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**LIMITE**

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### **LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP20) (Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 24 November – 5 December 2025)

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2025/...**

of ...

**on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union  
at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
to the Convention on International Trade  
in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP20)  
(Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 24 November – 5 December 2025)**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 192(1), in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)<sup>1</sup> to which the Union acceded by Council Decision (EU) 2015/451<sup>2</sup> entered into force on 1 July 1975.
- (2) Pursuant to Article XI(3) of CITES, the Conference of the Parties may, inter alia, adopt decisions to amend the Appendices to CITES.
- (3) The Conference of the Parties, during its 20th meeting from 24 November to 5 December 2025 (CITES CoP20), is to adopt decisions on 51 proposals to amend the Appendices to CITES, as well as on numerous other matters related to the implementation and interpretation of CITES.

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<sup>1</sup> Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (OJ L 75, 19.3.2015, p. 4, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/convention/2015/451/oj>).

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2015/451 of 6 March 2015 concerning the accession of the European Union to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (OJ L 75, 19.3.2015, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2015/451/oj>).

- (4) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf at CITES CoP20, as the amendments to the Appendices to CITES will be binding on the Union and several other decisions, such as modifications to resolutions to be incorporated into Union law, will be capable of decisively influencing the content of Union law, in particular Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006<sup>3</sup> and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012<sup>4</sup>.
- (5) The Union's proposed position to be taken on the different proposals before the CITES CoP20 is based on the expert analysis of their merits, taking into account the provisions of CITES, in the light of the best available scientific evidence, as well as their consistency with relevant Union rules and policies,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

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<sup>3</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006 of 4 May 2006 laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (OJ L 166, 19.6.2006, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/865/oj>).

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012 of 23 August 2012 laying down rules for the design of permits, certificates and other documents provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein and amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006 (OJ L 242, 7.9.2012, p. 13, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2012/792/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2012/792/oj)).

*Article 1*

The position to be taken on the Union's behalf at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP20) is set out in the Annexes to this Decision.

*Article 2*

Where the position referred to in Article 1 is likely to be affected by new scientific or technical information presented after the adoption of this Decision and before or during CITES CoP20, or where revised or new proposals are made at that meeting on which there is no Union position yet, the Union position shall be developed by means of on-the-spot coordination before the CITES CoP20 is called to decide on those proposals. In such cases, the Union position shall be consistent with the principles laid down in the Annexes to this Decision.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at ...,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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