



Madrid, 21 March 2019

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1620 / 2019

SUBJECT: CITES PROPOSAL FOR THE INCLUSION OF MAKO SHARKS IN THE APPENDIX II OF CITES

The Secretariat was informed by Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations that a proposal (CoP18 Prop. 42) to Amend Appendix II of CITES to include shortfin mako shark, including *Isurus oxyrinchus*, has been put forward for discussion and voting during the event at the CITES Conference of Parties (CoP) in Colombo (Sri Lanka), 23 May – 3 June 2019.

In January, FAO requested the Secretariat for scientific information on the mako, to be reviewed by the FAO Sixth 'Expert Advisory Panel Report' for the Assessment of Proposals to Amend Appendices I and II of CITES. FAO has recently published the report of the panel ([click here](#)). A summary of the information contained in the report as regards the mako sharks is attached.

In addition to the information provided by the Secretariat, and since the SCRS Sharks Species Group will only meet between 20-24 May 2019, the SCRS Chair, Vice-chair and Sharks Species group Rapporteur, prepared the *Notes on the inclusion of the shortfin mako (Isurus oxyrinchus) and longfin mako (I. paucus) sharks in Appendix II of CITES in relation to the stock status and scientific advice provided to the Commission* (attached document), which was recently sent to FAO.

Recently the Secretariat received an invitation from FAO to a side event regarding the proposal CoP18 Prop. 42, to be held during the CITES CoP meeting mentioned above. The side event would be an opportunity for the FAO, ICCAT, possibly the IUCN Sharks specialist group, and one country speaker from the ICCAT CPCs to provide information on mako shark stock assessment and management to the CITES community before the vote. In order for FAO to consider such side event an application needs to be lodged by the 5 April 2019. Accordingly, in order to reply to FAO, the Secretariat kindly requests your views on possible interest of ICCAT to be engaged in this side event by **26 March 2019** at the latest.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary


Camille Jean Pierre Manel


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Attachment: CITES proposal, FAO Expert Panel summary, SCRS Officers Notes.