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Appendix 3

UPDATES TO INFORMATION RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REC. 12-05

Following a request from the Compliance Committee Chair and some CPCs, the responses by CPCs contained in the 2014 and 2015 Annual Reports (requirement SHK-7005) pursuant to *Recommendation by ICCAT on Compliance with Existing Measures on Shark Conservation and Management* [Rec. 12-05] were compiled and circulated. This document contains the information received in 2016 from CPCs.

(Annual Report requirement SHK-7005: All CPCs submit to the ICCAT Secretariat, in advance of the 2013 annual meeting, details of their implementation of and compliance with shark conservation and management measures (Recs. 04-10, 07-06, 09-07, 10-08, 10-07, 11-08 and 11-15).

CPC	Response
Albania	
Algeria	Not applicable. It should be noted that sharks, as referred to in requirements (7001 to 7004) are not targeted and traded in Algeria. However, we record some low levels of by-catch, with insignificant rates, yet which remain to be determined. Algeria has reported the catches for two shark species, thresher shark and blue shark.
Angola	
Barbados	In 2016 the Fisheries Division collaborated with the FAO in development of a draft National Plan of Action for the sharks. One of the immediate and valuable outputs of this endeavour was the production of an identification guide for Barbados Sharks and Rays. This document is a valuable tool in the efforts to improve data collection on landings of shark to the species level. A sample-based data collection programme to establish the species composition of the island's landings of sharks started in 2015 and is on-going.
Belize	Belize submits species specific shark data. Shark data reported in Task I and II submissions.
Brazil	
Canada	<p>As of 2014, there is no directed pelagic shark fishery in Canadian waters. The only retention of sharks is through bycatch. Historically, blue shark and shortfin mako have been strictly a bycatch of the Canadian swordfish and groundfish longline fisheries although small amounts are also landed from other fisheries. The bycatch of blue shark is larger than reported due to the live release of most incidental catches and some suspected unreported dead discards. A conservation plan for all shark species in Atlantic Canadian waters has been finalized and approved. The current management plan for porbeagle sharks has resulted in a significant allowable catch reduction for porbeagle (to 185 t) and the closure of the porbeagle mating grounds in order to facilitate stock rebuilding.</p> <p>All sharks landing information is provided to the Scientific Council through Task I and II data and reported in the Canadian National Report. Consistent with ICCAT requirements, licence conditions, prohibit harvesters from retaining the following shark species (bigeye thresher, hammerhead, oceanic whitetip, and silky sharks). Canada strictly prohibits shark finning and all</p>

