

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Strategic matters

Committee reports and recommendations

Standing Committee

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

1. This document has been submitted by Ms. Carolina Caceres as representative of Canada, Chair of the Standing Committee.\*

Background

2. Canada was elected as Chair by the Members of the Standing Committee at its 68th meeting (SC68, Johannesburg, October 2016), following the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016). China was at the same meeting elected to serve as Vice-Chair. These Parties continued to fill the posts concerned during the intersessional periods between the 17th and 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016 and CoP18, Geneva, 2019) and the present meeting.

Summary of the Committee's workload between CoP18 and CoP19

3. The Committee held three meetings since CoP18: the 72nd meeting (SC72, Geneva, August 2019) was held in August 2019 in Geneva, immediately after CoP18. The 73rd meeting (SC73, online, May 2021) took place online, the first online meeting of a CITES Committee, due to concerns related to the health and safety of participants, sanitary measures, border controls and travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A few matters were also finalized intersessionally through the procedure for intersessional decision-making provided for in Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedures of the Standing Committee. The 74th meeting (SC74, Lyon, March 2022) was held in Lyon, France in March 2022. The 75th meeting (SC75) is scheduled to take place in Panama City, Panama on 13 November 2022, immediately prior to the present meeting.
4. The Standing Committee meetings continue to be characterized by an unprecedented and increasing volume of work for the Committee. The 74th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC74, Lyon, March 2022) agenda included 89 items, found in 117 documents. Concluding this ambitious agenda was only possible with the inclusion of evening sessions throughout the duration of the meeting, made possible with the generous support from France.
5. In addition to instructions to the Committee in 29 Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties, CoP18 also directed 86 Decisions to the Standing Committee. The reporting burden of the Standing Committee continues to substantially increase at each CoP, as illustrated in **Table 1** below.

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

**Table 1:** Number of Decisions directed to the Animals Committee, Plants Committee, Standing Committee and the Secretariat adopted during the last four meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Decisions directed to	CoP15 (2010)	CoP16 (2013)	CoP17 (2016)	CoP18 (2019)
Animals Committee	15	19	31	40
Plants Committee	20	12	26	27
Standing Committee	30	49	79	86
Secretariat	57	60	129	122
Parties and others	36	56	87	95
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>126</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>357</b>

6. To fully undertake the work charged to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee, at SC74, was required to add regular evening sessions to its programme of work and minimize the use of in-session working groups due to lack of time. The meeting was possible due to generous hosting by France; otherwise not possible in the context of the agreed budget. This precedent was set at SC70, and at current rate of growth, is a necessity if Parties wish to prioritize the addressing of all SC Decisions by virtue of face-to-face meetings. Additionally, with the growing agenda comes growing costs for translation. The Parties may wish to consider these associated costs when determining the budget for SC meetings.

Activities undertaken by the Chair pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

7. The Standing Committee Chair reported on her meeting of 1 December 2020 with Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP, to the Standing Committee via email. The meeting was requested to informally review the areas of cooperation outlined in the MoU between the Standing Committee and UNEP. Of note, Programme Support Costs, Delegation of Authority to the Secretary-General and the programmatic collaboration between UNEP and CITES were discussed. Regarding Programme Support Costs, as Chair, I stressed that the Committee has requested information related to the use of these costs and the payment of core administrative costs by UNEP and was informed the requested details would be available for the Finance and Budget Sub-Committee. I noted the Committee would value transparency on programme support costs. Regarding the delegation of authority to the Secretary-General, as Chair, I stressed the importance Parties place on having an agile and responsive Secretariat that can meet the expectations of the COP efficiently. I requested to review the Delegation prior to its finalization, as envisioned in the Standing Committee-UNEP MoU. Finally, there was a short but excellent discussion on the positive collaboration between the CITES Secretariat and UNEP on programmatic issues (i.e. wildlife trade and zoonoses/pandemic, the UNEP Medium-Term strategy).
8. The Standing Committee additionally considered reports by the Secretariat and UNEP relating to administrative matters. The Secretariat provided an update on the administrative changes introduced by the United Nations (UN) Secretariat and by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in particular the most significant changes around the New Delegation of Authority Policy. Members of the Committee expressed concerns about the lack of inclusion of the Standing Committee in the development and establishment of the new Delegation of Authority Policy process, which they considered to be contrary to the terms of the MoU between UNEP and the Standing Committee, and sought clarification from the Secretariat on why the Committee was not consulted. The Chair noted that she had been provided with the document during its development but had not been given the opportunity to comment on the role of the Committee in the development of the process. UNEP explained that this Policy resulted from a harmonisation exercise that had been undertaken across all entities under the UN, including UNEP and its constituent parts such as CITES. However, as the documents are living documents, updates could be undertaken as a result of feedback that might arise from difficulties in implementing the document as it stands. The Committee and Chair were invited to consider whether there were any specific areas of concern, with any feedback provided

<sup>1</sup> The total number of Decisions adopted at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties is lower than the sum of the Decisions directed to the AC, PC, SC, Secretariat and Parties and others because some Decisions are directed to two entities at the same time, for instance to the Animals and Plants Committees.

by the Committee presented through the appropriate channels. The Chair welcomed the opportunity for the Committee to comment and invited review of the relevant document posted on the website.

9. The Standing Committee also welcomed the audit by the Office of Internal Oversight services (OIOS) conducted in 2021 and requested the Secretariat to provide an update on implementation of recommendations at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see document CoP19 Doc. 7.1).

