

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations







# Partnerships for effective implementation of CITES-listings

AC32, CICG 19 June 2023 By Juan Carlos Vasquez Chief, Legal Unit www.cites.org

### FOCUS on the WHO and the HOW to do it

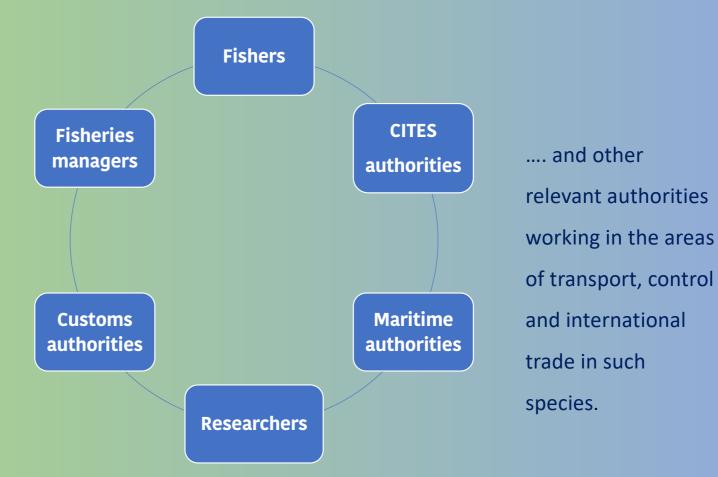
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#### Who – key actors

Public and private stakeholders and individuals involved throughout the complete supply-chain and value-chain in international trade of CITES-listed commercially exploited and managed aquatic species.





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## A successful example of international Partnerships

### How to ensure complementarity and mutual supportiveness for

- designing of institutional arrangements to ensure cooperation between CITES authorities and fisheries agencies, when the division of labour is split among different institutions;
- drafting and adopt of national legislation required to put in place new controls that did not exist before the listings;
- Changing or adapting fisheries management measures;
- Making legal acquisition findings (LAFs);
- Making non-detriment findings (NDFs);

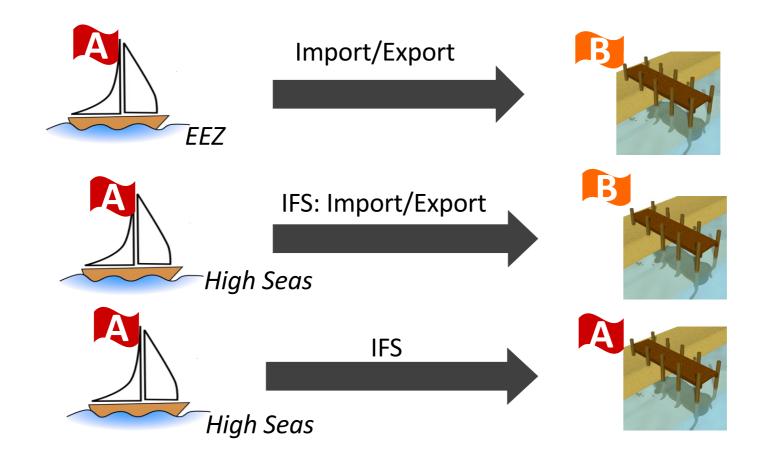


## How to ensure complementarity and mutual supportiveness for

- Issuing permits and certificates for specimens harvested in the marine environment not under their national jurisdiction;
- exercising trade controls on vessels that operate near or across the borders between national and international waters;
- Handling the issue of the flag of convenience;
- controlling transhipments;
- cooperating with Customs authorities; and
- reporting trade from ABNJ in CITES annual reports (apparently mix-matching with the reported catches)



#### **CITES Trade Transactions**





#### Introduction from the Sea

Before an IFS certificate is granted, the State of introduction must ensure:





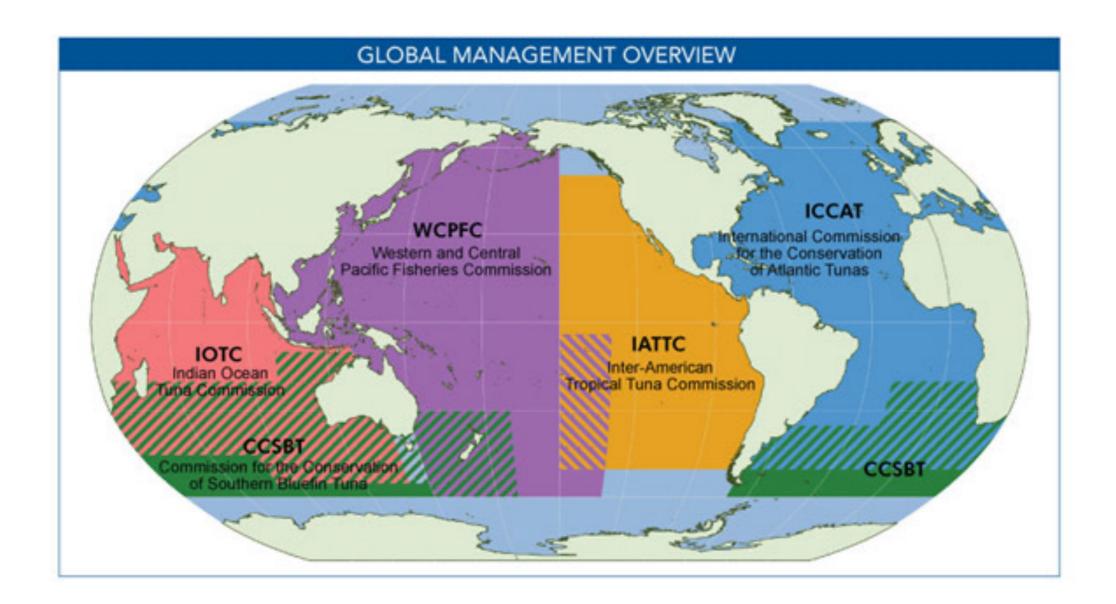
#### IFS: consistency with regulatory measures

Parties take into account whether or not the specimen are **acquired and landed**:

In a manner consistent with applicable measures under international law, e.g. other treaty, convention, agreement; and through any illegal, unreported or unregulated (IUU) fishing activity.

[Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16)]





### Take home messages

 (i) the concept of "incidental catch" or "bycatch". It makes no difference to CITES whether the specimen was caught intentionally or as by-catch. The CITES provisions on trade from ABNJ apply, irrespectively. In other words, there is no by-catch exemption in CITES;

(ii) Using the economic value of fisheries as the only indicator of prioritization as opposed to also focusing on environmental conservation concerns for the species and their role in the ocean ecosystem is not conducive for effective CITES implementation.



### Thank you for your attention!



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