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**Law No. (27) of 2012 Approving the Accession of the Kingdom of Bahrain into a Convention regarding international trade in groups of endangered species of animals and Fungal plants**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution;

The Convention regarding International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, adopted in Washington on 3 March 1973, and its appendices;

The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have approved the following law, which we have ratified and enacted:

**Article One**

It was approved for the accession of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Convention regarding International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Animal and Fungal Plant Groups approved in Washington on 3 March 1973, and its appendices, and annexes to this law.

**Article Two**

The Prime Minister and the Ministers -each within his jurisdiction- shall implement this Act and it shall come into force from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**King of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa,**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 17 Rajab 1433 A.H.

Corresponding to: 7 June 2012

**Convention Regarding International Trade of Endangered Species Of Wild Fauna And Flora**

The Contracting States,

Recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the earth which must be protected for this and the generations to come;

Conscious of the ever-growing value of wild fauna and flora from aesthetic, scientific, cultural, recreational and economic points of view;

Recognizing that peoples and States are and should be the best protectors of their own wild fauna and flora;

Recognizing, in addition, that international co-operation is essential for the protection of certain species of wild fauna and flora against over-exploitation through international trade;

Convinced of the urgency of taking appropriate measures to this end;Have agreed as follows:

**(Article one)**

**DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Convention, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) “Species” means any species, subspecies or geographically separate population thereof;

(b) “Specimen” means:

First: Any animal or plant, whether alive or dead;

Second: In the case of an animal: For species included in Appendices one and two, any readily recognizable part or derivative of the animal; and for species included in Appendix three, any readily recognizable part or derivative of the animal specified in Appendix three in relation to the species.

Third: In the case of a plant: For species included in Appendix one, any readily recognizable part or derivative of the plant; and for species included in Appendices two and three, any readily recognizable part or derivative of the plant specified in Appendices two and three in relation to the species;

(c) “Trade” means: Export re-export, import and introduction from the sea;

(d) “Re-export” means: export of any specimen that has previously been imported;

(e) “Introduction from the sea” means: Transportation into a State of specimens of any species which were taken from a marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State;

(f) “Scientific Authority” means: A national scientific authority designated in accordance with Article nine;

(g) “Executive Authority” means: A national authority designated in accordance with Article nine;

(h) “Party” means: A State for which the current Convention has entered into force.

**( Article two )**

**Fundamental principles**

1- Appendix one includes all species threatened with extinction which are or may be affected by trade. Trade in specimens of these species must be subject to a particularly strict regulation in order not to endanger their survival further. Trading is only authorized in exceptional circumstances.

2- Appendix two shall include:

(a) All species which although not necessarily currently threatened with extinction may become so unless the trade in the specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid the incompatible expolitation with their survival;

(b) Other species which must be subject to regulation in order that trade in specimens of certain species referred to in Clause (a) of this paragraph may be brought under effective control.

3- Appendix three includes:

All species which any Party identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing r restriction or exploitation, which requires the co-operation of the other Parties to control its trade.

4- The Parties shall not allow trade in specimens of species included in Appendices one, two and three except in accordance with the provisions of the current Convention.

**(Article three)**

**Regulation of trade in specimens of species included in Appendix one**

1- All trade in specimens of species included in Appendix one shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2- The export of any specimen of a species included in Appendix one shall require the prior grant and presentation of an export permit. And the export permit shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Scientific Authority of the State of export has stated that such export will not be harmful to the survival of that species;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that the specimen was not obtained in violation of the laws of that State regarding the protection of fauna and flora;

(c) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;

(d) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that an import permit has been granted for the specimen.

3- The import of any specimen of a species included in Appendix one shall require the prior grant and presentation of an import permit and either an export permit or a re-export certificate. The import permit shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Scientific Authority of the State of import has advised that the import will be for purposes which are not harmful to the survival of the species involved;

(b) The Scientific Authority of the State of import has confirmed that the proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it;

(c) The Executive Authority of the State of import has confirmed that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes.