#### Work undertaken between CoP18 and CoP19

10. A brief summary of the Committee's discharge of all the instructions from the Conference of the Parties in 29 Resolutions and 89 Decisions is found in Annex 1 to the present document. For the most substantive issues, the Committee has submitted a working document for the present meeting. This report will provide further information on the activities of the Standing Committee to fulfil actions under the Resolutions and Decisions not reported elsewhere in a working document.
11. The COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the work of the Standing Committee between CoP18 and CoP19, but twenty intersessional working groups established by the Standing Committee assisted the committee in moving work forward in a constructive manner. One of these intersessional working groups, established on 6 April 2021, was tasked to consider what the role, if any, CITES could play in reducing the risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade, and the Standing Committee's recommendations in this regard will be considered by the Conference of Parties under agenda item 23 (document CoP19 Doc. 23.1). At its 73rd meeting, the Standing Committee noted document [SC73 Doc. 15](#) prepared by the Secretariat on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the Convention, specifically on national CITES authorities, governing bodies and scientific advisory committees of CITES and on the CITES Secretariat. I note that the Secretariat submitted a document in this regard for consideration by CoP19 (see document CoP19 Doc. 24).
12. Intersessional decisions taken by the Standing Committee included the establishment and membership of intersessional working groups (Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/081](#)); the adoption of recommendations made by the Committee's Finance and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC) relating to projected savings for the year 2020 and 2021 and the approval of the transfer of resources from 2020 to 2021 (Notification to the Parties [No. 2021/015](#)) and from 2021 to 2022 ([SC74 Sum. 13 \(Rev. 1\)](#)) to cover the cost of the organization of governing bodies meetings on one-time exceptional basis; recommendations in relation to trade with the Republic of Guinea (Notification to the Parties [No. 2021/033](#)); the endorsement of the draft CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme 2021-2025 ([SC73 SR](#)), and approval of the Programme of Work for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative. The Standing Committee furthermore requested the Secretariat to submit the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative at the 52nd meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on Migratory Species (Notification to the Parties [No. 2021/054](#)).
13. The Standing Committee was also requested to consider an application to register Earth Ocean Farms. S. de R.L. de C.V. (Mexico) breeding *Totoaba macdonaldi* ([SC74 Doc. 59.1.1](#) and SC74 Doc. 59.1.2). In terms of paragraph 4 in Annex 2 to Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Registration of operations that breed Appendix -I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes*, if objections to a registration is not withdrawn or the identified problem(s) not resolved, the application shall be submitted to the Standing Committee. At its 74th meeting, the Standing Committee voted on a motion to accept the application from Mexico to include *Totoaba macdonaldi*, bred by Earth Ocean Farms. S. de R.L. de C.V. in the *CITES Register of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes* [[SC74 Sum. 9 \(Rev. 1\)](#)], taking into account the commitments made by Mexico. The motion was approved by 9 votes in favour and 5 against, with one abstention.
14. A key element of the mandate of the Standing Committee is to recommend compliance actions, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES compliance procedures* and associated Resolutions and Decisions. Annex 2 to the present document provides a summary of compliance matters resulting in a recommendation to suspend trade since CoP18. These recommendations arose as a result of the application of Article XIII, of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on the *Review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix-II species* (linked to obligations under Article IV of the Convention), of Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports* (linked to obligations under Article VII) and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for the implementation of the Convention* (linked to obligations under Article VIII and IX of the Convention). The Standing Committee also considered appropriate measures in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES compliance procedures* to ensure compliance with the National Ivory Action Plan process. Details relating to the measures adopted are found in document [SC74 Sum. 4 \(Rev. 1\)](#) and in the relevant CoP19 documents.

15. The role and responsibilities of the Standing Committee in conducting the Review of Significant Trade (RST) in specimens of Appendix-II species are described in paragraph 1 k) to p) and paragraph 2 of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*. In addition to its impact for Parties implementing recommendations in-country, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the RST process. As required by paragraph 1 a) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the Secretariat commissioned the preparation of a post-CoP18 summary of reported trade in specimens of Appendix-II species of fauna and flora in recent years for consideration at the 31st meeting of the Animals Committee (AC31) and 25th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC25) which had been planned for July 2020. These meetings were postponed and subsequently took place online in June 2021. As a consequence, a regular RST has not been undertaken during the interessional period between CoP18 and CoP19. The Standing Committee therefore considered species/country combinations selected for review prior to CoP18, but for which the review has not yet been completed in document [SC74 Doc. 30.1](#) and its [Addendum](#). The details relating to the recommendations adopted by SC74 is contained in the Summary Record of the meeting (SC74 SR).
16. In terms of paragraph 1 and 3 of Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports*, the Standing Committee must concur with amendments to the guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports and annual illegal trade reports. The Standing Committee approved the revised *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports*, including the revisions to the Spanish version proposed, and the revised *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual illegal trade reports*, with the additional deletion of “elephant” in the explanation section for tusk (raw ivory) in both Guidelines. The Committee further noted the intention of the Secretariat to propose to the Conference of the Parties revisions to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties* and Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports* contained in document CoP19 Doc. 26. The Committee invited the Secretariat to consider if further revisions of the Guidelines are needed.
17. Species specific matters addressed by the Standing Committee included, among others, Great apes (Hominidae spp.) and Tibetan antelope (*Pantholops hodgsonii*) [[SC74 Sum. 12 \(Rev. 1\)\(11/03/2022\)](#)]. At its 74th meeting, the Standing Committee considered a report ([SC74 Doc. 71](#)) prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) and the Primate Specialist Group Section on Great Apes (SGA) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in terms of [Resolution Conf. 13.4 \(Rev. CoP18\) on Conservation of and trade in great apes](#). The Committee noted the importance of including the conservation of great apes in any collaboration with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements as part of the broader work on partnership and synergies.
18. The Standing Committee considered a report by the Secretariat developed in terms of [Resolution Conf. 11.8 \(Rev. CoP17\) on Conservation of and control of trade in the Tibetan antelope](#) at its 74th meeting. The Committee encouraged Parties affected by illegal trade in specimens of Tibetan antelope (*Pantholops hodgsonii*) to continue to approach the CITES Management Authority of Switzerland for assistance with identification methods and exchange of information and knowledge about this topic. India and Italy were encouraged to enhance efforts to strengthen the capacity of its border officials concerning the identification of Tibetan antelope specimens, in particular garments and cloth, including by drawing upon the support available from Switzerland, as appropriate [[SC74 Sum. 12 \(Rev. 1\)\(11/03/2022\)](#)].

#### *Implementation of Decisions directed to the Standing Committee*

19. As indicated above, a brief summary of the Committee’s discharge of all the instructions from the Conference of the Parties in 29 Resolutions and 86 Decisions is found in Annex 1 to the present document. A number of decisions are discussed in the following paragraphs and these relate to decisions that requested the Standing Committee to address and conclude specific matters in line with its terms of reference ([Resolution Conf. 18.2](#)), including the consideration and approval of guidance documents, providing advice to the Secretariat, and recommending the deletion or renewal of specific Decisions to the Conference of Parties.
20. Pursuant to [Decision 18.2 and 18.3 on Conduct of Committees](#), the Standing Committee did not consider whether the terms of reference of the Standing Committee Finance and Budget Subcommittee should be annexed to Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees* (Decision 18.2), but it did endorse the [Guidance for chairs of CITES working groups established by the Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee](#) at its 73rd meeting ([SC73 SR](#)) and the guidance document has been made available on the CITES website. The Chair of the Standing Committee recommends that the CoP consider the renewal of Decision 18.2 (Annex 3) and the deletion of Decision 18.3.

