

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



Fifty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 14-18 July 2008

Strategic and administrative matters

CITES AND LIVELIHOODS

This document has been prepared by a Working Group of the Standing Committee on the basis of document SC57 Doc. 14.

Participants: Brazil, Israel, Peru, Conservation Force, Humane Society International, IFAW, SSN, WWF, Safari Club International and the CITES Secretariat.

The meeting began with a discussion on the composition of the Working Group, and on the need for balanced regional representation, including between Parties and relevant stakeholders. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that Argentina, Australia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Mali, Nicaragua, Suriname, IUCN, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and FAN Bolivia had expressed interested in joining the Working Group.

It was suggested that countries from southern Africa and Asia as well as representatives from indigenous and local communities also be invited to participate. It was also recommended that SC regional representatives ask countries in their regions whether they would be interested in participating in the Working Group.

Peru was designated Chairman by the Working Group.

With the assistance of the Secretariat and in consultation with members of the Working Group, the Chairman will develop terms of reference for the Working Group and for the consultant who will prepare the toolkit and guidelines referred to in document SC57 Doc. 14.

Participants discussed the use of information technologies to facilitate communication among members of the Working Group. It was agreed that the Working Group would communicate via email and an electronic forum hosted on the CITES website whenever possible. However, efforts would be made to secure external funding for possibly one or two meetings prior to the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee. It was suggested that it may be possible to organize meetings of the Working Group on the margins of or back-to-back with the next meeting of the Animals or Plants committee.

The Secretariat offered to establish a section on livelihoods on the CITES website. The section would contain relevant documents, links to other sites and other information.