



CITES CoP19: Key Outcomes

January 2023

WHAT ?

- CITES (*The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*) is an international agreement between governments: 184 Parties (183 countries and 1 regional economic integration organization)
- Its aim is to ensure that **international trade** in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
- CITES has been in operation for almost 50 years (since 1973).
- CITES listed species are categorized into three appendixes (Appendices I, Appendices II and Appendices III)
- The Convention establishes an international **legal framework** together with common **procedural mechanisms**
- The aim is for the strictest control of international commercial trade in species threatened with extinction, and for an effective regulation of international trade in others

Conference of Parties (CoP)

It is the ultimate decision-making body in CITES, and decisions are usually taken at their meetings (every 2-3 years) on:

- Amendments to Appendices I & II
- Resolutions (incl. budget and costed programme of work for the Secretariat)
- Decisions



CITES 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19): Panama City, Panama, 14 – 25 Nov. 2022


PANAMA
CONVENTION CENTER

Amador Causeway, Ciudad de Panamá,
Calle General Juan D. Perón, Panamá

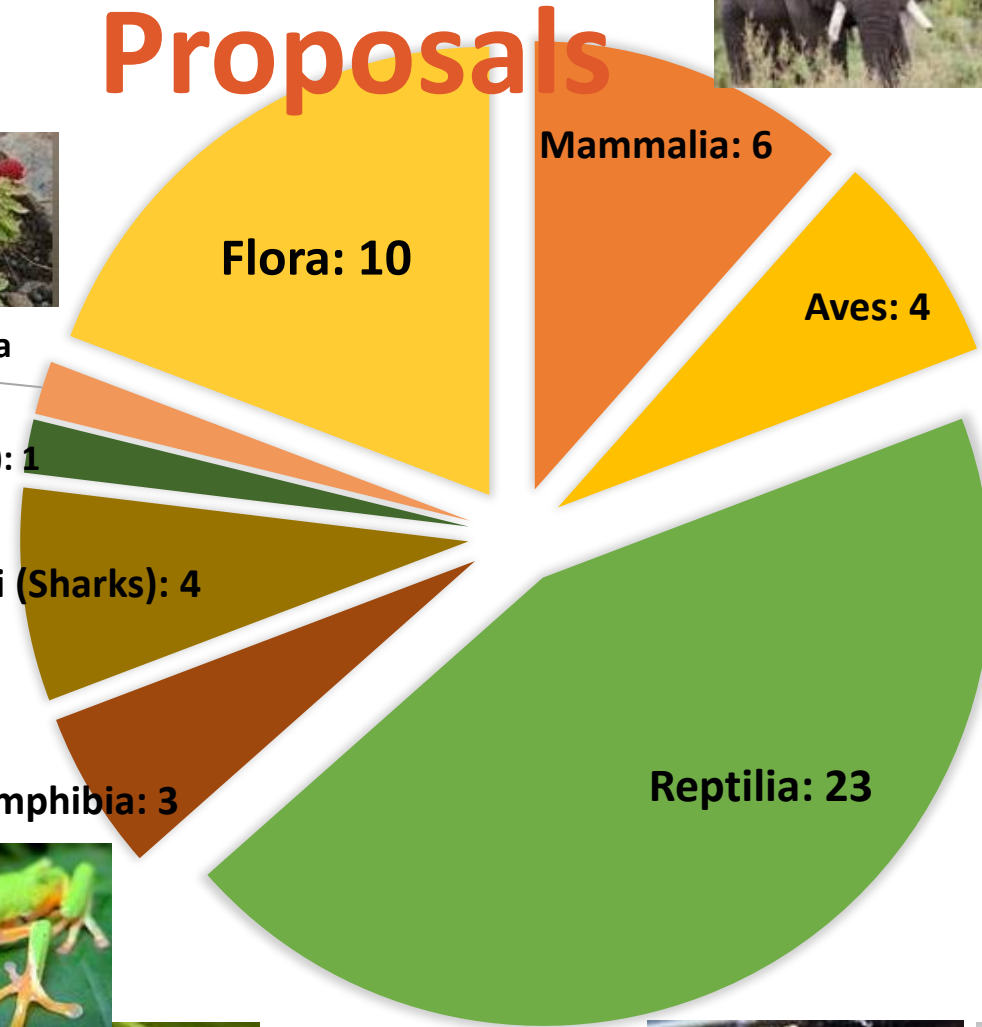


Agenda and Documents considered by CITES CoP19

- **91 Agenda items**
 - Administrative and financial matters
 - Strategic matters
 - Interpretation and implementation matters
 - Species specific matters
 - Proposals to amend the Appendices
- **Working documents: > 120 working documents**
- **52 Proposals to amend the Appendices** – 49 Party proponents:
39↑ increased protection. 12 ↓ decreased protection. 1 neutral (change in annotation).



