

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



Thirty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 19-23 June 2023

Strategic matters

Animals Committee strategic planning for 2023-2025 (CoP19-CoP20)

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS DIRECTED TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Annex 1 to this document provides an overview of the currently valid Resolutions that require actions from, or contain references to, the Animals Committee.
3. Annex 2 lists all currently valid Decisions of the Conference of the Parties directed to the Animals Committee, or that may need consultation with, or assistance from the Committee.
4. The Animals Committee is invited to take these instructions into consideration in developing its working programme for 2023-2025 (see document AC32 Doc. 8.2).

RESOLUTIONS CONTAINING INSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE DIRECTED
OR RELEVANT TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

Resolution	Instruction
<p>Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) Use of coded- microchip implants for marking live animals in trade</p>	<p>2. DIRECTS b) the Animals Committee to monitor developments in microchip-implant technology and application techniques and to advise the Secretariat about such developments, for the information of the Parties.</p>
<p>Conf. 9.21 (Rev. CoP18) Interpretation and application of quotas for species included in Appendix I</p>	<p>2. INSTRUCES the Standing Committee and the Animals Committee to keep under regular review (every nine years or sooner if determined necessary) quotas for species included in Appendix I established by the Conference of the Parties. If new scientific or management data have emerged to indicate that the population of the species in the range State concerned can no longer sustain the agreed quota, consult with the range State in order to find a solution to any concerns raised including, if appropriate, making recommendations to amend the quota.</p>
<p>Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</p>	<p>5. URGES Parties that are considering the submission of a proposal to amend the Appendices, in cases where there is any doubt regarding the nomenclature to follow, to consult the nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee or the Plants Committee as early as possible in advance of submitting the proposal;</p> <p>9. RESOLVES that, to monitor the effectiveness of protection offered by the Convention, the status of species included in Appendices I and II should be regularly reviewed by the range States and proponents, in collaboration with the Animals Committee or the Plants Committee, subject to the availability of funds;</p> <p>Annex 4: Precautionary measures</p> <p>B. The following review procedures shall apply when a species is transferred to Appendix II pursuant to paragraph A. 2. iii) above.</p> <p>1. Where the Plants Committee, the Animals Committee or a Party becomes aware of problems in compliance with the management measures and export quotas of another Party, the Secretariat shall be informed and, if the Secretariat fails to resolve the matter satisfactorily, it shall inform the Standing Committee which may, after consultation with the Party concerned, recommend to all Parties that they suspend trade with that Party in specimens of CITES-listed species, and/or request the Depository Government to prepare a proposal to transfer the population back to Appendix I.</p> <p>2. If, on review of a quota and its supporting management measures, the Animals or Plants Committee encounters any problems with compliance or potential detriment to a species, the relevant Committee shall request the Depository Government to prepare a proposal for appropriate remedial action.</p> <p>Annex 6: Format for proposals to amend the Appendices</p> <p>10. <u>Consultations</u> Provide details of the consultation undertaken to secure comments on the proposal from the range States of the species, either through direct contact or via the CITES Secretariat. Comments received from each country should be provided. Where comments were sought but not received in sufficient time to enable their inclusion in the supporting statement, this should be noted, as well as the date of the request.</p> <p>In cases of proposals to transfer Appendix-II species that are subject to the Review of Significant Trade to Appendix I, the proponent should consult the affected range State(s) and, as appropriate, the Animals Committee or Plants Committee. The proponent should state the reasons to justify why the amendment proposal was made. In cases of consultation with Parties via the</p>

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	<p>CITES Secretariat, information from range States and non-range States should be separated.</p> <p>In the case of species that are also managed through other international agreements or intergovernmental bodies, provide details of the consultations undertaken to obtain the comments of those organizations or bodies, and indicate how those comments have been addressed in the supporting statement. Where comments were sought but not received in sufficient time to enable their inclusion in the supporting statement, this should be noted, as well as the date of the request.</p>
<p>Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) Implementation of the Convention for species in Appendix III</p>	<p><i>Inclusion of species in Appendix III</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RECOMMENDS that, when considering the inclusion of a species in Appendix III, a Party: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c) inform the Management Authorities of other range States, the known major importing countries, the Secretariat and the Animals Committee or the Plants Committee that it is considering the inclusion of the species in Appendix III and seek their opinion on the potential effects of such inclusion; h) consult with the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and, as appropriate, the Animals Committee or Plants Committee, to ensure that any proposed annotation that is part of a request to include a species in Appendix III (and any definitions developed that define terms in the annotation, as appropriate) is clear and unambiguous, and likely to be understood by enforcement personnel and user groups; 5. REQUESTS that, upon request by a Party, the Animals or Plants Committee assist Parties in reviewing the status of species in Appendix III, subject to available resources; 6. URGES Parties having included species in Appendix III to review periodically the status of these species, seek assistance of the Animals or Plants Committee in undertaking the review mentioned in paragraph 5 of this Resolution, if necessary, and taking into account these guidelines and any recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees, to consider the necessity to maintain the species in Appendix III;
<p>Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP19) Transport of live specimens</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DIRECTS the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees to deal with matters related to the transport of live specimens; 2. RECOMMENDS that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> e) the Standing Committee and the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and IATA, regularly review, revise and approve amendments to the <i>CITES guidelines for the non-air transport of live animals and plants</i>; 3. DIRECTS the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to participate in meetings of the Live Animals and Perishables Board of IATA in order to amplify or update the <i>IATA Live Animals Regulations</i> and the <i>IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations</i> and the <i>CITES guidelines for the non-air transport of live animals and plants</i>; b) to examine new or additional references for transport of live specimens for incorporation into the present Resolution, if appropriate; c) to examine developments related to the transport of live plant specimens for incorporation into the present Resolution, if appropriate; and d) to examine when appropriate, any high mortality shipments of live specimens and make recommendations to relevant Parties, exporters, importers and transport companies on how to avoid this in the future;

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<p>Conf. 11.12 (Rev. CoP15) Universal tagging system for the identification of crocodylian skins</p>	<p>2. DIRECTS the Secretariat to report deficiencies of the system or specific instances of concern to the Animals Committee and the relevant Parties, as appropriate;</p>
<p>Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</p>	<p><i>Regarding proposals to transfer populations from Appendix I to Appendix II for ranching</i></p> <p>2. RECOMMENDS that</p> <p>e) in order to be discussed at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, any proposal for amendment of the Appendices pursuant to this Resolution be received by the Secretariat at least 330 days before that meeting. In consultation with the Animals Committee, the Secretariat shall seek appropriate scientific and technical advice to verify that the criteria specified in paragraph 2 d) above have been met and to review the information and assurances in the proposal that are specified in paragraph b) above. If in the opinion of the Secretariat further information concerning the criteria is required, the Secretariat shall request information from the proposing Party within 150 days after receipt. Thereafter, the Secretariat shall communicate with the Parties in accordance with Article XV of the Convention;</p> <p><i>Regarding changes to the ranching programme described in the proposal to transfer a species from Appendix I to Appendix II</i></p> <p>3. RECOMMENDS that:</p> <p>b) any Party with an approved ranching proposal submit any changes to the information supplied in paragraph 2 c) above to the Secretariat. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals Committee, should determine whether the changes proposed substantially alter the original ranching programme, and undermine or jeopardize the conservation of the wild population. The Secretariat should advise the Party of its determination accordingly; and</p> <p>c) in cases where the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals Committee, concludes that changes to the ranching programme that are proposed in accordance with paragraph h) would result in substantial changes to management of the species, the proposed management be treated as a new proposal, requiring the submission of a proposal pursuant to this Resolution and to the requirements of Article XV of the Convention;</p>
<p>Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) Identification Manual</p>	<p>1. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:</p> <p>h) inform the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees on the progress made whenever appropriate;</p>
<p>Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP18) Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'</p>	<p>1. AGREES that where the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations' appears in an annotation to the listing of <i>Loxodonta africana</i> in Appendix II of the Convention with reference to the trade in live elephants¹ taken from the wild, this term shall be defined to mean in situ conservation programmes or secure areas in the wild, within the species' natural and historical range in Africa, except in exceptional circumstances where, in consultation with the Animals Committee, through its Chair with the support of the Secretariat, and in consultation with the IUCN elephant specialist group, it is considered that a transfer to <i>ex-situ</i> locations will provide demonstrable <i>in-situ</i> conservation benefits for African elephants, or in the case of temporary transfers in emergency situations;</p>

¹ Excluding elephants that were in *ex-situ* locations at the time of the adoption of this Resolution at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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<p>Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) Use of annotations in Appendices I and II</p>	<p>1. AGREES that:</p> <p>j) annotations that include time limits or other references that may with time cease to apply should, on a regular basis, be considered for deletion or revision by the Standing Committee and as appropriate, by the Animals Committee or Plants Committee.</p> <p>7. URGES Parties submitting proposals that contain substantive annotations to consult with the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and, as appropriate, the Animals Committee or Plants Committee, to ensure that the annotation is appropriate and can be readily implemented;</p> <p>8. DIRECTS:</p> <p>a) the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals Committee or the Plants Committee, to agree on interim definitions between meetings of the Conference of the Parties in cases where significant differences in the interpretation of terms in annotations exist among trading countries and are causing implementation difficulties, and then include these definitions in its report to the Conference of the Parties for adoption;</p>
<p>Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) Permits and certificates</p>	<p>XI. Regarding permits and certificates for coral specimens</p> <p>19. RECOMMENDS that:</p> <p>a) on permits and certificates issued to authorize trade in specimens of hard corals of the genera included in the most recent CITES list of <i>Coral taxa where identification to genus level is acceptable</i>², where the species cannot be readily determined, the specimens may be recorded at the genus level. This list is maintained by the Secretariat and may be amended with the concurrence of the Animals Committee;</p>
<p>Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) Conservation and management of sharks</p>	<p>13. DIRECTS the Animals Committee to periodically examine new information provided by range States on the implementation of the shark listings and other available relevant data and information;</p> <p>14. DIRECTS the Animals Committee to make species-specific recommendations, if necessary, on improving the conservation status of sharks and implementation of shark and ray listings;</p> <p>16. DIRECTS the Animals Committee and Standing Committee to report progress on shark and ray activities at the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.</p>
<p>Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP17) Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish³</p>	<p>4. DIRECTS the Secretariat, in cases where range States of shared wild stocks have agreed on export quotas in the previous year, to provide to the subsequent meeting of the Animals Committee a written report, based on information submitted by the range States concerned as requested in subparagraph 3 a) iv) above, including references to relevant documents, on its activities related to the conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish;</p> <p>5. DIRECTS the Animals Committee, in collaboration with the Secretariat, interested Parties, international organizations and relevant experts, to monitor progress on the relevant provisions of this Resolution and to inform the Standing Committee about new developments or problems as and when required;</p> <p>6. URGES range States to cooperate with the Animals Committee and the Secretariat with a view to implementing the provisions under subparagraph 3 a) and paragraph 5 above;</p> <p>7. CALLS UPON range States, importing countries and other experts and appropriate organizations, such as the IUCN/SSC Sturgeon Specialist Group, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Animals Committee, to continue to explore the development of a uniform DNA-based identification system for parts and derivatives and aquaculture stocks of Acipenseriformes species to assist in the subsequent identification of the origin of specimens in trade and the</p>

² At the time of entry into force of the present Resolution (12 June 2013), the most recent list had been published in Notification to the Parties No. 2012/047; later replaced by Notification to the Parties No. 2013/035

³ For the purposes of this Resolution, the term "shark" is taken to include all species of sharks, skates, rays and chimaeras, in alignment with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks).

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	development and application of methods for differentiating wild from aquaculture origin caviar in cases where DNA-based methods are not useful;
<p>Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</p>	<p>Regarding conduct of the Review of Significant Trade</p> <p>1. DIRECTS the Animals and Plants Committees, in cooperation with the Secretariat and experts, and in consultation with range States, to review the biological, trade and other relevant information on Appendix-II species subject to significant levels of trade, to identify problems and solutions concerning the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a), in accordance with the following procedure and as outlined in Annex 1 of this Resolution:</p> <p>Stage 1: Selection of species/country combinations to be reviewed</p> <p>a) the Secretariat shall, within 90 days after each meeting of the Conference of Parties, commence, or appoint consultants to commence, preparation of a summary from the CITES Trade Database of annual report statistics showing the recorded level of direct exports for Appendix-II species over the five most recent years, and an extended analysis of trade to inform the preliminary selection of species/country combinations, to be completed in sufficient time for the first regular meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee following that meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see Annex 2 of this Resolution);</p> <p>b) on the basis of recorded levels of direct exports and information available to the Animals or Plants Committee, the Secretariat, Parties or other relevant experts, a limited number of species/country combinations of greatest concern shall be included in Stage 2 of the review process by the Animals or Plants Committee at their first regular meeting following a meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and</p> <p>c) in exceptional cases, outside of steps 1 a) and b) above, and where new information provided to the Secretariat by a proponent indicates that rapid action may be needed concerning problems relating to the implementation of Article IV (for a species/country combination), the Secretariat:</p> <p>i) will verify that the proponent has provided a justification for the exceptional case, including supporting information;</p> <p>ii) may produce, or request a consultant produce a summary of trade from the CITES Trade Database in relation to the species/country combination concerned as necessary; and</p> <p>iii) will, as soon as possible, provide the justification and, if appropriate, a trade summary to the Animals or Plants Committee for their intersessional review and decision on whether or not to include the species/country combination in Stage 2 of the review process;</p> <p>Stage 2: Consultation with the range States and compilation of information</p> <p>d) the Secretariat shall:</p> <p>i) within 30 days after the meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee at which species/country combinations are selected, or within 30 days after the Committee has selected a species/country combination on an exceptional basis, notify selected range States that their species has been selected, providing an overview of the review process and an explanation for the selection. The Secretariat shall request range States to provide the scientific basis by which it is established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species concerned and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a) of the Convention. In its letter, the Secretariat shall provide guidance to range States on how to respond, explain the consequences of not responding to the request, and inform the range States that the responses will be made available on the CITES website as part of the agenda for meetings of the Animals or Plants Committee. Range States shall be given 60 days to respond; and</p> <p>ii) compile, or appoint consultants to compile, a report about the biology and management of and trade in the species, including any relevant information provided by the range States, to be made available for the next meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee. In doing so, the</p>

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	<p>Secretariat (or consultants) shall actively engage with the range States and relevant experts in the compilation of the report;</p> <p>e) the report required under subparagraph 1 d) ii) shall include conclusions about the effects of international trade on the selected species/country combinations, the basis on which such conclusions are made and problems concerning the implementation of Article IV, and shall provisionally divide the selected species/country combinations into three categories:</p> <p>i) 'action is needed' shall include species/country combinations for which the available information suggests that the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), are not being implemented;</p> <p>ii) 'unknown status' shall include species/country combinations for which the Secretariat (or consultants) could not determine whether or not these provisions are being implemented; and</p> <p>iii) 'less concern' shall include species/country combinations for which the available information appears to indicate that these provisions are being met; and</p> <p>f) once the report is completed, the Secretariat shall draw the attention of the relevant range States to the report prepared under subparagraph d) ii) and invite them to provide any additional information for consideration at the second meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee following the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>Stage 3: Categorization and Recommendations by the Animals or Plants Committee</p> <p>g) the Animals or Plants Committee shall, at their second meeting following the Conference of the Parties, review the report of the Secretariat or the consultants, and the responses and additional information received from the range States concerned. For each selected species/country combination the Animals or Plants Committee shall recategorize species/country combinations of 'unknown status' as either 'action is needed' or 'less concern' and provide a justification for such recategorization. Additionally, if appropriate, the Animals and Plants Committee shall revise the preliminary categorization proposed for species/country combinations of those where 'action is needed' or those of 'less concern' and provide a justification for the revision;</p> <p>i) species/country combinations determined by the Animals or Plants Committee to be of less concern shall be removed from the review process and the Secretariat shall notify the range States accordingly within 30 days; in cases where the species/country combination is of less concern due to the establishment of a zero export quota, any change to this quota should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and the Chair of the relevant Committee along with a justification; and</p> <p>ii) species/country combinations determined by the Animals or Plants Committee to be those for which 'action is needed' shall be retained in the review process. The Animals or Plants Committee shall, in consultation with the Secretariat, formulate time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, and transparent recommendations directed to the range States retained in the review process, using the principles outlined in Annex 3 of this Resolution. The recommendations should aim to build the range State's long term capacity to implement Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a) of the Convention;</p> <p>h) the Secretariat shall, within 30 days of the meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee, transmit these recommendations to the range States concerned; and</p> <p>i) the Animals or Plants Committee shall formulate separate recommendations directed to the Standing Committee for problems identified in the course of the review that are not directly related to the implementation of Article IV paragraph 2(a), 3 or 6(a), following the principles outlined in Annex 3 of this Resolution;</p>