4- The re-export of any specimen of a species included in Appendix one shall require the prior grant and presentation of a re-export certificate. A re-export certificate shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Executive Authority of the State of re-export has confirmed that the specimen was imported into that State in accordance with the provisions of the current Convention;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of re-export has confirmed that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;

(c) The Executive Authority of the State of re-export has confirmed that an import permit has been granted for any living specimen.

5- The introduction from the sea of any specimen of a species included in Appendix one shall require the prior grant of a certificate from the Executive Authority of the State of introduction. A certificate shall only be granted when the following conditions are fulfilled:

(a) The Scientific Authority of the State of introduction has checked that the introduction will not be harfmul to the survival of the species involved;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of introduction has checked that the proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to accommodate and care for it;

(c) The Executive Authority of the State of introduction has confirmed that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes.

**(Article four)**

**Regulation of trade in specimens of species included in the second Appendix**

1- All trade in specimens of species included in Appendix two shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2- The export of any specimen of species included in Appendix two shall require the prior grant and presentation of an export permit. An export permit shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

a) The Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that such export will not be harmful to the survival of that species;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that the specimen was not obtained in violation of the laws of that State regarding the protection of fauna and flora;

(c) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

3- The Scientific Authority in each Party shall monitor both the export permits granted by that State for specimens of species included in Appendix two and the actual exports of such specimens, and when the Scientific Authority determines that the export of one of these specimens of any such species should be limited in order to maintain that specie throughout its range at a level consistent with its role in the ecosystems in which it occurs and well above the level at which that specie becomes eligible for inclusion in Appendix one, the Scientific Authority shall inform the concerned Executive Authority of the suitable measures to be taken to limit the grant of export permits for specimens of that specie.

4 -The import of any specimen of a specie included in Appendix two shall require the prior presentation of either an export permit or a re-export certificate.

5- The re-export of any specimen of a specie included in Appendix two shall require the prior grant and presentation of a re-export certificate. A re-export certificate shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Executive Authority of the State of re-export has confirmed that the specimen was imported into that State in accordance with the provisions of the current Convention;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of re-export has confirmed that any living specimen will be prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

6- The introduction from the sea of any specimen of a species included in Appendix two shall require the prior grant of a certificate from the Executive Authority of the State of introduction. The certificate shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Scientific Authority of the State of introduction informs that the introduction will not be harmful to the survival of the species involved;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of introduction has checked that any living specimen will be handled as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

7- The Certificate referred to in paragraph (6) of this Article may be granted on the advice of the Scientific Authority, in consultation with the other national scientific authorities or, when appropriate, international scientific authorities, in respect of periods not exceeding one year for the total numbers of the specimens to be introduced in such periods.

**(Article five)**

**Regulation of trade in specimens of species included in the third Appendix**

1-All trade in specimens of species included in the third Appendix shall be traded in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2- The export of any specimen of the species included in the third Appendix from each State which has included that species in Appendix three shall require the prior grant and presentation of an export permit. An export permit shall only be granted when the following conditions have been met:

(a) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that the specimen was not obtained in violation of the laws of that State for the protection regarding fauna and flora;

(b) The Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

3 - The import of any specimen of the species included in the third Appendix shall require, except in circumstances to which paragraph "four" of this Article applies, the prior presentation of a certificate of origin and, where the import is from a State which has included that specie in the third Appendix, an export permit.

4- In the case of re-export, a certificate granted by the Executive Authority of the State of Re-Export that the specimen was prepared and processed in that State or is being re-exported in its original status shall be accepted by the State of import as evidence that the provisions of the current Convention have been complied with respect to the specimen concerned.

**(Article six)**

**"Permits and certificates"**

1- Permits and certificates granted under the provisions of Articles three, four and five shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2- An export permit shall contain the information specified in the model set forth in the fourth Appendix, and the permit may only be used for export within six months from the date on which it was granted.

3- Each permit or certificate shall contain the title of the current Convention, the name and the official stamp of the Executive Authority granting the permit and a control number assigned by the Authority for the permit or certificate.

4- Any copies of a permit or certificate issued by the Executive Authority shall be clearly marked as copies only and no such copy may be used in place of the original, except in the scope marked on it.

