**What is CITES?**

CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is a treaty that regulates international trade in wild species. It aims to ensure that international trade does not threaten the survival of endangered species.

**CITES Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora**

The CITES Convention aims to regulate international trade in endangered species to protect wildlife from exploitation. It requires countries to control the import and export of their native wildlife. A variety of species are protected, including marine animals, reptiles, fish, and birds. The Convention is regulated by the CITES Management Authority, which oversees the implementation of the Convention's rules.

**CITES Species**

The Convention includes species that are protected by law or are subject to trade restrictions. These species are listed in the CITES Appendices, which are divided into three categories: Appendix I, II, and III.

- **Appendix I**: Species that are threatened with extinction and require immediate protection.
- **Appendix II**: Species that are not threatened with extinction but may be at risk in the future.
- **Appendix III**: Species that are not threatened with extinction but may be at risk in the future and are subject to protection by the Parties to the Convention.

**What is a CITES Appendix?**

A CITES Appendix is a list of species protected under the Convention. Species listed in Appendix I are subject to the most stringent controls, while those listed in Appendix III are subject to less stringent controls.

**How is CITES implemented in Hong Kong?**

Hong Kong is a Party to the CITES Convention and implements its provisions through the CITES Management Authority (CMA). The CMA regulates the import and export of wildlife and ensures that the trade in these species is conducted in accordance with the Convention.

**Penalties for Non-compliance**

Penalties for non-compliance with the Convention and its Appendices may include fines and imprisonment. The Convention is enforced by the authorities in the countries that are Parties to it.

**Transporting endangered species**

- **What is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)?**
- **What is a CITES Appendix?**
- **What is a CITES species?**
- **What are the penalties for non-compliance with CITES?**

**Transporting endangered species**

In Hong Kong, the importation of Appendix I species is strictly regulated. Without a permit, importing Appendix I species is an offense and can result in fines and imprisonment. The Hong Kong government enforces CITES regulations to protect endangered species.