	<p>landings are monitored at dockside by independent and certified agents to ensure that fins do not make up more than 5% of all sharks on board any vessel. White sharks can no longer be retained as by-catch by Canadian fishermen due to their listing under the Canadian Species at Risk Act.</p> <p>An active research and stock assessment program on large pelagic sharks is underway at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography. Most recently an analysis of discard mortality (capture and post-release) was conducted using results of 131 pop-up archival satellite tags (PSATs) applied to porbeagle, shortfin mako, and blue sharks.</p>
<p>Cabo Verde</p>	<p>The measures implemented for the conservation and management of sharks were published in the Biannual Plan for the Implementation of Fishery Resources (2014-2015). These measures establish the full usage of sharks caught, the prohibition of cutting fins on board vessels and the prohibition of fishing the following: whale shark, white shark, hammerhead shark, oceanic whitetip shark, basking shark, porbeagle and bigeye thresher shark.</p>
<p>China</p>	<p>In 2015, China organized two training course for all the Chinese tuna fishing companies regarding the most updated t-RFMO conservation and management measures and strengthen their compliance capacity and capacity-building. During the training course, they invited several international experts on seabird and sharks to give a lecture to the participant in order to get know-how for our fishing vessel to reduce by-catch. In doing so, raise the awareness of our fishing vessels to better protect by-catch such as seabird and sharks</p> <p>There are 100% observer coverage of fishing effort for Chinese tuna longline fishery targeting BFT and about 8.3% observer coverage for targeting BET. The data of target species and non-target species (sharks, sea turtles, and sea birds, especially), size frequency data, and disposition status were collected during the observation</p> <p>The Recommendation 14-06 was translated into Chinese and sent all the fishing companies whose vessel operating in ICCAT waters to let them know the updated ICCAT requirements on shortfin mako sharks.</p> <p>Shortfin mako and silky sharks posters were distributed to each fishing vessels to help vessel captain recognized accurately shortfin mako shark in order to avoid the risk mixing shortfin mako shark with other sharks and also increase the accurate rate of catch information.</p> <p>Observers will also assist to recognize shortfin mako shark. Any catch or release for this shark will be recorded in observer report. When releasing sharks, the observer will also help to ensure the maximum survival on the condition of protecting safety of observer and crews, the release status must be recorded.</p> <p>Circle hooks and monofilament branch line are encouraged to be used in the longline fishing gears. Alive shortfin mako are encouraged to release unharmed immediately if captured and must record the release status in the logbook.</p> <p>A national-level training course was held in 2015 at Shang Hai Ocean University which international shark expert was invited to China to give lecture regarding the shark resource, shark identification, RFMOs (ICCAT included) measures on shark as well as how to protect global sharks species, in doing so, raising the awareness of our fishing manager and fisherman to better protect sharks, including shortfin mako and silky sharks.</p>

	<p>Silky shark catch is prohibited for retaining on board, transshipping or landing. All the fishing vessels operating in ICCAT are required to release all silky sharks whether dead or alive and must record its status when releasing it in the logbook. The observer on board the vessel also needs to record the number of discards and release of silky sharks with indication of status.</p> <p>All the shark related Recommendations were translated into Chinese and distributed to fishing vessel owner. And these Recommendations was transposed into domestic regulation by issuing a legal-binding Ministerial-level Notification on Compliance with t-RFMO conservation and management measures which explicitly specified the prohibition to fish, retain, transship, land and store of the four shark species in ICCAT waters.</p> <p>We have made great effort to mitigate the shark by-catch. Key sharks species Poster are prepared and circulated to each vessel to facilitate fisherman to identify shark species, especially bigeye thresher shark, hammerhead shark, silky shark and whitetip shark which prohibit to retain onboard, transship, land, store and sell. Training sessions are made to abide by Recommendations for sharks each year (04-10, 07-06, 09-07, 10-08, 11-08 and 11-15).</p> <p>Besides, scientific observers also monitored effectiveness of conservation of sharks according to their records. Observers will also assist to recognize shark species. Any catch or release for shark will be recorded in observer report. When releasing sharks, the observer will also help to ensure the maximum survival on the condition of protecting safety of observer and crews, the release status must be recorded.</p> <p>A new version logbook is used from 2015 which include more by-catch species and fishing effort information, including shark species which may catch in the three oceans.</p> <p>In addition, in 2014, the BOF and the Endangered Species Import & Export Management Office of China jointly issued the Notification on compliance with sharks and manta rays, which stipulate that a CITES import/export license is a must when import, export or re-export the sharks listed in the Appendix II of CITES, include hammerhead shark, oceanic whitetip shark, porbeagle.</p> <p>Especially, we invited shark expert and scientist from t-RFMO (WCPFC) to give a lecture to our fishing manager and conducted training course to all the tuna fishing vessel owners on 29-30 of October, 2015 at Shang Hai Ocean University. The content of training course include how to identify different shark species, shark resource, shark conservation and management measures in all the RFMOs, the method to reduce and release shark when caught incidentally, in doing so, raising the awareness of our fishing manager and fisherman to better protect sharks, including shortfin mako sharks.</p> <p>Regarding sharks, we strictly observe related Recommendation which stipulates that fins do not exceed 5% of the shark weight on board up to the first point of landing. We also observe other shark-related Recommendations, especially the four shark species which prohibit to retain on board, transship, land, store by issuing a mandatory notification to every fishing company.</p>
<p>Côte d'Ivoire</p>	<p>For the purposes of having reliable data, at least 2/3 of the canoes landed at each site will be investigated from Thursday to Saturday. Data obtained randomly shall be collected at landings by fishers at the quayside or on stalls, minimizing disruptions to sales. The date of the investigation and duration of the trip (time of departure and return) shall be noted. The geographical coordinates shall be determined for each vessel using GPS so as to map fishing</p>

