

TRAFFIC Recommendations on the Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices at the 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Proposal #/ Proponent	Species covered by the proposal	Proposal	RECOMMENDATION
# 44  Brazil, Comoros, Croatia, Denmark* and Egypt	<i>Lamna nasus</i> Porbeagle Shark	Inclusion in Appendix II with the following annotation: The entry into effect of the inclusion of <i>Lamna nasus</i> in CITES Appendix II will be delayed by 18 months to enable Parties to resolve related technical and administrative issues	<p>The Porbeagle Shark, <i>Lamna nasus</i>, is widely distributed and its life history characteristics make it highly vulnerable to over-exploitation. This species has suffered declines as a direct result of long-term harvest for its highly valued meat and the species continues to be taken as a secondary catch, with both meat, and to a lesser extent fins, being retained for trade. Due to the serial depletion and closure of fisheries in the North Atlantic, Porbeagles in the Southern Hemisphere are likely to become more targeted to meet future demand. They are smaller, slower growing and longer lived than those in the North Atlantic, and are intrinsically more vulnerable to exploitation. These stocks are subject to fishing that is not regulated in at least some places.</p> <p>While some countries and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations have established regulations on the catch or finning of sharks, it is not clear how effective the implementation of these measures is or their measurable conservation benefits, particularly with regard to Porbeagle as its meat is the most highly valued product. Fins from the species are reported to be identifiable but, for the effective implementation of the listing, the degree to which it is possible by non-specialists needs to be clarified.</p> <p>The species appears to meet the criteria for Appendix II with regulation required to ensure the species does not become eligible for inclusion in Appendix I in the near future (<i>Resolution Conf. (Rev. CoP15) Annex 2a Criterion A</i>). There are cases of dramatic localized depletions of the species that would already appear to meet the decline criteria for inclusion in Appendix I.</p> <p><b>ACCEPT</b></p>