52 Proposals



Holothuroidea (Sea cucumbers): 1



Actinopteri (Fishes): 1



Amphibia: 3



Mammalia: 6



Aves: 4



Reptilia: 23



CoP19 in numbers

- 3,830 accredited participants (3,751 registered), including 140 media representatives
- 935 Government representatives in attendance from 164 Parties (145 Parties accredited to vote)
- More than 365 Decisions adopted
- 46 proposals adopted (14 through votes, remainder by consensus)
- >500 species included in the Appendices
- Of the proposals adopted, the international trade in 4 bird species, 100 shark and ray species, 50 turtle and tortoise species, 160 species of amphibians, and 150 tree species will be regulated as soon as the listings come into effect (for most listings, 90 days and, for a few, between 12 and 24 months).
- 5 new Resolutions and 23 amended Resolutions
- Majority of decisions made by consensus - Parties voted 40 times during the CoP to decide on matters under discussion. 15 proposals voted on in Committee I (8 agreed ; 7 rejected)



Administrative and financial matters

- **Amendments to the Rules of Procedures:** Rules relating to the consideration of proposals (Decisions adopted to conduct further work intersessionally)
- **New Resolution on Financing and costed programme of work for the triennium 2023 – 2025:** Overall budget increase of 6.1%
- **Language Strategy:** Implications for Parties of adding Arabic, Chinese and Russian (budget, implementation and effectiveness of the Convention). Translation of all valid Resolutions and Decisions and CITES website with extra budgetary contributions; Standing Committee to consider future approach

Strategic matters (1)

- **CITES Strategic Vision 2021 – 2030 CoP19:**
 - Indicators to monitor and to measure whether Parties are achieving the objectives agreed in the Strategic Vision were adopted;
 - Mapping of the CITES Strategic Vision against the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (Kunming-Montreal GBF) will be carried out during the intersessional period.
- **Cooperation with other biodiversity related Conventions and organizations:**
 - A partnership strategy for the Parties, the Permanent Committees and the Secretariat will be prepared to enhance the implementation of the Convention through strategic partnerships.
 - Parties encouraged to strengthen synergies among biodiversity-related MEAs at national level & improve coordination and cooperation.
 - Standing Committee to explore, with Secretariat support, options consistent with the CITES Strategic Vision to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and synergies at all relevant levels on contribution of CITES to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Involve members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and engagement with other relevant organizations and processes, including processes under the Rio Conventions.



Strategic matters (2)

- **World Wildlife Trade report:** Pilot World Wildlife Trade report released at CoP19; consider the value of a regular World Wildlife Trade Report
- **Engagements of Indigenous People and Local Communities & Livelihoods:** Intersessional work to be undertaken (develop non-binding guidance; case studies on sustainable use of CITES listed species)
- **Capacity-building:** Integrated capacity building framework to be developed
- **CITES and forests:** Process to consider a strategic framework to streamline the implementation of forest-relevant mandates, promote synergies with other relevant processes and contribute effectively to global forest policies and initiatives
- **CITES Tree Species Programme:** Design and implement a longer term capacity-building programme as a followup to the former CTSP and continue collaboration with ITTO, FAO, UN, CPF, private economic actors

Strategic matters (3)

- **Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade:** Gather information on measures and identify opportunities for additional practical collaboration. Decision directed to UNEP: *to share information from relevant work carried out under the Quadripartite Collaboration for One Health or other relevant initiatives, with the Parties via the Secretariat*
- **Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the Convention:** Risk assessment approaches to manage emerging operational issues; amendments to RoP to facilitate online and hybrid meetings
- **Action plan on gender-related matters:** Resolution adopted on Gender and international trade in wild fauna and flora; development of a gender action plan

Interpretation and implementation matters (1)

- **Compliance matters:** several CITES listed species of plants and animals, including Totoaba
- **Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species:** Implementation of measures and activities
- **Legal acquisition findings:** Capacity-building activities on the implementation of the resolution and use of rapid guide
- **Non-detriment findings:** Address priorities in capacity-building; organize expert workshop and develop a strategy and feedback mechanism to share experiences with using NDF guidance materials



Interpretation and implementation matters (2)

- **Introduction from the sea:**

- Assist range States to fulfil their CITES responsibilities
- Monitor negotiations on the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

- **Electronic systems and information technologies:**

- Work with UN/CEFACT, UNCTAD, UNECE, ITC, the World Bank, WCO, WTO, IPPC, and other relevant partners



Species specific matters

26 items relating to species specific matters, including:

West African vultures	Humphead wrasse	Seahorses	NDFs for leopards
Illegal trade in cheetahs	Marine turtles	Rosweod tree species	Songbird trade and conservation management
Conservation of amphibians	Sharks and rays	Pangolins	Brazil wood
Eels	Elephants	African lions	African grey parrot
Agarwood-producing taxa	CITES Big Cat Task Force	Jaguars	Rhinoceros
Boswelia spp	Asian big cats	Leopards	Saiga antelope
Queen conch	Tortoises and freshwater turtles	African tree species	Marine ornamental fishes
Neotropical tree species	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	A strategic approach to identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade	Nomenclature
			Annotations
			Information system for trade in specimens of CITES listed tree species