5- A separate permit or certificate is required for each consignment of specimens.

6 -The Executive Authority of the importing State of the specimen shall cancel and retain the export permit or re-export certificate and any corresponding import permit presented in respect of the import of that specimen.

7- When appropriate and feasible, the Executive Authority may affix a mark upon any specimen to assist in identifying it. For these purposes “mark” means any indelible imprint, lead seal or any other suitable means of identify the specimen, designed in such a way as to render its imitation by unauthorized persons as difficult as possible.

**(Article seven)**

**Exemptions and other special provisions relating to the trade**

1- The provisions of Articles three, four and five shall not apply to the transit or unloading with transshipping of specimens through or in the territory of a Party of the convention while the specimens remain in Customs control.

2- When the Executive Authority of the State of export or re-export has confirmed that the specimen acquired before the provisions of the current Convention applied to that specimen, the provisions of Articles three, four and five shall not apply to that specimen when the Executive Authority issues a certificate to that effect.

3- The provisions of Articles three, four and five do not apply to specimens that are for personal or household effects. This exemption shall not apply:

(a) In the case of specimens of the species included in Appendix one, when they were acquired by the owner outside his State of usual residence, and imported them into that State;

(b) In the case of specimens of species included in the second Appendix:

(First) When they were acquired by the owner outside his State of usual residence and in the State where they were removed from their wild environment;

(Second) when they are imported into the owner's State of usual residence;

(Third) The State where they were removed from their wild environment, shall require banning the prior grant of export permits before any export of such specimens; unless the Executive Authority has confirmed that the specimens were acquired before the provisions of the current Convention applied to such specimens.

4- Specimens of an animal species included in Appendix one bred in captivity for commercial purposes, or plants species included in Appendix one which have artificially propagated for commercial purposes, shall be considered as specimens of species included in the second Appendix .

5- When the Executive Authority of the State of export has confirmed that any specimen of an animal species was bred in captivity or any specimen of a plant species was artificially propagated, or is a part of such an animal or plant or was derived there from, a certificate by that Executive Authority to that effect shall be accepted in such context instead of the permits or certificates required under the provisions of Article three, four and five.

6-The provisions of Articles three, four and five shall not apply to the non-commercial loan and donation or exchange between scientists or scientific institutions registered by a Executive Authority of their State, of herbarium specimens and other preserved, dried or embedded museum specimens, and live plant material which carry a label issued or approved by the Executive Authority.

7- The Executive Authority of each State may waive the requirements of Articles three, four and five and allow the movement without permits or certificates of the specimens which form part of a travelling zoo, circus, menagerie, plant exhibition or any other travelling exhibition provided that:

(a) The exporter or importer registers full details of such specimens with that Executive Authority;

(b) The specimens are in either of the categories specified in paragraph two or five of these Articles;

(c) The Executive Authority has confirmed that any living specimen will be so transported and cared for as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

**(Article eight)**

**Measures to be taken by the Parties**

1- The Parties shall take appropriate measures to enforce the provisions of the current Convention and to prohibit trade in specimens in violation of the texts. Which includes the following measures:

(a) To penalize trade in, or possession of, such specimens, or both;

(b) To confiscate or return such specimens to the State of export.

2-In addition to the measures taken under paragraph (A) of this Article, the Party may, when it deems it necessary, provide for any method of internal reimbursement for expenses incurred as a result of the confiscation of a specimen traded in violation of the measures taken in the application of the provisions of the current Convention.

3- The Parties shall ensure that specimens passing through all the formal procedures required for trade of specimens with as minimum delay as possible. To facilitate such passage, a Party may designate ports of exit and entry at which specimens must be presented for clearance, and the Parties shall ensure further that all specimens, during any period of transit, holding or shipment, are properly cared for so as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.

