Fifth session: 19 April 2000

Chairman: B. Asadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Secretariat: W. Wijnstekers

J. Armstrong M. Lindeque J. Sellar

UNEP: P. Chabeda

L. MeszarosE. Ortega

Rapporteurs: G. Furness

M. Groves K. Hamilton P. Mathew A. St. John

The Chairman opened the session and commented that the atmosphere during the meeting had demonstrated a spirit of collaboration among all Parties.

Strategic and administrative matters

12. Evolution of the Convention

4. <u>Improvement of the effectiveness of the Convention: financing conservation of species of wild</u> fauna and flora

The delegation of France introduced revised document Com. 11.33, based on document Doc. 11.12.4, and noted that discrepancies in the document were due to translation. These had been corrected and there was no need for further discussion; the document was then <u>adopted</u>.

16. Recognition of the important contribution made by observers to the CITES process at meetings of the Conference of the Parties

The delegation of the United States of America introduced document Doc. 11.16 and reiterated that this meeting of the Conference of the Parties had demonstrated the importance of the role of observers. The delegation of Japan endorsed these comments and agreed with the spirit of the document. They also confirmed that the rights of the Parties should come first. The Secretary-General confirmed the importance of the observers in this meeting of the Conference of the Parties and stated that this could stand as an example to future meetings. There being no further discussion, the document was adopted.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

17. Consolidation of valid Resolutions

The Secretary-General introduced document Doc. 11.17 and explained the two versions in each of the Annexes: the Annexes A provided the complete text of the existing Resolutions, and the Annexes B provided the consolidated text prepared by the Secretariat. The Secretariat stated that they supported the B versions of the three Annexes. This opinion was supported by the delegation of

Portugal on behalf of the Member States of the European Union, and by the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

The delegation of Japan opposed Annexes 1A and 1B, relating to cetaceans and stated that new scientific findings rendered the document obsolete. The delegation of Australia preferred that the Resolutions in Annex 1A not be repealed. They stated that Annex 1B created anomalies; if it were adopted it would mean that the Conference was accepting in the year 2000 a resolution passed by another organization in 1978.

The Chairman asked for a vote by show of cards to adopt the draft consolidated resolution in Annex 1B. There were 41 in favour and 5 against with 31 abstentions and the proposal was <u>adopted</u>.

The draft consolidated resolutions in Annexes 2B, regarding enforcement and compliance, and 3B, regarding exchanges of specimens, were <u>adopted</u> without objection.

Strategic and administrative matters

8. Matters relating to the Standing Committee

2. Election of new regional and alternate regional members

The following had been elected to the Standing Committee. Representation for the African region had been increased to four members.

Regional Representative	Alternate
<u>Africa</u>	
Burkina Faso Cameroon United Republic of Tanzania South Africa Tunisia	Kenya Zambia Ghana
<u>Asia</u>	
China Saudi Arabia India	Thailand
Central and South America and the Caribbean	
St. Lucia Ecuador Panama	St Vincent and the Grenadines Chile Nicaragua
<u>Europe</u>	
Italy France Norway	Czech Republic Portugal Turkey
North America	
United States of America	Canada
<u>Oceania</u>	
Australia	Vanuatu

11. Committee reports and recommendations

1. Animals Committee

b) Election of new regional and alternate regional members

The Chairman requested the Regional Representatives announce those newly elected to the Animals Committee:

Africa:

K. Howell (United Republic of Tanzania); M. Griffin (Namibia); Alternates: E. Chidziya (Zimbabwe); R. Bagine (Kenya) Asia:

T. R. Soehartono (Indonesia); S. Tunhikorn (Thailand); Alternates: M. M. Hussain (Bangladesh); C-H. Giam (Singapore) Central and South America and the Caribbean:

S. Incháustegui (Dominican Republic); M. P. Micheletti (Honduras) Alternates: R. Ramos Tangarona (Cuba); M. M. Ojeda (Venezuela) Europe:

M. Hoogmoed (Netherlands); K. Rodics (Hungary); Alternates: T. Althaus (Switzerland); V. Fleming (United Kingdom) North America:

S. Lieberman (United States of America) Alternate: to be announced (Mexico)

Oceania:

