017 between the CITES Management Authority and the regional authorities to resolve legislative issues regarding the Belgian competence concerning CITES and to draft a cooperation agreement/MoU.</li> <li>2) Participation to the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Enforcement Group meetings.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Action 16:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The CITES Management Authority added the seizure data to the EU-Twix database.</li> <li>2) The federal General Directorate Environment started a two-year bush meat project (2017-2018): Taking and analyzing samples of seized illegal meat at Brussels Airport, in order to</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Action 15:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Meeting between CITES Management Authority, Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FAVV/AFSCA) and customs to improve cooperation at the airports.</li> <li>2) Further improving the implementation of the MoU between Belgian and Chinese Customs established in 2015 through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the designation of a single point of contact for Brussels and Beijing airports to exchange information;</li> <li>- the exchange of feedback on seized endangered species, by e-mail.</li> <li>- the planning of a visit of Belgian Customs to China to explain the duties and powers of the Belgian Customs concerning CITES (visit is foreseen in April)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p>determine the specific diversity and quantity of CITES species that are imported into passengers luggage's, followed by the drawing up of a report on this analysis with conclusions, context and recommendations.</p> <p><b><u>Action 17:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Training given by CITES Management Authority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 6/02/2017 French speaking African custom officers.</li> <li>○ 9/2017-10/2017 new inspectors of the CITES inspection department.</li> <li>○ Two days training for customs at Liege Airport on identification of TCM products initiated by CITES Management authority and organized by Traffic and WWF with intervention of GAD Belgian custom and an expert in TCM: 7 – 8/12/2017</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Drafting of instruction/decision tree for the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain.</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Action 16:</u></b> Second and final year of the bush meat project.</p> <p><b><u>Action 17:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Training African French speaking Custom interns : 29/03/2018 and 20/11/2018.</li> <li>2) Training for the judicial sector: 3/5/2018.</li> <li>3) Training for all local police officers: April 2018.</li> <li>4) Training for customs or during BACON operations in September 2018.</li> <li>5) Finalizing instruction for Customs/ Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain.</li> <li>6) Drafting similar instruction for local police.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Action 19:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Reviewing of and possibly identifying a new system of compensation for the housing and care of seized animals and plants.</li> <li>2) Finalizing contract with Finshop.</li> </ol>

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p>3) Drafting of an instruction on how to deal when in contact with CITES listed species for the customs.</p> <p><b><u>Action 19:</u></b></p> <p>1) Review of the compilation of possible rescue centers in Belgium.</p> <p>2) Drafting a contract with Finshop for the possible public sale of seized CITES goods.</p>	<p>3) Finalizing contract with a destruction company for seized plants, animals and products.</p>
2.3 -Fight organised wildlife crime more effectively		
2.4 - Improve international cooperation on enforcement against wildlife trafficking	<p><b><u>Action 24:</u></b></p> <p>1) 9/10-13/10/2017: participation to the 28th Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group.</p> <p>2) Participation to the 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Enforcement Group meetings.</p> <p>3) Participation of the Belgian CITES Management Authority since Dec 2014 as a member of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.</p>	<p><b><u>Action 24:</u></b> Formalizing an arrangement with Belgian NCB to transfer information related to wildlife crime via “Interpol notices”</p>

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p><b><u>Action 25:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Financial contribution of €50 000 to the African Elephant Fund</li> <li>2) Financial contribution of €25 000 to the development of AFRICA-TWIX</li> <li>3) Financial contribution of €15 000 for the development and maintenance of EU-TWIX</li> <li>4) Financial contribution of € 50 000 to the Museum for Central Africa for project focusing on sustainable timber production and legal trade in Afrormosia.</li> <li>5) Financial contribution of €50 000 to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgique.</li> </ol>	

### Priority 3 - Strengthening the Global Partnership of Source, Consumer and Transit Countries against wildlife trafficking

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
3.1 -Provide increased, more effective and more strategically focused support to developing countries	<p><b><u>Action 27:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Financial contribution of €50 000 to the African Elephant Fund</li> <li>2) Participation of the Belgian CITES Management Authority since Dec 2014 as a member of the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund.</li> <li>3) Financial contribution of €25 000 to the development of AFRICA-TWIX</li> <li>4) Financial contribution of € 50 000 to the Museum for Central Africa for project focusing on sustainable timber production and legal trade in Afrormosia.</li> <li>5) Financial contribution of €50 000 to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgique.</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Action 27:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Financial contribution of €50 000 to the African Elephant Fund</li> <li>2) Financial contribution of €50 000 to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgique.</li> </ol>
3.2 - Strengthen and coordinate better action against wildlife trafficking and its root causes with relevant source, transit and market countries	<p><b><u>Action 28:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Financial contribution of €50 000 to the African Elephant Fund</li> <li>2) Financial contribution of €25 000 to the development of AFRICA-TWIX</li> <li>3) Financial contribution of € 50 000 to the Museum for Central Africa for project focusing on sustainable timber</li> </ol>	

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
	<p>production and legal trade in Afrormosia.</p> <p>4) Financial contribution of €50 000 to VZW Fonds Virunga Belgique.</p> <p>5) In the wider anti-poaching realm, Belgium supports sustainable tourism projects in Tanzania to train villagers to as ‘wild scouts’ that engage themselves alongside government rangers in the fight against poachers</p> <p>6) Training given by CITES Management Authority: 6/02/2017 African Customs interns.</p> <p>7) Participation to the Tunderbird I operation.</p>	
3.3 - Address security dimension of wildlife trafficking		<p><b>Action 31:</b> Belgium is since 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2018 the facilitator of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership. One of the two priorities for 2018 of the CBFP is security and the fight against poaching.</p>

Date: 2/02/2017

Member State: BELGIUM

Objective	Actions achieved by 31/12/2017	Future actions planned
3.4 - Strengthen multilateral efforts to combat wildlife trafficking	<b>Action 34:</b> 9/10-13/10/2017: participation at the 28 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group.	