4- When a living specimen is confiscated as a result of the measures referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article:

(a) The specimen shall be entrusted to a Executive Authority of the State that confiscated the specimen;

(b) The Executive Authority shall, after consultation with the State of export, return the specimen to that State at the expense of latter, or to a rescue centre or such other place as the Executive Authority deems appropriate and consistent with the purposes of the current Convention;

(c) The Executive Authority may obtain the opinion of the Scientific Authority, or may, whenever it considers it desirable, consult the Secretariat in order to facilitate the decision under Clause (b)of this paragraph, including choosing a rescue centre or another similar place.

5- The rescue centre as referred to in paragraph (4) of this Article means an institution designated by the Executive Authority to look after the welfare of the living specimens, particularly those that have been confiscated.

6-Each Party shall maintain records of the trade in specimens of species included in the first, second and third Appendices which shall cover:

(a) The names and addresses of exporters and importers;

(b) The number and type of permits and certificates granted; the States with which such trade occurred; the numbers or quantities and types of specimens, names of species as included in the first, second and third Appendices and if necassary, the size and sex of the concerned specimens.

7- Each Party shall prepare periodic reports on its implementation of the current Convention and shall submit it to the Secretariat:

a) An annual report containing a summary of the information specified in Clause (b) of paragraph (6) of this Article;

(b) A biennial report on the legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the provisions of the current Convention.

8- The information referred to in paragraph (7) of this Article shall be available to the public when it does not conflict with the law of the concerned party.

**(Article nine)**

**Executive and Scientific Authorities**

1- Each Party shall designate for the purposes of the current Convention:

(a) One or more Executive Authorities competent to grant permits and certificates on behalf of that Party;

(b) One or more Scientific Authorities

2 -Each State shall inform when depositing the ratification, acceptance, approval or accession document the Depositary Government, of the name and address of the Executive Authority authorized to communicate with the other Parties of the convention and with the Secretariat.

3- Any changes in the designations or authorizations under the provisions of this Article shall be communicated by the Party concerned to the Secretariat for transmission to all Parties.

4- All Executive Authorities referred to in paragraph (2) of this Article shall, if so requested by the Secretariat or the Executive Authority of another Party, send its stamps model, official seals or other devices used to authenticate permits or certificates.

**(Article ten)**

**Trade with States not party to the Convention**

When export or re-export is to state, or import is from a State not a Party to the current Convention, similar documentation issued by the com petent authorities in that State which substantially conforms with the requirements of the current Convention's requirements regarding the permits and certificates may be accepted as a replacement for these permits and certificates.

**(Article eleven)**

**Conference of the Parties**

1- The Secretariat shall call a meeting of the Conference of the Parties not later than two years after the entry into force of the current Convention.

2- Thereafter the Secretariat shall convene regular meetings at least once every two years, unless the Conference decides otherwise, and to convene extraordinary meetings at any time upon the written request of at least one-third of the Parties.

3- At meetings, whether regular or extraordinary, the Parties shall review the implementation of the current Convention and may:

(a) Take the necessary precautions to enable the Secretariat to carry out its duties,

(b) Consider and adopt amendments to the first and second Appendices in accordance with Article fifteen;

(c) Review the progress made towards the restoration and conservation of the species included in the first, second and third Appendices;

(d) Receive and consider any reports presented by the Secretariat or any Party;

(e) Make recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the current Convention when needed.

4- At each regular meeting, the Parties may determine the time and venue of the next regular meeting to be held in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Article.

5- At any meeting, the Parties may determine and adopt the internal regulation for the meetings.

6- The United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as any State not a Party to the current Convention, may be represented at meetings of the Conference by observers, who shall have the right to participate but not vote.

7- Any body or agency technically qualified in protection, conservation or maintaining the wild fauna and flora, and belongs to one of the following categories mentioned below, which has informed the Secretariat of its desire to be represented at meetings of the Conference by observers, shall be admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object:

(a) International agencies or bodies, either governmental or non-governmental, and national governmental agencies and bodies;

(b) National non-governmental agencies or bodies which have been approved for this purpose by the State in which they are located.

Once admitted, these observers shall have the right to participate but not to vote.

**(Article twelve)**

**"The Secretariat"**

1- Upon the entry into force of this Convention, a Secretariat shall be formed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. To the extent and in the manner he deems appropriate, he may be assisted by governmental or non-governmental, international or national agencies and organizations technically qualified in the protection and conservation of wild animal and plant species and in their preservation and care.

