

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



Sixty-second meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 23-27 July 2012

Strategic matters

Cooperation with other organizations

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON IPBES

This document has been prepared by the Working Group on IPBES on the basis of a meeting held in the margins of the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee and in relation to agenda item 14.5.

Possible conclusions for SC62

The Working Group recommends that the Standing Committee:

1. Accepts the invitation by IPBES for the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees to participate as observers in the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel;
2. Welcomes the cooperation between the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the secretariats of the conventions, in relation to IPBES;
3. In accordance with Decision 15.12, agrees that the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat should continue their engagement with IPBES between the current meeting and 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including responding to written consultations and participating at the next meeting of the Platform's Plenary (scheduled for early 2013) with the objective of ensuring that:
 - a) There is a two-way relationship between CITES and IPBES in which CITES is a user or beneficiary of IPBES as well as a contributor to IPBES;
 - b) A mechanism is developed for facilitating communication between CITES and IPBES for the conveyance of government requests to IPBES from the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
 - c) The identification of capacity-building needs and related financing by IPBES helps national scientific and management authorities to foster the use of applied science for the implementation of CITES;
4. Request funding from UNEP to support attendance at IPBES meetings by the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to discuss with the executive heads of other biodiversity-related conventions means for facilitating cooperation in relation to IPBES, including through a possible cooperative Memorandum of Understanding between the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) and the IPBES Secretariat, and report back at the 63rd meeting of the Standing Committee;
6. Establishes an intersessional working group on IPBES, including the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat, to prepare a draft resolution or decisions, as appropriate, for the SC Chair to submit at CoP16 which would:

- Address the contribution that Parties and Convention bodies could make to reinforcing linkages between CITES and IPBES;
 - Propose ways in which CITES may make requests to IPBES to prepare reports and for deciding the priorities of CITES in this regard;
 - Review the agreed IPBES work programme following the IPBES plenary and make proposals to CoP16 for CITES engagement.
7. Notes that the SC Chair, with the assistance of the Secretariat, should prepare a report of the Standing Committee on its activities related to IPBES for CoP16, as required by Decision 15.14.