

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Fifty-third meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 June-1 July 2005

Strategic and administrative matters

COOPERATION WITH THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

This document has been prepared by the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

FAO AND CITES IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE COOPERATION
BETWEEN THEM HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The signatories will communicate and exchange information regularly and bring to each other's attention general information of common interest and areas of concern where there is a role for the other to play. The signatories will be invited as observers to meetings under their respective auspices where subjects that are of common interest will be discussed.
2. The signatories will cooperate as appropriate to facilitate capacity building in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on issues relating to commercially-exploited aquatic species listed on the CITES Appendices.
3. FAO will continue to provide advice to CITES on, and be involved in any future revision of, the CITES listing criteria.
4. The FAO will work together with CITES to ensure adequate consultations in the scientific and technical evaluation of proposals for including, transferring or deleting commercially-exploited aquatic species in the CITES Appendices based on the criteria agreed by the Parties to CITES, and both signatories will address technical and legal issues relating to the listing and implementation of such listings.
5. As is required by the Convention, the CITES Secretariat will continue to inform FAO of all relevant proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II. Such information shall be provided to FAO to allow FAO to carry out a scientific and technical review of such proposals in a manner it deems appropriate and for the resulting output to be transmitted to the CITES Secretariat. The CITES Secretariat shall communicate the views expressed and data provided from this review and its own findings and recommendations, taking due account of the FAO review, to the Parties to CITES.
6. In order to ensure maximum coordination of conservation measures, the CITES Secretariat will respect, to the greatest extent possible, the results of the FAO scientific and technical review of proposals to amend the Appendices, and technical and legal issues of common interest and the responses from all the relevant bodies associated with management of the species in question.
7. The Secretariats to CITES and FAO will periodically report on work completed under the MoU to the Conference of the Parties to CITES and the FAO Committee on Fisheries, respectively.
8. This MoU will take effect on the date of signature by both signatories. It will remain in force unless terminated by 90 days' written notice served by one upon the other, or replaced by another agreement. It may be amended by written mutual agreement.
9. Unless otherwise agreed, neither signatory will be legally or financially liable in any way for activities carried out jointly or independently under this MoU. Separate letters of agreement or other

arrangements, with specific budgets and resource identification, will be concluded for individual activities involving the commitment of financial resources by either signatory.

Director General, FAO
Date

Secretary-General, CITES Secretariat
Date