



# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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EIGHTH MEETING OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005  
Agenda item 14 (b)

## DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON MIGRATORY SHARKS (*Proposal submitted by Australia, New Zealand and Seychelles*)

*Acknowledging* the obligations of the global community to conserve and protect migratory sharks as underpinned by, *inter alia*, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its Committee on Fisheries;

*Recognising* that under the CMS, Range States should take action to protect, conserve and manage migratory species, and endeavour to conclude Agreements to promote the conservation and management of migratory species;

*Noting* that several shark species are already listed in Appendices I and II, and that it is proposed that another migratory shark species be added to both Appendices at this Conference of Parties;

*Aware* of the vital ecosystem role played by sharks, and the significant and continuing mortality of sharks listed on Appendix I and II through a range of impacts, including habitat destruction, target fisheries, IUU fishing, and as fisheries by-catch;

*Noting* the importance of cooperation between Range States in furthering research, awareness raising, trade monitoring and bycatch reduction of migratory sharks, and that these activities could greatly strengthen conservation outcomes for migratory sharks;

### *The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals:*

1. *Requests* all Parties to strengthen measures to protect migratory shark species against threatening processes, including habitat destruction, IUU fishing, and fisheries by-catch;

2. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' Committee on Fisheries to promote greater uptake of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks as a matter of urgency;

3. *Calls* upon Range States of migratory sharks listed on Appendices I or II to develop a global agreement for the conservation, protection and management of these sharks in accordance with Article V of the Convention on Migratory Species, and to consider in the development of the agreement the inclusion of actions such as developing regional and global conservation programmes that involve governments, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations and local communities, identifying viable and practical alternatives to consumptive uses of migratory sharks while recognising the cultural and economic importance of these species for some communities, and developing mechanisms to facilitate developing country participation in any agreement;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat to bring this resolution to the attention of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations' Committee on Fisheries, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and to explore future avenues of cooperation with these organisations as well as range states for migratory sharks that will lead to enhanced protection and conservation of these sharks.