

MEMORANDUM OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN
THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE
IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA
(WASHINGTON, D.C., 1973) AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (NAIROBI, 1992)

Recalling that the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (held at Fort Lauderdale, United States of America, in November 1994) approved the Strategic plan of the Secretariat of the Convention, which contains as one of the important tasks of the Secretariat the development of "further intensified co-operation with the CITES partners in the international arena" and which states that "Special attention will be given to...the Secretariats of other environmental conventions: Biological Diversity, Ramsar...;"

Noting that the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in November 1995) adopted Decision 11/13 on "Co-operation with other Biodiversity-related Conventions", under which the Convention's Executive Secretary is requested to co-ordinate with the Secretariats of other conventions with a view to facilitating the exchange of information and experience, to explore harmonizing of reporting requirements and for co-ordinating work programmes, and to consult on how other conventions can contribute to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Aware that both Secretariats are prepared to co-operate with each other in order to promote co-operation and co-ordination with other relevant convention secretariats;

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, hereinafter referred to as "the secretariats", decide as follows:

Article 1. Institutional co-operation

- a. The secretariat of each Convention will facilitate the participation, at meetings of the Convention, of the Secretariat of the other.
- b. The secretariats will inform their respective focal points in each Contracting Party of their co-operative activities, and will seek to promote consultation and co-operation between focal points in those Contracting Parties where the focal points for the two conventions are different.

Article 2. Exchange of information and experience

- a. The secretariats will institute procedures for regular exchange of information in their respective fields of action.
- b. The secretariats will establish methods for exchanging data on biodiversity contained in their databases and in the Clearing-house Mechanism under the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- c. The secretariats will co-operate, where relevant, in preparing the documents required for each Convention.

Article 3. Co-ordination or programmes of work

- a. The secretariats will to the extent possible co-ordinate the preparation of the relevant parts in their respective work plans.
- b. The secretariats will explore the possibility of facilitating the reporting process of Contracting Parties under both Conventions.

Article 4. Joint conservation action

- a. The secretariats will consult their Contracting Parties with a view to encouraging integration and consistency between national strategies, plans or programmes under the Convention on Biological Diversity and plans or programmes under the convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- b. The secretariats will consult their Contracting Parties with a view to encouraging:
 - effective conservation and promoting the sustainability of any use of wildlife as a part of biological diversity of our planet; and
 - the development of working relations with the executive bodies of multilateral international agreements on trade and intellectual property rights as appropriate in order to facilitate the integration into the working plans of these bodies of measures aimed at ensuring the sustainability of use of biodiversity in general and of wildlife in particular.
- c. The secretariats will endeavour to co-ordinate their activities in research, training and public awareness activities.

Article 5. Consultation, reporting and further guidance

The Secretariats will institute measures to ensure consultation on the implementation of this memorandum of co-operation and will report on such measures to their respective governing bodies and seek further guidance on new areas of co-operation.

Article 6. Review, Amendment and Termination

This agreement may be reviewed and amended at the request of either party and will be terminated by either party giving a one-year written notice.

Done at Brisbane, on 23 March 1996

Calestous Juma
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity

Izgrek Topkov
Secretary General
Convention on International
Trade in Endangered Species of
Wild Fauna and Flora