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	<p>Stage 4: Measures to be taken regarding the implementation of recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) the Secretariat shall monitor progress against the recommendations, taking account of the different deadlines; k) once the range State has reported on the implementation of recommendations or the deadlines have passed, whichever is first and, following timely intersessional consultation with members of the Animals or Plants Committee through the Chairs, the Secretariat shall determine whether the recommendations referred to above have been implemented; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) where the recommendations have been met, the Secretariat shall, following consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee, notify the range States concerned that the species/country combination was removed from the review process and include the rationale for its evaluation, noting where relevant, specific commitments made by the range States in question and, in the case where a species/country combination was removed from the review process on the basis of the establishment of an interim precautionary export quota (including a zero export quota) in the place of implementing the recommendations, any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and Chair of the relevant Committee along with a justification, for their agreement; or ii) when the recommendations are not deemed to have been met (and no new information is provided), the Secretariat shall, in consultation with the members of the Animals or Plants Committee through the Chairs, recommend to the Standing Committee appropriate action, which may include, as a last resort, a suspension of trade in the affected species with that State; or iii) where the recommendations are not deemed to have been met or have been partially met, and there is new information suggesting the recommendation may require updating, the Secretariat shall, in a timely fashion, request the members of the Animals or Plants Committee, through the Chairs, to prepare a revised recommendation, keeping in mind the principles that recommendations should be time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, transparent, and should promote capacity building. The Secretariat shall provide the revised recommendation to the range States within 30 days of its drafting; l) the Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on its evaluation of the implementation of the recommendations, including the rationale for its evaluation and, where relevant, specific commitments made by the range States in question, and a summary of the views expressed by the Animals or Plants Committees. The Secretariat shall additionally report on any further actions taken by the Animals or Plants Committee in the case of range States where new information has resulted in revised recommendations; m) for range States where recommendations are not deemed to have been met, the Standing Committee shall decide, at its next regular meeting or intersessionally as appropriate, on necessary action and make recommendations to the range State concerned, or to all Parties, keeping in mind that these recommendations should be time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, transparent, and should promote capacity building. In exceptional circumstances, where the range State under consideration provides new information on the implementation of the recommendations to the Standing Committee, the Standing Committee through the Secretariat, shall consult in a timely fashion with the members of the Animals or Plants Committee through the Chair, prior to making a decision on necessary action; n) the Secretariat shall notify all Parties of any recommendations or actions taken by the Standing Committee; o) a recommendation to suspend trade in the affected species with the range State concerned should be withdrawn only when that range State demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Standing Committee, in consultation

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	<p>with the Secretariat and the members of the Animals or Plants Committee, through the relevant Chair, compliance with Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a); and</p> <p>p) the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals or Plants Committee, shall review recommendations to suspend trade that have been in place for longer than two years, evaluate the reasons why this is the case in consultation with the range State, and, if appropriate, take measures to address the situation;</p> <p>Regarding capacity building, monitoring, reporting, and evaluating the review process</p> <p>5. DIRECTS the Secretariat, for the purpose of monitoring and facilitating the implementation of this Resolution and the relevant paragraphs of Article IV:</p> <p>a) to report at each meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee on the implementation by the range States concerned of the recommendations made by the Committee; and</p> <p>b) to maintain a database of species/country combinations that are included in the review process set out in this Resolution including a record of progress with the implementation of recommendations;</p> <p>6. DIRECTS the Secretariat to include training on the Review of Significant Trade process as part of its capacity building activities related to the making of non-detriment findings;</p> <p>7. DIRECTS the Animals or Plants Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, to undertake a regular review of the outcomes of the Review of Significant Trade by, for example, examining a sample of past species/country combinations to assess whether implementation of Article IV paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a) was improved. The Animals or Plants Committee should consider the results of this review and revise the Review of Significant Trade process as necessary. In doing so, feedback should be obtained from range States (including their Scientific Authorities) who have been through the review process;</p>
<p>Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</p>	<p>Annex 2: Procedure to be followed by the Secretariat before registering new operations</p> <p>3. If any Party objects to the registration, the Secretariat shall refer the documentation to the Animals Committee to review the objection. The Animals Committee shall comment on the objection within 60 days. The Secretariat shall forward the comments made by the Animals Committee to the Parties concerned and allow a further 30 days for resolution of the identified problem(s).</p>
<p>Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) Standard nomenclature</p>	<p>2. RECOMMENDS that:</p> <p>c) where there are domesticated forms of listed taxa, the Animals and Plants Committees recommend names for the wild and domestic forms;</p> <p>e) upon receiving proposals to amend the Appendices to the Convention, the Secretariat seek, where appropriate, the advice of the Animals and Plants Committees on the correct names to use for the species or other taxa in question;</p> <p>f) whenever a change in the name of a taxon included in the Appendices is proposed, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals or Plants Committee, determine whether this change would alter the scope of protection for fauna or flora under the Convention. In the case where the scope of a taxon is redefined, the Animals or Plants Committee shall evaluate whether acceptance of the taxonomic change would cause additional species to be included in the Appendices or listed species to be deleted from the Appendices and, if that is the case, the Depositary Government should be requested to submit a proposal to amend the Appendices in accordance with the recommendation of the Animals or Plants Committee, so that the original intent of the listing is retained. Such proposals should be submitted for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees will be considered;</p> <p>g) if the Animals or Plants Committee proposes nomenclatural changes relating to taxa included in Appendix-III, they should advise the Secretariat</p>

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	<p>whether these changes would also result in changes in distribution that would affect the determination of which countries would be required to issue certificates of origin;</p> <p>h) if there is conflict regarding the choice of taxonomic authority for taxa for which no standard references have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties, countries authorizing export of animals or plants (or parts or derivatives thereof) of such taxa inform the CITES Secretariat and prospective importing countries of their preferred published taxonomic authority. 'Taxonomic authority' means a recent published paper or monograph that reviews the nomenclature of the taxon being exported and that has been reviewed by professionals in the pertinent discipline. In cases where specimens of the taxon are exported from several countries and the exporting countries do not agree, or the exporting and importing countries do not agree, on the taxonomic authority, the Animals or Plants Committee should determine the most appropriate taxonomic authority, until a formal recommendation to the Conference of the Parties is made. The Animals or Plants Committee shall include this interim decision in its report to the Conference of the Parties, for adoption. The Secretariat shall notify the Parties about the interim decision;</p> <p>k) when the Animals or Plants Committee recommends a change in the name of a taxon to be used in the Appendices, it also provide an evaluation of the implications for the implementation of the Convention;</p> <p>3. RECOMMENDS the following procedure for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones:</p> <p>a) the process for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones shall be initiated directly by the Animals or Plants Committee on their own initiative or by the submission of a proposal to the Committees by:</p> <p>i) one or more Parties; or</p> <p>ii) the Secretariat, on its own initiative or in response to information it has received from the Parties; and</p> <p>b) proposed changes shall be based on recognized taxonomic publications. In the case where a proposed amendment to the nomenclatural status of a taxon is still under discussion, the new taxonomy should not be adopted;</p> <p>4. RESOLVES that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals or Plants Committee, may make orthographical changes in the lists of species included in the Appendices to the Convention, without consulting the Conference of the Parties, and shall inform the Parties of those changes;</p> <p>5. DIRECTS the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees, and in the implementation of its memoranda of understanding or cooperation, or programmes of work with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, to consider ways of harmonizing the taxonomy and nomenclature of species included in their respective provisions;</p> <p>7. RECOGNIZES the <i>Checklist of CITES species</i>, compiled by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, 2005, and its updates, as an official digest of scientific names contained in the standard references, that fully reflects the taxonomy and nomenclature contained in the original species proposals, the recommendations of the Animals or Plants Committee and all accepted names included in the standard references that have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties for species included in the Appendices;</p> <p>9. URGES Parties to assign to their Scientific Authorities the principal responsibility for:</p> <p>a) interpretation of the listings;</p> <p>b) consultation with the Animals or Plants Committee as appropriate;</p> <p>c) identification of nomenclatural issues that may warrant further review by the appropriate CITES committee and preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices if appropriate; and</p>

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	<p>d) supporting and cooperating in the development and maintenance of the checklists;</p> <p>11. DIRECTS the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees, to promote harmonization of the taxonomy and nomenclature used by biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements;</p>
<p>Conf. 13.2 (Rev. CoP14) Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines</p>	<p>1. URGES the Parties to:</p> <p>a) make use of the <i>Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity</i>, also taking into account scientific, trade and enforcement considerations determined by national circumstances, as well as the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees (see Annex 2) when adopting non-detriment-making processes and making CITES non-detriment findings;</p>
<p>Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18) Conservation of and trade in great apes</p>	<p>2. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:</p> <p>d) draw the attention of the Animals Committee to any scientific or technical issues related to international trade in great apes;</p> <p>4. URGES the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and the Animals Committee to work closely with GRASP, and to explore and implement other measures through which the Convention can contribute to the conservation of great apes and to the promotion of public awareness of the threat posed to great ape populations by illegal trade;</p>
<p>Conf. 13.11 (Rev. CoP18) Wild meat</p>	<p>8. DIRECTS the Secretariat to regularly review the implementation of this Resolution and draw the attention of the Standing Committee and Animals Committee to any issues concerning international trade in wild meat;</p>
<p>Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) CITES compliance procedures</p>	<p>Annex: Guide to CITES compliance procedures <i>The various bodies and their compliance-related tasks</i></p> <p>13. The Animals and Plants Committees, acting in accordance with instructions from and authority delegated by the Conference of the Parties, advise and assist the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties with regard to compliance matters, <i>inter alia</i>, by undertaking necessary reviews, consultations, assessments and reporting. These Committees are entrusted with specific tasks in the handling of matters related to the Review of Significant Trade.</p>
<p>Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II</p>	<p>1. AGREES that the Animals and Plants Committees shall conduct a periodic review of species listed in Appendix I and II, seeking information, participation and support from the range States. The regional representatives of the Animals and Plants Committees shall seek assistance from range States within their region to support the taxon reviews;</p> <p>3. FURTHER AGREES that the review will be conducted in accordance to the following process:</p> <p>a) normally, after every second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a schedule for the periodic review of the Appendices and identify a list of taxa they propose to review during the next two intersessional periods. The list should be established at the first meetings of the Committees after the meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) that initiates the review period;</p> <p>b) the Animals and Plants Committees shall select a practical sub-subset of CITES-listed species of flora or fauna for analysis pursuant to the following methods and guidance:</p> <p>i) the Secretariat shall, subject to availability of funding, undertake or appoint consultants to undertake the assessment outlined in the Annex and prepare the resulting outputs for consideration by the Scientific Committees at their first meeting after the meeting of the Conference of the Parties that initiates the review period (Note: if no funding is available, the Secretariat shall inform the Parties and the Scientific Committees' Chairs);</p> <p>ii) the following taxa should not be considered for review:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. species that were the subject of listing proposals at the previous three meetings of the Conference of the Parties (whether or not the proposals were adopted); B. species subject to ongoing reviews, under the Review of Significant Trade [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18)], or periodic reviews conducted within the last 10 years; or C. species subject to other reviews targeted by valid Decisions and Resolutions of the CoP; and D. species for which it is clear that there has been no change in the status, range or trade and for which there is no possibility to need to amend the Appendices; and <p>iii) outputs resulting from the assessment conducted in accordance with the Annex to this Resolution shall contain the following information in summary tables that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. a summary of trade data since the initial inclusion of that taxon in the Appendices; B. current conservation status, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) category of the species, if assessed; C. current listing in the CITES Appendices, criteria under which it was listed (if known), date of first listing; and D. the distribution of the species (range States); <p>c) at the first meetings of the Committees after the meeting of the CoP that initiates the review period and based on the outputs prepared in subparagraph 2 b) above, the Animals and Plants Committees will identify the list of taxa to be considered for periodic review;</p> <p>d) the Secretariat shall send a copy of the proposed list of taxa to be reviewed to all Parties, and request range States of the taxa to comment within 60 days on whether they support a review of the taxa and express their interest in undertaking the reviews. The responses shall be relayed by the Secretariat to the Animals or Plants Committee. If no volunteer offers to undertake a review within two intersessional periods between CoPs, those taxa shall be deleted from the list of species to be reviewed;</p> <p>e) each review (ideally in the format of a proposal used to amend the Appendices) is to be submitted as a working document to the Animals or Plants Committee for review, clearly specifying the recommendation with reference to the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17). The Secretariat shall notify the relevant range States of these working documents in advance of the meeting of the Committee;</p> <p>f) the Animals or Plants Committees may also evaluate reviews undertaken independently by Parties and submitted for their consideration;</p> <p>g) based on the information as per subparagraph 2 e) above, the Animals or Plants Committee is to make a recommendation on whether it would be appropriate to retain a taxon in the Appendix in which it is currently listed, transfer a taxon from one Appendix to another, or to delete a taxon from the Appendices;</p> <p>h) the Animals or Plants Committee shall draft its recommendation with reference to the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17). The Committee shall report its conclusions to the Conference of the Parties, and the Secretariat shall inform the range State(s) for the species reviewed of the conclusion of the Committee; and</p> <p>i) in the event that the Committee recommends a change in the CITES listing status for the species reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the Secretariat shall invite the range State(s) of the species reviewed to submit a proposal to the next Conference of the Parties; and ii) if no range State expresses a willingness to submit the proposal, the Secretariat may request the Depository Government to submit it as specified in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) and to include the

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	<p>comments of the range States in the supporting statement, if so requested by the Animals or Plants Committee;</p> <p>4. RECOMMENDS the Animals and Plants Committees should share their experience, especially during joint meetings, regarding the undertaking of periodic reviews of taxa included in the Appendices (including financing of reviews, processes, format and outputs);</p> <p>5. ENCOURAGES the Animals and Plants Committees and Parties to facilitate periodic reviews by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) collaborating with university graduate students, including those from the CITES Master's Programme at the International University of Andalusia; b) collaborating with other non-Party reviewers including species experts such as IUCN Species Survival Commission Specialist Groups; c) using readily available information on species' conservation status from organizations (e.g. IUCN, BirdLife, etc.) and Parties; d) seeking financial support for reviews, including from importing countries, as appropriate; and e) increasing communication between the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and suggest coordination with Parties when animal and plant species' ranges overlap; <p>6. DIRECTS the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees to keep the Standing Committee informed about the conduct of periodic reviews, noting that Standing Committee approval is not required to initiate the process;</p>
<p>Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) Non-detriment findings</p>	<p>3. DIRECTS the Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to maintain a prominent section for non-detriment findings on the CITES website and to update it regularly with information from the Animals and Plants Committees, Parties and other sources; b) to implement a user-friendly mechanism on the CITES website that would allow Parties to easily submit relevant information to be considered for inclusion in the website; c) to ensure that this information is accessible in the appropriate sections of the CITES Virtual College; and d) to assist in identifying possible funding sources to help Parties implementing capacity-building activities related to the making of non-detriment findings
<p>Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</p>	<p>2. DIRECTS the Animals and Standing Committees, in cooperation with the Secretariat, relevant experts and in consultation with Parties, to review biological, trade and other relevant information regarding animal species subject to significant levels of trade using source codes C, D, F or R, to identify problems associated with the implementation of the Convention and to develop solutions in accordance with the following procedure.</p> <p>Stage 1 – Identification of species-country combinations for review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Secretariat shall produce a summary from the CITES Trade Database of annual report statistics of species traded, derived from the five most recent years, under source codes C, D, F or R and will undertake, or appoint consultants to undertake, an analysis of such data to identify species-country combinations for review using the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) significant increases in trade in specimens declared as captive-produced (source codes C, D, F and R); ii) trade in significant numbers of specimens declared as produced in captivity; iii) shifts from wild to captive-produced source codes; iv) inconsistencies between source codes reported by exporting and importing Parties for specimens declared as produced in captivity; v) apparent incorrect application of captive production codes such as: 'D' for Appendix-I species that have not been registered in compliance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i>;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi) trade from non-range States of specimens declared as produced in captivity with no evidence of lawful acquisition of parental breeding stock (i.e. no recorded imports); and vii) specimens produced as captive produced (source codes C, D and F), where the species are known to be difficult to breed in captivity; <p>b) The Secretariat shall also compile any other relevant information made available to it with respect to concerns about captive production, including any cases referred to it by Parties justified with supporting documented evidence or identified from the Review of Significant Trade under Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i>, or available in relevant reports, including the global conservation status by species published in the IUCN Red List of threatened species or noted as not evaluated;</p> <p>c) The Secretariat shall provide the outcome of the analyses in subparagraph 2 a), including the data sources used, and a compilation of information from subparagraph 2 b) to the first regular meeting of the Animals Committee following a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Animals Committee may select a limited number of species-country combinations for review, taking into account the biology of the species, for which it should draft general or specific questions and a brief explanation of the selection, to be addressed by the Secretariat to the Parties concerned in accordance with Stage 2, subparagraph 2 g). The Animals Committee will determine for which species the short reviews provided for in Stage 2, subparagraph 2 h) are required; urgent enforcement matters identified at this stage should be referred to the Secretariat and the country concerned and subsequently reported to the Standing Committee;</p> <p>d) Where the Animals Committee finds that a species/country combination raises concerns better dealt within the process of the Review of Significant Trade, it can introduce that combination into stage 2 of the process in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), paragraph 1 d) as an exceptional case; and</p> <p>e) In exceptional cases, outside steps in subparagraphs 2 a)-c) above, and where new information provided to the Secretariat indicates that urgent action may be needed concerning problems relating to the implementation of provisions under the Convention for captive production of specimens, the Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) shall verify that the proponent has provided a justification for the exceptional case, including supporting information; ii) shall produce a summary and analysis of trade from the CITES Trade Database in relation to the species-country combination; and iii) provide the information from i) and ii) above, as soon as possible to the Animals Committee or Standing Committee, as appropriate, for their intersessional review and decision on whether to include the species-country combination in the next stage of the review process. <p>f) When selecting species-country combinations for review under paragraph 1 c) of the present Resolution, the Animals Committee should not select species-country combinations where the Standing Committee has already entered a dialogue with the country concerned over the use of source codes C, D, F or R under another compliance process.</p> <p>Stage 2 – Consultation with countries and compilation of information</p> <p>g) The Secretariat shall, within 30 days after the relevant meeting of the Animals Committee, notify the country or countries concerned that species produced in captivity in their country have been selected for review, and provide them with an overview of the review process and an explanation for the selection provided by the Animals Committee. The Secretariat shall ask the country or countries to provide information, within 60 days, in response to general or specific questions, developed by the Animals Committee, to determine if the correct source codes have been used, under the applicable Resolutions, for specimens claimed to be produced in captivity; and</p>

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	<p>h) The Secretariat shall also commission, if requested by the Animals Committee, a short review of the species concerned, in consultation with relevant countries and specialists, to compile and summarise known information relating to the breeding biology and captive husbandry and any impacts, if relevant, of removal of founder stock from the wild.</p> <p>Stage 3 – Review and recommendation by the Animals and Standing Committee</p> <p>i) The Animals Committee shall, at their second meeting following a regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, review the responses from countries, any review commissioned by the Secretariat and any additional relevant information, and determine if trade is in compliance with Article III and Article IV of the Convention, as well as Article VII, paragraphs 4 and 5. If trade is in compliance, the species-country combination will be excluded from the review and the Secretariat will inform the country or countries of this outcome within 60 days;</p> <p>j) Where a species-country combination is retained within the review and the Animals Committee identifies concerns appropriately within its remit, the Animals Committee shall, in consultation with the Secretariat, formulate draft recommendations directed to the relevant country which are time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, transparent and aimed at ensuring long-term compliance which, where appropriate, aim to promote capacity building and enhance the ability of the country to implement relevant provisions of the Convention. The Secretariat shall transmit these draft recommendations and supporting information, from the Animals Committee to the next meeting of the Standing Committee for their review, revision if necessary, and endorsement;</p> <p>k) Where a species-country combination is retained within the review and the Animals Committee identifies concerns that are more appropriately considered by the Standing Committee, the Secretariat shall refer the issue to the next meeting of the Standing Committee, including any observations from the Animals Committee;</p> <p>l) The Standing Committee shall review the draft recommendations and supporting information from the Animals Committee and prepare any required recommendations for the country or the countries concerned;</p> <p>m) Recommends that the Standing Committee, when making recommendations to the country or countries under paragraph 2 l) of the present Resolution in relation to the use of source codes C, D, F or R, avoid duplication with other compliance processes; and</p> <p>n) The Secretariat shall, within 30 days of the meeting of the Standing Committee in subparagraphs 2 i) and k), transmit the combined recommendations of the Standing and Animals Committees to the country or countries concerned and also provide the country or countries with relevant guidance, such as on the correct application of source codes, and means by which their capacity to deal with captive production issues might be enhanced.</p> <p>Stage 4: Measures to be taken regarding the implementation of recommendations</p> <p>o) The Secretariat shall monitor progress against the recommendations, taking account of the different deadlines, and, following timely intersessional consultation with the members of the Animals Committee through its Chair, followed by the members of the Standing Committee through its Chair, determine whether the recommendations referred to above have been implemented:</p> <p>i) where the recommendations have been met, the Secretariat shall, following consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee, notify the Parties that the species-country combination was removed from the review process; or</p> <p>ii) when the recommendations are not deemed to have been met, the Secretariat shall, following consultation with the members of the</p>

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	<p>Animals Committee, followed by the members of the Standing Committee through their Chairs, recommend to the Standing Committee appropriate action, which may include, as a last resort, a recommendation to suspend trade in the affected species with that State;</p> <p>p) The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on its evaluation of the implementation of the recommendations, including the rationale for its evaluation, and a summary of the views expressed by the Animals Committee;</p> <p>q) For countries where recommendations are not deemed to have been met, the Standing Committee shall decide on appropriate actions and make recommendations to the country or countries concerned, keeping in mind that these recommendations should be time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, transparent, and should, if appropriate, promote capacity building. In exceptional circumstances, where the country under consideration provides new information on the implementation of the recommendations to the Standing Committee, the Standing Committee, through the Secretariat, shall consult intersessionally with the Animals Committee through the Chair prior to making a decision on appropriate action;</p> <p>r) The Secretariat shall notify the Parties of any recommendations or actions taken by the Standing Committee;</p> <p>s) Any recommendation by the Standing Committee to suspend trade in the affected species with the country concerned should be withdrawn only when that country demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Standing Committee, through the Secretariat, in consultation, where appropriate, with the members of the Animals Committee through their Chair, compliance with the provisions of the Convention with respect to the captive production of specimens; and</p> <p>t) The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, shall, where appropriate, review recommendations to suspend trade that have been in place for longer than two years, consult with the relevant country, evaluate the reasons why this is the case, and, if appropriate, take measures to address the situation.</p> <p>Regarding capacity building, monitoring, reporting, and evaluating the review process</p> <p>3. DIRECTS the Secretariat, for the purpose of monitoring and facilitating the implementation of this Resolution and the relevant provisions of the Convention:</p> <p>a) To report to the Standing Committee on the implementation, by the countries concerned, of the recommendations made by the Standing and Animals Committees; and</p> <p>b) To maintain a record of species-country combinations that are included in the review process set out in this Resolution, including a record of progress with implementation of recommendations;</p> <p>4. DIRECTS the Secretariat to include training on this review process of specimens produced through captive production as part of its capacity-building activities related to the implementation of the Convention; and</p> <p>5. DIRECTS the Standing and Animals Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat, to periodically evaluate the outcomes of this Review by, for example, examining a sample of past species-country combinations to assess whether the desired result was achieved. Based on these evaluations, the Standing and Animals Committees should propose revisions to the review process as necessary. In these periodic evaluations, feedback should be sought from countries that have been through the review process.</p>
<p>Conf. 17.12 Conservation, sustainable use of and trade in snakes</p>	<p>3. URGES Parties and the Secretariat to use the general NDF guidance contained in Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) and any further guidance recommended by the Animals and Standing Committees in capacity-building workshops and relevant training materials;</p>

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<p>Conf. 18.1 Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2020-2022</p>	<p>26. FURTHER DECIDES that the standard participation charge for all observer organizations other than the United Nations and its specialized agencies at meetings of the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees shall be set at a minimum of USD 100 for each observer participant (except as otherwise decided by the Secretariat as required and following consultation with the Finance and Budget Subcommittee);</p> <p>27. AFFIRMS that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) all meetings of the Conference of the Parties and all regular meetings of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee should be held in the Host country of the Secretariat unless a candidate host country pays the difference in costs between its proposed venue and the Host country; and b) candidate host country is to sign the Host Country Agreement no later than six months after the decision is made by the Conference of the Parties or 60 days after the decision is made by the Committees to hold the meeting outside the host country of the Secretariat; and c) no more than two regular meetings each of the Standing Committee, and the Animals and Plants Committees should be convened between regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties; <p>28. DIRECTS the Secretariat to make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the Chairs of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee, other than members from developed countries;</p> <p>30. REQUESTS the Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to make provisions for all the costs the Secretariat incurs, including costs associated with the hiring of temporary staff and consultants, when seeking funds for the implementation of externally funded projects; b) to seek the most cost effective translation and interpretation services; c) in consultation with proponent Parties, when necessary, to advise the Conference of the Parties on proposals with budgetary implications, including staff costs; and d) in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, to assign scientific consultants and define terms of reference for specific science-based projects. Such a process should be implemented in a fashion that would not have a negative impact on the budget, but rather effectively utilize the scientific expertise of the Parties which is available to the Secretariat via the Chairs of the technical committees;
<p>Conf.18.2 Establishment of Committees</p>	<p>3. ESTABLISHES the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee as its scientific advisory bodies, which shall report to the Conference of the Parties at its meetings and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee between meetings of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with their Terms of Reference as found in Annex 2 of this Resolution;</p> <p>Regarding regional sessions at meetings of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>7. AGREES that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) regional sessions should be held at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties; such sessions should have an official character and should have an agenda; b) the Chair of each regional session should be the representative of a regional Member of the Standing Committee; c) each region has specific tasks to fulfil, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) selection, as appropriate, of Parties as Members and alternate Members of the Standing Committee, and experts as Members and alternate Members of the Animals and Plants Committees; ii) the regions with more than one Member on a committee should review at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties the way the representation should be exercised; and

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	<p>iii) other tasks depending to a large extent on the agenda of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p> <p>Regarding conflict of Interest in committees where the membership consists of individuals</p> <p>8. AGREES that a “conflict of interest” refers to any current financial interest which could significantly impair an individual’s impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a Member of a committee. A candidate’s employment by itself does not automatically constitute a conflict of interest. For committees where individuals are elected as Members, such as the Animals Committee and Plants Committee, the following procedures apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Parties proposing candidates as Members or alternate Members are to request that, together with their names and <i>curricula vitae</i>, each candidate provides a Declaration of Interest which should be circulated to the Parties of the region concerned before the meeting of the Conference by the Parties at which the Members will be elected. In that declaration in the standard disclosure form agreed by the Standing Committee, the candidate should disclose any current financial interest that might call into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a Member or alternate Member of the committee; b) Following an election, the declaration of interest and the <i>curriculum vitae</i> of each Member and alternate Member shall be made available by the Secretariat to the Chair and the Members of the committee concerned, and to the Chair of the Standing Committee; and c) Each Member and acting Member shall, at the beginning of each meeting of the committee using the standard disclosure form agreed by the Standing Committee, declare whether they have any financial interests that he or she considers call into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the agenda for that meeting of the committee. A conflict of interest may also be identified by any credible source and brought to the attention of the Chair of the committee through the Secretariat. If a Member has such a financial interest, he or she may take part in discussions but not in the decision-making regarding the agenda item in question. If the Member is the subject of the potential conflict of interest, he or she shall not chair the meeting or sub-meeting for the agenda item in question; <p>Annex 2 – Terms of Reference of the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>Purpose</p> <p>1. As the scientific advisory committees of the Conference of the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees play an important role in providing scientific and technical expertise and advice for the implementation of a broad range of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties. This is evidenced in the adoption of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17) on the <i>Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II</i>, Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on the <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix II species</i> and Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Standard nomenclature</i>, for example. Further, Parties have recognized the importance of making available the best technical and scientific advice regarding CITES-listed species from different sources, origins and production systems, as well as the importance of assisting Parties in making non-detriment findings, and supporting their Scientific Authorities in accordance with Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Non-detriment findings</i>. Parties have additionally recognized that nomenclature used in the Appendices or for proposals for listing new species in the Appendices will be most useful to the Parties if standardized through adoption of standard nomenclatural references, which also facilitates identification and tracking of specimens of CITES-listed species in trade and harmonises cooperation with other multilateral environmental agreements.</p>

Functions

2. The Animals and Plants Committee shall, in accordance with instructions from and authority delegated by the Conference of the Parties in its resolutions and decisions:
 - a) provide scientific advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the other committees, the Secretariat and Parties on matters relevant to international trade in animal and plant species included in the Appendices;
 - b) undertake the tasks which are directed to them by the Conference of the Parties through relevant resolutions or decisions including:
 - i) review the biological, trade and other relevant information on Appendix-II species, subject to significant levels of trade in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix II species*;
 - ii) conduct periodic reviews of species included in Appendix I and II in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17) on *Periodic Reviews of species included in Appendix I and II*;
 - iii) identify and address nomenclatural issues in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature*; and
 - iv) for the Animals Committee review biological, trade and other relevant information regarding animal species subject to significant levels of trade using source codes C, D, F or R in accordance with Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity*;
 - c) upon request by Parties or the Secretariat, provide advice on the making of non-detriment findings in the context of Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings*, and on the management of quotas in the context of Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Management of nationally established export quotas*;
 - d) provide scientific advice on identification issues, and on training and other capacity-building materials, tools and guides to promote their accuracy and availability;
 - e) upon request by Parties, provide advice related to scientific, technical and nomenclatural aspects of proposals to amend the Appendices;
 - f) upon request by Parties, provide technical, scientific and nomenclatural advice to Parties concerning the management of trade in specimens of CITES-listed species from different sources, origins and production systems, including captive breeding and artificial propagation;
 - g) draft resolutions or decisions on scientific matters related to animals or plants, for consideration by the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties, with a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding;
 - h) perform any other functions that may be entrusted to them by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
 - i) report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities they have carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference.
3. In giving instructions to the Animals and Plants Committees, the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee agree to pay due attention to whether the nature of the work is within their mandate as set out in paragraph 2, and whether the committees have the resources, time and expertise to undertake such work.
4. When making requests in the context of paragraph 2 c), e) and f) above, Parties should be mindful of the limited resources of the committees.

Membership

5. The membership of the Animals and Plants Committee shall be elected by the Conference of the Parties and consist of:
 - a) one person selected by each of the major geographic regions consisting of North America and Oceania based on candidates nominated by Parties from these regions;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) two persons selected by each of the major geographic regions consisting of Africa, Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean, and Europe based on candidates nominated by Parties from these regions; and c) a specialist on zoological nomenclature (Animals Committee) and a specialist on botanical nomenclature (Plants Committee) selected by their respective Committees based on candidates nominated by Parties, and who are <i>ex-officio</i> and non-voting. <p>6. One person shall also be selected and elected as an alternate Member for each of the Members listed in paragraph 5 above to serve as an acting Member at meetings only in the absence of the Member for whom he/she is the alternate.</p> <p>7. The membership of the Committees shall be reviewed at every regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The terms of office of the Members shall commence at the close of the regular meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second regular meeting thereafter.</p> <p>8. A Chair and a Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Committee from amongst the regional Members and shall normally serve until the close of the second regular meeting after being elected. In the absence of the Chair at a meeting, the Vice-Chair shall be acting as the Chair.</p> <p>9. The Chair should be replaced in his/her role of regional Member by his/her alternate. In the absence at a meeting of the alternate in question, the Chair shall serve also as regional Member for his/her region on an ad hoc basis.</p> <p>10. Regarding nomination of candidates, the following guidelines should be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Parties proposing candidates as Members or alternate Members should confirm, at the time of nomination, that the candidate will be supported and that they will obtain the necessary means to undertake their activities; b) the names of the proposed candidates, and their <i>curricula vitae</i>, should be officially submitted to the Secretariat at least 120 days before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which the representatives will be elected. These candidatures should be communicated to all the Parties of the region concerned as soon as possible thereafter by the Secretariat. In case of the nomenclature specialists, the names and their <i>curricula vitae</i> of the proposed candidates shall be circulated to the relevant committee; c) ideally the candidates should be associated with a Scientific Authority, have adequate knowledge of CITES and receive sufficient institutional support to carry out their duties. This information should also be included in the <i>curricula vitae</i>; and d) proposed candidates should be persons; a Party should not be accepted as a proposed candidate even if it plans to identify a person at a later time. <p>11. Regarding the timing of replacement of regional Members and alternate Members, the procedure should be the same as that described above for the Standing Committee and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) as alternate Members are alternates of specified Members, they should be elected at the same time as the Members; b) if a region wishes to re-elect a Member or alternate Member, there is nothing to prevent it from doing so; and c) in the event that no nominations have been received before the deadline the incumbent shall remain, if so willing and able, as a representative until a replacement is elected. <p>12. In the event of a vacancy arising amongst the Members or alternate Members of a committee between regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the following procedure shall apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Secretariat shall notify the vacancy to the committee concerned, the Chair of the Standing Committee and the regional Member(s) of the Standing Committee from the region concerned (which may be all regions in the case of a nomenclature specialist);

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	<p>b) the Secretariat shall immediately issue a Notification to the Parties calling for nominations from Parties in the region or regions concerned for a person to fill the vacancy on an interim basis;</p> <p>c) the Secretariat shall provide the names and <i>curricula vitae</i> of the candidates received to the Chair of the Standing Committee and to the Standing Committee's Regional Member(s) from the region concerned or, in the case of a vacancy for a nomenclature specialist, to the committee concerned. They will decide on the person to fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>d) until a decision is reached in the case of a vacancy of a Member, the provisions of paragraph 6 above apply; and</p> <p>e) At the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with paragraph 5 of the present Annex. Nothing shall prevent the person appointed on an interim basis from being later proposed to fill the position.</p> <p>Duties of the Members of the Animals and Plants Committees</p> <p>13. The duties of the Members elected to the Animals and Plants Committees and their alternates are as follows:</p> <p>a) each Member should, to the best of his/her abilities, act as impartially as possible and endeavour to base his/her judgements and opinions upon an objective, scientific assessment of the available evidence;</p> <p>b) each Member should collaborate with his/her alternate regarding the work to be done between the meetings of the committee;</p> <p>c) each Member should maintain regular communication with the Parties in his/her region;</p> <p>d) when a region has more than one representative, the representatives should also agree which Parties each represents. Contact should also be established with non-Parties in the region;</p> <p>e) each Member should increase the awareness of the role and function of the committee, its mandate and the issues of concern to his/her region through mechanisms such as participation in seminars or in related meetings organized by the Secretariat and by other organizations at regional or sub-regional level;</p> <p>f) before the meetings of the committee, the Members should inform and consult the Parties in their regions about the agenda and in particular on matters specifically relevant to the countries of the region;</p> <p>g) the Members should submit a written report, covering the preceding period, to each meeting of the committee;</p> <p>h) the Members should inform the Parties in their regions of the results of each meeting of the committee in particular on matters specifically relevant to the countries of the region;</p> <p>i) the Members must inform the alternates well in advance if they will not attend a forthcoming committee meeting; and</p> <p>j) the Members should provide to their successors all relevant information on the activities in the region.</p> <p>14. The zoological and botanical nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees shall coordinate, monitor and analyse the input needed from specialists in fulfilling their responsibilities as assigned by the Parties.</p> <p>Meeting Procedures</p> <p>15. When back-to-back meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees include a joint session, the duration of the separate committee meetings should be four days, but when not back-to-back, the length of each meeting should be five days, unless the Chair and the Secretariat consider that a shorter meeting may be sufficient.</p> <p>Financial Support</p> <p>16. The Conference of the Parties determines the budget of the Secretariat, including the financial resources provided to support meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees and associated eligible travel expenses. Each Member from a</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<p>developing country and the nomenclature specialists are eligible to seek payment of travel expenses to attend each regular meeting of the Animals or Plants Committee.</p> <p>17. Parties and regions are urged to utilize or develop long-term sustainable funding mechanisms to support their representatives in the Committees, including the nomenclature specialists.</p>
<p>Conf. 18.3 CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030</p>	<p>The <i>CITES Strategic Vision</i> provides a framework for the future development of the CITES Resolutions and Decisions and provides guidance on goals and objectives to be achieved. The Conference of the Parties, through its Resolutions and Decisions, will determine actions to be taken by Parties, the Committees or the Secretariat, as appropriate. The Strategic Vision also serves the Parties as a tool for the prioritization of activities, and decisions on how best to fund them, in light of the need for the efficient and transparent use of resources.</p>
<p>Conf. 18.4 Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p>	<p>3. Instructs the Standing Committee, working with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ensure that there is a two-way relationship between CITES and IPBES in which CITES is a user or beneficiary of IPBES, as well as a contributor to IPBES; b) ensure that communication between CITES and IPBES is effective; c) promote the needs of national Scientific and Management Authorities in the work of IPBES to foster the use of applied science for the implementation of CITES, including the making of non-detriment findings and legal acquisition findings, and related trade resolutions and decisions; d) ensure that CITES requests and input to intersessional and regular work undertaken by IPBES are provided in accordance with relevant timelines; and e) ensure that any inputs are conveyed to IPBES, with the endorsement of the Chair of the Standing Committee after consultation with the Committee and the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, by the Secretariat on behalf of the Standing Committee; <p>5. INSTRUCTS the Animals and Plants Committees, through their Chairs, to assist the Standing Committee with the implementation of this Resolution and, to participate, when relevant and subject to external resources, as observers in the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and thereby reinforce linkages between the MEP and the CITES scientific committees; and</p> <p>6. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) assist the Standing Committee with the implementation of this Resolution; b) track the intersessional and regular work of IPBES bodies and, as appropriate and subject to external funding, participate as an observer in the governing body of IPBES and thereby reinforce linkages between that body and the governing bodies of CITES; and c) seek external funding to support attendance at IPBES meetings by the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat.
<p>Conf. 18.6 Designation and role of Management Authorities</p>	<p>8. FURTHER REMINDS Parties that the specific reporting commitments implemented by their Management Authorities include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) coordinating the preparation of an annual illegal trade report and submitting this report to the Secretariat by 31 October each year covering actions in the preceding year, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports</i> and with the <i>Guidelines for the preparation and submission of the CITES annual illegal trade report</i>, and b) reporting, where appropriate, on specific issues concerning the implementation of the Convention as requested by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee, the Plants Committee or the Secretariat in accordance with relevant Resolutions, Decisions and Notifications to the Parties;
<p>Conf. 19.1</p>	<p>30. FURTHER DECIDES that the standard participation charge for all observer organizations other than the United Nations and its specialized agencies at</p>

Resolution	Instruction
Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2023-2025	<p>meetings of the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees shall be set at a minimum of USD 100 for each observer participant (except as otherwise decided by the Secretariat as required and following consultation with the Finance and Budget Subcommittee);</p> <p>31. REQUESTS the Standing Committee to review possible standard charge fees for observer organizations and international visitors attending electronic meetings of the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees;</p> <p>32. AFFIRMS that: a) all meetings of the Conference of the Parties and all regular meetings of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee should be held in the Host country of the Secretariat unless a candidate host country pays the difference in costs between its proposed venue and the Host country; and b) candidate host country is to sign the Host Country Agreement no later than 60 days after the decision is made by the Conference of the Parties or the Committees and to transfer the host contribution in a timely manner to the Secretariat for its additional costs to hold the meeting outside the host country of the Secretariat; and c) no more than two regular meetings each of the Standing Committee, and the Animals and Plants Committees should be convened between regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>33. DIRECTS the Secretariat to make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the Chairs of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee, other than members from developed countries;</p> <p>35. REQUESTS the Secretariat:</p> <p>d) in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, to assign scientific consultants and define terms of reference for specific science-based projects. Such a process should be implemented in a fashion that would not have a negative impact on the budget, but rather effectively utilize the scientific expertise of the Parties which is available to the Secretariat via the Chairs of the technical committees;</p>
Conf. 19.2 Capacity-building	<p>4. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:</p> <p>b) cooperate with institutions and organizations in planning and delivering joint capacity-building activities of relevance to the Convention, in consultation with the Standing Committee and with the Animals and Plants Committees, as appropriate, as they relate to the development of new partnerships that have a scientific nexus or new or revised capacity-building materials of a scientific nature, including scholarships for in-person training or training opportunities;</p> <p>d) continue to undertake the revision and enhancement of the CITES website and of the CITES Virtual College, in consultation with the Standing Committee and with the Animals and Plants Committees, as appropriate, including selected online courses, to update the content and to improve their effectiveness in providing access to capacity-building resources to Parties; and</p> <p>e) report to the Standing Committee and to the Animals and Plants Committees on capacity-building activities and seek their advice and input, as appropriate.</p> <p>5. REQUESTS the Animals and Plants Committees to offer advice and input as appropriate to Parties and to the Secretariat related to CITES implementation and capacity-building activities, which may include identifying capacity-building needs and priorities and making recommendations for developing or improving capacity-building materials and tools;</p>
Conf. 19.4 Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species	<p>2. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:</p> <p>a) regularly review and analyze the materials produced by or for Parties to assist in identification of specimens of CITES-listed species and gaps in existing identification materials relative to the needs expressed by the Parties, and provide a summary of this to the Animals and Plants Committees;</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) upon request from a Party and subject to the availability of financial and human resources, provide advice in coordination with the Chair of the Animals or Plants Committee on the identification of species or particular specimens, or seek advice from experts on the taxa concerned and, where relevant, share this information through the CITES website; f) keep the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees informed of progress made and needs identified in the development and maintenance of identification materials, as appropriate; and <p>3. REQUESTS the Animals and Plants Committees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) identify where materials are lacking or inaccurate, or where improvements might be made on existing identification materials, taking into consideration information on gaps and needs identified by Parties and the Secretariat, and make recommendations when appropriate to prioritize development of new or updated materials; b) provide input and recommendations to Parties and the Secretariat concerning the development of new or updated identification materials, or where draft materials are submitted for input; and c) identify and suggest to the Secretariat improvements to the access of CITES identification materials; <p>4. RECOMMENDS that Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> g) inform the Animals or Plants Committee of any difficulties experienced in identifying particular taxonomic groups, species or specimens, where improved identification guidance would be beneficial, for consideration and any appropriate recommendation under paragraph 3; and h) consider submitting draft identification material under development to the Animals or Plants Committee to review and provide input, as appropriate.
<p>Conf. 19.5 Conservation of marine turtles</p>	<p>15. DIRECTS the Animals Committee to make recommendations, if necessary, to ensure the conservation of marine turtles;</p> <p>17. DIRECTS the Animals Committee and Standing Committees to report progress on the conservation of marine turtles at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate;</p>

DECISIONS DIRECTED TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE
OR THAT MAY REQUIRE ITS INPUTS OR ASSISTANCE

Administrative and financial matters

Emerging operational issues of the committees

Directed to the Secretariat

19.1 The Secretariat shall:

- a) prepare a document for consideration by the Standing Committee containing information relating to the risk-assessment approaches implemented by the Secretariat to determine the best course of action if intersessional work and meetings are affected by emerging operational issues, such as those experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and referred to in paragraph 2 g) of Annex 1 to Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees*;
- b) prepare a document for consideration by the Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee reflecting the Secretariat's recommendations for the exceptional circumstances under which it may be appropriate to hold an online meeting or make hybrid options available to Parties to facilitate participation in a face-to-face meeting of the Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee; and
- c) based on the guidance provided to the committees relating to the use of the Rules of Procedures for the online meetings of the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee, 31st meeting of the Animals Committee and 25th meeting of the Plants Committee, provide the Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee with a document highlighting the provisions in the Rules of Procedure that may require further consideration for online and hybrid meetings.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.2 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) taking into account the document prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 19.1, paragraphs b) and c),
 - i) consider the exceptional circumstances under which it may be appropriate to hold an online meeting or make hybrid options available to Parties to facilitate participation in a face-to-face meeting of the Animals and Plants Committees; and
 - ii) consider whether adjustments to Rules of Procedures of the committees are required to facilitate online and hybrid meetings and decision-making where these are required and agreed; and
- b) propose amendments to Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees* and their Rules of Procedure, as appropriate, to the 20th meeting of the Conference of Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.3 The Standing Committee shall, by its 78th meeting:

- a) develop and adopt guidance on a structured, risk-assessment approach to be followed to determine the best course of action if intersessional work and meetings are affected by emerging operational issues, such as those experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic and referred to in paragraph 2 g) of Annex 1 to Resolution Conf. 18.2. In developing this guidance, the Standing Committee will consider the document developed by the Secretariat under Decision 19.1.

- b) develop and adopt guidance on the exceptional circumstances under which it may be appropriate to hold an online meeting or make hybrid options available to Parties to facilitate participation in a face-to-face meeting of the Standing Committee. In developing this guidance, the Committee will consider the document prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 19.1; and
- c) review the Rules of Procedures of the Standing Committee, taking into account the document developed by the Secretariat under Decision 19.1, to consider whether adjustments are needed to permit and facilitate online and hybrid meetings and decision-making where these are required and agreed.

Strategic matters

CITES Strategic Vision

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.11** The Secretariat shall undertake a comparative analysis in order to illustrate the linkages between the *CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030* and highlight areas of alignment with the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, as a starting point for an assessment of how CITES can contribute to the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and its monitoring framework; make recommendations for additional actions as appropriate; and present its analysis to the Animals and Plants Committees, followed by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 19.12** The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the information provided by the Secretariat under Decision 19.11 and make further recommendations to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.13** The Standing Committee shall review the comments and recommendations provided by the Animals and Plants Committees and by the Secretariat under Decisions 19.11 and 19.12 and make recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committee

- 19.14** The Standing Committee shall, in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, make recommendations on new or revised indicators for objective 1.4 of the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030*, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.15** The Secretariat shall:
- a) issue a Notification to the Parties, requesting Parties to report on any measures they have in place to prevent and mitigate the risk of pathogen spillover and transmission from wildlife trade and associated wildlife supply chains including markets, and make the results available on the CITES website as a compilation of responses that could be useful to other Parties;
 - b) review its Cooperation Agreement with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) to identify any necessary updates to reflect guidance provided by the Animals and Standing Committees and work with WOAH to, *inter alia*, develop a joint programme of work to identify effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains;
 - c) collaborate with the Convention on Migratory Species to assess the potential risk of pathogen spillover and identify practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk from wildlife;
 - d) following any necessary consultations, prepare a report summarizing existing activities or formal agreements with other entities (such as, among others, the Convention on Biological Diversity

(CBD) and other relevant biodiversity-related agreements, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO) and International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) as well as possible emerging opportunities, and identify opportunities for additional practical collaboration towards reducing the risk of pathogen spillover or zoonotic disease transmission in international wildlife trade supply chains, including consideration of a possible CITES advisory body; and

- e) report to the Animals and Standing Committees on the implementation of Decision 19.15, paragraphs a) to d).

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committee

19.16 The Animals and Plants Committee shall review the report of the Secretariat under Decision 19.15 and make recommendations to the Standing Committee, including on proposed effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains, opportunities for practical collaboration under the direction of existing Resolutions, Decisions or agreements, and consideration of a possible CITES advisory body.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.17 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the report of the Secretariat under Decision 19.15, taking into account the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees under Decision 19.16;
- b) taking into account the information provided by the Secretariat and the Animals and Plants Committees, consider the establishment of a CITES advisory body to provide guidance based on best available science to Parties, in their efforts to reduce the risk of zoonotic pathogen spillover and transmission from wildlife trade and associated wildlife supply chains, including markets;
- c) taking into account proposals in document CoP19 Doc. 23.2 and in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees, consider the need for and development of a Resolution on actions CITES Parties and others could take to advance a 'One Health' approach as it pertains to international wildlife trade; and
- d) provide its guidance to the Secretariat and its recommendations, which may include a new draft Resolution, to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the United Nations Environment Programme

19.18 The Conference of the Parties invites the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to share information from relevant work carried out under the Quadripartite Collaboration for One Health or other relevant initiatives, with the Parties *via* the Secretariat.

Directed to Parties

19.19 Parties are invited to:

- a) endorse the Quadripartite's (FAO/UNEP/WHO/WOAH) definition of the term zoonoses as "infectious diseases that can be spread between animals and humans; can be spread by food, water, fomites or vectors".
- b) take into consideration a multi-sectoral approach such as defined by the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) when implementing the Convention, contributing to managing, preventing and mitigating the risk of pathogen spillover and zoonotic disease emergence by:
 - i) ensuring live animals are being traded in accordance with Articles III, IV, V and VII, which require that living specimens are so prepared and shipped as to minimise the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment, and Article VII which further requires that all living specimens, during any period of transit, holding or shipment, are properly cared for so as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;

- ii) regulating, registering, or otherwise administering captive-breeding, farming, and ranching facilities, including in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes*, Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev. CoP19) on *Specimens of animal species bred in captivity*, and Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) on *Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II*;
- c) develop and strengthen synergies with appropriate national and international animal and public health authorities, taking account of relevant definitions, standards and guidance from the WHO, WOAAH, FAO, UNEP and other international bodies and expert organizations as appropriate; and
- d) building on such synergies, ensure that CITES Authorities, if requested, work with relevant national authorities including national WOAAH and WHO focal points to develop and implement strategies that aim to identify and reduce the risk of transmission and spillover of zoonotic diseases and pathogen emergence from traded wildlife.

