

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



Twenty-fourth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva, (Switzerland), 20-24 April 2009

ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING METHODOLOGIES USED FOR
SHARED STOCKS OF ACIPENSERIFORMES SPECIES (AGENDA ITEM 12.2)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair: Representative of Asia (Mr Ishii);

Parties: Azerbaijan, Canada, Germany, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and United States; and

IGOs and NGOs: Association of Northeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Institute for Ocean Conservation Science, International Caviar Importers Association and IWMC World Conservation Trust.

Mandate

Regarding agenda item 12.2: *Assessment and monitoring methodologies used for shared stocks of Acipenseriformes species*, the Working Group had the following mandate:

- a) Consider the outcome of the *Technical Workshop on Stock Assessment and TAC Methodologies*; and
- b) Make recommendations to the Committee as appropriate.

Recommendations

The working group recommends that:

- a) the Animals Committee endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the FAO and CITES Technical Workshop presented in AC24 Doc 12.2.
- b) the Animals Committee request the Standing Committee to urge the range States to consider all recommendations in document AC24 Doc 12.2 including those provided in the Appendices in working with the Commission on Aquatic Bioresources to continue to improve the sturgeon stock assessment and Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determination methodology.
- c) the Animals Committee request the Standing Committee to ask the Caspian range States to implement the above recommendations and report to the 25th meeting of Animals Committee on progress made in improving the existing sturgeon stock assessment and Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determination methodology through a detailed report describing how the recommendations in document AC24 Doc 12.2 have been implemented and whether they have

been accepted by all range States. This report should be submitted to the Secretariat four months prior to AC25 for the purposes of external review as mentioned below.

- d) the Animals Committee request that the Secretariat have the above report reviewed by FAO (or the outside experts who contributed to document AC24 Doc 12.2 report) and make that review available at the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee.
- e) the Animals Committee request that the Standing Committee ask the range States to provide a report at the 15th Conference of the Parties on progress made in improving the existing sturgeon stock assessment and Total Allowable Catch determination methodology.
- f) the Animals Committee request the Secretariat use the available funds toward achievement of the above recommendations as appropriate.