R. Hay (New Zealand) Alternate: R. J. Walting (Fiji)

2. Plants Committee

b) Election of new regional and alternate members

The Chairman requested the Regional Representatives announce those newly elected to the Plants Committee:

Africa:

J. Donaldson (South Africa); Q. Luke (Kenya) Alternate: A. Akpangana (Togo)

<u>Asia</u>:

Z. Shaari (Malaysia); N. P. Singh (India) Alternates: D. Siswomartono (Indonesia); J. J. Jia (China)

Central and South America and the Caribbean:

M. C. M. Wekhoven (Suriname); E. Forero (Colombia) Alternates: F. Mereles (Paraguay); D. I. Rivera (Costa Rica)

Europe:

M. Clemente Muñoz (Spain); J. de Koning (Netherlands) Alternates: H. Werblan-Jakubiec (Poland); D. Supthut (Switzerland) North America:

B. von Arx (Canada)

Alternate: F. Ramírez (Mexico)

Oceania:

G. Leach (Australia)

Alternate: O. Gideon (Papua New Guinea)

4. Nomenclature Committee

b) Recommendations of the Committee

The Secretary-General suggested that the current representatives should retain their posts if the Parties approved. There being no opposition, M. Hoogmoed and N. McGough were reelected.

The Chairman thanked the outgoing members of the Committees and wished the new members success.

10. Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

The Chairman called on the Chairman of the Budget Committee to present the report of the Committee. The latter reported that the Committee had approved document Com. 11.21, this being a draft resolution on Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The document was prepared on the basis of a draft included in document Doc. 11.10.3 (Rev. 1) Annex 6, as amended by the Budget Committee.

He noted that document Com. 11.21 was the first such document submitted by the Budget Committee in its new role as a full Committee of the Conference, rather than as a subcommittee of Committee II. Participation was greatly facilitated by simultaneous interpretation as agreed at the previous meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Despite the competing demands of Committees I and II, there was good representation from all regions, including developing countries, which was indicative of the growing importance of full representation of the Parties in the Convention's financial decisions.

In approving document Com. 11.21, the Budget Committee accepted document Doc. 11.10.1 (Rev. 1) - Financial Report for 1997, 1998 and 1999; took note of document Doc. 11.10.2 - Estimated Expenditures for 2000 -; and, in approving document Doc. 11.10.4 - External Funding - accepted the Secretariat's recommendations on limiting the time that a project remained on the lists for which external funding was sought so that these lists could be kept current.

The Budget Committee Chairman reported that considerable and substantive debate had been required in the six sessions of the Committee in order to reach consensus on the most important items, the Budget for 2001-2002 and the Medium-term plan for 2001-2005, which appeared in Annexes 2 and 3 to document Com. 11.21. Importantly, this time frame related directly to implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan, adopted earlier in the meeting.

This debate had focused on three primary concerns, which had to be recognized as the context for the decisions of the Budget Committee.

1) How best to respond to the substantial increase in the Secretariat's workload arising from an ever-growing number of new Parties, including many developing countries in need of greater assistance in achieving effective implementation of the Convention. This burden had been added to the ongoing requirements of the Parties <u>and</u> to the response of meetings of the Conference of

the Parties to the increasingly complex issues of the international wildlife trade, which have been embodied in 144 current Decisions (not counting those being generated at the present meeting). Those elements, as important as they were, had serious financial implications for the budget.

In an effort to address the above very legitimate needs, the Budget Committee approved a 2001-2002 biennium budget with an annual average which constituted a 26.5per cent increase over the average annual budget in the previous triennium. However, this increase, a compromise achieved by the Committee, fell substantially short of the budget needs presented by the Secretariat, and some services to the Parties might have to be reduced.

In the discussions, Party delegations participating in the Committee reinforced the priorities of implementation, capacity building, regional coordination, and certain other new activities. Further the Budget Committee approved a process whereby Decisions taken at the current meeting, as well as any shortfall in funding of the Secretariat resulting from the budget compromise, would be identified as having high priority for funding from any savings generated or possible increases in the Trust Fund balance that might be realized. These priorities were presented in Annex 4 (Rev. 1) to document Com. 11.21.