2- The functions of the Secretariat shall be:

(a) To arrange for meetings of the Parties and provide them withe necessary services;

(b) To perform the functions entrusted to it under the provisions of Articles fifteen and sixteen;

(c) To undertake scientific and technical studies in accordance with the programmes authorized by the Conference Parties as will contribute to the implementation of the current Convention, including studies concerning standards for appropriate preparation and shipment of living specimens and the means of identifying the specimens;

(d) To study the reports of the Parties and to request from Parties such further information with respect thereto as it deems necessary to ensure the implementation of the current Convention;

(e) To alert the Parties to any matter pertaining to the aims of the current Convention;

(f) To publish periodically and distribute to the Parties current editions of Appendices one, two and three together with any information which will facilitate the identification of specimens of species included in those Appendices and distribute it to the parties;

(g) To prepare annual reports to the Parties on the Secretariat work and on the implementation of the current Convention and such other reports as meetings of the Parties may request;

(h) To make recommendations for the implementation regarding the aims and provisions of the current Convention, including the exchange of information of a scientific or technical nature;

(i) To perform any other function as may be entrusted to it by the Parties.

**(Article thirteen)**

**International measures**

1- When the Secretariat in the light of information received has confirmed that any species included in Appendix one or tow is being affected adversely by trade in specimens of that specie or that the provisions of the current Convention are not being effectively implemented, it shall communicate such information to the authorized Executive Authority of the Party or Parties concerned.

2- When any Party receives a notification as indicated in paragraph (1) of this Article, it shall, as soon as possible, inform the Secretariat of any relevant facts insofar as its laws permit and, where appropriate, propose remedial measures.

And when the party considers that an investigation is desirable, it may be carried out by one or more persons expressly authorized by that party.

3-The information provided by the Party or resulting from any investigation referred to in paragraph (2) of this article shall be examined by the next Conference of the Parties, which may make the recommendations it deems appropriate.

**(Article fourteen)**

**"Effect on Domestic Legislations and International Conventions"**

1- The provisions of this Convention shall in no way affect the right of the Parties to adopt:

(a) Stricter domestic measures regarding the conditions for trade, possession or transport of the specimens of the species included in the first, second and third Appendices, or the complete prohibition of the acts;

(b)Domestic measures restricting or prohibiting trade, possession or transport of species not included in the first, second and third Appendix.

2- The provisions of the current Convention shall in no way affect the provisions of any domestic measures or the obligations of Parties deriving from any treaty, convention or international agreement relating to other aspects of trade, possession or transport of the specimens which is in force or subsequently may enter into force for any Party including any measure pertaining to the Customs, public health, veterinary or plant quarantine fields.

3- The provisions of the current Convention shall in no way affect the provisions of, or the obligations deriving from, any treaty, convention or international agreement concluded or which may be concluded between States that created a union or regional trade agreement establishing or maintaining a common external Customs control and removing Customs control between the parties of the Convention regarding the trade among the States members of that union or agreement.

4- A State party to the current Convention, which is also a party to any other treaty, convention or international agreement which is in force at the time of the coming into force of the current Convention and under the provisions of which protection is afforded to marine species included in Appendix two, shall be relieved of the obligations imposed on it under the provisions of the current Convention with respect to trade in the specimens of the species included in Appendix two that are taken by ships registered in that State and in accordance with the provisions of such other treaty or international convention or agreement.

5- Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles three, four and five, any export of a specimen taken in accordance with paragraph four of this Article shall only require a certificate from the Executive Authority of the State of introduction to the effect that the specimen was taken in accordance with the provisions of the other treaty, convention or international agreement in question.

6-The provisions of this Convention shall not affect the legalization and development of the law of the sea by the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea convened pursuant to resolution 2750 C (session twenty-five) of the General Assembly of the United Nations, or the present or future claims and legal views of any State concerning the law of the sea and the nature and extent of its coastal sovereignty and sovereignty over ships flying its flag.

**(Article fifteen )**

**"Amendments to the first and second Appendices"**

1- The following provisions shall apply in relation to amendments to Appendices one and two at meetings of the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Any Party may propose an amendment to the first or second Appendix for consideration at the next meeting. The text of the proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Secretariat at least one hundred fifty days before the meeting. The Secretariat shall consult the other Parties and interested bodies on the amendment in accordance with the provisions of Clause (b) and (c) of paragraph (2) of this Article and shall communicate the response to all Parties not later than thirty days before the meeting.

(b) Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting. For these purposes “Parties present and voting” means Parties present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Parties abstaining from voting shall not be counted among the two-thirds required for adopting the amendment.

(c) Amendments adopted at a meeting shall enter into force ninety days after that meeting for all Parties except those which made a reservation in accordance with paragraph (3) of this Article.

2- The following provisions shall apply in relation to amendments to on the first and second Appendices between meetings of the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Any Party may propose an amendment to the first or second Appendix for consideration between meetings by the correspondences procedures set forth in this paragraph.

(b) For marine species, the Secretariat, upon receipt of the text of the proposed amendment, shall immediately communicate it to the Parties. It shall also consult intergovernmental bodies having a function in relation to those species, in particular with a view to obtaining such scientific data as those bodies may be able to provide and to ensure the coordination with any conservation measures implemented by those bodies. The Secretariat shall communicate as soon as possible to the Parties the views expressed and data provided by these bodies, as well as its own conclusions and recommendations.

(c) For species other than marine species, the Secretariat, upon receipt of the text of the proposed amendment, shall immediately communicate it to the Parties and, as soon as possible thereafter, its own recommendations.

(d) Any Party may, within sixty days of the date on which the Secretariat has communicated its recommendations to the Parties under clause (b) or (c) of this paragraph, forward to the Secretariat any comments on the proposed amendment, together with any relevant scientific data and information.

(e) The Secretariat shall communicate the replies received from the states and its own recommendations to the Parties as soon as possible.

(f) If no objection to the proposed amendment is received by the Secretariat within thirty days of the date on which the replies and recommendations have been communicated in accordance with text of Clause (e) of this paragraph, the amendment shall enter into force after ninety days for all Parties except those which communicated their reservation in accordance with paragraph three of this Article.

If the Secretariat receives an objection from any Party, the proposed amendment shall be put to the vote by correspondence in accordance with the provisions of clauses (h), (i) and (j) of this paragraph.

(h) The Secretariat shall notify the Parties that notification of objection has been received.

(i) Unless the Secretariat receives votes for, against or in abstention from at least half of the Parties within sixty days of the date of notification under clause (h) of this paragraph, the proposed amendment shall at least be referred to the next meeting of the Conference for further consideration.

(j) Provided that votes received by the Secretariat from one-half of the Parties, the amendment shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of Parties casting an affirmative or negative vote.

(k) The Secretariat shall notify all Parties of the result of the vote.

(l) If the proposed amendment is adopted it shall enter into force 90 days after the date of the notification by the Secretariat of its acceptance for all Parties except those which make a reservation in accordance with paragraph (3 )of this Article.

3. During the period of ninety days provided for in Clause (c) of paragraph 1 or clause (l) of paragraph 2 of this Article, any Party may, by written notification to the Depositary Government, enter a reservation with respect to the amendment. Until such reservation is withdrawn, the Party shall be treated as a State not Party to this Convention with respect to trade in the species concerned.

**(Article sixteen)**

**"The third Appendix and amendments thereto"**

1- Any Party may at any time submit to the Secretariat a list of the species which it identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose mentioned in paragraph (3) of Article two. The third Appendix shall include the names of the Parties submitting the species for inclusion therein, the scientific names of the species, and any parts or derivatives of the animals or plants concerned that are specified in relation to the species for the purposes of Clause (b) of Article one.

2- Each list submitted under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article shall be communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat as soon as possible after receiving it. The list shall take effect as part of the third Appendix, ninety days after the date of such communication. At any time after the communication of such list, any Party may by notification in writing to the Depositary Government enter a reservation regarding any species or any parts or derivatives from animals or plants concerned, and until such reservation is withdrawn, the State shall be treated as a State not a Party to the current Convention with respect to trade in the species or part or derivative from the animals or plants concerned.

