漁農自然護理署
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長沙灣政府合署六樓

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
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25 September 2014

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Amendments to the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance

Further to our circular letter No. ES02/13 of 10 May 2013 concerning the amendments to Appendices I and II as adopted at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES[1], I write to inform you of the corresponding legislative amendments made to the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586 ("the Ordinance"). The legislative amendments also include 1) some endangered species that have been added to Appendix III to CITES, 2) amendments to annotations, and (3) amendments to Convention Instruments and Exemption Order.

The amendments were published in the Gazette on 27 June 2014 and the new controls will come into operation on **28 November 2014**. Please refer to the Gazette (http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20141826/es22014182697.pdf and http://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20141826/es22014182698.pdf) for details of the amendments. Amendments regarding the endangered species scheduled to the Ordinance are summarized in Annex I which could be found at the following link: http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_end/files/ES0214_annexI.pdf. Examples of newly scheduled species include five species of sharks (Oceanic whitetip, Scalloped hammerhead, Great hammerhead, Smooth hammerhead and Porbeagle), Manta rays, some species of rosewoods, ebonies, turtles and tortoises.

When the above new controls take effect, all newly scheduled species will be subject to licensing control. According to the Ordinance, unless exempted or otherwise specified, the import, introduction from the sea, export, re-export or possession of endangered species, whether alive, dead, its parts or derivatives, requires a licence issued in advance by this department.

Traders in possession of stock of the newly scheduled Appendix II or III species (see Tables 1 and 2 of Annex I) for commercial purposes are required to declare to this department their stock by filling in **Annex II** attached and returning it to this department on or before **27 November 2014** if: 1) the concerned specimens may be exported/re-exported after the new controls take effect; or 2) the concerned specimens are live specimens of wild origin of newly scheduled Appendix II species.

Specimens of the newly scheduled species legally acquired before first date of CITES listing, with evidence that proves to the satisfaction of this department, will be regarded as "pre-Convention" and could be traded as such in future. Please refer to Annex I for the concerned first date of CITES listing.

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[1] Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora