

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
MONDAY 19 JUNE 2023

Opening remarks of the Secretary-General *No document*

The Secretary-General gave an opening address.

1. Confirmation of the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair *No document*

The Committee confirmed the election of its Chair, the representative for Europe (Mr. Mathias Lörtscher) and Vice-Chair, the representative for Oceania (Mr. Hugh Robertson).

Opening remarks of the Chair *No document*

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the Members of the Committee, Party Observers, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to the meeting.

2. Declaration of conflict of interest *No document*

The Committee noted that no Member declared a financial interest that he or she considers calls into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the agenda for the meeting.

3. Rules of Procedure AC32 Doc. 3

The Committee noted that its Rules of Procedure, as amended at its 30th meeting (Geneva, July 2018) and set out in the Annex to document AC32 Doc. 3, remain valid for this meeting.

4. Agenda AC32 Doc. 4

The Committee adopted its agenda as set out in document AC32 Doc. 4.

5. Working programme AC32 Doc. 5

The Committee adopted its working programme as set out in document AC32 Doc. 5.

6. Admission of observers AC32 Doc. 6

The Committee noted the list of observer organizations that had been invited to participate in the meeting as set out in document AC32 Doc. 6 and further noted the current practice of approval of observer organizations in accordance with Rule 4, paragraph 3, of its Rules of Procedure. The Committee invited the Secretariat to include the country where national non-governmental organizations are based in its document on admission of observers.

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

8.1 Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Animals Committee..... AC32 Doc. 8.1

The Committee noted document AC32 Doc. 8.1.

8.2 Animals Committee workplan..... AC32 Doc. 8.2

The Committee noted the 2023-2025 workplan and agreed that, in the event of the Standing Committee establishing additional intersessional working groups, the lead or co-leads identified for the relevant Resolution or Decision in the current work plan would represent the Animals Committee on the working group concerned.

7. Emerging operational matters of the committees.....PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7

The Committee agreed with the recommendations of the Plants Committee as follows:

The Committee agreed to support the general way forward described in document PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7. The Committee requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees through their Chairs, to prepare a document for the Standing Committee that would also propose a way to capture the guiding principles and other recommendations in document PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7 in CITES official documentation, for instance in Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees*.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to organize meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees back-to-back and to ensure that the timing of any online or hybrid meeting be equitable for all regions.

The Animals Committee further noted the concerns expressed by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland about the proposal (in paragraph 21 of document AC32.Doc.7) to enable the hybrid participation of Parties to join discussions via an online platform on a routine, rather than on an exceptional basis, noting the potential complications of managing these discussions considering that a number of countries could be involved, such as in Stage 1 of the Review of Significant Trade process (selection of species/country combinations to be reviewed).

9. CITES Strategic VisionPC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9

The Committee agreed with the recommendations of the Plants Committee as follows:

The Committee invited Members and Parties to submit any comments they may have on the mapping of the *CITES Strategic Vision* and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its monitoring framework as contained in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9 directly to the Secretariat that would consider them in its report to the Standing Committee.

The Committee invited the Secretariat to continue working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on SDG indicator 15.7.1 and to inform the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity of the outcome of this work.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to follow the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and any work related to the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework; and to provide data from relevant Strategic Vision indicators (such as indicator 1.1.1 on the National Legislation Project) and possible indicators for objective 1.4 to the CBD Secretariat, if requested.

The Committee noted the comments made on the possible indicators for objective 1.4 of the Strategic Vision proposed in paragraph 13 of document PC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9 and invited Members and Parties to submit any further comments directly to the Secretariat that would consider them in its report to the Standing Committee.

The Committee agreed that the Chair of the Animals Committee will coordinate the Committee's input on the partnership strategy called for in Decision 19.20.

The Committee further encouraged Members and Parties to submit their comments on the mapping and potential indicators for objective 1.4 to the Secretariat prior to the document deadline for the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee, i.e., before 7 September 2023.

12. IPBES Report on the Assessment of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species PC26 Doc. 12 / AC32 Doc. 12

The Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group jointly with the Plants Committee on the IPBES assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species that will work through electronic means to:

- a) 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 (IPBES) relevant to CITES implementation as highlighted in the Annexes to document PC26 Doc. 12 / AC32 Doc. 12 and other aspects as agreed by the working group;
- b) identify aspects relevant to CITES implementation that are not adequately covered in existing Resolutions and Decisions and may require further consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees or the Standing Committee;
- c) prepare a draft report of the results of the review and possible recommendations for consideration by the joint sessions of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee scheduled to take place in 2024; and
- d) prepare a document for consideration of the Animals and Plants Committees containing the outcome of the review and recommendations to be submitted for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The membership was decided as follows¹:

Chair for AC: Chair of the Animals Committee (Mr. Lörtscher);

Chair for PC: alternate representative for North America (Mr. Benítez Diaz);

Members: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Ramadori);

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, European Union, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Conservation Force, German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International, Indonesian Coral, Shell and Ornamental Fish Association, International Fur Federation, International Wood Products Association, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Natural Resources Defense Council, Pro Wildlife, Save our Seas Foundation, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Resources Institute, World Wide Fund for Nature.

10. Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade..... PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10

The Committee agreed to nominate the nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk) and the alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Diesmos) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on the role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade, taking into account the comments made on paragraph 13 of document PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10.

¹ This includes the expression of interest at the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to incorporate the comments made during the meeting in its review of the draft MoU and joint work programme between CITES and the World Organization for Animal Health for consideration by the Standing Committee.

The Committee established an intersessional working group on zoonotic diseases with the mandate to review the information provided by the Parties, organizations and the United Nations Environment Programme and prepare recommendations for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting on:

- a) proposed effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains; and
- b) opportunities for practical collaboration under the direction of existing Resolutions, Decisions and agreements.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Diesmos) and the nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk);

Members: the alternate representative for Africa (Mr. Diouck) and the alternate representative for North America (Mr. Leuteritz);

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Namibia, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa; Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free Foundation, Center for Biological Diversity, Dallas Safari Club, Defenders of Wildlife, European Animal Research Association, European Pet Organisation, German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, International Fur Federation, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, National association for Biomedical Research, Organization of Professional Aviculturists, Pet Advocacy Network, Pro Wildlife, SUCO-SA, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature, Zoological Society of London.

14. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

14.1 Overview of the Review of Significant Trade AC32 Doc. 14.1

The Committee noted document AC32 Doc. 14.1 and requested the Secretariat to publish a second Notification to the Parties asking for feedback on the Review of Significant Trade Tracking and Management Database.

14.2 Selection of new species/country combinations for review following CoP19 AC32 Doc. 14.2

The Committee established an in-session working group on the Review of Significant Trade with the mandate to, in accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18):

- a) review the information contained in the annexes to document AC32 Doc.14.2, as well as any additional available information; and
- b) recommend a limited number of species/country combinations of greatest concern for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade and an explanation for the selection.

The membership was decided as follows:

- Co-Chairs: representative for Europe (Ms. Zikova) and representative for North America (Mr. Benítez Diaz);
- Members: representative for Asia (Mr. Hamidy), representatives for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora and Mr. Ramadori), representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson), nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk);
- Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and
- IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, International Union for Conservation of Nature, ADM Capital Foundation, Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, BirdLife International, Blue Resources Trust, Bloom Association, Born Free Foundation, Born Free USA, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Force, Dallas Safari Club, Defenders of Wildlife, European Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation, Florida International University, German Society of Herpetology, Global Guardian Trust, Humane Society International, Indonesian Coral, Shell and Ornamental Fish Association, International Fund for Animal Welfare, International Fur Federation, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Marine Watch International, OCEANA, Organization of Professional Aviculturists, Ornamental Fish International, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa, Pro Vision Reef, Pro Wildlife, Safari Club International, Save our Seas Foundation, Society for Wildlife and Nature International, South African Taxidermy and Tannery Association, SUCO-SA, Sustainable Users Network, TRAFFIC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature, Zoological Society of London.

15. Captive-bred and ranched specimens

15.1 Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity AC32 Doc. 15.1

15.2 Captive-breeding of spiny tailed lizards AC32 Doc. 15.2

and

15.3 Exceptional case for inclusion of species-country combination in Review of trade in animal specimens as produced in captivity – *Macaca fascicularis*..... AC32 Doc. 15.3

The Committee established an in-session working group on captive-bred and ranched specimens with the mandate to, taking into account document AC32 Doc. 15.1 and its Annexes, document AC32 Doc. 15.2 and document AC32 Doc. 15.3:

- a) select a limited number of species-country combinations for review,
- b) prepare a brief explanation of the criteria used to justify each selection;
- c) draft general or specific questions for the countries selected for review;
- d) determine and prioritize for which species a request should be made for the commissioning of a short review of the breeding biology, captive husbandry and any impacts, if relevant, of removal of founder stock from the wild; and
- e) identify any urgent enforcement matters which need the attention of the Secretariat, the country concerned and/or the Standing Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Chair of the Animals Committee (Mr. Lörtscher);

Members: representatives for Africa (Ms. Maha and Mr. Kasoma), representative for Asia (Mr. Hamidy), representatives for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora and Mr. Ramadori), representative for Europe (Ms. Zikova), representative for North America (Mr. Benítez Diaz), alternate representative for Africa (Mr. Diouck), alternate representative for Oceania (Ms. McIntyre), nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk);

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, ADM Capital Foundation, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, BirdLife International, Born Free Foundation, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, European Animal Research Association, European Pet Organisation, German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International, International Fur Federation, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, National Association for Biomedical Research, Natural Resources Defense Council, Organization of Professional Aviculturists, Ornamental Fish International, Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa, Pro Vision Reef, Pro Wildlife, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, Society for Wildlife and Nature International, South African Taxidermy and Tannery Association, Species Survival Network, SUCO-SA, Sustainable Users Network, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature.

