

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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

SPECIMENS PRODUCED FROM BIOTECHNOLOGY

Recommendations

The Working Group recommends that:

1. The Standing Committee agrees that specimens produced through biotechnology, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16), are readily recognizable and should be regulated by the Convention.
2. The Standing Committee recommends to the 18th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to amend Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) by adding a new operational paragraph 4 as follows:
 4. *AGREES also that Parties consider all specimens, parts and derivatives of CITES-listed species produced through biotechnology to be readily recognizable specimens of CITES-listed species unless specifically exempted from the provisions of the Convention.*
3. The Standing Committee recommend to Parties that they should interpret Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) as regulating specimens produced through biotechnology, as an interim measure.
4. The Standing Committee submit to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting the draft decisions on *trade in specimens produced from biotechnology* contained in Annex 1 of the document SC70 Doc. 33, with the amendments as follows:

[note: new/modified text is shown as underlined, deleted text is not shown.]

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Specimens produced through biotechnology

Directed to the Parties

- 18.AA Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding:
- a) cases where they have issued, or received requests to issue, CITES permits and certificates for specimens produced through biotechnology;
 - b) other situations when they have applied the interpretation of Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives* to fauna and flora products produced through biotechnology; and
 - c) technological developments and applications taking place, particularly in their jurisdiction, that may result in the manufacture of specimens produced through biotechnology that may have impact on the interpretation and implementation of the Convention.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

18.BB The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the complete study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions; and
- b) provide any relevant scientific advice and guidance on matters relevant to international trade in specimens produced through biotechnology and communicate it to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.CC The Standing Committees shall:

- a) communicate to the Animals and Plants Committees any matters that may require scientific advice and guidance, as appropriate; and
- b) make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions or the development of a new resolution on trade in specimens produced from biotechnology.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.DD The Secretariat shall:

- a) present the study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, along with the Secretariat’s findings and recommendations, to the Animals and Plants Committees;
- b) collate information received from Parties in relation to Decision 18.AA, as well as any other information received from Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities related to the issue of specimens produced through biotechnology;
- c) communicate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant organizations as appropriate, to keep abreast of the discussions taking place on other fora on issues that may be relevant to specimens produced through biotechnology; and
- d) report progress to the Animals and Plants Committees, and the Standing Committee, as appropriate.