- 2) The long-term budget implications of the need for increased staffing of the Secretariat to respond adequately to the increased workload in support of the Parties were balanced against the need to fund other priority activities resulting from the Decisions of the Conference of the Parties. To provide funding of additional project activities and phase-in the long-term costs of additional posts, the Budget Committee reduced the number of new posts previously approved by the Standing Committee from seven to five and financed a portion of the costs of these posts in the base funding of the Secretariat. The draft resolution approved by the Committee also directed the Secretariat, in association with the Standing Committee, "to identify one-off and discrete projects that conclude before or soon after 2002 with a view to allocating the freed-up resources to future funding priorities".
- 3) There was a growing concern about significant discrepancies between the anticipated resources available from Party contributions to the Trust Fund and the projected expenditures required after 2002, due to a significant shortfall in the current level of Party contributions. Further, this had to be considered in the light of current realities in the capacity of the Parties to provide more substantial increases in annual contributions. The previous meeting had approved a 5 per cent increase in annual Party contributions for the average annual budget for 1998-2000, and the Budget Committee finally agreed to a 6 per cent increase in annual contributions for 2001-2002.

The Budget Committee believed that the projected balance in the Trust Fund resulting from accumulated reserves, which would permit a continuation of the drawdown procedure established at the previous meeting (which had been modified by the Budget Committee), as well as the flexibility provided to the Secretariat to make necessary staffing decisions as funding permits, would offset the anticipated shortfall in Party contributions in 2001-2002.

The Budget Committee Chairman emphasized, however, that in order to secure the long-term financial viability of the Convention, it was critical to pursue aggressively the objectives of Goal 7 of the Strategic Plan, to "Provide the Convention with an improved and secure financial and administrative basis." This was especially important as the budget estimates projected for the 2003-2005 triennium would require a 27 per cent increase in annual Party contributions to maintain the base operations of the Convention.

In conclusion, the Budget Committee recommended that the Parties approve the draft resolution on Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties in document Com. 11.21.

The Chairman thanked the Chairman of the Budget Committee for his report and asked for any comments. The delegation of Japan thanked the Chairman of the Budget Committee for his report, stating that they were neither hesitant nor reluctant to approve the document. However, they noted, as a point of concern, the lack of specific and clear figures showing how the 13 per cent programme

support charge levied by UNEP had been spent. They asked that UNEP submit this information to the Parties. The Chairman indicated that he was sure UNEP would pass this information on to the Standing Committee.

The observer from WWF International, speaking on behalf of his organization, the TRAFFIC Network and IUCN – the World Conservation Union, expressed concern that the proposed budget document eliminated funding for two posts dedicated to regional assistance that were especially needed. He urged Parties to provide additional voluntary contributions to finance several important but unfunded activities, such as assistance in preparing legislation, to help developing countries implement the Convention.

There being no further interventions, the Chairman declared document Com. 11.21 adopted.

The Chairman of Committee II then presented the results of the Committee's deliberations for adoption.

13. Terms of reference of permanent committees

Document Com. 11.1 was adopted.

14. Synergy with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

Document Doc. 11.14 was noted.

15. International Whaling Commission

1. Relationship with the International Whaling Commission

Document Doc. 11.15.1 (Rev. 1) had been rejected and this was confirmed.

2. Reaffirmation of the synergy between CITES and the International Whaling Commission

Document Doc. 11.15.2 had been withdrawn.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

18. <u>Interpretation and implementation of Article III, paragraph 5, Article IV, paragraphs 6 and 7 and Article XIV, paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, relating to introduction from the sea</u>

Documents Com. 11.17 and Com. 11.18 had been rejected and this was confirmed.

19. Report on national reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention

Document Doc. 11.19 was adopted.

20. Enforcement

1. Review of alleged infractions and other problems of implementation of the Convention

Document Doc. 11.20.1 was acknowledged as useful.

2. Implementation of Resolutions

Document Doc. 11.20.2 was adopted.

21. National laws for implementation of the Convention

1. National legislation project

Document Doc. 11.21.1 was <u>adopted</u> with amendments.

2. Measures to be taken with regard to Parties without adequate legislation

Document Com. 11.2 was adopted.

22. Report of seizures

Document Doc. 11.22 had been withdrawn.

23. Persistent offenders

Document Doc. 11.23 had been withdrawn.

24. Use of annotations in the Appendices

Document Doc. 11.24 was <u>adopted</u> with amendments.