	<p>grounds. The gear types used shall be noted. The fish landed shall be identified on a species-specific level using identification keys. Since sampling size is often large, the weight and length frequency of each species are often difficult to obtain before landings and sales have ended. Other than very large species which require scales to be used because of their size, all the fish shall be measured to the centimetre below and weighed. Only the total and standard fork lengths shall be determined for these species. For this purpose, a retractable band shall be applied to the flank of the fish from the tip of the upper jaw to the base of the caudal fin (standard length) or to the tip of the caudal fin (total length). The sexes and the maturity stages shall be determined for each species morphologically. The length-weight relationships and the (a) and (b) parameters shall be determined for the specimens which have in turn been measured and weighed. These parameters shall be determined by sex and by both sexes combined. For large specimens, the lengths shall be converted into weight based on the length-weight relationship contained in literature.</p> <p>In addition, two gears are used by artisanal fishers operating more offshore. Drift gillnets and longlines catch a large quantity of sharks. However, to date, statistics are produced globally, taking in account the two fishing gears. A study of the characteristics of this offshore artisanal fishery shall enable improvement of data.</p>
<p>Curaçao</p>	<p>Purse seiners are instructed to free any incidental catch of sharks alive if possible. Non entangling FADs are being used by the fleet.</p>
<p>Egypt</p>	
<p>El Salvador</p>	<p>Not applicable: El Salvador does not have any vessels targeting sharks in the ICCAT Convention area and by-catch is discarded dead or alive. Moreover, El Salvador is part of a Regional Agreement of Central America prohibiting shark finning and trade.</p>
<p>European Union</p>	<p>Council Regulation ((EU) No 2015/104 of 19 January 2015 (TAC & Quota) prohibits catches of several sharks (<i>Lamna nasus</i>, <i>Alopias spp</i>, <i>Sphyrnidae</i> (exception of <i>Sphyrna tiburo</i>), <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>, <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>); landing inspections of longliners.</p> <p>Malta</p> <p>No fisheries targeting sharks are present in Malta. Information on any by-catches is collected and reported in Task I and II datasheets.</p> <p>Various shark species are recognised for their conservation importance and subject to management measures under national law by Legal Notice 311 of 2006 under Schedule VI and VIII. Among others, these include the following species:</p> <p>Great White Shark (<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>), Basking Shark (<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>), Thresher Shark (<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>), Shortfin Mako Shark (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>), Porbeagle Shark (<i>Lamna nasus</i>), Sand Tiger Shark (<i>Carcharias taurus</i>), Spinner Shark (<i>Carcharhinus brevipinna</i>), Blacktip Shark (<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>), Sandbar Shark (<i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i>), Blue Shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>), Tope Shark (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>), Bluntnose Sixgill Shark (<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>), Angel Shark (<i>Squatina squatina</i>).</p>

