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## **Annex 1**

### **Criteria for Designating “World Heritage Species” (May 4, 2005)**

#### **Goal**

The goal of designating a species as “World Heritage Species” is to conserve species of outstanding universal value to humankind through effective conservation and management.

#### **Definition**

“Species” means any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population of a species.

#### **Criteria**

- A. A species that has outstanding universal value to humankind qualifies as a World Heritage Species. Species of outstanding universal value to humankind are:
  1. Species that have a significant connection or relationship to humans. A significant connection or relationship to humans means that:
    - a. a species has at least one of the following values:
      - i. cultural,
      - ii. religious,
      - iii. medicinal,
      - iv. social,
      - v. evolutionary,
      - vi. traditional, or
      - vii. survival, and
    - b. the loss of the species would constitute an impoverishment of the heritage of humankind.
  2. Species that have a significant connection or relationship to global biodiversity. A significant connection or relationship to global biodiversity can mean that:
    - a. a species has at least one of the following values:

- i. ecological,
    - ii. biological, or
    - iii. genetic value or
    - iv. other values that warrant international protection; and
  - b. the loss of the species would constitute an impoverishment of the world's biological heritage.
- B. If a Party or Parties wishes to list a species, it must submit a proposal to the "Bureau" (to named otherwise and defined elsewhere, but likely to meet between general sessions) for review. The proposal must include:
  - 1. the name of the species to be listed;
  - 2. any relevant information, demonstrating that the species is of outstanding universal value;
  - 3. the goals to be achieved by listing the species; and
  - 4. a draft implementation plan for accomplishing the goals described in (3), above.
- C. Once a species is listed, the proponent Party or Parties must develop an Implementation Plan that describes the steps to be taken domestically and internationally to conserve and, if warranted, sustainably use the listed species.
  - 1. The Implementation Plan should include:
    - a. conservation goals and actions that identify and address the threats to the species;
    - b. domestic legislation providing for the conservation of the species through protection and management and, if warranted, sustainable use;
    - c. actions taken and to be taken to adopt and implement appropriate international conventions and programs in ways meaningful to the conservation of the listed species;
    - d. engagement of international bodies or networks for capacity-building, training, financial assistance, or any other aid;
    - e. habitat protection;
    - f. measures for achieving coordination with local communities, local support for the management plan;
    - g. timeframes for achieving the Implementation Plan; and
    - h. goals to educate and increase awareness of the significance of the species.

2. A Party or Parties may consult with any organizations, institutions, or the Bureau to develop the Implementation Plan and to secure funding for its implementation.
- D. Once a species is listed, the proponent Party or Parties must submit to the Bureau annual reports on implementation of the Implementation Plan and the status of the species.
  - E. If the Implementation Plan is not completed within six months or annual reports are not received for two consecutive years, the Bureau will investigate the cause of nonsubmission and work with the noncomplying Party to submit the necessary management plan or reports.
  - F. If a Party continues to fail to submit its management plan after the above process, then the Bureau will investigate whether the World Heritage Species designation is warranted.