21. On the Review of the Convention ([Decision 18.27](#)), the Standing Committee agreed that there was no need for a targeted review of the implementation of the Convention at this time, in consideration of the cost implications of such a review and of the existence of other review mechanisms already agreed by the Conference of Parties [[SC74 Sum. 3 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. It is therefore recommended that the CoP consider the deletion of Decision 18.27.
22. With regards to [Decision 18.38 on World Wildlife Day](#) that directed the Standing Committee to designate a World Wildlife Day to be focussed on livelihoods of indigenous peoples and rural and local communities; the theme for the celebration of World Wildlife Day in 2021 was "[Forest and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet](#)".
23. With regards to the Decisions on the *Cooperation with the World Heritage Convention* ([Decisions 18.52 to 18.54](#)), the Standing Committee provided recommendations to the Secretariat for consideration in finalising the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Secretariat and UNESCO World Heritage Centre. The MoU will provide a framework of cooperation and understanding and facilitate collaboration to further shared goals and objectives in regard to the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value and of certain species of wild fauna and flora against over-exploitation through international trade. It is recommended that the CoP consider the deletion of Decisions 18.52 to 18.54.
24. The Secretariat informed SC74 that since the adoption of the amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18 on *Permits and certificates* and Resolution Conf. 13.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Implementation of Article VII, paragraph 2, concerning 'pre-Convention' specimens*, it has not received any questions or requests for additional guidance relating to the period of transition, including the period between the adoption of a proposal to transfer a species from one Appendix to another and the entry into force of the new listing. The Standing Committee agreed at SC74 to propose to CoP19 the renewal of [Decision 18.151](#) on the *Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another* (Annex 4) [[SC74 Sum.13 \(Rev. 1\)](#)].
25. The Standing Committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat, reviewed the existing provisions agreed by the Parties concerning controls on stocks of specimens of CITES-listed species as required in terms of [Decision 17.170 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#) on *Stocks and stockpiles*. Document [SC74 Doc. 60](#) on *Stocks and stockpiles* reflected on existing challenges to the implementation of CITES provisions on stocks and stockpiles; on the fundamental objectives of conservation and enforcement that should direct the management of stocks and stockpiles; and on the need for, and possible definition of, the terms "stock" and "stockpile". The financial cost of maintaining the security and integrity of stockpiles was identified as a major challenge, with existing provisions appearing to encourage retention and management of stocks and stockpiles rather than their destruction. It was also highlighted that a fundamental objective was to ensure that existing stocks and stockpiles are secured and managed in such a way that specimens do not enter illegal trade. The Standing Committee was not able to fully complete the tasks directed to it [[SC74 Sum. 12 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. The Standing Committee Chair and the Secretariat were requested to revise Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP18) and propose its adoption to CoP19 (Annex 4).
26. The Secretariat reported to SC74 on the implementation of [Decision 17.102](#) on *Captive bred and ranched specimens* ([SC74 Doc. 55](#)). The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to make use of the mobile app developed for determining the correct source codes for specimens, as well as undertaking inspections of captive breeding and ranching facilities and evaluating compliance of those facilities with the requirements of the Convention. The Committee also encourage Parties to provide feedback on its usefulness to the Secretariat or directly through the feedback button in the app. The Committee requested the Secretariat to invite the Animals Committee to review the app and provide feedback.
27. With regards to [Decision 18.171 on Simplified procedures for permits and certificates](#) the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting endorsed *Guidance on the use of the scientific exchange exemption and the simplified procedures to issue permits and certificates* ([SC73 SR](#)) that has been made available on the CITES website. The Chair of the Standing Committee thus recommends deletion of Decision 18.171. At SC74, the Committee agreed to submit to CoP19 a decision to provide for a process to consider the need for the development of mechanisms to allow for the rapid movement of wildlife diagnostic samples in the interest of addressing emerging human and wildlife disease risks [[SC74 Sum.11 \(10/03/2022\)](#)]. The decision to be considered by CoP19 is contained in Annex 5 of this present document.
28. Concerning precious corals (Order Antipatharia and Family Coralliidae) [[Decision 17.193 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#)], the Standing Committee considered the information and recommendations of the Animals Committee, made in accordance with Decision 17.192 (Rev. CoP18) and presented to the Standing Committee in document [SC74 Doc. 65](#). The Standing Committee agree to submit to CoP19 the recommendations of the Animals



Committee in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Annex 2 to document AC31 Doc. 23 Addendum in its report to CoP19 (contained in Annex 6 to this present document).

29. With regards to the helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*), the Standing Committee noted document [SC74 Doc. 77](#) on the implementation of [Decisions 18.266 to 18.268](#) and [[SC74 Sum. 12 \(Rev. 1\)\(11/03/2022\)](#)], recalled paragraph 2 of [Resolution Conf. 17.11 on Conservation of, and trade in, helmeted hornbill](#) and encouraged range States to respond to the Secretariat's invitation to provide assistance in their implementation of that Resolution. The Standing Committee furthermore encouraged relevant range, transit and consumer States to actively take part in the INTERPOL-led meeting of a Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Management on illegal trade in helmeted hornbill, expected to be held in 2022. The Standing Committee Chair recommends that the Conference of Parties delete Decisions 18.266 to 18.269.
30. The Standing Committee noted the outcomes from AC31 and PC25 joint sessions that required inputs from the Standing Committee (paragraphs 24 to 40 in document [SC 74 Doc. 6](#)); and agreed to the submission of several draft decisions to CoP19 [[SC74 Sum. 3 \(Rev. 1\) \(08/03/2022\)](#)] as identified in Annex 1 to the present document.