	<p>The national legislative framework governing fisheries management is established under Chapter 425 of the Laws of Malta.</p> <p>Portugal Prohibition of catches (TAC and Quota regulation) of several sharks (<i>Lamna nasus</i>, <i>Alopias spp</i>, <i>Sphyrnidae</i> (exception of <i>Sphyrna tiburo</i>), <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>, <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>); landing inspections of longliners.</p> <p>Spain What is stipulated in all recommendations is included in the structure of surface longline vessel activity. These vessels are the only vessels that can catch pelagic shark species (except for prohibited species) in Spain.</p> <p>UK EU Control Measures are implemented into UK law by ‘The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009’. EU Conservation Measures are implemented into UK law by this Act as are other enforceable Community restrictions relating to sea fishing.</p> <p>Cyprus No pelagic shark-specific fisheries exist in Cyprus and shark catches are generally insignificant. Any potential by-catch is returned to the sea unharmed whenever possible. Information on such by-catches is collected and reported through Tasks I & II.</p> <p>France A summary of the active regulation as well as a summary table is available at: http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Raie-et-requin.html</p> <p>Croatia No fisheries targeting sharks are present in Croatia and no by-catches were recorded in 2015.</p> <p>In addition, nature protection legislation on national level (Act on nature protection (OG No 80/2013 and the Ordinance on establishing the protected and strictly protected species (OG No 144/2013)) has put under strict protection the total of 23 cartilaginous fish species.</p> <p>The Netherlands</p> <p>In 2014, the Netherlands started the national plan of action for conservation and management of shark stocks, with regards to shark and rays in the North Sea. This plan of action falls under the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive and will be concluded before 2016. As a second step in 2015 the Netherlands has initiated a shark and ray strategy for shark and ray management that also includes management strategies in the Dutch Caribbean waters and at internal levels. This shark and ray strategy is not yet concluded. However one of the major actions are already implemented, namely the opening of a shark sanctuary in the Dutch Caribbean waters, in the EEZ of the islands of Saba and Bonaire.</p>
<p>France</p>	<p>FRSPM did not catch any sharks in 2015. Owners were made aware.</p> <p>FRSPM did not make identification sheets, however information was distributed with the help of ICCAT sheets (sharks) and the owners were made aware of other by-catch.</p>
<p>Gabon</p>	

<p>Ghana</p>	<p>In accordance with Recommendation 04-10; 07-06; 11-08 where applicable sharks catches from the artisanal and purse seine fleets were reported to ICCAT (Task I, II). A total of approximately 950 t of sharks (excluding rays skates and other elasmobranchs) were harvested in 2015 by the artisanal fleet and consumed locally. Over 40% of locally caught sharks (by weight) were blue shark with others such as hammerhead shark and others grouped together as lesser-known sharks. No porbeagle nor whitetip sharks were caught as they do not inhabit our waters in the East Central Atlantic. According to observers at sea, a few silky sharks (brown sharks) were caught by purse seiners and mostly released alive. Over 40 t of sharks were estimated and retained on board whilst majority of sharks were released alive. There are no bycatch nor discards in the shark fishery in Ghana.</p>
<p>Guatemala</p>	
<p>Guinea Equatorial</p>	<p>The Ministry of Fisheries and Environment is conducting an awareness campaign for industrial and artisanal fishermen regarding the importance of the marine ecosystem, whereby the Decree to prohibit catches of threatened species is underlined; the catalogues of the four shark species, included in ICCAT Rec. 12-05 on the conservation and management of sharks, are required. These would assist fishermen to become more familiar with the images, allowing them to identify species more easily. We also suggested distributing this catalogue to all fishermen and data collection agents if the organization assists us.</p>
<p>Guinea Rep.</p>	
<p>Honduras</p>	
<p>Iceland</p>	<p>Dead discards of commercial species banned on the Icelandic fleet, all catches to be recorded in logbooks and landed. Species that ICCAT Rec stipulate no retention, sale or landing are to be submitted to the Marine Research Institute for scientific purposes.</p>
<p>Japan</p>	<p>Japan submitted Task I and Task II data on 31/7/2016. Japan requires its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels to retain all the parts of sharks on board until landing by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Fisheries inspection officers have been checking all the documents on shark landings from large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels, together with random monitoring at Japanese ports. Japan encourages its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the Atlantic Ocean to release live sharks, especially juveniles, to the extent possible, that are caught incidentally and are not used for food and/or subsistence. No Japanese tuna longline vessels are targeting porbeagle and North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks.</p> <p>Also, Japan has prohibited its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels from retaining porbeagle by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Japan has prohibited its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels from retaining Bigeye thresher sharks by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Japan requires its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the Atlantic Ocean to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, bigeye thresher sharks when brought along side for taking on board the vessel, by the Notice of Director of Fisheries Management Division of FAJ.</p>

