漁農自然護理署
九龍長沙灣道三零三號
長沙灣政府合署五樓

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
5/F Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices,
303 Cheung Sha Wan Road,
Kowloon, Hong Kong

本署檔號 Our Ref. : AF CON 07/24
通函編號 Circular No. : ES 04/26
傳真號碼 Fax. No. : (852) 2377 4413
電子郵件 E-mail : hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk

30 October 2026

Dear Sir/ Madam,

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

Further to our circular letter No. ES01/26 of 29 January 2026 concerning the amendments adopted at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, I write to inform you that corresponding legislative amendments have been made to the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586 ("the Ordinance"). The legislative amendments also include amendments to the listing of Appendix III species and Convention Instruments.

Amendment to the Ordinance

The amendments were published in the Gazette on 16 October 2026 and the new controls will become effective on **31 December 2026***. Please refer to the Gazette for details of the amendments: -

Website: https://egazette.gld.gov.hk/en/list-of-gazette/result/3772/ls2
(Issue Number: 123)

Examples of newly scheduled species in this legislative amendment exercise include a number of species of sharks, sea cucumber, wood and ornamental plants, etc. Please refer to our website at www.cites.hk (under What's New) or the link below for the list of the adopted amendments to the appendices:

www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_end/files/ES04_26_Annex.pdf

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.

Application of Licence to Possess and Declaration of Stock

Traders in possession for commercial purposes of stock of the following specimens must obtained a Licence to Possess from this Department within the 3-month grace period which ends on **30 March 2027**:

* The effective date of the inclusion of Epirus water frog, Pool frog, Lake frog, Albanian water frog, School shark, Smoothhounds, Gulper sharks and Golden sandfish are delayed until 5 June 2027.

1) live specimens of wild origin of newly scheduled Appendix II species that were legally acquired on or after 5 March 2026; or
2) specimens of newly scheduled Appendix I species that were legally acquired on or after 5 March 2026; or
3) legally acquired specimens of species transferred from Appendix II to Appendix I; or
4) legally acquired live specimens of wild origin of species transferred from Appendix III to Appendix II.

In addition, if you are in possession of any "pre-Convention" stock of newly listed species whose effective date of inclusion will be delayed*, please complete and submit the attached declaration form of Circular No. ES01/26 issued on 29 January 2026 to this Department. The completed form may be returned by email, fax, or post to declare such stock, so that possession, export, or re-export of the relevant items may be permitted once the amendments to the Ordinance come into force. Upon receipt of the declaration, this Department will arrange for inspection of the declared stock.

Briefing Session

This Department will be organising a briefing session on **4 December 2026** to introduce the amendments to relevant parties. If you are interested, please return the attached reply slip by the following e-form, email (hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk) or fax (2376 3749) by **27 November 2026** to facilitate our arrangements. Please make sure that your email address is correct and stay tuned to our email confirmation.

E-form: https://bit.ly/3tp38wG

Important Dates

Important date	**Event**
27 November 2026	Deadline for registration of briefing sessions
4 December 2026	Briefing session
31 December2026	New controls take effect
30 March 2027	End of grace period for obtaining Licence to Possess under new controls

If you have any enquiries regarding this letter, please contact us by e-mail at hk_cites@afcd.gov.hk, by fax at 2376 3749 or contact our officers listed below:

For enquiries about animals – Ms. Bo Bo Koh (Tel. 2150 6969)
For enquiries about plants – Mr. Kinson Chan (Tel. 2150 6968)

Yours faithfully,

(Timothy LAM)
for Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

回條/Reply Slip

九龍長沙灣道三零三號
長沙灣政府合署
漁農自然護理署
瀕危物種保護科
盧家華先生

傳真號碼：2376 3749

Endangered Species Protection Division
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices
303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon,
Attn: Mr. George LO

Fax : 2376 3749

《保護瀕危動植物物種條例》修訂簡介會
Briefing Sessions on the Legislative Amendments to the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance

本公司將會派員出席以下簡介會:

Representatives of my company will attend the following session:

日期 Date ：4/12/2026
地點 Venue ：九龍培正道 5 號九龍公共圖書館 8 樓推廣活動室
Extension Activities Room, 8/F, Kowloon Public Library, 5 Pui Ching Road, Kowloon

	時間 Time	相關行業 Relevant trade	受影響物種或貨品例子 Examples of affected species or products
☐	上午 11:00 a.m. – 下午 12:00 p.m.	寵物 Pets	雀鳥、蜥蜴、蛇、蛙、蜘蛛等 Birds, lizards, snakes, frogs, spiders etc.
☐	下午 2:00 p.m. – 下午 3:00 p.m.	海味乾貨及中醫藥 Dried marine products & Chinese medicine	魚翅、膨魚鰓、海參、賽加羚羊角等 Shark fins, gill plates, sea cucumbers, saiga horns etc.
☐	下午 3:15 p.m. – 下午 4:15 p.m.	保健品、觀賞植物、樂器及其他 Supplements, ornamental plants, musical instruments & others	鯊魚肝油、印度沒藥樹、智利椰子、鐵甲丸、巴西蘇木等 Shark liver oil, Indian bdellium, Chilean palm, cycad spurge, brazilwood etc.

請在適當方格內填上「✓」號
Please tick the appropriate box

姓名/Name: _____

公司名稱/Company name: _____

聯絡地址/Corresponding address: _____

電話/Telephone No.: _____ 傳真/Fax: _____

電郵/Email (必填)*: _____ 出席人數/No. of participant*: _____

日期/Date: _____ 簽名/Signature: _____

*因場地所限，簡介會將設人數上限，每間公司最多可由兩位人士代表出席。本署會以先到先得的準則安排座位。視乎報名情況，本署不保證能滿足有關出席人數要求。請確保電郵地址正確並留意本署的報名確認通知。

*In view of the size of venue, a limit will be imposed on the number of participants to the briefing sessions. Each company shall only arrange at most 2 participants to attend the session. Seats will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis. We do not guarantee that we can arrange seats for the requested number of participants. Please make sure your email address is correct and stay tuned to our email confirmation.