3-A Party which has submitted a specie for inclusion in the third Appendix may withdraw it at any time by notification to the Secretariat which shall communicate the withdrawal to all Parties. The withdrawal shall take effect thirty days after the date of such communication.

4- Any Party submitting a list under the provisions of paragraph one of this Article shall submit to the Secretariat a copy of all domestic laws and regulations applicable to the protection of such species, together with any interpretations which the Party may deem appropriate or the Secretariat may request. The Party shall, for as long as the specie in question is included in the third Appendix , submit any amendments of such laws and regulations or any interpretations as they are adopted.

**(Article seventeen)**

**"Amendment of the Convention"**

1- An extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall be convened by the Secretariat on the written request of at least one-third of the Parties to consider and adopt amendments to the current Convention. Such amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of Parties present and voting. For these purposes “Parties present and voting” means Parties present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Parties abstaining from voting shall not be counted among the two-thirds required for adopting an amendment.

2- The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated by the Secretariat to all Parties at least ninety days before the meeting.

3- The amendment shall enter into force for the Parties which have accepted it sixty days after two thirds of the Parties have deposited a document of acceptance of the amendment with the Depositary Government. Thereafter, the amendment shall enter into force for any other Party sixty days after that Party deposits its document of acceptance of the amendment.

**(Article eighteen)**

**"Resolution of disputes"**

1- Any dispute which may arise between two or more Parties regarding the interpretation or application of the provisions of the current Convention shall be subject to negotiation between the Parties involved in the dispute.

2- If the dispute can not be settled in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Article, the Parties may, by mutual consent, submit the dispute to arbitration, in particular that of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, and the Parties submitting the dispute shall be bound by the arbitral decision.

**(Article nineteen)**

**"Signature"**

The current Convention shall be open for signature at Washington until thirty April 1973 and thereafter at Berne until thirty one December 1974.

**(Article twenty)**

**"Ratification, acceptance, approval"**

The current Convention shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Documents of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Government of the Swiss Confederation which is the Depositary Government.

**(Article twenty one)**

**"Accession"**

1- The current Convention shall be open indefinitely for accession. Documents of accession shall be deposited with the Depositary Government.

**(Article twenty two )**

**"Entry into force"**

1- This Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the date of the deposit of the tenth document of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depositary Government.

2- For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the tenth document of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit by such State of its document of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

**(Article twenty three )**

**"Reservations"**

1- The provisions of the current Convention shall not be subject to general reservations. Specific reservations may be entered in accordance with the provisions of this Article and Articles fifteen and sixteen.

2- Any State may, on depositing its document of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, enter a specific reservation regarding:

a) Any specie included in the first, second or third Appendix.

(b) Any parts or derivatives specified in relation to a specie included in the third Appendix .

3- Until a Party withdraws its reservation entered under the provisions of this Article, it shall be treated as a State not a Party to the present Convention with respect to trade in the particular species or parts or derivatives of the specified animal or plant specified in such reservation.

**(Article twenty four )**

**"Withdrawal"**

Any Party may at any time withdraw from this Convention by written notification to the Depositary Government. Withdrawal shall take effect twelve months after receipt of the notification by the Depositary Government.

**(Article twenty five )**

**"Depositary"**

1-The original of the current Convention, in the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, each version being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Depositary Government, which shall transmit certified copies thereof to all States that have signed it or deposited Document of accession to it.

2- The Depositary Government shall inform all signatory and acceding States and the Secretariat of the signatures, deposit of document of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, entry into force of the current Convention, amendments thereto, entry and withdrawal of reservations and notifications of denunciation.

3- As soon as the current Convention enters into force, a certified copy thereof shall be transmitted by the Depositary Government to the Secretariat of the United Nations for registration and publication in accordance with Article (102) of the Charter of the United Nations.

In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed the current Convention.

Done at Washington on the third day of March, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-three.