26. <u>Definition of the term "appropriate and acceptable destinations"</u>

Document Com. 11.35, a draft resolution based on document Com. 11.14, was adopted.

27. Recognition of risks and benefits of trade in wildlife

Document Doc. 11.27 had been withdrawn.

29. Trade in bear specimens

Document Com. 11.22 was adopted.

30. Conservation of and trade in tigers

Document Com. 11.32 was adopted.

33. Exports of vicuña wool and cloth

Document Doc. 11.33 was adopted.

34. Conservation of and control of trade in Tibetan antelope

Document Com. 11.5 (Rev. 1) was adopted.

38. Timber species

1. Report from the Secretariat

Document Doc. 11.38.1 was adopted with amendments.

41. Significant trade in Appendix-II species

2. Revision of Resolution Conf. 8.9

Document Doc. 11.41.2 was adopted.

43. Amendment of Resolution Conf. 5.10 on the definition of "primarily commercial purposes"

Document Doc. 11.43 had been withdrawn.

44. Bushmeat as a trade and wildlife management issue

Document Doc. 11.44 was adopted.

45. Amendment of Resolution Conf. 9.6

1. <u>Concerning diagnostic samples, samples for identification, research and taxonomic purposes and cell cultures and serum for biomedical research</u>

Document Com. 11.31 (Rev. 1) was adopted.

2. Concerning final cosmetic products containing caviar

Document Doc. 11.45.2 had been rejected and this was confirmed.

46. Cross-border movements of live animals for exhibition

Document Doc. 11.46 was noted.

47. Revision of resolutions on ranching and trade in ranched specimens

Document Doc. 11.47 (Rev.1) was adopted with amendments.

48. Registration of operations breeding specimens of Appendix-I species in captivity for commercial purposes

Documents Com. 11.27 and Com. 11.28 were adopted with amendments.

The delegation of Israel asked the Secretariat to note that they had opposed both documents as these created, in essence, a split listing for Appendix-I species in captive breeding operations. Furthermore, they noted that the documents contained no provisions for Appendix-I species known to be in illegal trade.

50. Use of microchips for marking live animals in trade

Document Com. 11.20 was adopted.

51. Universal tagging system for the identification of crocodilian skins

Document Doc. 11.51 was adopted with amendments.

52. Movement of sample crocodilian skins

Document Com. 11.24 was adopted.

53. Universal labelling system for the identification of sturgeon specimens (caviar)

Document Com. 11.29 was adopted with amendments.

55. Definition of the term "prepared"

Document Doc. 11.55 had been withdrawn.

56. Trade in traditional medicines

Document Doc. 11.56 was adopted with amendments.

57. The Information Management Strategy

Document Doc. 11.57 was endorsed.

The delegation of Saudi Arabia suggested that the Secretariat develop a short brochure about CITES.

58. Potential risk of wildlife trade to the tourism industry

Document Doc. 11.58 had been withdrawn.

The Chairman noted that there were no comments on document Com. II 11.11.

The Chairman of Committee I presented the results of the Committee's deliberations for adoption.

Strategic and administrative matters

11. Committee reports and recommendations

4. Nomenclature Committee (continuation)

b) Recommendations of the Committee

The first part of document Doc. 11.11.4.2 had been referred to the Budget Committee, and the second part of the document had been considered under Agenda item 39.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

25. Procedure for the review of criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II

Document Doc. 11.25 was adopted.

28. Quotas for species in Appendix I

1. Leopard

Document Doc. 11.28.1 (Rev. 1) was adopted.

2. Markhor

Document Doc. 11.28.2 was adopted.

32. Conservation of and trade in rhinoceroses

Document Com. 11.19 was adopted with amendments.

35. Trade in freshwater turtles and tortoises to and in Southeast Asia

Document Com. 11.7 was adopted with amendments.

36. Trade in seahorses and other members of the family Syngnathidae

Document Com. 11.6 was adopted with amendments.

37. Identification and reporting requirements for trade in specimens of hard coral

Document Com. 11.9 was adopted with amendments.

38. Timber species

2. Progress in the conservation of *Swietenia macrophylla* (bigleaf mahogany)

The Conference noted document Doc. 11.38.2 and document Com. 11.8 was adopted.

39. Standard nomenclature

Documents Doc. 11.11.4.2, Doc. 11.39, Com. 11.30, Inf. 6 and Inf. 9 were adopted.

40. Assistance to Scientific Authorities for making non-detriment findings

Committee I had referred part of document Doc. 11.40 to the Budget Committee. This document was <u>adopted</u>.

41. Significant trade in Appendix-II species

1. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9

The delegation of the United States of America, seconded by the delegation of Canada, requested reopening of the debate on this agenda item. Following discussions with the delegations of Canada, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation, they suggested the following amendment to document Com. 11.4. The first paragraph under "Directed to the Parties" should read: Starting from January 1st 2001, range States to declare coordinated intergovernmental level annual export and catch quotas per basin, or biogeographical region where appropriate, for all commercial trade in specimens of Acipenseriformes. Parties should inform the Secretariat, prior to 31 December of the preceding year. Parties that fail to inform the Secretariat will automatically be treated as having a zero quota for the following year. This was agreed.

Document Com. 11.4 was then <u>adopted</u> as amended and the Conference <u>noted</u> document Doc. 11.41.1.

Document Com. 11.16 was adopted as amended in Committee I.

42. Trade in specimens of species transferred to Appendix II subject to annual export quotas

The Conference noted document Doc. 11.42.

49. Animal hybrids: amendment of Resolution Conf. 10.17

Document Doc. 11.49 was adopted.

54. Transport of live animals

Document Doc. 11.54 was adopted.

31. Conservation of and trade in elephants

1. Experimental trade in raw ivory of populations in Appendix II

The Conference noted document Doc. 11.31.1.

2. Monitoring of illegal trade and illegal killing

The Conference noted document Doc. 11.31.2.

3. Revision of Resolution Conf. 10.10

Document Doc. 11.31.3 was adopted with amendments.

4. Non-commercial disposal of ivory stockpiles

Document Doc. 11.31.4 had been withdrawn.

Consideration of proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II

59. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

1. Proposals resulting from the periodic review by the Plants Committees

Proposals Prop. 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.6, 11.8 and 11.11 were <u>adopted</u>. Proposals Prop. 11.7 and 11.10 were <u>adopted</u> as amended. Proposal Prop. 11.5 had been <u>rejected</u> and this was confirmed and proposal Prop. 11.9 had been withdrawn.

2. Proposals concerning export quotas for specimens of species in Appendix I and II

Proposal Prop. 11.12 was adopted.

3. Other proposals

The following proposals were <u>adopted</u>: Prop. 11.19, 11.25, 11.26, 11.28, 11.31, 11.33, 11.34, 11.35, 11.36, 11.45, 11.46, 11.50, 11.53, 11.55 and 11.57.

Proposals Prop. 11.13, 11.20, 11.30, 11.38, 11.54, 11.59 and 11.61 were <u>adopted</u> with amendments.

The delegation of Switzerland requested a point of clarification on the amendment to proposal Prop. 11.13 and noted that proposals may only be amended to reduce the scope of effect. The Secretary-General responded that the Secretariat would clarify the annotation to read: <u>zero quota</u> for animals taken from the wild and traded for primarily commercial purposes.

Proposals Prop. 11.32, 11.37, and 11.52 had been $\underline{\text{rejected}}$ in Committee I and this decision was confirmed.

The proposals that had been <u>withdrawn</u> were: Prop. 11.14, 11.21, 11.22, 11.23, 11.24, 11.27, 11.29, 11.39, 11.40, 11.42, 11.43, 11.44, 11.51, 11.56, 11.58, 11.60 and 11.62.

Proposals Prop. 11.14, 11.56, 11.60 and 11.62 having been withdrawn from consideration, documents Com. 11.23, Com. 11.15, Com. 11.11, and Com. 11.25, respectively, had been drafted. These were <u>adopted</u>. Proposal Prop. 11.29 having also been withdrawn, documents Com. 11.12 and Com. 11.13 had been drafted; these were adopted.

The observer from Safari Club International announced that they were organizing a technical workshop on Urial and other Caprinae to be held in 2001 in Central Asia. The goal would be to create synergy

among range States, the scientific community, conservation interests and the hunting community. They invited IUCN, the TRAFFIC Network, WWF and other interested organizations to participate. They also invited the participation and funding support of the governments of the Member States of the European Union and the United States of America.

The session was closed at 16h45.