

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



Joint sessions of the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee and
20th meeting of the Plants Committee
Dublin (Ireland), 22-24 March 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

11. Transport of live specimens (Decision 15.59) –
Report of the joint working group(AC26/PC20 Doc. 11)

The Committees established a working group (AC26/PC20 WG1), chaired by Austria, to look at item 11 with the following mandate:

The working group shall:

1. review and finalize the draft set of guidelines on non-air transport of live specimens provided by the co-chairs, which would replace the CITES Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipment of wild animals and plants (1981);
2. consider whether the final draft guidelines should be incorporated into an existing Resolution of the Conference of the Parties or the IATA/LAR and IATA/PCR or provided to Parties in some other way, and make related recommendations including the repeal of the existing Guidelines;
3. review and, if needed, propose revisions to Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP14) and Resolution Conf. 12.3 (CoP15); and
4. determine whether one or more draft Decisions are needed to provide for and guide future work on the transport of live specimens and, if so, prepare such draft Decisions.

The Committees agreed that this and other working groups to be established at the joint sessions of the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee and 20th meeting of the Plants Committee needed to include in their reports the participants that took part in the working groups' discussions.

5. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity
and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Decision 15.12)(AC26/PC20 Doc. 5)

The Committees established a drafting group (AC26/PC20 DG1) with the following mandate:

On the basis of discussion in the plenary and contributions from the Chairs, as well as the Secretariat, finalize the wording of a draft statement that CITES could make at the 5th meeting of the Chairs of Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the second session of the IPBES plenary, whether individually or in coordination with the secretariats and scientific bodies of other biodiversity-related conventions.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: Plants Committee (PC) representative of North America (Mr Benítez) and Animals Committee (AC) representative of Europe (Mr Fleming);

Members: PC representative of Asia (Ms Zhou), Chair of the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.

6. Climate change (Decision 15.15) – Report of the joint working group(AC26/PC20 Doc. 6)

The Committees agreed that the current provisions of the Convention and of Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties were sufficiently comprehensive and flexible to take into account the implications of climate change for science-based decision-making.

The Committees welcomed an initiative by UNEP-WCMC and partners, which are conducting an extensive literature review regarding the impacts of climate change on the population abundance of terrestrial vertebrates and plants, which may be relevant to the making of non-detriment findings as requested under Article IV of the Convention, and the adaptive management of many CITES-listed species.

The Committees requested that, on the basis of paragraphs 3 to 7 of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 6, the Co-Chairs of the joint working group on climate change, the AC representative of North America (Ms Caceres) and the United States of America, together with the Secretariat, prepare a report for submission at the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee. The Committees agreed that with this, they had completed the work directed to them in Decision 15.15.

7. Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)](AC26/PC20 Doc. 7)

The Committees established a working group (AC26/PC20 WG2) to look at item 7 with the following mandate:

On the basis discussions in plenary and document AC26/PC20 Doc. 7, the working group shall:

1. examine the case studies presented in Annex 3 to document AC26/PC20 Doc. 7 and provide comments orally for the plenary;
2. determine the agenda and any instructions for the meeting of the advisory working group for the evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade to be held in June 2012;
3. prepare a roadmap for the preparation of the final report on the evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade for presentation to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
4. confirm the final membership of the advisory working group.

Co-Chairs: PC Nomenclature specialist (Mr McGough) and AC representative of North America (Ms Caceres).

10. Revision of Resolution Conf. 14.8 on *Periodic Review of the Appendices*(AC26/PC20 Doc. 10)

The Committees adopted the suggestions in paragraph 2 of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 10 to improve the performance of the Periodic Review of the Appendices, and agreed that they should be considered in revising Resolution Conf. 14.8 on *Periodic Review of the Appendices*.

The Committees asked the participants to submit comments on, or proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 14.8 in writing to the Secretariat at the present joint sessions. They requested the Secretariat to prepare a document (in English only) on the basis of these contributions and the discussion in plenary for consideration by the Committees later in the meeting.

8. Non-detriment findings

8.1 Implementation of Decision 15.23 on Non-detriment findings: background and links with Decisions 15.24, 15.26 and 15.27(AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.1)

The Committees noted document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.1.

8.2 Summary report based on the responses to Notifications to the Parties [No. 2009/023, paragraph 1. f) of No. 2010/027 and No. 2011/004](AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.2)

The Committees agreed to refer document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.2 to a working group.

8.3 Progress reports from Parties (Decision 15.23)..... AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.3

The Committees noted document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.3.

8.4 Draft guidance on the making of non-detriment findings.....(AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.4)

The Committees agreed to refer document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.4 to a working group.

8.5 Discussion paper on non-detriment findings.....(AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.5)

The Committees agreed to refer document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.5 to a working group. They also agreed that the discussion paper that they would prepare for consideration for the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in compliance with Decision 15.23 would include a draft resolution on the establishment of non-legally binding guidelines for the making of non-detriment findings.

The Committees established a working group (AC26/PC20 WG3) to look at item 8 with the following mandate:

The working group shall:

1. review and provide comments on the actions proposed in paragraphs 15 and 16 of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.2;
2. on the basis of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.4 and taking account of the results of the International Expert Workshop on Non-Detriment Findings (Cancún, November 2008) and the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2009/023, paragraph 1 f) of Notification to the Parties No. 2010/027, Notification to the Parties No. 2011/004 and paragraph f) of Notification to the Parties No. 2011/049, prepare draft guidance on the making on non-detriment findings, which can be conveyed to Parties for comment, in line with paragraph d) iii) of Decision 15.24; and
3. on the basis of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.5, prepare a discussion paper for consideration at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with options on how to use the workshop outputs, including a draft resolution on the establishment of non-legally binding guidelines for the making of non-detriment findings.

Co-Chairs: AC Chair (Mr Ibero) and PC Chair (Ms Clemente).

9. Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species (Decision 12.91) – Report of the joint working group.....(AC26/PC20 Doc. 9)

The Committees adopted the recommendations in paragraphs 13 and 14, subparagraphs a) and b), of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9. In relation to subparagraph c) of paragraph 14, the Committees noted that the CITES Virtual College contained a stand-alone course on the making on non-detriment findings, but recommended that it be updated and expanded.

They requested that the Co-Chairs of the joint working group on the capacity-building programme for the science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species [the AC representative of North America (Ms Caceres) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland]:

- a) revise the recommendations in paragraph 14, subparagraph d), in light of the comments and discussion in plenary; and
- b) draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) on *Establishment of committees* and relevant Decisions in order to require the Animals and Plants Committees to provide on a permanent basis scientific advice on training materials used in capacity-building.

The Committees agreed that the report from the Co-Chairs would be considered later in the meeting in English only.