#### Other matters considered by the Standing Committee

31. The Standing Committee considered a document prepared by the Secretariat on the reservations entered after the 18th meeting of the Conference of Parties and the practical legal questions that have arisen in relation to the update of references to the Resolutions in the new Appendices that the Secretariat published after CoP18 ([SC74 Doc. 86](#)). The Committee welcomed the intention of the Secretariat to submit a document with recommendations for the consideration of CoP19 and invited Parties to send their comments in writing to the Secretariat. The Committee further invited the Secretariat to take these comments into account in its document to CoP19 (CoP19 Doc. 88: *Communications concerning amendments to the Appendices received by the Depositary Government after the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties*).
32. Concerns relating to the illegal trade in live cheetahs were raised at SC74 ([SC74 Doc. 62](#)). The Committee noted with appreciation the document that contained the concerns in this regard and expressed its concern about the ongoing illegal trade in cheetahs. The Committee invited Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Yemen, as well as other interested Parties, to submit to CoP19 draft decisions on illegal trade in cheetahs. Ethiopia acknowledged that, in the future, several matters relating to cheetah can be addressed through the CITES Big Cats Task Force and the African Carnivores Initiative; however, Ethiopia argued that any actions taken through the task force may come too late to save affected cheetah populations.
33. The report of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committee to SC74 ([SC 74 Doc. 6](#)) addressed the matter of benefits and impacts of higher taxon listings in the Appendices and the Standing Committee agreed to propose the decision in Annex 5 to the present document for consideration by CoP19 [[SC74 Sum. 3 \(Rev. 1\) \(08/03/2022\)](#)], directing the Animals and Plants Committees to review the impact of existing and future higher taxon listings in the Appendices and to propose further guidance and recommendations to the Standing Committee.
34. The Standing Committee considered document [SC74 Doc. 15](#) on *Towards a resolution on CITES and forests*, which sets out two options retained by the Plants Committee for progressing the development of a resolution on CITES and forests. The Secretariat noted its support for Option 1 (for the draft resolution on CITES and forests prepared by the Secretariat to be submitted for consideration at CoP19), which in its view was considered to be most coherent with the need to urgently act upon the objectives set out in the draft resolution. Option 2 proposed draft decisions for developing a strategic resolution on *CITES and forests* during the CoP19-CoP20 intersessional period, and to allow consideration of the benefit of pursuing such a strategic resolution. SC74 noted the importance of forests and of trade in tree species and agreed that it was premature to submit a resolution on CITES and forests (SC74 SR). The Committee recommended that the Secretariat submit draft decisions to the Conference of the Parties that would ensure that the Plants and Standing Committees are involved in the development of any resolution on CITES and forests. The Committee further recommended that the Secretariat consider the points raised by Canada on behalf of the North American region in information document S74 Inf. 21, including activities it could implement during the intersessional period after CoP19 in working towards a resolution.
35. The Standing Committee furthermore approved the *CITES guidelines for the non-air transport of live animals and plants* as set out in the Annex to document [SC74 Doc. 45](#). The Committee also requested the Secretariat to consider, in consultation with the International Air Transport Association (IATA), options to improve access to the IATA Live Animals Regulations, and to report to the Standing Committee at SC77.

36. The Standing Committee noted the implementation by the Secretariat of the recommendations of the Animals Committee reported on in document [SC74 Doc. 47](#) on the *Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefishes (Acipenseriformes spp.)* [[SC74 Sum. 12 \(Rev. 1\) \(11/03/2022\)](#)]. The Committee requested the Secretariat to publish the list of laboratories and the summary table – Table 2 of the study on *Identification of species, subspecies, source and origin of sturgeons and paddlefish species and specimens (Acipenseriformes spp.) in trade* on the CITES website and to share the study with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime to support enforcement agencies in detecting illegal trade in sturgeon and paddlefish specimens. The Committee further invited Parties to make use of the identification methods described in the study and agreed that Decisions 16.136 (Rev. CoP18) to 16.138 (Rev. CoP18) have been implemented. The Chair recommends the deletion of these Decisions.
37. The Standing Committee reviewed the draft guidance prepared by the Secretariat relating to the publication of the Appendices ([SC74 Doc. 85](#)). The aim of the guidance was to support the Secretariat in publishing the Appendices and assist those Parties that incorporate the amendments to the Appendices directly into their national legislation. The Committee invited the Secretariat to take into account the comments made by Canada, China, Israel and Poland as it finalizes the draft *Guidance for the publication of the Appendices* before its publication on the CITES website. The Committee noted the issues outlined in document SC74 Doc. 85, *inter alia* the possibility of harmonizing references to “zero quotas” in the Appendices and of including higher taxa listings in accordance with Annex 3 to Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II*. The Secretariat indicated that these aspects will be addressed through the proposed draft decisions on higher taxon listings in the Appendices in paragraph 33 of the present document, as well as the mechanism and information system for the review of existing and proposed annotations (CoP19 Doc. 85.3). The Standing Committee agreed to propose to CoP19 the insertion of a sub-paragraph in Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties* to provide for the amendment of the guidance by the Standing Committee. The Secretariat included this proposed amendment in the document on the *Review of Resolutions* (CoP19 Doc. 26)

#### Reflections of the Chair

38. As I have noted in past, and it bears repeating, international trade in wild fauna and flora has grown increasingly complex. We have seen changing patterns of global trade with new or increased demand for various wildlife products, shifts from wild to non-wild sources, emerging biotechnologies and new web-based methods for engaging in international trade. The Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties reflect this complex evolution and provide opportunities for CITES to respond to these challenges. However, it has also continued to create significant growth in the demands on the Standing Committee. In this intersessional period, we were all faced with the additional challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The traditional face-to-face meetings were curtailed, requiring creativity in order to continue to progress the 29 Resolutions and 86 Decisions directed to the Committee. The Committee experimented with increased use of the postal procedure, particularly to set up intersessional working groups, as well as formal and informal online meetings. In my personal view, these tools were useful for some of the Committee's business but could not completely replace the dialogue and common understanding achieved in a face-to-face meeting. Nonetheless, I suggest experimentation should continue in the face of the ever-growing agenda. These tools can also provide new opportunities to reach Parties, stakeholders and observers who may not be able to attend physical meeting. These tools may also provide space for more in depth discussions on key issues; the current heavy agenda for the face-to-face meetings of the Committee makes it difficult to hold in session working groups where such detailed discussion might have occurred. I also continue to invite Parties to think thoughtfully and critically about the tasks they are putting before the Committees, the Secretariat and themselves. Regardless, I recognize that the ever-growing expectations of the Standing Committee reflect the continued and growing importance of CITES as a conservation and sustainable use treaty. I believe there remains a general sense of excitement around what we, collectively, have accomplished thus far and what the future holds for CITES.

