

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



Joint sessions of the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and  
the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 20-21 July 2018

NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Co-Chairs: the acting representative of North America of the Plants Committee (Mr. Benítez Díaz) and the representative of Africa of the Animals Committee (Mr. Mensah);
- Members; the representative of Oceania of the Animals Committee (Mr. Robertson);
- Parties: China, Colombia, European Union, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America;
- IGOs and NGOs: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Center for Biological Diversity, Environmental Investigation Agency USA, Save our Seas Foundation and Species Survival Network.

Mandate

The in-session working group shall review and revise the edits proposed during the plenary by the representative of North America of the Plants Committee and the Chair of the Plants Committee to the set of Decisions presented in document AC30 Doc. 10.1/PC24 Doc. 10.1 to be submitted by the Animals Committee to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

Recommendations

***Directed to the Secretariat***

18.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) inventory and review the materials and guidance for the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) that are available to the Parties, and identify any apparent gaps or needs (e.g. regarding taxonomic or geographical coverage, form or format, comprehensiveness, accessibility, languages, updates, practicality, etc.), including guidance for making NDFs for trade in specimens from different sources (W, R and F), and NDFs for taxa prioritized/called for in Decisions or Resolutions;
- b) identify, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and Parties, and based on the analysis, priorities for additional or improved NDF guidance materials, and for addressing apparent gaps or needs;
- c) subject to external funding, address the agreed priorities in capacity building by
  - i) undertaking targeted research in support of the development of new or updated NDF guidance materials in collaboration with relevant experts, Parties and organizations; and

- ii) organising one or more interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> international workshop, with assistance of the Animals and Plants Committees, where draft guidance materials on NDFs are to be reviewed, advanced or completed;
- d) present the results of the work to the Animals and Plants Committees for their review, and make suggestions on how best to use the outputs to assist Scientific Authorities in the making of NDFs; and
- e) make available to Parties on the CITES website the NDF guidance materials resulting from the implementation of the present Decision.

***Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees***

18.BB The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the Secretariat's gap analysis of NDF materials and guidance, and assist in identifying priorities for additional or improved NDF guidance materials, and for addressing apparent gaps or needs;
- b) participate as appropriate in the interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs where draft guidance materials are to be reviewed, advanced or completed;
- c) assist the Secretariat in preparing the 2<sup>nd</sup> international expert workshop on non-detriment findings as a follow up from Cancun 2008, based on the progress made since then;
- d) review and make recommendations concerning the outcomes of the interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs; the final draft guidance materials on NDFs; the use of these outputs in support of the making of NDFs by Scientific Authorities; and their publication on the CITES website; and
- e) report on these activities at the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

***Directed to the Parties***

18.CC The Parties are encouraged to:

- a) provide financial support for the implementation of Decision 18.AA, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs);
- b) provide any help and information regarding methodologies, tools, scientific information, expertise and any other resources used to formulate NDFs in order to contribute to such a workshop, the results of which should be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting; and
- c) make use of the guidance materials on NDFs resulting from the implementation of Decisions 18.AA and 18.BB, and report experiences and findings to the Animals and Plants Committees.