

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

Interpretation and implementation matters

Regulation of trade

DISPOSAL OF CONFISCATED SPECIMENS

1. This document has been submitted by the Standing Committee.*

Background

2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted a new Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species* merging and repealing Resolutions Conf. 9.9, Conf. 9.10 (Rev. CoP15) and Conf. 10.7 (Rev. CoP15).
3. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decisions:

Directed to the Secretariat

18.159 *The Secretariat shall collect information on existing networks and resources on the management of seized and confiscated live animals and make it available to Parties.*

18.160 *Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall make available materials that may assist Parties in implementing Annex 3 to Resolution Conf. 17.8 on Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species, as needed.*

18.161 *The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.159 and 18.160.*

Directed to Parties

18.162 *Parties are encouraged to make use of the information and materials made available by the Secretariat under Decisions 18.159 and 18.160 and to include it in capacity-building activities.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.163 *The Standing Committee shall consider the report submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.161 and make recommendations, as appropriate.*

* *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.*

Directed to Parties and other entities

18.164 *Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial and/or technical assistance, as relevant, for the implementation of decisions 18.160 and 18.162.*

4. At the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC74, Lyon, March 2022), the Secretariat presented the results of the implementation of Decisions 18.159 to 18.161 and 18.164 (see [Document SC74 Doc. 52](#)). As a result of this process, the Secretariat has developed a dedicated [webpage](#) on the CITES website, compiling existing resources and information on networks on the management of seized and confiscated live animals. This webpage is now available in all three working languages of the Convention. To supplement the information available, the Secretariat intends to develop additional material to assist Parties in developing actions plans to deal with seized and confiscated live animals consistent with the guidelines set out in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species*.
5. At SC74, the Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document to replace Decision 18.159 to 18.164

Recommendations

6. The Conference of the Parties is invited to:
 - a) adopt the draft Decisions 19.AA to 19.EE contained in Annex 1 to the present document, and
 - b) delete Decisions 18.159 to 18.164.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of Parties adopt the draft decisions proposed by the Standing Committee, with the exception of Decision 19.DD which will be addressed in the Resolution on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2023-2025*.
- B. If the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document are adopted, the Secretariat will develop and make available additional materials to assist Parties in developing action plans consistent with the guidelines set out in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species*. Such materials could, for instance, include a model action plan with a set of detailed provisions that Parties could draw on internally to develop their own action plan.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON DISPOSAL OF CONFISCATED SPECIMENS

Directed to the Secretariat

19.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue to collect information on existing networks and resources on the management of seized and confiscated live animals and make it available to Parties on the CITES website;
- b) subject to the availability external funding, develop and make available materials that may assist Parties in implementing Annex 3 to Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species*, as needed; and
- c) report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision.

Directed to Parties

19.BB Parties are encouraged to make use of the information and materials made available by the Secretariat on the CITES webpage dedicated to the disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens.

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

19.CC Parties and relevant stakeholders that have not already done so are invited to share with the Secretariat information on existing networks and resources on the management of seized and confiscated live animals in place in their country, including any action plans, protocols, regulatory measures, standard operating procedures developed to coordinate actions among public authorities, and guidelines for the management of specific species or genera.

19.DD Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial and/or technical assistance, as relevant, for the implementation of Decision 19.AA, paragraph b).

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.EE The Standing Committee shall consider the report submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 19.AA and make recommendations, as appropriate.

**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 Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding for the implementation of the proposed draft decision 19.AA, paragraph b), contained in Annex 1 to the present document:

Decision	Activity	Indicative costs (USD) (excludes Programme Support Costs)	Source of funding
19.AA b)	Development of materials consistent with Annex 3 to Resolution Conf. 17.8 on <i>Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species</i>	Development cost: USD25,000 Translation cost: USD15,000 TOTAL – USD40,000	External sources