#### Concluding remarks

39. This past intersessional period has been full of surprises, not the least of which has been the COVID-19 pandemic. My deepest sympathies to those who have lost loved ones during this challenging time, or who might still be combatting the lingering effects of this virus. As Chair for the past two intersessional period, I know that any success is due entirely to the ongoing hard work of many and that is particularly true during this past period. I want to extend my sincere gratitude firstly to the members of the Committee and observer Parties, in particular those who took on chairing intersessional working groups and thus allowed the Committee to progress its large agenda. I would like to thank all the Committee members, the Chairs of the Plants and Animals Committees, Parties, observer organizations, partners including those in other

Multilateral Environment Agreements and UN agencies, and various experts who collectively contributed to the Committee's robust decision making. I would also like to thank France for hosting the 74th meeting of the Committee – we made it to the finish line! Thank you also to Environment and Climate Change Canada for providing the resources necessary to undertake this role, to my team and colleagues for their support and to my family, especially my children for their curiosity and many many questions. Last, but far from least, my very special thanks go to the CITES Secretariat, under the leadership of Ivonne Higuero. The professional expertise and personal dedication of each member of the Secretariat team is without compare, as is their patience with my questions and demands. As I conclude my time as Chair of this Committee, I am inspired by the passion and commitment of all the people with whom I have had the honour to work. Thank you all.

#### Recommendations

40. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the present document and to agree to :
- a) delete Decisions 18.3, 18.27, 18.52 to 18.54, 18.171, 18.266 to 18.269 and 16.136 (Rev. CoP18) to 16.138 (Rev. CoP18) because these Decisions have been implemented as reported in the present document;
  - b) renew the Decision on *Conduct of the Committees* found in Annex 3 to the present document;
  - c) adopt the revised Decision on *Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another* and the revised Decision on *Stocks and stockpiles* found in Annex 4 to the present document;
  - d) adopt the Decision on *Simplified procedures* and the Decision on *Higher taxon listings* found in Annex 5 to the present document; and
  - e) note the recommendations relating to precious corals (Order Antipatharia and Family Coralliidae) in Annex 6 to the present document.

#### COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties note the report and adopt the recommendations in paragraph 40.
- B. With regards to simplified procedures, the Secretariat has received communications from stakeholders indicating that Parties are not making full use of the simplified procedures described in paragraph 22 of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Permits and certificates*, or the scientific exchange exemption in Article VII, paragraph 6 and Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev. CoP18) on *Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum, herbarium, diagnostic and forensic research specimens* to facilitate and expedite processes around low risk trade, including in cases where diagnostic and biological samples are urgently required. In light of this, the Secretariat would like to encourage Parties to make full use of these provisions which have been agreed by the Conference of the Parties. To this end, in conjunction with work proposed under draft decision 19.AA on *Rapid movement of wildlife diagnostic samples in the interest of addressing emerging human and wildlife disease risks* (Annex 5 to the document), Parties may consider raising awareness of the provisions; making information relating to the relevant processes available to the public, providing training to CITES Management Authorities, if required; and reviewing national legislation, if appropriate, to ensure that simplified procedures and the scientific exchange exemption have been duly incorporated into Parties' legal frameworks.
- C. The Secretariat furthermore recommends that the language 'diagnostic purposes and/or conservation purposes' should be taken to refer to purposes that are non-commercial and that the context of a health emergency should be relevant in defining the scope of work under draft decision 19.AA. Mechanisms developed under draft decision 19.AA should be carefully considered in alignment with other applicable legal instruments which regulate the movement of genetic resources.
- D. The Secretariat will collect information from Parties through the publication of a Notification about issues impeding the swift transfer of wildlife samples for diagnostic purposes and/or conservation purposes and submit a compilation of this and other relevant information for consideration by the Standing Committee in connection with its implementation of draft decision 19.AA.



- E. If further discussion on the aforementioned matters is required, the Secretariat recommends that these issues be referred to Committee II for further discussion under agenda item 23.1 on the *Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade*.

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS DIRECTED OR RELEVANT TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Resolution or Decision	Subject/title	Action undertaken / Recommendations
Conf. 18.1	Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2020-2022	<p>The Secretariat proposed to SC74 (SC74 Doc. 7) that a further review of the Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund (paragraph 17. of Resolution Conf. 18.1) is not required.</p> <p>Through its re-established Finance and Budget Subcommittee (chaired by Switzerland) (Notification to the Parties <a href="#">No. 2020/081</a>)(<a href="#">mandate and membership</a>), the Committee maintained careful oversight of the administration of the CITES Trust Fund.</p> <p>The Committee approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the transfer of resources in the amount of USD 280,700 from 2020 related to AC, PC and SC meetings for possible organization of these meetings during 2021, on a one-time exceptional basis, from the expected 2020 savings under the meeting related components.</li> <li>• the reports on the costed programme of work for the full years 2019 and 2020, and for the period up to 30 September 2021.</li> <li>• the transfer of resources from the expected savings from 2021 under the meeting related components in the amount of USD 336,600 to cover the cost of the organization for the governing bodies meetings during 2022, on a one-time exceptional basis.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee invited the CoP to further review the participation charges for all observer organisations other than the UN and its specialized agencies at meetings of the governing bodies of the Convention and make determination on the use of those collected charges.</p> <p>The Standing Committee welcomed the audit by the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted during the period from January to June 2021 in line with paragraph 38 of Resolution Conf. 18.1 on <i>Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2020-2022</i>. The Financial and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC) reviewed the recommendation.</p> <p>More details on the work of the subcommittee can be found in the SC73 Summary Record (<a href="#">SC73 SR</a>), document <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 7</a> and Executive Summary No 13 [<a href="#">SC74 Sum. 13 (Rev. 1)</a>].</p>
Conf. 18.2	Establishment of committees	A summary of the activities taken pursuant to the Standing Committee's terms of reference are found in the present document.
Conf. 17.1 (Rev. CoP18) [Linked to Decision 18.38 on <i>World Wildlife Day</i> ]	World Wildlife Day	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.

