

CITES Projects for External Funding

The CITES Secretariat plans to carry out projects and activities which are based on Decisions adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004). This list includes those directed to the permanent Committees which will need the assistance of the Secretariat for their implementation.

Improved implementation of the Convention

Trade in Appendix I species (Decision 13.20)

The Standing Committee, with assistance from the Secretariat, is directed to conduct a review of trade in Appendix-I plant and animal species, through UNEP-WCMC. The review should take into account all exports, re-exports, and imports of Appendix-I specimens, including the species name, the source and purpose codes, existing exemptions and all other relevant information for the last five years. The identity of individual Parties should be protected in the report.

At its 54th meeting, the Standing Committee will consider the UNEP-WCMC report and draft recommendations, based on the analysis of Appendix-I trade and present these recommendations for consideration at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

National wildlife trade policy reviews (Decisions 13.74)

The Secretariat is directed to conduct a review of national policies regarding the use of and trade in specimens of CITES-listed species, taking into account economic incentives, production systems, consumption patterns, market access strategies, price structures, certification schemes, CITES-relevant taxation and subsidy schemes, property rights, mechanisms for benefit sharing and reinvestment in conservation, as well as stricter domestic measures that Parties apply or are affected by.

It should compile and synthesize the information provided by the Parties, and produce a report analysing the impacts of national policies for trade in CITES-listed species in terms of socio-economic and conservation benefits and costs, including the economic value of the species, levels of legal and illegal trade, improvement of the livelihood of local communities, and how they affect the role of the private sector involved in such trade.

It should report at the 54th and subsequent meetings of the Standing Committee and at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made.

It should also submit a project proposal to the Global Environment Facility, and other funding institutions and development agencies, to seek financial support to prepare the trade policy reviews in the interested countries, in the context of their national and regional strategies for biodiversity conservation.

Species-related projects

Agarwood-producing taxa (Decision 13.65)

The Secretariat is directed to convene, prior to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a capacity-building workshop on trade in agarwood aimed at improving enforcement and implementation of the listing of *Aquilaria malaccensis* and other agarwood-producing species. The workshop should include a discussion of registration and labeling systems, types

of agarwood products in trade and the potential for establishing personal effects exemptions for each, and the usefulness of such approaches for effective implementation.

Hawksbill turtle (Decision 13.40)

The Secretariat is directed, before the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to arrange at least one meeting of the wider Caribbean region on the hawksbill turtle in order to facilitate regional collaboration, planning and information exchange, as well as collaboration with other bodies and multilateral agreements with a mandate concerning the conservation and management of this species in the wider Caribbean region.

The Secretariat shall collate reports received from States and territories in the wider Caribbean region on progress with the implementation of the regional conservation strategy and national management plans and present a written summary at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Conservation of and trade in sturgeon and paddlefish (Decisions 13.44 to 13.47)

In consultation with and assistance from the CITES Secretariat and relevant experts, interested Party/ies are directed to undertake an assessment of the technical and legal feasibility to establish a database concerning trade in sturgeon specimens subject to annual quotas as outlined in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP13). This database would be updated regularly and could include, pending needs identified under the assessment, information on species, specimens, volumes exported as well as status of export quotas, and country, date of issuance and number of export permits and re-export certificates that are sent to the CITES Secretariat by relevant Parties.

Pending results of the assessment and subject to the availability of funds, the interested Party/ies are to submit a proposal for a pilot project on the provision of a database to the Standing Committee at its 54th meetings. The interested Party/ies concerned should report on the outcome of this pilot project and its recommendation to CoP14.

Enforcement

Elephant – domestic ivory trade (Decision 13.26)

The Secretariat shall ensure the implementation of the Action plan for the control of trade in African elephant ivory which was adopted during the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004). The Action plan directs the Secretariat to work with the relevant countries in Africa to provide any technical assistance that may be necessary to aid the implementation of the action plan.

The Secretariat plans to conduct *in situ* verification missions where appropriate, to assess, on a country-by-country basis, progress made with the implementation of the action plan. Priority should be given to those Parties that are identified during research by the Secretariat and through other appropriate sources of information to have active and unregulated internal markets for ivory. Priority should be given to Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Nigeria and any other country identified through ETIS.

The Secretariat should also continue to monitor all domestic ivory markets outside Africa to ensure that internal controls are adequate and comply with the relevant provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12). Priority should be given to China, Japan and Thailand, with particular attention being paid to any Party that has notified the Secretariat that it wishes to authorize imports of ivory for commercial purposes.

The Secretariat should report upon the implementation of the action plan at each meeting of the Standing Committee.

Others

Master's Course (Decision 13.105)

The Secretariat is directed to seek external funds to support the participation of students from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Master's course on Management, Access, Conservation and Trade of Species: The International Framework, conducted by the University of Cordoba (Spain) and to the International University of Andalusia (Spain).

The Secretariat has received a request from the United Republic of Tanzania for financial assistance for their nominated student to the Master's course.

Sponsored Delegates project for CoP14

A CITES Secretariat initiative, the project aims to enable delegates from the least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition to participate in the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in the Netherlands. The Secretariat aims to provide the same level of support as in CoP13 wherein over 150 delegates from 98 countries were able to attend. The Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for the Netherlands is almost double that of the two previous CoPs (Santiago, 2002 and Bangkok, 2004) and therefore, the project's budget is foreseen to be greatly higher than the usual funds being sought for this project.