

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



Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Amendment of the Appendices

PROPOSALS TO AMEND APPENDICES I AND II

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Article XV, paragraph 1 (a), of the Convention, states that:

Any Party may propose an amendment to Appendix I or II for consideration at the next meeting [of the Conference of the Parties]. The text of the proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Secretariat at least 150 days before the meeting.

3. By 14 October 2009, i.e. 150 days before the opening date of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 25 Parties had communicated to the Secretariat their proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II, for consideration at that meeting. These were Argentina, Brazil, the Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Palau, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sweden (on behalf of the European Community Member States acting in the interest of the European Community), Switzerland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Zambia. Most of the proposals were accompanied by supporting statements presented in accordance with the format recommended by the Conference of the Parties [Annex 6 to Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14)].
4. The list of the proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II is provided in Annex 1.
5. The Secretariat consulted the Parties on the proposed amendments in accordance with the provisions of Article XV, paragraphs 1 (a), 2 (b) and (c), through a Notification sent to the contracting and signatory States of the Convention through the diplomatic channel on 13 November 2009, as well as with Notification to the Parties No. 2009/047 of the same date. The proposals have also been made available on the Secretariat's website. The Secretariat's provisional assessment of the proposals was provided to the Parties through Notification to the Parties No. 2009/051 of 14 December 2009, and is also included in Annex 2.
6. In accordance with the provisions of Article XV, paragraphs 1 (a) and 2 (b), of the Convention, the Secretariat has consulted intergovernmental bodies having a function in relation to marine species. These organizations were: the Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears, Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPF).

7. In accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP14), on *Implementation of the Convention for timber species*, paragraph b), of the section entitled *Regarding international organizations*, the Secretariat has sought the views of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), FAO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) regarding the amendment proposal for timber species.
8. On the basis of the above consultation procedures and comments received, as well as the information contained in the assessment of the amendment proposals prepared by IUCN and TRAFFIC (*The IUCN/TRAFFIC Analyses of Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices* <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/inf/E15i-18A.pdf>), the Secretariat has finalized its recommendations to the Parties.
9. At its 58th meeting (Geneva, July 2009), the Standing Committee agreed *inter alia* that, when providing advice to the Parties on proposals to amend Appendices I or II, the Secretariat should clearly indicate which interpretation of the criteria to amend the Appendices it has used. The view of the Secretariat on this point is explained in document CoP15 Doc. 63. Specifically, the Secretariat has used the criteria in Annexes 1 and 2 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14). The Secretariat used these criteria in conjunction with the definitions, explanations and guidelines of the words and phrases listed in Annex 5.
10. Annex 2 to the present document contains:
 - a) the comments received from Parties;
 - b) the comments received from the intergovernmental bodies mentioned in paragraphs 6 and 7 above, either in full or summarized; and
 - c) the Secretariat's final recommendations.
11. Annex 3 to the present document contains the comments received from FAO.
12. Annex 4 to the present document contains the comments received from ICCAT, in the language in which they were submitted.
13. Annex 5 to the present document contains the reply received from ITTO in response to the Secretariat's request for comments, in the language in which they were submitted.
14. In accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.9, the Secretariat convened a Panel of Experts to review the two proposals received to transfer populations of the African elephant from Appendix I to Appendix II. The report of the Panel is presented in Annex 6.