Resolution or Decision	Subject/title	Action undertaken / Recommendations
Conf. 17.6	Prohibiting, preventing, detecting and countering corruption, which facilitates activities conducted in violation of the Convention	The Standing Committee took note of the report of the Secretariat ( <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 33.1</a> ) that provided information on the continued challenge posed by corruption and the work undertaken by the Secretariat in this regard. In addition, the Committee took note of the work to facilitate cooperation and engagement between CITES and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, as well as the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, as required by Resolution Conf. 17.6.
Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18)	Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity	The Standing Committee, at its 74 <sup>th</sup> meeting, considered 15 species/country combinations which had been retained in the <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i> following SC71. The Standing Committee's recommendations can be found in the SC74 Summary Record.
Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18)	CITES compliance procedures	Acting in accordance with instructions from and authority delegated by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee handled a wide variety of general and specific compliance matters. Details can be found in Annex 2 to the present document.
Conf. 14.5	Dialogue meetings	The Standing Committee did not call for any dialogue meetings during the past intersessional period.
Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17)	Periodic Review of the Appendices	The Committee was kept informed about the conduct of periodic reviews through the report of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees ( <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 6</a> ) which was noted by the Standing Committee.
Conf. 13.3	Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)	The Standing Committee endorsed the draft CMS-CITES Joint Work programme 2021-2025 ( <a href="#">SC73 Doc. 13</a> and <a href="#">SC73 SR</a> ).  The Committee approved the Programme of Work for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative [provided as an Annex to Notification to the Parties <a href="#">No. 2021/054</a> ] and requested the Secretariat to submit it at the 52 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (21 – 28 September 2021).
Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18)	Conservation of and trade in great apes	The Standing Committee noted the report of the Secretariat ( <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 71</a> ), and agreed to include details of its consideration of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18) in this present document.
Conf. 13.7 (Rev. CoP17)	Control of trade in personal and household effects	No Party informed the Standing Committee of difficulties in the application of the Resolution.
Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) [Linked to Decision 18.109]	Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species	The Standing Committee received relevant reports from the Secretariat pursuant to this Resolution and Decision 18.108 b). The Committee's recommendations for further action are found in document CoP19 Doc. 68.
Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP17) [Linked to Decisions 16.138 (Rev. CoP18) and 18.146]	Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.

<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17)	Review of Significant Trade (RST) in specimens of Appendix-II species.	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.
Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15)	Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes	The Standing Committee noted document SC74 Doc. 59.2 and further noted that Uzbekistan will provide further information to respond to the concerns raised in the document. The Standing Committee additionally considered an application to register Earth Ocean Farms. S. de R.L. de C.V. (Mexico) as reported in the present document.
Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18)	Compliance and enforcement	The Standing Committee acted on issues drawn to its attention in the Secretariat's report on compliance and enforcement matters made at SC74. The Committee also heard reports on the activities under the auspices of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime. In relation to Article XIII of the Convention in particular, the Committee agreed recommendations relating to potential compliance matters [ <a href="#">SC74 Sum. 3 (Rev. 1)</a> ]. The Standing Committee heard reports from the Secretariat regarding their correspondence with a number of Parties and agreed on recommendations concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar and Nigeria. The Committee agreed to consider the compliance matter relating to the Introduction from the sea of sei whale ( <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> ) by Japan resolved and proceed to close the case [ <a href="#">SC74 Sum. 4 (Rev. 1)</a> ]. Details relating to recommendations to suspend trade or to withdraw such recommendations can be found in Annex 2 to the present document.
Conf. 11.4 (Rev. CoP12)	Illegal trade in whale meat	No information was received from the International Whaling Commission in this regard.
Conf. 11.8 (Rev. CoP17)	Conservation of and control of trade in the Tibetan antelope	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.
Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18)	National reports	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.
Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) (Linked to Decision 18.138)	Identification Manual	The Standing Committee was informed by the Secretariat on progress made towards the drafting of a new resolution on species identification, as well as draft decisions that could be submitted to the CoP should the draft resolution not be adopted by the CoP. The Committee's recommendations are found in document CoP19 Doc. 44.1
Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP18)	Use of annotations in Appendices I and II	The Committee did not consider issues under paragraph 8 of the Resolution.
Conf. 10.4 (Rev. CoP14)	Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity	The Committee asked the Secretariat to transmit relevant information to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
Conf. 10.10 (Rev.CoP18)	Trade in elephant specimens	The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to report to the present meeting on actions taken by Parties to implement the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> . The

Resolution or Decision	Subject/title	Action undertaken / Recommendations
		Committee's report can be found in document CoP19 Doc 66.1.
Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) [Linked to Decision 18.170]	Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use	The Committee agrees to propose to CoP19 amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) based on the information provided by the Animals Committee in document <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 53</a> . The proposed amendments for consideration by CoP19 are included document CoP19 Doc. 51.
Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP16)	Transport of live specimens	The Committee approved the <i>CITES guidelines for the non-air transport of live animals and plants</i> as set out in the Annex to document <a href="#">SC74 Doc. 45</a> . The Committee also requested the Secretariat to consider, in consultation with the International Air Transport Association (IATA), options to improve access to the IATA Live Animals Regulations and to report to the Standing Committee at SC77 (document CoP19 Doc 23.1).
Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) [Linked to Decision 18.113]	Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses	The Standing Committee continued to pursue actions aimed at ending illegal trade in rhinoceros parts and derivatives. It decided to make some resulting recommendations to the present meeting, including proposed amendments to the resolution, and these are conveyed in a joint report with the Secretariat in document CoP19 Doc. 75.
Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16)	Species is transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II subject to an export quota or special measure approved by the CoP.	No relevant cases needed to be considered by the Committee.
Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15)	National laws for implementation of the Convention	Parties which have not adopted appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention were identified and appropriate compliance measures adopted at SC74 <a href="#">[SC74 Sum. 4 (Rev. 1)]</a> (Annex 2).
Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18)	Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of Parties	The Committee agreed to the corrections proposed by the Secretariat in SC73 Doc. 16 and instructed the Secretariat to republish the Interpretation section of the Appendices and the Decisions and Resolutions concerned with the necessary corrections ( <a href="#">SC73 SR</a> ). The Committee noted the Secretariat's proposed revisions to certain Resolutions to ensure consistent use of the term 'wildlife crime linked to the internet' in accordance with Decision 18.84 as well as other amendments to specific Resolutions. The details relating to these proposed amendments are contained in document CoP19 Doc. 26.
Decision 18.1	Rules of Procedure	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 4.1.
Decision 18.2	Conduct of Committees	The Chair of the Standing Committee recommends the renewal of the Decision in this present document.
Decision 18.3	Conduct of Committees	The Committee endorsed the <a href="#">Guidance for chairs of CITES working groups established by the Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee</a> and requested the Secretariat to finalize the guidance



