

53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Bonn, Germany, 19 – 20 October 2022

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REPORT OF THE DEPOSITARY

Memorandum

Reference: CMS depositary matters
Re: Report of the depositary

Since the last Report of the Depositary for the triennium 2017-2019 in November 2019, three more countries have acceded to the Convention. The Convention enters into force for the acceding country on the first day of the third month after the country has deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention with the Depositary. The Governments of the following countries have notified the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, as the Depositary, of their ratification of accession, or of their accession, to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals with effect from the following dates:

The Central African Republic	1 December 2018
Turkmenistan	1 January 2021
The Kingdom of Bahrain	1 March 2022

As of 28 June 2022, the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals number 133 (132 member States and the European Union).

With its Note Verbale of 10 January 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the Republic of Mauritius raised an objection to the territorial application of the Convention by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the “British Indian Ocean Territory” as declared when depositing its instrument of ratification on 23 July 1985.

With its Note Verbale of 11 February 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland responded to the Note Verbale of 10 January 2020 from the Republic of Mauritius.

With its Note Verbale of 6 March 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the Republic of Mauritius responded to the Note Verbale of 11 February 2020 from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

With its Note Verbale of 9 March 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the Czech Republic informed the Federal Republic of Germany, in accordance with Article XX of the Convention, of the withdrawal of its reservations to Appendices I/II. The withdrawal of the reservations made by the Czech Republic to Appendices I/II became effective as of 7 June 2020 in accordance with Article XI, paragraph 6, second sentence, of the Convention.

With its letter of 2 March 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the European Union informed the Federal Republic of Germany, in accordance with Article XX of the Convention, of the withdrawal of its reservation to the inclusion of the Basking Shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*) in Appendix I. The withdrawal of the reservation made by the European Union to the inclusion of the Basking Shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*) in Appendix I became effective as of 31 May 2020 in accordance with Article XI, paragraph 6, second sentence, of the Convention.

With its Note of 4 May 2020 to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, Australia entered a reservation with respect to the inclusion of the Smooth Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna zygaena*) and of the Tope Shark (*Galeorhinus galeus*) in Appendix II to the Convention. Pursuant to Article XI, paragraph 6 of the Convention, the inclusion of the above-named species, adopted on 22 February 2020 on the occasion of the Conference of the Parties, shall not enter into force for Australia.

With its Note Verbale of 20 May 2020 addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as Depositary, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland entered a reservation with respect to the inclusion of the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus Longimanus*) in Appendix I to the Convention for the territories of Bermuda, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Pursuant to Article XI, paragraph 6 of the Convention, the inclusion of the Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus Longimanus*) in Appendix I, adopted on 22 February 2020 on the occasion of the Conference of the Parties, shall not enter into force for the territories of Bermuda, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Federal Republic of Germany engages in the following initiatives to recruit new members: recruitment efforts are primarily undertaken by the CMS Secretariat in Bonn. The Federal Republic of Germany supports these efforts. At the same time, the Federal Foreign Office contacts German missions abroad, which then provide assistance, for example, in matters relating to accession to the Convention. The missions are hence also involved in the recruitment of new members.