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Mr. Miguel de Serpa Soares  
Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and  
United Nations Legal Counsel

Geneva, 22 June 2022

Subject: **CITES contribution to the report of the Secretary-**

**undertaken under CITES. The main developments that have  
following on from the latest meeting of the Conference of the  
preparation for the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of  
following:**

*Scientific developments – conservation and management of marine species*

As previously reported, CoP18 resulted in the inclusion of tholisted marine species does not endanger the survival of the

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Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation and management of sharks encourages Parties to strengthen measures for conservation and management of sharks by improving data collection and reporting, developing non-detriment findings (NDFs), and working regionally to collect and share information on shared stocks. COP18 mandated the CITES Secretariat to organize an international workshop on NDFs which intends

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<sup>1</sup> See Decision 16.136 (Rev. CoP18) on Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefish, Decisions 18.197 - 18.202 on Eels (*Anguilla* spp.), Decision 18.209 on Humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*), Decisions 18.210-18.217 on Marine turtles (*Cheloniidae* spp. and *Dermochelyidae* spp.), Resolution Conf 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation and management of sharks and Decisions 18.218-18.225 on Sharks and rays (*Elasmobranchii* spp.), Decisions 18.228 - 18.233 on Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.), Decisions 18.263-18.265 on Banggai cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*), Decisions 18.292 - 18.295 on Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*) Decisions 18.296 – 18.298 on Marine ornamental fishes, and Decisions 18.275 - 18.280 on Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*).

to include a workstream on marine or aquatic species, including regional implications for shared species, introduction from the sea and a workstream on applying adaptive management and precautionary approaches, also in low data and low capacity situations, recognizing that sharks and rays and other marine species are good examples of the challenges faced by Parties when preparing NDFs in these situations.

Regarding marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.), a follow up to the study on the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles, entitled