<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
		and to make it available to chairs of committee working groups and on the CITES website ( <a href="#">SC73 SR</a> ). The Secretariat finalized the Guidance and published it on the CITES website.
Decision 18.11	Access to funding	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 7.5.
Decision 18.12	Sponsored Delegates Project	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 7.6.
Decision 18.16	Tree species programme	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 20.
Decision 18.20	Review of the ETIS programme	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 21.
Decision 18.22	MIKE and ETIS programmes	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 22.
Decision 18.26	CITES Strategic Vision	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 10.
Decision 18.27	Review of the Convention	The Committee reports on this matter in the present document.
Decision 18.30	Language strategy for the Convention	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is contained in document CoP19 Doc. 8.
Decision 17.57 (Rev. CoP18) and Decision 18.31	Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* * For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 13.
Decision 18.34	Livelihoods* * For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 14.
Decision 18.38	World Wildlife Day	Reported on above under Resolution Conf. 17.1 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>World Wildlife Day</i> .
Decision 18.41 and 18.42	Capacity-building	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 16.
Decision 17.56 (Rev. CoP18) and 18.48	Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 17.1.
Decision 18.51	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	The Plants Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.54	Cooperation with the World Heritage Convention	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in this present document.

<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
Decision 18.57	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is found in document CoP19 Doc. 17.4.
Decision 18.64, 18.65 and 18.66	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 28.
Decision 18.70	Compliance Assistance Programme	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 30.
Decision 18.73	Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 31.
Decision 18.74	Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Compliance and Enforcement</i>	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 32.
Decision 18.80	Enforcement	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 33.
Decision 18.87	Demand reduction to combat illegal trade	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 38.
Decision 18.92	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 36.1.
Decision 18.98	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods ( <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies ( <i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 29.3.
Decision 18.109	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 68.
Decision 18.113	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 75.
Decision 17.88 (Rev. CoP18)	Domestic markets for frequently illegally traded specimens	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 39.
Decision 18.119	Closure of domestic ivory markets	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 66.1.
Decision 18.121	Trade in mammoth ivory	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 66.1.
Decision 18.124	Guidance for making legal acquisition findings	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 40.
Decision 18.126 and 18.128	Electronic systems and information technologies	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 41.
Decision 18.131	Authentication and control of permits	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 41.
Decision 14.54 (Rev. CoP18)	Purpose codes on CITES permits and certificates	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 42.
Decision 18.138	Identification materials	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 44.1
Decision 18.143	Identification of timber and other wood products	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 44.2.

<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
Decision 16.138 (Rev. CoP18)	Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefish ( <i>Acipenseriformes</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in this present document.
Decision 18.146	Labelling system for trade in caviar	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc.45.
Decision 18.149	Specimens produced through biotechnology	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 47.
Decision 18.151	Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in this present document.
Decision 18.156	Definition of 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 48.
Decision 18.158	Introduction from the sea	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 49.
Decision 18.163	Disposal of confiscated specimens	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 50.
Decision 18.170	Quotas for leopard ( <i>Panthera pardus</i> ) hunting trophies	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in CoP19 Doc. 51.
Decision 18.173	Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 53.
Decision 18.177	Review of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of trade in animal species reported as produced in captivity</i>	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc 54.
Decision 18.181	Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc 57.
Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP18)	Stocks and stockpiles	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in the present document.
Decision 18.182 and 18.185	Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter as well as annual inventories of ivory stockpiles in document CoP19 Doc. 66.1.
Decision 18.192	West African vultures ( <i>Accipitridae</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 58.
Decision 18.196	Conservation of amphibians ( <i>Amphibia</i> spp.)	The Animals Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.201	Eels ( <i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 61.

<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
Decision 17.193 (Rev. CoP18)	Precious corals (Order Antipatharia and family Coralliidae)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is provided in the present report.
Decision 18.217	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Demochelyidae spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 64.1.
Decision 18.224	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 65.
Decision 18.225	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 65.
Decision 18.233	Seahorses ( <i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 69.1.
Decision 18.237	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 70.
Decision 18.241	Pangolins ( <i>Manis</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 71.1.
Decision 18.248	African lions ( <i>Panthera leo</i> ) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 72.
Decision 18.253	Jaguars ( <i>Panthera onca</i> )	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 73.1.
Decision 18.258	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes)	The Animals Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.262	African cherry ( <i>Prunus africana</i> )	The Plants Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.269	Helmeted hornbill ( <i>Rhinoplax vigil</i> )	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in this present document.
Decision 18.273	Saiga antelope ( <i>Saiga</i> spp.)	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 76.
Decision 18.277	Queen conch ( <i>Strombus gigas</i> )	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 77.
Decision 18.285	Titicaca water frog ( <i>Telmatobius culeus</i> )	The Animals Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.287	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 78.
Decision 18.295	Totoaba ( <i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> )	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 29.2.1.
Decision 18.303	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	The Animals Committee did not present recommendations to the Standing Committee.
Decision 18.314	Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 84.1.
Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18)	Annotations	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 85.1.

<b>Resolution or Decision</b>	<b>Subject/title</b>	<b>Action undertaken / Recommendations</b>
Decision 18.316, 18.317 and 18.319	Annotations	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 85.2 and CoP19 Doc. 85.3
Decision 18.322	Annotation #15	The Standing Committee consideration of this matter is included in document CoP19 Doc. 85.1.
Decision 18.330	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in document CoP19 Doc. 86.
Decision 18.332	Guidance for the publication of the Appendices	The Standing Committee reports on this matter in this present document.