Cooperation with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other international organizations

Directed to the Secretariat

19.20 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, prepare for consideration by the Standing Committee a partnership strategy for the Parties, the Permanent Committees and the Secretariat to identify priorities for collaboration that specifically enhance the implementation of the Convention, as well as its effectiveness and efficiency, through strategic partnerships.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.21 The Standing Committee shall review the draft partnership strategy developed by the Secretariat under Decision 19.20 and make recommendations for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of Parties.

Directed to Parties

17.55 (Rev. CoP19) Parties are encouraged to strengthen synergies among biodiversity multilateral environmental agreements at the national level by, among others, improving coordination and cooperation between national focal points and strengthening capacity-building activities.

Directed to the Standing Committee, with support of the Secretariat

17.56 (Rev. CoP19) The Standing Committee shall, with support of the Secretariat, explore options consistent with the *CITES Strategic Vision* to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and synergies at all relevant levels between CITES and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, taking into account the outcomes of the Second Consultation Workshop of Biodiversity-related Conventions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (Bern II), as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. This should involve the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, and, as appropriate, engagement with other relevant organizations and processes, including processes under the Rio Conventions. The Standing Committee shall report on the implementation of this Decision at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative

Directed to range States of African carnivores

18.59 Relevant range States of African carnivores are urged to work through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to implement CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.

Directed to Parties

18.60 (Rev. CoP19) Parties are invited to recognize the importance of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative in implementing CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by the Initiative, and in seeking synergies as appropriate to implement complementary CMS resolutions and decisions.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

18.61 Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support relevant African range States, through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, in their implementation of CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.24 The Secretariat shall inform the Animals Committee regarding the activities and outputs of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI) that relate to the Committee's mandate and request advice from the Animals Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.25 The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on information that it provides regarding the activities and outputs of the ACI that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.

IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committee

19.28 The Animals and Plants Committee shall review the scientific aspects of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (PBES); consider their relevance to the implementation of the Convention; and provide the results of their review and any associated recommendations to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.29 The Standing Committee shall consider the review of the IPBES thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species and associated recommendations prepared by the Animals and Plants Committees; make additional recommendations as appropriate; and submit the resulting conclusions and any recommendations as appropriate to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

World Wildlife Trade Report

Directed to the Secretariat

19.30 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties providing the pilot *World Wildlife Trade Report*, seeking feedback and views on such a report and the potential utility and drawbacks of producing such a report periodically; and
- b) provide the responses received from the Notification to the Standing Committee and present findings and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.31 The Standing Committee shall review the responses to the Notification and the findings and recommendations of the Secretariat, consult with the Animals and Plants Committees as appropriate and make recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Capacity-building

Capacity-building

Directed to Parties

19.40 Parties are invited to share ideas, experiences, and information related to the development of an integrated capacity-building framework aiming to guide Parties, the Secretariat and external partners, as appropriate, to identify capacity-building needs and to prioritize, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and review the benefit of their capacity-building efforts for more effective implementation of the Convention.

Directed to the Standing Committee, with inputs from the Animals and Plants Committees, the Finance and Budget Subcommittee, and the Secretariat

19.41 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) continue the development of an integrated capacity-building framework, including a common language and clear definitions, to improve the implementation of the Convention, with inputs from the Animals and Plants Committees, the Finance and Budget Subcommittee, and the Secretariat;
- b) in doing so, ensure the representation of perspectives and contexts of different regions and stakeholders (including from Parties that fund and Parties that receive capacity-building support) and consider developing a mechanism for Parties to identify the specific needs that, if met, would allow them to achieve full capacity to implement CITES; and
- c) provide a draft integrated capacity-building framework (which may include conceptual models, tools and guidance), along with its recommendations, for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.42 The Animals and Plants Committees shall engage in consultations with the Standing Committee, as called for in Decision 19.41; and with the Secretariat as called for in Decision 19.43.

Directed to the Secretariat, in consultation with the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees

19.43 The Secretariat shall provide input to the Standing Committee and, subject to the availability of external funding and in consultation with the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees, organise technical workshops and regional consultations that would facilitate the implementation by the Standing Committee of Decision 19.41.

Country-wide Review of Significant Trade

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.47 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) taking into account the progress made under the Compliance Assistance Programme and the development of a Capacity-Building Framework, consider whether the scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar are sufficiently addressed, or whether a new mechanism should be developed to provide targeted support to Parties at a national level; and
- b) provide recommendations, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species* or other existing resolutions, or the development of a new resolution; for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat

- 19.48** The Standing Committee shall review the report and the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees, and in consultation with the Secretariat, make recommendations for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Compliance

Review of Significant Trade

Directed to the Secretariat

- 17.108 (Rev. CoP19)** The Secretariat, within six months of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and building on the work done to date, shall develop, test and establish a Review of Significant Trade Tracking and Management database as an essential tool for the effective implementation and transparency of the process.
- 17.109 (Rev. CoP19)** The Secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, within six months of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, shall develop a user-friendly guide to the Review of Significant Trade that can also be included in the initial letter to range States.
- 17.110 (Rev. CoP19)** The Secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, within nine months of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, shall develop a comprehensive training module on the Review of Significant Trade (including case studies as appropriate).

Review of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on *Review of trade in specimens reported as produced in captivity*

Directed to the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre

- 19.63** The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), produce a comparative analysis of the objectives and processes outlined in Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on *Review of trade in specimens reported as produced in captivity* and Resolution Conf 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*, and draft recommendations on how these two Resolutions could become more streamlined and better aligned with each other, including possible amendments to one or both Resolutions, for consideration by the Animals and Standing Committees.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 19.64** The Animals Committee shall review the report and draft recommendations from the Secretariat under Decision 19.63; and make its own recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.65** The Standing Committee shall consider the report and draft recommendations of the Secretariat, the recommendations from the Animals Committee, and make its own recommendations, for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Captive-breeding of Sri Lankan agamids

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 18.175** The Animals Committee shall review the report of the Secretariat and consider whether to select species-country combinations of *Ceratophora stoddartii*, *Ceratophora aspera* and *Lyriocephalus scutatus* for review under Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity*.

Illegal trade and enforcement

Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa

Directed to Parties importing CITES specimens from West and Central Africa

18.90 (Rev. CoP19) Parties importing CITES specimens from West and Central Africa are encouraged to assist their counterparts in West and Central Africa, by implementing measures that will address wildlife crime and support legal trade that is limited to sustainable levels, in particular by:

- a) supporting efforts to determine and ensure sustainable levels of trade through scientific studies that can facilitate the making of robust non-detriment findings;
- b) undertaking due diligence as outlined in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement* and closely scrutinizing consignments of CITES-listed species imported from West and Central Africa and accompanying CITES documents to ensure that illegal species are not laundered into legal trade; and
- c) as a priority, raise any concerns about imports with the exporting State, or with the Animals Committee, Plants Committee, Standing Committee, or the Secretariat.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

18.91 (Rev. CoP19) Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide financial and technical assistance to Parties in West and Central Africa and mobilize resources to support the implementation of Decisions 19.84, 19.85, paragraphs a) and b), 19.86, 19.87 paragraphs a), b) and c) and 18.90 (Rev. CoP19) and, as appropriate, take these Decisions into consideration in the development of work programmes or activities they initiate in the two subregions.

Directed to Parties

19.84 Parties in West and Central Africa and Parties importing CITES specimens from West and Central Africa are strongly encouraged to enhance collaboration and communication regarding illegal wildlife trade affecting the two subregions, including by:

- a) using existing secure communication channels such as those provided by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization for exchange of enforcement and illegal trade related information, and by drawing upon the enforcement focal point information available through the *National CITES Authorities* and *Enforcement focal points* webpages;
- b) actively pursuing international law enforcement collaboration through the mechanisms established by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC); and other relevant information exchange platforms;
- c) reporting seizures on timber exported from West and Central Africa to the exporting countries as soon as practical, as appropriate, including sharing information described in paragraph 2.1 d) under *Strengthen regional and international collaboration to address illegal trade in CITES-listed tree species* in the outcome document of the *Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species*; and
- d) actively pursuing the implementation of the measures and activities outlined in the *Outcome document of the Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species*.

Directed to Parties in West Africa and Central Africa:

19.85 Parties in West and Central Africa should:

- a) as relevant to them and where not yet done, continue to actively pursue the implementation of the *Recommendations to Parties in West and Central Africa for consideration in their implementation of measures and activities to address wildlife crime affecting the two subregions*;
- b) engage in regional and bilateral activities to share information on their national legislative and regulatory measures, exchange experiences and best practices, and identify opportunities for regional and cross-border cooperation and joint actions to address illegal trade in wildlife, taking into consideration paragraph 13 e) of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*; and

- c) identify priority actions that could benefit from support, including activities referenced in Decisions 19.84, 19.85, paragraphs a) and b), 19.86, 19.87 paragraphs a), b) and c) and 18.90 (Rev. CoP19), and present these to the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), donors and the development community, to seek support to implement them.
- 19.86** a) Parties in West Africa are invited to, through the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission, request support from ICCWC for the implementation of the ICCWC Guidelines for Wildlife Enforcement Networks, to facilitate fully operationalizing the West Africa Network to Combat Wildlife Crime (WAN); and
- b) Parties in Central Africa are invited to, through the Commission of Central African Forests (COMIFAC) or other appropriate platforms, request support from ICCWC for the implementation of the ICCWC Guidelines for Wildlife Enforcement Networks.

Directed to the Secretariat, with its ICCWC partners

19.87 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, work with its ICCWC partners to support Parties in West and Central Africa in addressing illegal trade in wildlife, including by promoting and facilitating collaboration and communication between Parties in West and Central Africa, transit and destination countries, through the convening of Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) and Regional Investigative and Analytical Case (RIACM) meetings as appropriate, and by supporting Parties upon request as anticipated in Decision 19.86;
- b) subject to external funding, work with ICCWC partners to expedite ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in West and Central African Parties to inform capacity-building activities;
- c) subject to external funding and upon request from Parties, undertake general and targeted capacity-building activities to strengthen the effective implementation of CITES in the two subregions;
- d) issue a Notification to the Parties requesting them to provide information on their implementation of Decisions 19.84, 19.85, 19.86 and 18.90 (Rev. CoP19);
- e) report to the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decision 19.87, paragraphs a), b) and c), and the responses to the Notification in Decision 19.87, paragraph d), together with any recommendations it may have; and
- f) support the Standing Committee in the implementation of Decision 19.88, paragraph a) and b).

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.88 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) establish a working group, with representation from all regions, to make recommendations on the development and adoption of procedures that will promote enhanced collaboration between source, transit and consumer countries, in particular to promote regular communication between source, transit and consumer countries;
- b) consider whether the establishment and administration of a CITES enforcement fund or other mechanisms that could provide targeted and sustainable financial support to combat wildlife crime and implement CITES to Parties that request such support is needed;
- c) consider the report of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 19.87; and
- d) make recommendations to the Parties, the Secretariat, and the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.217 (Rev. CoP19) The Standing Committee is asked to:

- a) review the study contained in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 and any additional information received by the Secretariat in response to Notifications No. 2020/035 and No. 2021/065 and the recommendations of the Animals Committee in document SC74 Doc. 66.2; and
- b) submit its recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)

Directed to Parties affected by illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles

19.123 Parties affected by illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles are encouraged to:

- a) initiate national level law enforcement operations specifically targeting illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles, and to participate in global operations such as those initiated by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization, identifying tortoises and freshwater turtles as a priority species for these operations;
- b) draw the *Identification guide to tortoises and freshwater turtles: Parts, products and derivatives in trade* to the attention of their national agencies responsible for wildlife law enforcement and promote its use; and
- c) translate the guide into their national languages where needed and inform the Secretariat about the availability of such translated versions.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.124 Subject to available funding, the Secretariat shall:

- a) engage with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime to implement activities specifically targeting illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles, which could include providing preparatory support to Parties for global law enforcement operations targeting wildlife crime, convening a further INTERPOL Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Management meeting, as well as a United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) meeting.
- b) develop a CITES App version of the *Identification guide to tortoises and freshwater turtles: Parts, products and derivatives in trade*, to be made available for use by Parties; and
- c) report at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of the present Decision and any information received from Parties in accordance with Decision 19.123.

Directed to Madagascar

19.125 Madagascar is encouraged to:

- a) prepare a comprehensive conservation strategy for its four critically endangered species (*Astrochelys radiata*, *A. yniphora*, *Pyxis arachnoides* and *P. planicauda*), taking into consideration the multifaceted threats of collection for local consumption and international trade compounded by habitat loss;
- b) undertake the activities in document CoP19 Doc. 78, paragraph 4 b) i) to iv); and
- c) present the work prepared under paragraph a) of the present Decision to the Animals Committee for assessment at its 34th meeting.*

* As adopted at CoP19. The Secretariat believes that the intention was for Madagascar report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee since the 34th meeting of the Animals Committee would take place after CoP20.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.126 The Animals Committee shall, at its 34th meeting*, review the conservation strategy reported by Madagascar under Decision 19.125 and submit recommendations to the Standing Committee and Secretariat, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat

19.127 The Standing Committee and the Secretariat shall:

- a) consider the recommendations provided by the Animals Committee under Decision 19.126 and prepare new decisions directed to Madagascar outlining future work to combat the ongoing threats of illegal collection and trade of the four *Astrochelys* and *Pyxis* species; and
- b) report at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decision 19.125 and provide recommendations as per paragraph a) of the present Decision, as appropriate.

Regulation of trade

Non-detriment findings

Directed to the Secretariat

19.132 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, address priorities in capacity-building related to non-detriment findings (NDF) agreed by the Secretariat and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and Parties, by:
 - i) continuing to support the TAG through which the Animals and Plants Committees provide support and advice for implementation;
 - ii) organizing in consultation with the TAG an international expert workshop on non-detriment findings to review, advance or complete draft guidance materials on NDFs; and
 - iii) undertaking targeted research in support of the development of new or updated NDF guidance materials in close collaboration with the TAG, relevant experts, Parties and organizations to address the agreed workstreams, building on the inventory and gap analysis of existing guidance prepared by the Secretariat;
- b) compile and present the results of the work under paragraph a) to the Animals and Plants Committees for their review and make suggestions on how best to use the outputs to assist Scientific Authorities in the making of NDFs;
- c) make available to Parties on the CITES website the NDF guidance materials resulting from the implementation of the present Decision;
- d) develop a strategy and feedback mechanism for Parties and the wider CITES community to share experiences with using NDF guidance materials, which should allow the Animals and Plants Committees to make recommendations pertaining to review and update the NDF materials as may be needed; and
- e) consult the Animals and Plants Committees on the implementation of the present Decision and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.133 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) continue the TAG established under the recommendations in document AC31/PC25 Com. 3 through which the Animals and Plants Committees provide support and advice for implementation,

and make any appropriate decisions to ensure continued advice and assistance for the implementation of Decisions 19.132 to 19.134;

- b) participate as appropriate in the international expert workshop on NDFs where draft guidance materials are to be reviewed, advanced or completed;
- c) review and make recommendations concerning: the outcomes of the international expert workshop on NDFs; the use of its outputs in support of the making of NDFs by Scientific Authorities; and their publication on the CITES website;
- d) based on the strategy and feedback from Parties and the wider CITES community on experiences with using NDF guidance materials, review and update NDF materials as may be needed; and
- e) report on these activities at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to Parties

19.134 Parties are encouraged to:

- a) provide any help and information regarding methodologies, tools, scientific information, expertise and any other resources used to formulate NDFs in order to contribute to such a workshop;
- b) make use of the guidance materials on NDFs resulting from the implementation of Decisions 19.132 and 19.133 and participate as appropriate in the feedback mechanism on NDF guidance, to be developed by the Secretariat as referred to in Decision 19.132, paragraph d); and
- c) provide financial and technical support for the implementation of Decision 19.132, including for an international expert workshop on non-detriment findings.

Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction

Directed to the Secretariat

19.135 The Secretariat shall invite Parties, other governments and stakeholders through a Notification to the Parties to submit information on their experiences in making non-detriment findings for specimens of CITES Appendix II-listed species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction, to share any non-detriment findings (NDFs) produced, to highlight any difficulties encountered in the process and any suggestions they might have for improvements.