	<p>Japan has prohibited its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels from retaining oceanic whitetip sharks by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Japan has prohibited its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels from retaining hammerhead sharks by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Japan requires its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the Atlantic Ocean to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, hammerhead sharks when brought alongside the vessel, by the Notice of Director of Fisheries Management Division of FAJ.</p> <p>Japan has prohibited its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels from retaining silky shark by the Ministerial Order.</p> <p>Japan requires its large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels operating in the Atlantic Ocean to promptly release silky sharks unharmed, to the extent practicable, when brought alongside the vessel by the Notice of Director of Fisheries Management Division of FAJ.</p>
Korea	<p>In accordance with Korea’s Distant Sea Fisheries Act (2008), fishing vessels should be compliant of all compulsory conservation and management measures including sharks-related measures adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. Through the recent revision of data collection regulations entered into force as of 5 December 2012, shark by species have been collected and reported due to the introduction of new logsheets in electronic format. Otherwise, they should be punished depending on the gravity of non-compliance.</p>
Liberia	<p>In the preparatory stage. Committee has been established to prepare detail plans.</p>
Libya	<p>Libya is in the process of implementing legislation to adopt these recommendations</p>
Mauritania	
Mexico	<p>To reduce the fishing mortality of thresher shark populations (<i>Alopias spp.</i>), a maximum allowable limit of 45 effort units for the tuna longline fishery was established in Article 4.3 of the Official Mexican Regulation NOM-023-SAG/PESC-2014, which regulates the exploitation of tuna species using longline vessels in waters under federal jurisdiction of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. This amount is revised periodically based on the results of scientific and technological research regarding the development of the fishery.</p> <p>Mexico has complied with the ICCAT SCRS recommendations concerning the conservation of bigeye thresher sharks (<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>), with the use of research programmes carried out by the National Fisheries Institute (<i>Instituto Nacional de Pesca</i>), as well as the control of statistics on catches obtained through the on board observers programme and the logbook information of the producers themselves. With this information there is progress as regards to establishing the baseline for the distribution and abundance status of these species to establish management measures for their protection.</p> <p>In Mexico the sustainable use of harvested species of sharks is regulated by the <i>Norma Oficial Mexicana</i> NOM-029-PESC-2006, “Responsible fishing for sharks and rays”. Exploitation specifications, aimed at the conservation and protection of elasmobranchs and other by-catch species.</p>