COMPLIANCE MATTERS RESULTING IN A STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO SUSPEND  
TRADE – UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD CoP18-CoP19

Party	CITES obligation involved	Suspension conveyed/confirmed to Parties	Withdrawal conveyed to Parties
Belize	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Myrmecophila tibicinis</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Benin	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Pandinus imperator, Chamaeleo gracilis, Chamaeleo senegalensis, Kinixys homeana</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Cameroon	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Triceros quadricornis, Triceros montium</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Central African Republic	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	
Chad	Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports: All trade</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/044 (03/06/2022)</a>
	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	
Côte d'Ivoire	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Pericopsis elata</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Poicephalus fuscicollis</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/017 (18/03/2022)</a>	
Equatorial Guinea	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Triceros<sup>2</sup> feae; Prunus africana</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Fiji	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Plerogyra simplex, Plerogyra sinuosa</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Gambia	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	
Ghana	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	

Party	CITES obligation involved	Suspension conveyed/confirmed to Parties	Withdrawal conveyed to Parties
	<i>species: Pandinus imperator, Chamaeleo gracilis, Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>		
Grenada	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Strombus gigas</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Guinea	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Balearica pavonina</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2020/006 (20/01/2020)</a>
	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Hippocampus algiricus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Stockpile of pre-Convention specimens of <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2021/037 (06/05/2021)</a>
	Article XIII of the Convention: All commercial trade	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/023 (05/04/2022)</a>	
Guinea-Bissau	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	
Haiti (Non-Party)	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Strombus gigas</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Dendrobium nobile</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Macaca fascicularis</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>
	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Dalbergia.spp, Elephas maximus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/030 (12/05/2022)</a>	
Libya	Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports: Annual reports</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/033 (13/05/2022)</a>	
Madagascar	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Coracopsis vasa, Furcifer labordi, Phelsuma borai, P. gouldi, P. hoeschi, and P. ravenala</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Species Action Plan: <i>Dalbergia.spp</i> and <i>Diospyros.spp</i> (Population from Madagascar)	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/031 (12/05/2022)</a>	
Mali	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Uromastyx dispar</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	

Party	CITES obligation involved	Suspension conveyed/confirmed to Parties	Withdrawal conveyed to Parties
	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	
Mozambique	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Smaug mossambicus, Cordylus tropidosternum</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Cordylus thoursii</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>
Niger	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Chamaeleo africanus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
Sao Tome and Principe	Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. Cop15) on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention: All commercial trade</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/038 (17/05/2022)</a>	
	Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports: All trade</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/034 (13/05/2022)</a>	
Senegal	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Hippocampus algiricus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
South Sudan	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Balearica pavonina</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2020/006 (20/01/2020)</a>
Sudan	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Balearica pavonina</i>		Notification <a href="#">No. 2020/006 (20/01/2020)</a>
Solomon Islands	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Corucia zebrata, Ornithoptera priamus, Ornithoptera victoriae, Tridacna derasa, T. crocea, T. gigas, T. maxima, and T. squamosa</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Tridacna noae and T. ningaloo</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/4/22)</a>	
Togo	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Poicephalus fuscicollis, Pandinus imperator</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	
	Article XIII of the Convention: <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/045 (08/06/2022)</a>	

Party	CITES obligation involved	Suspension conveyed/confirmed to Parties	Withdrawal conveyed to Parties
United Republic of Tanzania	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Kinyongia fischeri, Kinyongia tavetana, Balearica regulorum</i>	Notification <a href="#">No. 2022/028 (28/04/22)</a>	

DECISIONS TO BE RENEWED

CONDUCT OF COMMITTEES

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

- 18.2** The Standing Committee shall consider whether the terms of reference of the Standing Committee Finance and Budget Subcommittee should be annexed to the new resolution on *Establishment of committees*.



DECISIONS TO BE REVISED

Added text shown underlined and deleted text shown in ~~strike through~~.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE TRANSFER OF A SPECIES FROM ONE APPENDIX TO ANOTHER

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

**18.151 (Rev. CoP19)** The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat, consider whether further guidance related to the period of transition, including the period between the adoption of a proposal to transfer a species from one Appendix to another and the entry into force of the new listing, should be developed and, if so, present amendments to an existing Resolution or a new draft resolution to the ~~49~~20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In this context, the Standing Committee shall consider, in consultation with the Plants Committee, as appropriate, whether special recommendations should apply in the case of a transfer of a tree species with Annotation #5 or other annotated plant species.

STOCKS AND STOCKPILES

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

**17.170 (Rev. CoP~~48~~19)** The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat, review the existing provisions agreed by the Parties concerning controls on stocks of specimens of CITES- listed species. It shall consider their objectives and implementation, ~~and~~ the resource implications for Parties and the Secretariat, and the work conducted during the previous intersessional periods, and shall report its conclusions and recommendations at the ~~49~~20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

DECISIONS PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION BY COP19

DECISION ON SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES

Rapid movement of wildlife diagnostic samples in the interest of addressing emerging human and wildlife disease risks

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

- 19.AA** The Standing Committee shall consider the need for the development of further appropriate mechanisms, including guidance and capacity-building on simplified procedures in accordance with the recommendations in Part XIII of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Permits and certificates*, to facilitate the efficient international movement of wildlife samples for diagnostic purposes and/or conservation purposes, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

DECISION ON BENEFITS AND IMPACTS OF HIGHER TAXON LISTINGS IN THE APPENDICES

***Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees***

- 19.AA** 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), Annex 3, review the impact 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.BB** 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM DOCUMENT AC31 DOC. 23 ON PRECIOUS CORALS, ADDENDUM,  
SUBMITTED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION BY COP19

1. The Animals Committee:
  - a) encourages Parties to continue to strengthen their domestic management and conservation measures concerning all precious corals; and
  - b) reminds Parties which export CITES-listed black coral species to make non-detriment findings (NDFs) and encourages these Parties to provide copies of the NDFs to the Secretariat for publication on the CITES website.
2. The Animals Committee:
  - a) notes the challenges of analysing trade in coral products since the current Harmonized System (HS) classification amalgamates them with other species due to the lack of specific custom codes;
  - b) further notes the cumbersome process of adopting specific custom codes on an international level;
  - c) in this light, recommends to the Standing Committee to consider the challenges posed by the lack of specific customs codes for international trade in precious corals and their parts and derivatives, when reviewing the report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and making its recommendations, as appropriate.
  - d) recommends to the Secretariat to follow-up on cases of illegal trade for CITES-listed species black corals referred to in the FAO report and provide an update on their findings to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee as appropriate.
3. The Animals Committee notes [Decision 17.181](#) on the new treaty on marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) which may have relevance to CITES-listed corals and CITES Introduction from the Sea certificates.
4. The Animals Committee notes that there are many potential impacts on many coral populations in the wild (including climate change, ocean acidification, and others) which may affect precious coral too, which should be taken into account to understand the coral diversity within the marine environment.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING  
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

The draft decisions will have workload implications for the Secretariat and the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees, but it is estimated that these can be accommodated within existing resources.