19.136 The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding:

- a) convene a technical workshop to consider how non-detriment findings might best be achieved for the introduction from the sea of specimens of CITES Appendix II-listed, commercially exploited aquatic organisms taken by multiple Parties in waters beyond national jurisdiction; and invite workshop participants and Parties to contribute relevant information and expertise at the workshop;
- b) invite the Animals Committee, the Secretariats of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and relevant daughter agreements and MoUs, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), other Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs), other relevant scientific advisory bodies, representatives from States especially those which flag vessels which undertake high seas fisheries, importing countries, fishery stakeholder and industry representatives, and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in this workshop;
- c) taking into consideration the responses to the Notification to the Parties in Decision 19.135, existing NDFs submitted by Parties for specimens taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction, outcomes of the second international expert workshop on Non-detriment findings and any other relevant information, prepare workshop documents on:
 - i) the level (current and anticipated) of trade in CITES-listed species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction;

- ii) the difficulties encountered by Parties when making NDFs for specimens taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction;
 - iii) the current role, if any, of RFMOs and other RFBs in making data and information available to CITES Scientific Authorities making non-detriment findings; and
- d) submit findings and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee for their consideration and to make recommendations to the Standing Committee for its consideration, and any recommendations to be considered by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.137 The Animals Committee shall consider the report of the workshop in Decision 19.136 and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Standing Committee as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.138 The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations and comments of the Animals Committee and shall submit recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

19.139 Parties, intergovernmental organizations, RFMOs and other RFBs, non-governmental organizations, fishery stakeholders and others are encouraged to respond to the Notification issued by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.135.

Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (*Panthera pardus*) hunting trophies

Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19)

18.166 All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) are encouraged to conduct regular surveys, adjust quotas as appropriate, and exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.168 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.169 (Rev. CoP19) and make recommendations to the Secretariat and leopard range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.169 (Rev. CoP19) The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources:

- a) encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and
- b) in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19), share the draft guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, make such guidance available on the CITES website, and encourage its use by relevant Parties.

Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat

19.142 The Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a joint working group on identification materials and undertake the following working group tasks, in consultation with the Secretariat:

- a) review selected identification materials and assess the need for their revision and improvement, taking into account the materials that are being developed or have already been developed by Parties and materials requested in Decisions or Resolutions;
- b) consider ways to improve the accuracy and availability of identification materials on CITES-listed species; and
- c) report on the progress with these activities at the meeting(s) of the Animals and Plants Committees.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.143 The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue collecting information on identification materials and share it through the CITES website and the CITES Virtual College; and
- b) report on the progress and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

19.144 Parties are encouraged to support the efforts of the working group on identification materials by providing to the Secretariat information on available identification and guidance materials that are used by Parties, and particularly by enforcement and inspection officers, to facilitate implementation of the Convention.

Transport of live specimens

Directed to the Animals Committee and Plants Committee, in consultation with the Standing Committee, the Secretariat and the International Air Transport Association (IATA)

19.158 The Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Standing Committee, the Secretariat, and the International Air Transport Association (IATA), shall hold a workshop to share best practices related to live animal and plant transport. The Animals and Plants Committees shall invite Parties with expertise in this area to present on their management of live animals and plants in trade and steps to support other Parties in meeting CITES requirements for live animal and plant transport consistent with Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Transport of live specimens*.

Directed to Secretariat, in consultation with the Standing Committee

19.159 The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Standing Committee, work with IATA to make relevant sections of the *IATA Live Animal Regulations* and *IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations* available to authorized representatives of Management Authorities and enforcement authorities as electronic or hard copies, depending on the needs of the Party and consider making them accessible to other relevant exporters, transporters and importers, free of charge.

Specimens produced through biotechnology

Directed to the Standing Committee, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.161 The Standing Committee, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, shall:

- a) continue to discuss trade in products of biotechnology, which might potentially affect international trade in CITES-listed specimens in a way that would threaten their survival, including enforcement of CITES provisions. The Committee's discussion shall consider the need for new guidance material or updates to existing guidance material on the following issues, in relation to trade in specimens produced through biotechnology:
 - i) whether an update is needed in the *Guidance on the use of the scientific exchange exemption and the simplified procedures to issue permits and certificates*, endorsed by the Standing

Committee at SC73 (online, May 2021), to include a section on specimens produced through biotechnology;

- ii) whether there is a need for additional guidance on making legal acquisition findings in relation to specimens produced through biotechnology;
 - iii) whether there is a need for guidance on the application of source codes to specimens produced through biotechnology;
 - iv) whether guidance is needed to improve permitting and enforcement of trade in specimens produced through biotechnology in order to address the risk of natural specimens of illegal origin being passed as synthetic and thereby entering the market with a valid CITES permit;
 - v) whether guidance is needed on traceability issues to improve permitting and enforcement of trade in specimens produced through biotechnology in order to ensure a clear link (e.g., marking, other means of identification) between a specimen produced through biotechnology and CITES documentation in order to prevent misuse;
 - vi) whether biotechnology issues concerning animals and plants should be addressed distinctly; and
 - vii) any emerging issues or cases not considered in the document AC31 Doc. 17/PC25 Doc. 20, such as hirudin and squalene;
- b) communicate to the Animals and Plants Committees any matters that may require scientific advice and guidance, as appropriate; and
 - c) make recommendations for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including appropriate updates to existing guidance materials, the development of new guidance materials on trade in specimens produced from biotechnology or changes to any pertinent Resolutions.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.162 The Animals and Plants Committees shall inform implementation of Decision 19.161 and provide any relevant scientific advice and guidance on matters relevant to international trade in specimens produced through biotechnology and communicate it to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.163 Subject to the availability of external funds, the Secretariat shall convene and organize a meeting to facilitate the discussions mentioned in Decision 19.161 and develop guidance on the implementation of the amendment to Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP19) on *Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives*. The Secretariat shall extend invitations to concerned Parties as well as relevant entities, including the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant organizations as appropriate.

Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’

Directed to the Secretariat

19.164 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties within one year of the close of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, inviting feedback on experience with using the guidance documents and other information provided on the CITES webpage “Appropriate and acceptable destinations”, and
- b) report on this feedback to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee for their consideration and recommendations, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.165 The Animals Committee shall review the report from the Secretariat on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 19.164 and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.166 The Standing Committee shall review the report from the Secretariat and any comments and recommendations coming from the Animals Committee on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 19.164 and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Trade in live African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*)

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.167 The Standing Committee shall call a CITES dialogue meeting as per Resolution Conf. 14.5 on *Dialogue meetings* for African elephant range States to consider a harmonization of the conditions to trade in live African elephants and propose relevant changes to Resolutions to CoP20 as well as relevant changes to annotation 2 (after CoP19, footnote annotation A10), including changes to streamline and simplify the annotation; and recommend other Parties, the CITES Secretariat and technical experts to participate in the meeting in accordance with the Annex to Resolution Conf. 14.5 on *Dialogue meetings*.

Directed to Parties

19.168 The Parties agree that, while the process for the dialogue meeting is under way, any export of live wild-caught African elephant will be limited to *in situ* conservation programmes or secure areas in the wild, within the species' natural and historical range in Africa, except in exceptional circumstances where, in consultation with the Animals Committee, through its Chair with the support of the Secretariat, and in consultation with the IUCN African elephant specialist group, it is considered that a transfer to *ex situ* locations will provide demonstrable *in situ* conservation benefits for African elephants, or in the case of temporary transfers in emergency situations.

Trade in stony corals (*Scleractinia* spp.)

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.177 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) taking into account document CoP19 Doc. 46 and its Annex, provide advice on possible amendments to Resolution Conf 11.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Trade in stony corals*, in consultation with coral reef nations and coral reef experts, and report with recommendations to the Standing Committee;
- b) make recommendations, as necessary, to revise the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* and *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of the CITES annual illegal trade report*, to ensure that they provide sufficient clarity on the use of appropriate terms and units for trade in stony corals; and
- c) in consultation with coral reef nations and coral reef experts, provide advice on the conversion factors used to analyse trade in corals for the CITES Review of Significant Trade process and report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.178 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review any proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Trade in stony corals* from the Animals Committee; and

- b) review any recommendations from the Animals Committee with regard to Decision 19.177, paragraph b), and make its own recommendations, as appropriate.

Exemptions and special provisions

Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.179 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees, develop specific terms of reference including *modus operandi* and a roadmap as appropriate, to guide the continuation of the review of trade in specimens of both CITES-listed animal and plants not of wild source;
- b) continue to consider amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev. CoP19) and Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19), as well as any amendment to other Resolutions concerning provisions on trade in specimens of both CITES-listed animals and plants not of wild source, taking into account findings and suggestions in document SC74 Doc. 56 and any related comments and recommendations from the Standing Committee, Parties, the Secretariat or other stakeholders;
- c) review issues and challenges in the application of the Convention for trade in non-wild specimens of both CITES-listed animal and plant species, in particular key elements that may contribute to the uneven application of Article VII, paragraphs 4 and 5, and consider the scientific advice and guidance from the Animals and Plants Committees on the need for implementing these Articles differently for either animal specimens from species bred in captivity or plant specimens that are artificially propagated; and
- d) make recommendations for addressing these issues and challenges, including amendments to existing Resolutions or development of a new Resolution or Decisions to address these issues and challenges, for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.180 In support of the Standing Committee's implementation of Decision 19.179, the Animals and Plants Committees shall, separately and together in their joint session:

- a) consider the key elements in the current implementation of Article VII paragraphs 4 and 5 for animals and plants, respectively, in the current applicable Resolutions;
- b) determine if there is a need to implement Article VII paragraphs 4 and 5 differently for either animal specimens from species bred in captivity or plant specimens that are artificially propagated than what is outlined in existing Resolutions, and provide their recommendations to the Standing Committee in time for its 78th meeting; and
- c) provide any other scientific advice and guidance on CITES provisions concerning trade in non-wild specimens of CITES-listed animal and plant species to the Standing Committee upon request and as appropriate.

Species conservation and trade

Assessment of Appendix-I listed species

Directed to the Secretariat

19.184 The Secretariat shall:

- a) in consultation with relevant range States and relevant experts, produce detailed assessments on the conservation status, threats, impacts of legal and illegal trade, ongoing *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation strategies or recovery plans and funding/resources available or required for at

least the ten Appendix-I listed species from those listed in the table in paragraph 15 of document CoP19 Doc. 11, and others; and

- b) submit a report, including these assessments, and recommendations on possible actions within the CITES mandate which could contribute to the implementation of the *CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030* and link to any global biodiversity monitoring framework which may be adopted as part of a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework with draft recommendations, for consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.185 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the report and draft recommendations prepared by the Secretariat under paragraph a) of Decision 19.184;
- b) taking into account paragraph a) of this Decision, information document AC31 Inf. 6/ PC25 Inf. 8 and the suggestions in document AC31/PC25 Com. 1 (Rev. by Sec.) and its Annex, refine the methodology and its criteria for carrying out an assessment of species listed in Appendix I that might benefit from measures adopted by the Conference of the Parties; and
- c) formulate recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to the range States and consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade

Directed to the Standing Committee, in collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.186 The Standing Committee shall, in collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees:

- a) consider under Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building* how to provide Parties requesting it with information from any relevant studies, analyses or other sources on the identification of species at risk of extinction that are not yet regulated under CITES or may receive insufficient CITES regulation and that are or may be affected by international trade, working in coordination with the CITES Secretariat, CITES Parties, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, FAO, regional competent authorities, and relevant experts as appropriate so that Parties may consider such information, as appropriate, in the preparation of listing proposals under Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on the *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II*.
- b) establish a working group, with representation from all regions, the Animals and Plants Committees, and observers to review the recommendations developed by the Animals and Plants Committees under Decision 19.187 and make recommendations on the implementation of paragraph a) of the present. The terms of reference for the working group shall be as provided below.

Terms of reference for the Standing Committee working group

Mandate

Review recommendations made by the Animals and Plants Committees under Decision 19.187.

Membership

The working group will be Party led. It is proposed to have two co-chairs (and if necessary a vice-chair), with the co-chairs leading the work of the group. Membership will be open to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, and observers in line with the Standing Committee Rules of Procedure.

Modus Operandi

The group will operate by electronic correspondence to the extent possible. Support with translation and interpretation in the working languages of the Convention will be provided by the CITES Secretariat, subject to external resources. Should a meeting be considered necessary, the group may meet virtually or in conjunction

with intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee or any other CITES meetings should timings and resources permit.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.187 The Animals and Plants Committees shall develop draft recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee to facilitate the implementation of Decision 19.186.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.188 The Secretariat shall support the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees in the implementation of Decisions 19.186 and 19.187 including through the provision of technical expertise and, subject to external funding, translation and interpretation as appropriate.

Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices

Directed to the Secretariat

19.189 Subject to the availability of resources, the Secretariat shall:

- a) convene a technical workshop to consider the application of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) and its footnote 2 (found in annex V), with regards to relevant commercially exploited Elasmobranchii and other aquatic species, taking into account the information provided in document CoP19 Doc 87.2 and available scientific information and data;
- b) issue a Notification to the Parties inviting all interested Parties, members of the Animals Committee, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and other relevant intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to participate in this workshop; and
- c) submit the conclusions and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee for review.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.190 The Animals Committee shall review the report of the workshop and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.191 The Standing Committee shall consider the report of the workshop and the recommendations and comments of the Animals Committee and submit recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

FAUNA

West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)

Directed to West African range States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo)

19.192 West African range States for *Gyps africanus* (Whitebacked vulture), *Gyps fulvus* (Griffon vulture), *Gyps rueppelli* (Rüppell's vulture), *Necrosyrtes monachus* (Hooded vulture), *Neophron percnopterus* (Egyptian vulture), *Torgos tracheliotos* (Lappet-faced vulture), and *Trigonoceps occipitalis* (White-headed vulture) are urged to:

- a) integrate illegal vulture trade considerations into their implementation of the West Africa Strategy on Combatting Wildlife Crime (WASCWC) and any decisions relating to Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting;
- b) ensure that national laws to protect vultures and control trade in vulture parts and derivatives are effectively implemented, and ensure that penalties for non-compliance are sufficient to deter illegal trade;

- c) ensure that any international trade in West African vultures is not allowed except in accordance with CITES requirements, and if international trade is found not to be in accordance with CITES requirements, consider implementing a zero export quota;
- d) follow Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings*, and, in cases where there is an interest in exporting globally threatened vulture species, consider submitting non-detriment findings for the export of vulture specimens to the Secretariat for inclusion on the CITES website and review by the Animals Committee;
- e) identify any trade-related issues associated with the implementation of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS);
- f) work with relevant experts and organizations for implementing demand reduction strategies for vultures and their parts and derivatives including for belief-based use and consumption and, where appropriate, expand the implementation of strategies that have been successful;
- g) work with relevant organizations to initiate wide-scale public awareness campaigns at regional, national and local levels about the impacts of trade in these species, including the importance of vulture species to ecology and human health, the negative impacts of belief-based use of vulture body parts, and existing national and international legislation that protects vultures; and
- h) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision to assist it in reporting to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties, West African range States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

19.193 Parties, West African range States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged, subject to resources, to:

- a) collaborate in the conservation and restoration of West African vultures and support the implementation of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS); and
- b) gather and exchange scientific knowledge and expertise on West African vultures, with a particular focus on:
 - i) documenting the scale of vulture trade by surveying markets in and outside West Africa, and identifying inter-regional and international trade routes;
 - ii) characterizing links between poisoning and trade in vultures, and contributing to the African Wildlife Poison Database; and
 - iii) updating the conservation and population status information of West African vultures, and *Gyps africanus* (white-backed vultures), *Gyps rueppellii* (Rüppell's vultures) and *Torgos tracheliotus* (lappet-faced vultures) in particular.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.194 The Secretariat shall:

- a) cooperate with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) partner organizations, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks, and competent national authorities, where relevant and feasible, to consider vultures in the context of ICWC's enforcement and capacity-building efforts in West Africa;
- b) subject to external funding, support the production of identification materials focusing on parts and derivatives of vulture species for use by law enforcement officials;

- c) liaise with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) to assist in the implementation of the trade-related aspects of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 subject to external funding, and share information based on the work of the Animals Committee;
- d) subject to external funding, support the implementation of capacity-building activities aimed at providing support to the West African range States in implementing the trade-related aspects of the Vulture MsAP;
- e) in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, consider available trade data and conservation status information from the whole geographic range of the vulture species concerned for inclusion in its reporting to the Animals and Standing Committees; and
- f) collect information from West African vulture range States on their implementation of Decision 19.192, and report as appropriate this and other information on the implementation of Decisions 19.192 to 19.194, paragraphs a), b), c), d) and e) to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, at their first regular meetings following the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with conclusions and recommendations for their consideration.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.195 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) encourage West African range States to undertake a Periodic Review of the vulture species referred to in Decision 19.192 pursuant to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on *Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II*, taking note of the offer of the Vulture Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature to assist range States in such an effort;
- b) consider any reports or requests for advice submitted by Parties with respect to the making of non-detriment findings for trade in CITES-listed West African vulture species;
- c) consider the reports and recommendations of the Secretariat submitted in accordance with Decision 19.194, paragraph e): and
- d) make recommendations as appropriate for consideration by range States, Parties, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.196 The Standing Committee shall review the implementation of Decisions 19.192 to 19.195 and make recommendations as appropriate to West African vulture range States, Parties and the Secretariat, and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)

Directed to the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Animals Committee

19.197 The Secretariat shall, subject to availability of external resources and in close consultation with the Animals Committee:

- a) conduct one or more interdisciplinary workshops for CITES Authorities and other relevant authorities and stakeholders about amphibian species in international trade, including but not limited to the following objectives:
 - i) identify amphibian species that are in international trade and evaluate whether certain species or groups should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;
 - ii) share existing national legislation relevant to the trade in amphibians;
 - iii) evaluate whether current levels of trade are compatible with the conservation of these species in the wild;

- iv) compile further data on harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade;
 - v) explore the emerging threat of diseases to traded amphibians, including amphibian chytrid fungus and rana viruses; and
 - vi) examine current enforcement efforts to deter and detect illegal and unreported trade and identify additional actions needed; and
- b) explore modalities to implement this Decision in a cost-effective manner, including through the organization of online events; and
 - c) report on the progress in the implementation of paragraph a) and b) above to the Animals Committee, including any relevant recommendations.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.198 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the report submitted by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.197; and
- b) make recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.199 The Standing Committee shall consider any report submitted by the Animals Committee as per Decision 19.198 and develop recommendations for consideration of the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Pangolins (*Manis* spp.)