23. Trade in stony corals (*Scleractinia* spp.)

23.1 Report of the Chair of the Animals Committee AC32 Doc. 23.1

and

23.2 Reporting of trade in stony corals (*Scleractinia* spp.) AC32 Doc. 23.2

The Committee established an in-session working group on trade in stony corals with the mandate to draft a Notification to the Parties concerning the implementation of Decision 19.177, seeking advice from coral reef nations and coral experts.

The membership was decided as follows:

Members: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora) and representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson);

Parties: Australia, European Union; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Ornamental Fish International, Pro Vision Reef.

The Committee established an intersessional working group on stony corals with the mandate to:

- a) review the responses to the Notification to the Parties concerning the implementation of Decision 19.177, seeking advice from coral reef nations and coral experts;
- b) make recommendations on possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Trade in stony corals* and

- c) provide advice on the conversion factors used to analyse trade in corals for the Review of Significant Trade process;
- d) propose amendments to the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* and the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of the CITES annual illegal trade reports*; and
- e) present its findings to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora) alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Diesmos);

Parties: Australia, Brazil, China, European Union, France, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Center for Biological Diversity, European Pet Organisation, Indonesian Coral, Shell and Ornamental Fish Association, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Advocacy Network, Pro Vision Reef.

37. Sharks and rays (*Elasmobranchii* spp.) AC32 Doc. 37 (Rev. 1)

The Committee agreed to nominate the representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora) and the representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on sharks and rays.

The Committee established an in-session working group on sharks with the mandate to:

- a) consider document AC32 Doc. 37 (Rev.1) and the scientific elements in its Annexes, the information on *Elasmobranchii* spp. in document AC32 Doc. 14.2 and any other relevant information, and
- b) make recommendations, if necessary, on whether any species/country combination should be considered under the selection process for the Review of Significant Trade;
- c) identify information pertinent to the development of guidance on non-detriment findings for sharks and rays, taking into account the ongoing or planned worked described in document AC32 Doc. 37 (Rev. 1), paragraph 11 and 12;
- d) identify information on gaps and needs for the identification of CITES-listed shark-products in trade;
- f) review capacity needs identified by Parties, especially as it relates to assisting developing countries and small island developing states, in the implementation of the Convention for sharks and rays with a particular focus on the species included at the 19th meeting of the Conference of Parties; and
- e) draft recommendations for consideration by the Animals Committee and submission to the Standing Committee as appropriate

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Gongora) and representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson);

Members: alternate representative for Africa (Mr. Diouck)

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, European Union, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, Bloom Association, Blue Resources Trust, Defenders of Wildlife, Florida International University, Global Guardian Trust, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, OCEANA, Save our Seas Foundation, Shark Advocates International, Shark Trust, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature, Zoological Society of London.

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

25.1 Report of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees PC26 Doc. 23 / AC32 Doc. 25.1

The Committee agreed with the recommendations of the Plants Committee as follows:

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on trade in specimens not of wild source that will work separately and jointly with the mandate to:

- 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;
- 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; and
- d) report on progress to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows²:

Chair for AC: representative for North America (Mr. Benítez Diaz);

Chair for PC: representative for Oceania (Mr. Wrigley);

AC Members: representative for Europe (Ms. Zikova);

Parties: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, European Union, Germany, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Euromed, European Pet Organisation, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Organization of Professional Aviculturists, Ornamental Fish International, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee agreed to nominate the Chair for AC of the joint intersessional working group to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group and invited the co-Chairs of the Standing Committee's intersessional working group to work closely with the AC/PC joint intersessional working group in implementing their mandates.

25.2 Considerations and recommendations for ranching of marine species AC32 Doc. 25.2

² This includes the expression of interest at the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The Committee recommended that the upcoming global expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDF) consider guidelines for the making of NDFs for specimens of marine species sourced from ranching operations and report back on this issue to the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

45. Botanical and zoological nomenclature

45.1 Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings..... PC26 Doc.42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1

and

45.2 Higher taxon listings in the Appendices PC26 Doc 42.2 /AC32 Doc. 45.2

The Committee agreed with the recommendations of the Plants Committee as follows:

The Committee established a joint intersessional nomenclature working group with a mandate to:

- a) review the scientific implications and impacts of existing and future higher taxon listings in the Appendices, taking into consideration the aspects raised in document PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2; and
- b) review and revise document PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1; and
- c) develop draft recommendations and guidance for consideration at the joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee scheduled to take place in 2024.

The membership was decided as follows³:

Chair for AC: the nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk);

Chair for PC: the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Klopper);

PC Members: representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng);

Parties: Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Japan, Madagascar, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, BirdLife International, Center for Biological Diversity, Humane Society International, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa, Pro Wildlife, South African Taxidermy and Tannery Association, Species Survival Network, World Wide Fund for Nature.

45.3 Development of a standardized global checklist of species PC26 Doc 42.3 /AC32 Doc. 45.3

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3.

³ This includes the expression of interest at the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee.