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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
Directorate E - International affairs & LIFE  
ENV.E.2 - Environmental Agreements and Trade

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NOTE TO CITES EU MANAGEMENT AND SCIENTIFIC AUTHORITIES

**Subject: Process for the adoption of a common position on EU proposals to be submitted at the CITES 15th Conference of Parties (Qatar, March 2010)**

During the CITES Standing Committee meeting last week, it was confirmed that the next Conference of Parties to the CITES Convention will take place between 13 and 25 March 2010 in Qatar. With the present note, the European Commission wishes to remind Member States of the process leading to the adoption of EU proposals for this meeting.

The deadline for submission to the CITES Secretariat of proposals to be considered at this Conference of Parties (CoP) is 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

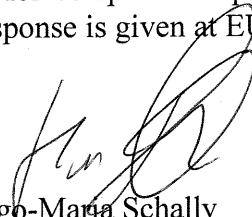
The proposals that the EU wish to table at the next CoP will be agreed within the EU at the Management Committee meeting dated 21 September 2009, after discussion in the Scientific Review Group on 11 September 2009.

As a basis for such discussion, the European Commission will issue at the beginning of September a staff working document in which it will provide an assessment of proposals submitted by EU Member States in view of the Conference of Parties.

In addition, the European Commission received letters from third States, inviting the EU to co-sponsor their proposals for listing at the next Conference of Parties. Invitations for co-sponsorship have been received from the USA (proposal for Appendix II listing of *Corallium* and *Paracorallium*) and, together with a range State consultation, from Monaco (proposal for Appendix I listing of *Thunnus thynnus* – bluefin tuna). In its staff working document, the Commission will also express its views on those proposals. Member States are invited to transmit their observations on those proposals to the Commission by 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

All relevant documents have been placed on Circa and can be accessed by all Member States.

In addition, we would invite all Member States to transmit to the European Commission any other official request for consultation of range States or for co-sponsorship which they have received. It is indeed important that a coordinated response is given at EU level to such requests.



Hugo-Maria Schally  
Head of Unit

C.C.: Mrs Blanco, Mr Alexandrou (DG MARE)