Directed to all pangolin range States

18.238 All pangolin range States that have not yet done so, are encouraged to take urgent steps to develop and implement *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes, which includes population assessments, as anticipated in paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins*, and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.239 The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts and in collaboration with the pangolin range States to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species, that will enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for court purposes.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.200 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review the conversion parameters for all pangolin species, developed in accordance with the provisions of Decision 18.239, to enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, and that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for law enforcement and court purposes;
- b) review existing identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, and consider the need for new or additional materials to be developed, including to support the identification of seized pangolin specimens at species level;

- c) review any information brought to its attention by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 19.203, paragraphs b) and e); and
- d) make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.

Directed to Parties

19.201 All Parties are strongly encouraged to identify seized pangolin specimens at species level and report the seizures at species level in their annual illegal trade reports.

Directed to Parties in whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist

19.202 Parties in whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist are encouraged to take urgent steps to establish and apply, where not yet done, strict control measures to secure these stocks, as called for in paragraph 3 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins* and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.203 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification inviting Parties, international organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that developed tools and materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) or identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, to bring such materials to the attention of the Secretariat;
- b) bring any materials reported in accordance with paragraph a) of the present Decision to the attention of the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, as appropriate, together with any recommendations it may have, and taking into account any subsequent recommendations from the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, make such materials available to the Parties;
- c) subject to external funding, provide training to Parties on the identification of pangolin specimens;
- d) work with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to initiate activities and support the efforts of Parties to address illegal trade in Pangolin specimens;
- e) report on the implementation of Decisions 18.238 and 18.239 to the Animals Committee, together with any recommendations it may have;
- f) report on the implementation of Decision 19.202 to the Standing Committee, together with any recommendations it may have; and
- g) report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of the present Decision.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.204 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decision 19.200, paragraph d), and of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 19.203, paragraphs b) and f), and make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate;
- b) review the information contained in documents SC69 Doc. 57 Annex 2, SC74 Doc. 73 Annex 2, reports from Parties under Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19), and other relevant resources to develop time-bound and measurable recommendations for Parties (range, transit, and consumer countries) at SC78 that support addressing the illegal trade in pangolins; and
- c) report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

African lions (*Panthera leo*)

Directed to the Secretariat, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

19.205 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, as appropriate, taking into consideration the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* in information document CoP18 Inf. 10:

- a) support the implementation of activities in joint African lion conservation plans and strategies that relate to trade in African lion specimens and the implementation of CITES and as needed, the review of such plans and strategies;
- b) jointly with the CMS Secretariat, undertake a comparative study of African lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade;
- c) support capacity-building in African lion conservation and management including where appropriate, in the making of non-detriment findings by range States according to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings* and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.9 on *Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II*;
- d) assist in maintaining a joint CITES-CMS web portal on African lions, that also allows for the posting and sharing of information and guidance on the conservation and management of African lions;
- e) share any relevant update of the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* with the Animals Committee for its review; and
- f) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee and to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.206 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review any relevant update of the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa*;
- b) review the information reported by the Secretariat under Decision 19.205 and submit recommendations to the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and African lion range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.207 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review any reports received from the Secretariat and the Animals Committee under Decisions 19.205 and 19.206 and;
- b) make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, the Animals Committee, the Secretariat and/or African lion range States to improve the implementation of the Convention for African lions, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

19.208 Parties, including range States and consumer countries of African lion, as relevant, are encouraged to:

- a) increase enforcement efforts to detect illegal, unreported or misreported trade in specimens of African lion and other big cats;

- b) use, where appropriate, South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project to help identify lion specimens in trade and, when importing lion specimens from South Africa, collaborate where necessary with relevant authorities in South Africa to improve the traceability of such specimens;
- c) provide details on the observed and/or removed lion body parts in trade when collecting and communicating data on illegal killing and illegal trade in lions to CITES in their annual reports; and
- d) cooperate on lion conservation, including by sharing information on lion populations, illegal killing and illegal trade.

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities

19.209 All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities are encouraged to support African lion range States and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore African lions across their range, taking into consideration the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* and the implementation of Decision 19.205 and 19.208.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.210 The Secretariat shall:

- a) share relevant information generated through the implementation of Decision 19.208 with the CITES Big Cats Task Force, the Standing Committee, or both, as appropriate; and
- b) report on the implementation of the previous Decision 18.246 to the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee.

Leopards (*Panthera pardus*) in Africa

Directed to the Secretariat

19.211 The Secretariat shall share with the Animals Committee the *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa* by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for its review.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.212 The Animals Committee shall review the *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa* by IUCN, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate, concerning the aspects of it that relate to the implementation of CITES.

Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)

Directed to the Secretariat

18.256 (Rev. CoP19) Subject to available funds, the Secretariat shall:

- a) within 12 months of the conclusion of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, commission a preliminary study on the scale and scope of international songbird trade to consider the management and conservation priorities of songbird taxa involved in such trade;
- b) consult with appropriate technical experts in the preparation of documents on the conservation, trade, management, enforcement and regulatory priorities of the songbird taxa identified;
- c) convene a technical workshop to consider the findings of the study and the reports referred to in paragraph b);
- d) invite the members of the Animals and Standing Committees, representatives from range, exporting, transit and consumer States, and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in the workshop; and

- e) make the results of the study and workshop, together with recommendations, available to the Animals Committee for its consideration.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.257 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals Committee shall review document CoP18 Doc. 79 and the results of the study and workshop on trade in songbirds, with the recommendations of the Secretariat, as per Decision 18.256 (Rev. CoP19), and make its own recommendations to the Standing Committee or 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.258 (Rev. CoP19) The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations by the Animals Committee and make its own recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to Parties and non-Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders and donors

18.259 (Rev. CoP19) Parties and non-Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders and donors are encouraged to provide funding to the Secretariat for the implementation of these Decisions.

African grey parrots (*Psittacus erithacus*)

Directed to range States of *Psittacus erithacus*, with the support of the Secretariat, relevant experts, relevant CITES Parties, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders

17.256 (Rev. CoP18) The range States of *Psittacus erithacus* should, with the support of the Secretariat, relevant experts, relevant CITES Parties, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, develop and update National Action Plans, with timeframes, deliverables, and milestones, for the conservation of the species. The following key issues should be addressed:

- a) as appropriate, undertake a scientifically based field survey to establish the population status of the species, as well as population trends, in the range States to review progress made towards the restoration and conservation of the species, and in support of the activities proposed in paragraph c);
- b) implement law enforcement activities to combat illegal trade and report results in their annual illegal trade and implementation reports;
- c) identify suitable habitat in range States for re-population of *Psittacus erithacus* where appropriate and feasible, using wild sourced specimens seized from illegal trade and following internationally agreed guidelines for any such reintroductions; and
- d) assess the possibility of establishing *in situ* captive-breeding facilities for the species, in collaboration with States with breeding facilities.

Saiga antelopes (*Saiga* spp.)

Directed to range States of saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.) (Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), and important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives

19.213 a) The range States of the saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.) and important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives, as identified by the Secretariat on the basis of CITES trade data, should fully implement the measures directed to them in the *Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope for 2021-2025* [MTIWP (2021-2025)], developed in support of the *Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope* (*Saiga* spp.) and its *Saiga Action Plan*; and

- b) Consistent with the measures directed to saiga range States in MTIWP (2021-2025), the range States of the saiga antelope are encouraged to establish internal market controls for saiga parts, including registration of stockpiles, labelling of parts and products, and registration of manufacturers and traders, and report such information to the CITES Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.214 Subject to the availability of external resources, the Secretariat shall:

- a) review, in consultation with the CMS Secretariat, the conservation of and trade in saiga antelope, *Saiga* spp., based on available data on legal and illegal trade, materials and outcomes of the fourth meeting of Saiga MOU signatories, and stakeholder consultations, and report any consequent findings and recommendations to the Animals Committee, and to the Standing Committee in the context of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)* and the joint CMS-CITES work programme;
- b) consult saiga range States and major trading and consumer States concerning their management of stockpiles of saiga specimens; review processes and practices; and provide assistance in ensuring effective stockpile management and monitoring, including the development of inventories and strengthening stockpile security;
- c) provide training to strengthen cross-border cooperation in CITES implementation, identification of saiga products and techniques for countering illegal trade; and
- d) report to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.215 The Animals Committee shall, as appropriate, consider any findings and recommendations submitted by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 19.214, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.216 The Standing Committee shall, as appropriate, consider any findings and recommendations submitted by the Animals Committee and the Secretariat in accordance with Decisions 19.214 and 19.215, and make recommendations as necessary.

Directed to saiga antelope range States, Parties, multilateral environmental agreements, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders

19.217 Saiga antelope range States, Parties, multilateral environmental agreements, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders are encouraged to collaborate in the conservation and restoration of the saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.), and to support the implementation of MTIWP (2021-2025) as well as the technical coordination of the Saiga MOU.

AQUATIC SPECIES

Eels (*Anguilla* spp.)

Directed to Parties

19.218 Range States of European eels (*Anguilla anguilla*), transit and importing Parties are encouraged to:

- a) strengthen co-ordination between range States, (re-)exporting and importing Parties to improve traceability and effective enforcement measures for trade in *Anguilla* spp., particularly the European eel;
- b) submit any non-detriment finding studies on European eels they have undertaken to the Secretariat for inclusion on the CITES website; explore the different approaches that might be taken for making

non-detriment findings for European eels traded as fingerlings (FIG) compared with those traded as other live eels (LIV); collaborate and share information with other Parties regarding such studies and their outcome, especially where the Parties share catchments or water bodies; seek review and advice from the Animals Committee or other suitable body on any non-detriment findings for European eels, where appropriate;

- c) develop and/or implement adaptive European eel management plans at national or sub-national (or catchment) level, with defined and time-bound goals, and enhance collaboration within countries between authorities and other stakeholders with responsibilities for eel management, and between countries where water bodies or catchments are shared;
- d) implement the reporting recommendations in document SC75 Doc. 12 to ensure that, where possible, trade in Anguillid eels is reported at species-level and differentiated by life stage (as set out in the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports*);
- e) share information on stock assessments, harvests, the results of monitoring and other relevant data with the Joint Working Group on Eels (WGEEL) of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission, the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas and the Central Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM), so that a full and complete picture of the state of the European eel stock can be established;
- f) develop measures or implement more effectively existing measures to improve the traceability or assessment of legal acquisition of eels in trade (both live and dead) and aquaculture and share these with the Secretariat;
- g) provide the Secretariat with information regarding any changes to measures they have in place to restrict the trade in live 'glass' or fingerling European eels;
- h) share with the Secretariat, where available, protocols and guidelines for reintroduction of seized live European eels to the wild; and
- i) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision or any updates to the information previously submitted in response to Notification to the Parties No. 2021/018 on eels, to allow it to report to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.219 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification inviting range States of European eels (*Anguilla anguilla*), transit and importing Parties to submit to the Secretariat information on the implementation of Decision 19.218, any information sought in Notification No. 2021/018 not already provided or any updates to the information previously submitted in response to Notification to the Parties No. 2021/018 on eels, especially information on current levels of, or emerging trends in, trade in specimens of *Anguilla* spp.;
- b) prepare and submit a summary of the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2021/018 on eels, including any updates provided under Decision 19.218, with draft recommendations on the conservation and management of European eels to the Animals Committee and draft recommendations to improve implementation of the Convention for European eels to the Standing Committee, for their consideration; and
- c) submit the study prepared in the implementation of Decision 18.199, paragraph d), on levels of trade and trade patterns, especially in live eels for aquaculture, and sources of supply, identify any disparities between these, and draft recommendations for the more effective future management of harvests and trade for consideration by the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.220 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) if requested, consider any reports submitted by Parties with respect to the making of non-detriment findings for trade in European eels and provide advice and guidance as needed; and
- b) consider the study referred to in paragraph c) of Decision 19.219, the report produced by the Secretariat under paragraph b) of Decision 19.219 and make recommendations to improve the conservation and management of European eels, for consideration by the Standing Committee or the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.221 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report prepared by the Secretariat and any other available information relating to illegal trade in European eels and make recommendations as appropriate;
- b) review any advice and recommendations from the Animals Committee concerning Decision 19.220 and make recommendations to improve the implementation of the Convention for European eels and the applicability of developing a specific Resolution to the Parties or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate;
- c) with the assistance of the Secretariat, engage with the World Customs Organization to examine the feasibility of harmonizing customs codes relevant to trade in all *Anguilla* species; and
- d) report on the implementation of this Decision to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)

Directed to Parties

19.222 Parties are encouraged to:

- a) in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation and management of sharks*, provide brief information (with an executive summary not exceeding 200 words, if the report exceeds four pages) to the Secretariat, in particular on any national management measures that prohibit commercial take or trade and respond to the Notification called for in Decision 19.224;
- b) in accordance with their national legislation, provide a brief report (with an executive summary not exceeding 200 words, if the report exceeds four pages) to the Secretariat about the assessment of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives for CITES-listed species stored and obtained before the entry into force of the inclusion in CITES in order to control and monitor their trade, if applicable;
- c) respond to the Notification called for in Decision 19.224 and share available national conversion factors used when estimating live catch weight by species, fishery, and product form for more accurate reporting of shark and ray trade data by Parties and indicate whether and how these are used in the development of their non-detriment findings (NDFs);
- d) in accordance with Resolution Conf. 9.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Transit and transshipment*, inspect, to the extent possible under their national legislation, shipments of shark parts and derivatives in transit or being transhipped, to verify presence of CITES-listed species and verify the presence of a valid CITES permit or certificate as required under the Convention or to obtain satisfactory proof of its existence;
- e) seek external funding for a dedicated marine species officer and consider seconding staff members with expertise in fisheries and the sustainable management of aquatic resources to the Secretariat;
- f) in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, actively collaborate to combat illegal trafficking in sharks and ray products by developing mechanisms for coordination between source, transit, and destination countries; and
- g) consider if they are likely to be key beneficiaries from the guidance document(s) reviewed under Decision 19.226, paragraphs a) and b); if so, these Parties are strongly encouraged to participate in any Standing Committee working groups established to address Decision 19.226.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.223 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall

- a) continue to provide capacity-building assistance for implementing Appendix-II shark and ray listings to Parties, especially developing countries and small island developing states, upon request;
- b) liaise with relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and Arrangements (RFMO/As) to identify opportunities for capacity-building with the same organizations, possibly in the form of attending meetings (where the RFMO/A permits such attendance) or by directly liaising with the Secretariat of the organization to provide this information to its membership and/or the provision of training. The aim of this exercise would be to share information to improve the knowledge of CITES in the workings of each relevant RFMO/A;
- c) conduct a further study to look into the apparent mismatch between the trade in products of CITES-listed sharks recorded in the CITES Trade Database and what would be expected against the information available on catches of listed species, building on the study entitled *Missing sharks: A country review of catch, trade and management recommendations for CITES-listed shark species* and share both studies with proposed solutions to resolve this issue to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, in a timely manner;
- d) collaborate closely with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to:
 - i) verify that information about Parties' shark management measures is correctly reflected in the shark measures database developed by FAO (<http://www.fao.org/ipoa-sharks/database-of-measures/en/>) and if not, support FAO in correcting the information;
 - ii) compile clear imagery of wet and dried unprocessed shark fins (particularly, but not exclusively, those from CITES-listed species) along with related species level taxonomic information to facilitate refinement of iSharkFin software developed by FAO;
 - iii) conduct a study analysing the trade in non-fin shark products of CITES-listed species, including the level of species mixing in trade products and recommendations on how to address any implementation challenges arising from the mixing that may be identified; and
- e) bring the results of activities in this present Decision to the attention of the Animals Committee or Standing Committee, as appropriate.