	<p>In Mexico the sustainable exploitation of shark species caught is regulated by the <i>Norma Oficial Mexicana</i> NOM-029-PESC-2006, “Responsible fishing for sharks and rays”. Exploitation specifications, aimed at the conservation and protection of elasmobranchs and other by-catch species. Consequently, these measures were included in the <i>Norma Oficial Mexicana</i> NOM-029-PESC-2006 and the update of the <i>Norma Oficial Mexicana</i> NOM-023-PESC-1996, which regulates the exploitation of tuna species by longline vessels in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.</p>
Morocco	<p>Follow-up of the shark fishing activity (logbook), identification of fleet targeting these species, traceability, breakdown of shark landings by species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A draft plan for the conservation of shark species is in the process of being developed and whereby the terms will be developed into Ministerial Decree.
Namibia	<p>There is need for improvement on this. Although the sharks landed were reported in Task I data sent on 25/07/16, no Task II was reported due to lack of sampling by on board observers. Action to be taken to address this includes conducting training and refresher course for on board observers and Fisheries Inspectors. ICCAT assistance on training of observers and Inspectors on how to sample sharks and prevent targeting of prohibited species would also be crucial.</p>
Nicaragua	
Nigeria	<p>Nigerian fisheries inspectors were trained recently by ICCAT/CITES on sharks species identification and data collection and should be able to handle it appropriately.</p>
Norway	<p>According to paragraph 1 in Recommendation 11-08 on the Conservation of Silky Sharks caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries, CPCs shall require fishing vessels flying their flag and operating in ICCAT managed fisheries to release all silky sharks whether dead or alive, and prohibit retaining on board, transshipping, or landing any part or whole carcass of silky shark. However, this prohibition on retention does not apply to CPCs whose domestic law requires that all dead fish be landed, that the fishermen cannot draw any commercial profit from such fish and that includes a prohibition against silky shark fisheries, cf. paragraph 6 of Recommendation 11-08. Silky sharks do normally not occur in Norwegian waters.</p> <p>In addition, there is a general requirement following from the Norwegian Marine Resources Act (Section 15) and the Regulations relating to Seawater Fisheries (Section 48) that all dead fish be landed. Hence, in order to be in line with Recommendation 11-08, a prohibition against silky shark fisheries has been included in the Norwegian regulation prohibiting fisheries for basking shark, spiny dogfish and porbeagle. Furthermore, bycatches of basking shark, porbeagle and silky shark shall be returned to the sea if they are capable of surviving, and all catches shall be reported. The regulations prohibiting fisheries of basking shark, porbeagle, spiny dogfish and silky shark are laid down under the Marine Resources Act, and the value of catches harvested or delivered in contravention of provisions laid down in or under this act, accrue to the appropriate sales organization or to the state. Hence, the fishermen cannot draw commercial profit from landings of silky shark.</p>
Panama	
Philippines	

Russia	Not applicable
Sao Tomé & Príncipe	
Senegal	<p>Shark management can no longer be limited to the area of a country, hence the establishment of sub-regional management of shark resources to ensure the visibility of the activities of national shark plans under the auspices of the FAO. Implementation of a policy to retrain stakeholders in the artisanal fishery related to shark fisheries.</p> <p>Periodic suspension of shark catches.</p>
Sierra Leone	
South Africa	
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	
Syria	
Trinidad and Tobago	<p>The FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries have entered into an agreement for the elaboration of a National Plan of Action-Sharks. National consultations were held in September 2016 and the NPOA-Sharks is expected to be completed in February 2017.</p>
Tunisia	Non applicable
Turkey	<p>Catching, retaining on board, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale the following shark species have been prohibited within the framework of Notification No. 4/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (2016-2020);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sandbar Shark (<i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i>) - Basking Shark (<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>) - Tope Shark (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>) - Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>) - Piked/Spiny Dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)
UK (OT)	<p>All shark catches are reported in task I and II data as per rec. 4-10. Catches of Silky, Porbeagle, Oceanic Whitetip or Thresher Sharks were not reported in 2015. These species are rarely caught, and only as bycatch.</p> <p>The terms and conditions of the one Bermudian longline vessel licence stipulate that the handling of bycatch and discards must be ICCAT compliant. In practice, the longliner releases most sharks.</p>
Uruguay	<p>All statistics on sharks caught in Uruguay's longline fisheries are reported in Task I and Task II statistical data. Likewise, all the recommendations have been incorporated in the national fishery regulation. These recommendations which prohibit retaining shark species were included in Uruguay's 2015 PAN-Constrictiois update. Furthermore, through an Executive Decree (No. 67/013 of 22 February 2013), Uruguay prohibits retaining on board, transshipping, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale any part or whole carcass of sharks (<i>Lamna nasus</i>) which are caught.</p>
United States of America	<p>The United States continues to fulfil the requirements of ICCAT's shark recommendations through data collection programs and domestic management measures including a requirement for all sharks to be landed</p>

