

**Template for submission of scientific and technical comments on Appendix 1 of the recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for the Resumed Session of its twenty-fourth meeting**

**TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS**

<b>Review comments on Appendix 1 of the present recommendation</b>	
<b>Scope of this template for comments</b>	Template for submitting comments in accordance with recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2, paragraph 2, where the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), under the guidance of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), invites Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit views on Appendix 1 of the recommendation.
<b>Contact information</b>	
<b>Party/Government/Observer</b>	Observer
<b>Party/Government/Observer representative</b>	CITES Secretariat
<b>Comments</b>	
Please provide any general comments on the Appendix 1.	
<p>The Secretariat to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) very much welcomes target 5 and would like to contribute to the development of suitable indicators as unsustainable harvest threatens not only the species being used and the benefits derived from them (linked to Target 9), but the ecosystems that may themselves provide vital services and those that depend on them. We note that it is proposed to develop a new comprehensive headline indicator for Target 5, and it is acknowledged in document CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/38 that this would have relevance to CITES, as well as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 12, 14 and 15 and the IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment. CITES covers 184 Parties and is legally binding, but its reach is limited to international trade in CITES-listed species (of which there are around 38,000). However, it is difficult to see how a component indicator can be agreed to cover Target 5 in terms of domestic and international harvest and trade of all wild species. In terms of monitoring, the CITES trade database is a publicly accessible database with full records of trade in CITES-listed specimens, as reported by exporting, re-exporting and importing States since 1975 when the Convention came into force. The trade database is reviewed regularly through Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) on Review of Significant Trade in Appendix II specimens, or RST, whereby the trade data for the most recent 5-year period is reviewed by the Animals and Plants Committees for possible unsustainable levels of trade. In cases where the trade is found to be unsustainable, the relevant Committee can make recommendations that the country in question must implement within specific timeframes or potentially face a trade suspension. The number of species/countries subject to a trade suspension under RST could therefore be potentially used as a potential indicator of sustainability. The CITES Secretariat is currently developing a tracking</p>	

and management database for the Review of Significant Trade process that it hopes to launch later this year and which could potentially be used to produce regular analyses of data and trends. CITES is a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), a voluntary partnership of 14 international organizations with substantive mandates and programmes, including CBD, to promote the sustainable use and conservation of wildlife resources. The CITES Secretariat is of the view that a strong collaborative approach will be needed in order to achieve the objectives of the post-2020 biodiversity framework and this partnership could provide expertise in the development of indicators for Target 5 in particular. At present, the following complementary indicators are particularly relevant to CITES (some observations are made on each potential indicator): t5.6 Proportion of legal and illegal wildlife trade consisting of species threatened with extinction; It is important to note that there are different ways to classify when a species is considered “threatened with extinction”. For example, the IUCN Red List has a set of criteria that it uses to determine the conservation status and risk, while CITES focuses on biological AND trade criteria, specifically international trade. It is not the case that all CITES-listed species that are classified as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) by IUCN are given the highest amount of protection under CITES in the form of an Appendix-I listing, particularly where the threat is not from international trade. In order to determine the proportion of wildlife in trade that was poached or illicitly trafficked, there is a need to also determine the total volume of legal trade. From an international trade perspective, the CITES trade databases (annual legal trade and annual illegal trade) can provide this information for CITES-listed species. At the national