19.224 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties, inviting Parties to:
 - i) in accordance with Resolution Conf 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation and management of sharks*, provide concise (with 200 word executive summary, if the report exceeds four pages) new information on their shark and ray conservation and management activities, in particular:
 - A. the making of NDFs;
 - B. the making of legal acquisition findings (LAFs);
 - C. the identification and monitoring of CITES-listed shark-products in trade, in source, transit, and consumer Parties;
 - D. recording stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-Convention shark parts and derivatives for CITES Appendix-II elasmobranch species and controlling the entry of these stocks into trade; and
 - E. capacity-building needs to assist developing countries and small island developing states with reporting requirements; and

- ii) share with the Secretariat their non-detriment findings (NDFs) and conversion factors used when estimating catch live weight through converting recorded shark landings and trade, where available, to post in the sharks and rays web portal;
 - iii) in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19) on *National reports*, highlight any questions, concerns or difficulties Parties are having in writing or submitting documentation on authorized trade data (e.g. which units are used in reporting trade) for the CITES Trade Database;
- b) provide information from the CITES Trade Database on commercial trade in CITES-listed sharks and rays since 2010, sorted by species and, if possible, by product;
 - c) invite non-Party, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organization observers to support Parties by providing concise information related to the above;
 - d) disseminate new or existing guidance identified by the Standing Committee on the control and monitoring of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives pursuant to Decision 19.226, paragraph b);
 - e) share information concerning* capacity-building needs of developing countries including the possibility of training workshops; and
 - f) collate this information for the consideration of the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee, in collaboration with relevant organizations and experts

19.225 The Animals Committee, in collaboration with relevant organizations and experts, shall:

- a) continue to develop guidance and review outcomes from the proposed international expert workshop on NDFs to support the making of NDFs for CITES-listed shark species, in particular in data-poor, multi-species, small-scale/artisanal, and non-target (by-catch) situations, and for shared and migratory stocks, and introduction from the sea;
- b) review the information submitted by the Secretariat under paragraph e) of Decision 19.223 and paragraph f) of Decision 19.224 and;
- c) report the outcomes of its work under the present Decision to the Standing Committee for incorporation into the joint report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.226 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the revised *Rapid Guide on the making of legal acquisition findings*, and related assessments as they relate to trade in CITES-listed sharks species caught in areas beyond national jurisdiction (including introductions from the sea), and determine if more specific guidance is needed for CITES-listed-shark species, including engagement with RFMOs and any capacity-building which might support their role in the making of LAFs and related assessments;
- b) develop new guidance or identify existing guidance on the control and monitoring of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives, in particular for specimens caught prior to the inclusion of the species in Appendix II;
- c) review the FAO's on-going guidance on Catch Document Schemes, Port State Measures and any other measures to reduce Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing;
- d) in consultation with the Animals Committee, discuss challenges related to transport of biological samples for research and data collection purposes in the context of fisheries management including

* The Secretariat added "share information concerning" to provide grammatical clarity but notes that these three words were not agreed by the Conference of the Parties.

the context of the provisions on introduction from the sea in Resolution Conf 14.6 (Rev. CoP16) and make recommendations to CoP20; and

- e) report its findings under the present Decision to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

19.227 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the comments and recommendations provided by the Parties, the Animals Committee and the Secretariat under Decisions 19.222 to 19.225; and
- b) prepare a report with any necessary recommendations for improving the implementation of the Convention for sharks and rays for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.)

Directed to the Secretariat

19.228 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, collaborate with Parties and species experts to prepare a report on the global illegal trade in seahorses, for consideration by the Standing Committee. The report should include an analysis of extracted data from the CITES illegal trade database, consultations with regional enforcement networks as applicable, analysis of illegal trade routes, modus operandi and seizures, and information contained in the studies prepared in response to Decision 18.229 paragraph c) i); and
- b) report on implementation of paragraph a) of the present Decision to the Standing Committee at its 77th and 78th meeting.

Directed to source, transit, and consumer Parties for which there is evidence of illegal and/or unsustainable international trade in dried seahorses

19.229 To effectively implement the inclusion of seahorses in Appendix II of CITES, source, transit, and consumer Parties for which there is evidence of illegal and/or unsustainable international trade in dried seahorses are encouraged to:

- a) collaborate with key stakeholders and species experts to develop national or regional plans of action to improve CITES implementation for seahorses and should include the following, *inter alia*:
 - i) encouraging collaboration and communication between key stakeholders at a national and regional level, including Environment, Fisheries and Enforcement agencies, with respect to CITES implementation and data gathering for the international trade in seahorses;
 - ii) improving monitoring, detection and law enforcement activities related to seahorses in coastal areas and at transaction points (e.g. in the marketplace, online, in maritime areas, and at air- and seaports);
 - iii) submitting comprehensive and accurate information on illegal international trade in seahorses in their annual illegal trade reports to the Secretariat, as required in compliance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19) on *National reports*, and in support of Decision 19.228, paragraph a);
 - iv) addressing the main drivers of illegal and unsustainable trade by effectively regulating and constraining the operations of non-selective fishing gears, such as bottom trawls and gillnets, to reduce their impacts on seahorses, and combating illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing of seahorses by developing best practices for sustainable harvest; and
- b) share progress in developing and implementing these national or regional plans of action with the Secretariat for its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

19.230 Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide financial and technical assistance to Parties to implement Decision 19.229 and any further recommendations made by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.231 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) in consultation with species experts, analyse and review the results of any activities under Decisions 19.228 and 19.229, the report produced under Decision 18.229, paragraph c) i), and other relevant available information;
- b) develop recommendations to the Parties, the Secretariat, and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to ensure sustainable and legal international trade in seahorses;
- c) consider recommending seahorses as a case study to the 2nd international expert workshop on non-detriment findings; and
- d) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.232 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) analyse and review the results of any activities under Decisions 19.228 and 19.229, the report produced under Decision 18.229 paragraph c) i) and, as appropriate, the report of the Animals Committee produced in support of Decision 19.231;
- b) develop recommendations to the Parties and the Secretariat, as appropriate, to strengthen CITES implementation and enforcement for international trade in seahorses; and
- c) report on the implementation of Decisions 19.228 to 19.232 to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)

Directed to the range States of Strombus gigas

19.233 The range States of *Strombus gigas* are encouraged to:

- a) collaborate to implement the Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan, and develop national Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plans, as appropriate;
- b) continue to collect data on weight of *S. gigas* by processing grade in order to update and improve the regional conversion factors, and establish or update national conversion factors, taking into account the spatial variability and characteristics of the species;
- c) collaborate in developing and implementing joint research programmes at the sub- regional or regional level to support the making of non-detriment findings that take into account all fishing mortality, promote relevant research and capacity-building activities through regional fisheries management entities and mobilize financial resources for data collection;
- d) promote and collaborate in developing and implementing public education and awareness programmes regarding the conservation and sustainable use of *S. gigas*;
- e) continue to collaborate in exploring ways to enhance the traceability of specimens of *S. gigas* in international trade, including, but not limited to, catch certificates, labelling systems and the application of genetic techniques, and consider sharing relevant experiences with the Secretariat, Parties and the Standing Committee, as appropriate, in the context of discussions on traceability systems for trade in CITES-listed species;

- f) collaborate on combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity;
- g) share relevant experiences on traceability systems for specimens of *Strombus gigas*;
- h) share information concerning illegal trade in queen conch, including surveillance and enforcement activities, as appropriate; and
- i) provide progress reports on activities a) to h) to the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES working group on queen conch.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.234 The Secretariat shall continue to collaborate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES working group on queen conch, WECAFC, UNCTAD, OECS and other relevant international organizations, and, subject to external funding:

- a) provide assistance to range States of *S. gigas* in order to enhance the capacity of their CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, fisheries authorities and other stakeholders to implement the *Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan* and national management plans and make scientifically robust non-detriment findings;
- b) provide assistance to range States of *S. gigas* on relevant enforcement issues and report new developments in this regard to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.
- c) monitor the development of traceability systems for queen conch and report relevant developments to the Standing Committee, as appropriate; and
- d) provide updates on relevant activities of the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES working group on queen conch to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.235 The Animals Committee shall consider any reports from the Secretariat under Decision 19.234, paragraph c), and any other relevant available information and make recommendations for the conservation and management of queen conch for consideration by the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.236 The Standing Committee shall consider any reports from the Secretariat under Decision 19.234, paragraph c), and any recommendations coming from the Animals Committee and make its own recommendations to the Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to improve implementation of the Convention for queen conch, as appropriate.

Marine ornamental fishes

Directed to the Secretariat

19.237 The Secretariat shall:

- a) convene a technical workshop to consider the conservation priorities and management needs related to the trade in non-CITES listed marine ornamental fishes worldwide, with a particular focus on data from importing and exporting countries;
- b) invite the Animals Committee, representatives from range States, exporting, and importing countries, fishery stakeholders, industry representatives and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in this workshop; and
- c) submit findings and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.238 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) agree a terms of reference for the technical workshop; and
- b) consider the results of the workshop referred to in Decision 19.237 and make recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

FLORA

Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

Directed to the Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Plants Committee

19.261 The Secretariat shall, in close collaboration with the Plants Committee:

- a) publish a notification inviting Parties to:
 - i) share information materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and, as far as possible, liaise with key stakeholders of medicinal and aromatic plant trade supply chains for this purpose,
 - ii) review their non-detriment findings (NDFs) for medicinal and aromatic plants and consider sharing such with the Secretariat to be included on the NDF section of the CITES website;
 - iii) assess the utility of the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in their routine work to see if it can contribute to the expansion of the Species+ database; and share any experience of using the MPNS database;
- b) make information materials for raising awareness of CITES regulations for the medicinal and aromatic plant industry stakeholders and consumers available to Parties on the CITES website;
- c) subject to external funding, undertake an analysis of e-commerce supply chains in products of CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plant species, exploring the applicability of using the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the analysis, and including
 - i) a stakeholder analysis of key producers, intermediate traders, manufacturers or distribution platforms to end consumers, and of institutions influencing the demand for CITES-regulated medicinal and aromatic plant products in biomedical, traditional and alternative medical systems, cosmetic and personal care, food industries (as appropriate), and
 - ii) an assessment whether existing annotations are adequate with respect to the principles and principles recommended in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*; and
- d) report to the Plants Committee on the implementation of this Decision, including suggestions, as appropriate, regarding Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) on *Traditional medicines* or a new Resolution in relation to medicinal and aromatic plant products.

Directed to Parties

19.262 Parties are invited to support the implementation of Decision 19.261.

Directed to the Plants Committee, in consultation with the Animals Committee, as appropriate

19.263 The Plants Committee shall:

- a) be informed and review the report of the Secretariat, and the feedback from Parties as per Decision 19.261, regarding the utility of the Medicinal Plant Names Service, with advice from the nomenclature specialist, as appropriate;

- b) taking into consideration the information in document PC25 Doc. 30, information document CoP18 Inf. 11, the report of the Secretariat as per Decision 19.261, and other relevant information, and in consultation with the Animals Committee, as appropriate, undertake a review of Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) on *Traditional medicines*, and prepare recommendations for a revised Resolution on traditional medicines or a new Resolution on medicinal and aromatic plant products; and
- c) submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.264 The Standing Committee shall review the report from the Plants Committee as per Decision 19.263, as appropriate, and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties.

Appendices of the Convention

ANNOTATIONS

Annotations

Directed to the Standing Committee, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees

16.162 (Rev. CoP19) The Standing Committee shall re-establish the working group on annotations, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, recognizing that the Animals and Plants Committees are an important source of expertise and advice to Parties on such scientific and technical issues. The group shall include, but not be limited to, members from the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee, observer Parties, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, enforcement authorities, including customs, and industry representatives. The Standing Committee shall particularly endeavour to ensure balanced representation of importing and exporting Parties. The terms of reference for the working group shall be:

- a) in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, to continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including but not limited to those on the tree species, of the agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.), *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi* and orchids, and to identify options to streamline these annotations taking into account the guidance provided by Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*;
- b) to develop or refine definitions of terms used in current annotations as appropriate, and submit them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;
- c) to review and update the definitions of wood and wood products currently located in paragraph 1 c) of Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) on *Implementation of the Convention for tree species*, for logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood;
- d) to conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants Committee; and
- e) to prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration at the 77th and 78th meetings of the Standing Committee.

Informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations

Directed to the Secretariat

19.266 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall prepare a proposal on the feasibility and requirements for an informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations, provide its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees

19.267 The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee, shall evaluate the Secretariat's proposal for an informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations and submit any relevant recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

NOMENCLATURE MATTERS

Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

18.313 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals and Plants Committees shall, taking into consideration the current guidance in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature*, paragraph 2 g), evaluate how nomenclature changes affect Appendix-III listings and propose further guidance and recommendations as necessary, that address how such nomenclature changes are to be handled, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat

18.314 (Rev. CoP19) The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, shall take into account the guidance and recommendations from the Animals and Plants Committees and make recommendations to address nomenclature changes that affect an Appendix-III listing, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) or Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) on *Inclusion of species in Appendix III*, for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Higher taxon listings in the Appendices

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.272 The Animals and Plants Committees shall, taking into consideration document AC31 Doc. 38 with its Annex and its addendum, as well as the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II*, Annex 3, review the impacts of existing and future higher taxon listings in the Appendices and propose further guidance and recommendations as necessary, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.273 The Standing Committee shall take into account the guidance and recommendations from the Animals and Plants Committees and make any recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as required.

Development of a standardized global checklist of species

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

19.274 Subject to external funding, the Animals and Plants Committee shall, through their respective nomenclature specialists, participate in the initiative of the International Union of Biological Sciences to develop a standardized global checklist of species, and report on progress to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

FAUNA

Use of time-specific versions of online databases as standard nomenclature references

Directed to the Secretariat

18.309 The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue to engage copyright-holders of relevant online-databases that might serve as standard nomenclature references and explore the possible use of time-specific versions for CITES services; for example, relevant databases include but are not limited to WoRMS, Fish Base, ESCHMEYER & FRICKE's *Catalog of Fishes*, *Amphibian Species of the World*, and *Corals of the World* as standard references;
- b) report the results of its consultations to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.310 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals Committee shall:

- a) evaluate the results of the Secretariat's consultation;
- b) develop recommendations on the use of time-specific online-databases as standard nomenclature references for decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.311 The Secretariat shall:

- a) seek, if possible, a time-specific version of the WoRMS database; and
- b) report on progress to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.312 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the report of the Secretariat and proceed towards recommending for adoption of a standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed corals;
- b) update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, once a new standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed coral species has been identified and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination; and
- c) report with recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Taxonomy and nomenclature of African elephants (*Loxodonta* spp.)

Directed to the Secretariat

19.275 The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification seeking the perspectives of Parties and other stakeholders on the potential effects of recognizing African forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) as a separate species to African savannah elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) for CITES purposes;
- b) develop a list of all current Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties that would be impacted by such a change of nomenclature;
- c) collate the responses to the Notification to the Parties and prepare a review of the potential impacts of recognising *L. cyclotis* as a separate species for CITES purposes, including the potential impacts on Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) prepare a report of its findings pursuant to a), b) and c) above and submit this report to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.276 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) in consultation with the IUCN African Elephant Specialist Group, review the taxonomic-nomenclatural history of African elephant *Loxodonta africana* in CITES and the nomenclature that reflects accepted use in biology, at its 32nd meeting; and
- b) if appropriate, make a recommendation on adopting a new standard nomenclature reference for African elephants, for decision at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.277 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review the report submitted by the Secretariat under paragraph d) of Decision 19.275; and
- b) provide advice and any recommendations on the potential impacts of recognizing *L. cyclotis* as a separate species for CITES purposes, including the potential impacts on Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Nomenclature for bird family and order names

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.278 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) evaluate the implications of adopting the HBW/BI *Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World* as the new standard nomenclature reference for birds at the species, family and order levels, including the production of a listing of supplementary nomenclatural standard references that may be needed; and
- b) develop a recommendation for decision at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.