	<p>with their fins naturally attached. The United States has catch limits in place for all federally managed shark species, including Atlantic porbeagle, shortfin mako, and blue sharks and will continue to submit catch and effort data for sharks to ICCAT. The United States also has measures to prohibit harvest of bigeye thresher sharks in all ICCAT fisheries and fully implements and complies with the requirements of Rec. 10-07 and 10-08, which prohibit retaining, transshipping, landing, storing, or selling hammerhead sharks in the family Sphyrnidae (except for <i>Sphyrna tiburo</i>) and oceanic whitetip sharks (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>), respectively, as well as silky sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries, per Rec. 11-08. For more information, see Appendix I of their Annual Report.</p>
<p>Vanuatu</p>	<p>The Fisheries Bill was tabled in 2014 and Vanuatu has prescribed in detail, a regulation on the management of sharks. Vanuatu now has a Shark Management Plan and also there are definite plans to have observer coverage from 2014/2015 on all Vanuatu fishing vessels to improve the verification of fishing operations in so far as shark catches are concerned.</p>
<p>Venezuela</p>	<p>As regards shark conservation measures, on 19 June 2012, Resolution DM/N062-2012 was published to regulate the capture, exchange, distribution, trade and transport of sharks. This established, among other measures, the prohibition of all fishing vessels from catching bigeye thresher shark species (<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>) and oceanic whitetip (<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>) and for industrial fishing vessels to catch silky sharks species (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>) and those species belonging to the family Sphyrnidae (hammerhead sharks). From January 2013, this regulation was enforced.</p>
<p>Bolivia</p>	
<p>Chinese Taipei</p>	<p>Education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) To disseminate the information on conservation of incidental catch species, in recent year pamphlets and leaflets were distributed to fishermen, fishery industries and domestic conservation groups for promoting the concept of conservation of sea turtle, seabird and sharks. b) To ensure the people in the industry sector better understand the recommendations on management and conservation adopted by ICCAT, the Fisheries Agency convened seminars of propagandas for introducing new measures and explaining the way for the effective implementation of such measures, including measures to reduce incidental catch of sea turtle, seabird and sharks. <p>Mandatory measure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) For consideration of the safety of crew members and conservation of shark species, fishermen are required to release all live sharks incidentally caught to reduce the mortality of shark species. b) Ban on specific sharks: Fishermen were required to prohibit catching and possessing bigeye thresher sharks (since 2010), hammerhead shark (since 2011), oceanic whitetip shark (since 2011) and silky sharks (since 2012). Any by-catch of such shark species shall be released and recorded on the catch logbook. c) On a voluntary basis, we adopted the policy on “fins attached” aimed at tuna-fishing vessels to further carry out the full utilization of shark. <p>Data collection:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Observers were placed on distant water tuna longline vessels since 2002 to record: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the length, species and related information of incidental catch; ii. the number of discards and releases of specific sharks with indication of status (dead or alive);

	<p>iii. interactions by sea turtle species, and the nature of the hooking, bait type, hook size and type, and the size of the animal.</p> <p>b) Fishermen were required to duly record the following data on catch logbook:</p> <p>i. incidental catches of sharks as well as live releases.</p>
Suriname	<p>In compliance with shark conservation and management measures all foreign flagged vessels have to land their sharks with the fins attached, they may also slice the fins half-off and attached it to the body of the shark or fins should not total more than 5% of the weight of the sharks on board. The Masters of these vessels are also been provided with a card with pictures of sharks that are prohibited to catch, have on board or to land.</p>
Guyana	<p>Over the years it was difficult to record shark caught by species. The Fisheries Department has noted the challenges and sought technical assistance from external organizations (FAO and CRFM) to address the issue of identification of dressed sharks. Some of species identified when landed whole are hammerhead, tiger, blacktip, sand and Caribbean sharpnose what is known locally as waterbelly shark.</p> <p>Moreso, the department is working continuously on improving its database and statistical reports and has used data from the monthly sampling program. Fishers were encouraged through a sensitization program to fill logs accurately on each trip. The Fisheries Department has made it mandatory for owners of licenced processing plants to fill logbooks and submit to the department every month.</p>