漁農自然護理署



九龍長沙灣道三零三號 長沙灣政府合署六樓

本署檔號 OUR REF.: (11) in AF CON 07/24 part 9 通函編號 CIRCULAR NO.: ES 02/04 來函檔號 YOUR REF.: 電 話 TEL NO.: (852) 2150 6980 電 郵 E-mail: hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk 圖文傳真 Faxline No.: (852) 2376 3749

20 April 2004

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

6/F, Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices, 303 Cheung Sha Wan Road,

Kowloon, Hong Kong

Dear Sir/Madam,

<u>Amendment to the Schedules to the</u> <u>Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance, Cap.187</u> Commencement Notice

Further to the circular letter No. ES 01/04 of 29 January 2004 issued by this department concerning the amendment to the Schedules to the Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance, pleased be informed that the new control will commence on 1 June 2004 which was published in the Gazette on 19 March 2004.

Upon the commencement of the new control, the trade in the species newly listed under Cap.187 will be subject to licensing control. Under the Ordinance, import, export or possession of endangered species, including their parts and derivatives, requires a licence issued in advance by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. Offenders will be prosecuted.

Please note that exemption from licensing requirement for the possession of certain species, including Whale Shark, Basking Shark, Seahorses (excluding live animals) and Bigleaf Mahogany, has been provided for under the subject legislative amendment. To allow for the re-export of existing stock of these species after the commencement of the new control, traders are required to declare to the department their stock before 1 June 2004.

For newly controlled species which exemption from the requirement of a possession licence is not provided for, such as live Seahorses and some freshwater turtles, a licence for the possession of the existing stock must be obtained from this department within the grace period which ends on 31 August 2004.

Details of the amendments are published in the Gazette of 21 January 2004. You can also browse our website at <u>www.cites.org.hk</u>.

Should you have any queries, please contact our Mr. K. W. Wong at 2150 6969.

Yours faithfully,

(C.S.CHEUNG)

for Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation