

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



Seventy-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 3–8 February 2025

Strategic matters

ROLE OF CITES IN REDUCING RISK OF FUTURE ZOOBOTIC DISEASE EMERGENCE
ASSOCIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE TRADE

1. This document has been submitted by Israel and Singapore as Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee intersessional working group on the *Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade*.*
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19, Panama, 2022), the Conference of Parties adopted [Decisions 19.15 to 19.19](#) on *Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade*. At its 76th meeting, the Standing Committee established an [intersessional working group](#) with the full mandate as per Decision 19.17 to:
 - a) review the report of the Secretariat, taking into account the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees;
 - b) taking into account the information provided by the Secretariat and the Animals and Plants Committees, consider the establishment of a CITES advisory body to provide guidance based on best available science to Parties, in their efforts to reduce the risk of zoonotic pathogen spill-over and transmission from wildlife trade and associated wildlife supply chains, including markets;
 - c) taking into account proposals in document [CoP19 Doc. 23.2](#) and in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees, consider the need for and development of a Resolution on actions CITES Parties and others could take to advance a 'One Health' approach as it pertains to international wildlife trade; and
 - d) provide its guidance to the Secretariat and its recommendations, which may include a new draft resolution, to the Standing Committee for consideration.
3. The membership of the Intersessional Working Group ([E-2023-2025-SC-IWGs](#)) comprises:

Co-Chairs: Israel and Singapore

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, European Union, Gambia (the), Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, Tonga, United Kingdom

* *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.*

of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Zimbabwe

Observers: Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Northeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), Born Free Foundation, Centre for Biological Diversity, China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF), Community CAMPFIRE Association of Zimbabwe (CCAZ), Dallas Safari Club Foundation, David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, Defenders of Wildlife, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), European Federation of Association for Hunting and Conservation (FACE), International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), International Fur Federation (IFF), IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa (PASA), ProWildlife, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, South African Taxidermy and Tannery Association, Sustainable Use Coalition, Southern Africa, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Resources Institute (WRI), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Zoological Society of London

AC Members: Nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk) and alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Diesmos)

PC Members: Representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng) and representative for North America (Mr. Boles)

Regarding paragraphs a) and b) of the mandate: Review of Secretariat report and Animals and Plants Committee recommendations and consideration of establishment of a CITES advisory body

4. At SC77, the Co-Chairs of this working group reported in document [SC77 Doc. 17.1](#) about the group's progress regarding paragraph b) of its mandate, i.e., to consider the establishment of a CITES advisory body to provide guidance based on best available science to Parties, in their efforts to reduce the risk of zoonotic pathogen spillover and transmission from wildlife trade and associated wildlife supply chains, including markets. Of the 23 responses received from 11 Parties, the representative of the Plants Committee, and 18 observers (as represented in 11 responses), the majority did not agree to its value, while a few did.
5. The Secretariat's report in document [SC77 Doc. 17.2](#) noted that institutional arrangements and structures at the national level that foster collaboration with relevant national and international bodies, such as CITES and others mentioned, seem to provide the platform needed to ensure a coherent response to address the risk of zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade. Furthermore, the new joint programme of work with CITES and WOAH will also strengthen the collaboration on this matter with mechanisms to share information and guidance. Ongoing and new initiatives implemented by various other organizations as reflected in Annex 4 of document [SC77 Doc. 17.2](#) also provide valuable insights relating to practical collaboration.
6. Decision 19.16 directed to the Animals and Plants Committees sought their recommendations on proposed effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains, opportunities for practical collaboration under the direction existing Resolutions, Decisions or agreements, and consideration of a possible CITES advisory body, among other things. At its 26th meeting, the Plants Committee (PC26, Geneva, 2023) agreed to nominate the representative for Asia (Ms Zeng) to participate in the SC intersessional working group, but provided no further comments on the possibility of a CITES Advisory body.
7. At its 32nd meeting, the Animals Committee (AC32, Geneva, June 2023) agreed to nominate the nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk) and the alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Diesmos) to participate in the SC intersessional working group, and established an AC intersessional working group on zoonotic diseases with the mandate to review the information provided by the Parties, organizations and the United Nations Environment Programme in the Annexes of document [PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10](#) and to prepare recommendations for consideration at its 33rd meeting (AC33) in July 2024.

8. AC33 reviewed the report of the Secretariat as presented in [SC77 Doc. 17.2](#) and the updates in document [AC33 Doc. 8](#) which also included the report of the AC intersessional working group on zoonotic diseases. AC33 agreed to share with the Standing Committee the proposed effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains and opportunities for practical collaboration as contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of Document [AC33 Doc. 8](#), with slight amendments to paragraphs 14 b) and 15 b) as detailed in paragraph 8 of the [AC33 summary record](#). Due to lack of time, the working group did not review these recommendations from the AC, but they are presented in [Annex 1](#) of the present document for consideration by the Standing Committee. Document [AC33 Doc. 8](#), which was considered by the Animals Committee, did not include considerations or recommendations relating to the establishment of a CITES advisory body, and AC33 made no recommendation on this matter.
9. In conclusion, with regards to paragraphs a) and b) of its mandate, the working group, taking into account the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees as mentioned above, and noting especially that there is a Quadripartite comprising the World Health Organisation (WHO), World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and a One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) established, and further noting the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between the CITES Secretariat and WOAH signed on 1 March 2024 and its joint programme of work, as well as the [Guidelines for Addressing Disease Risks in Wildlife Trade](#) released by WOAH in May 2024, the Working Group agreed that a CITES advisory body is not necessary, thus fulfilling paragraphs a) and b) of the Working Group's mandate.

Regarding implementation of paragraphs c) and d) of the mandate: Consideration of the need for and development of a Resolution

10. In order to fulfil paragraphs c) and d) of its mandate, the working group considered the proposals in document [CoP19 Doc. 23.2](#) and the outcomes of the discussions on the topic by the Animals and Plants Committees, as mentioned above, as well as new information made available during this intersessional period, and debated the need for and development of a new Resolution on actions CITES Parties and others could take to advance a 'One Health' approach as it pertains to international wildlife trade.
11. A possible draft resolution was prepared by the co-chairs for discussion with the working group and is presented in [Annex 2](#) of this document. While the Working Group unanimously agreed that CITES has a role to play in the context of One Health, there was no consensus on the need for a new CITES Resolution. Of the 27 members of the working group who responded as represented in the 25 replies received, most members generally supported the need for a new resolution, while some of the members generally disagreed, and at least one member was neutral. Those who disagreed cited reasons such as: (1) the resolution going beyond the remit of CITES; (2) the merits of contributing instead to the workstreams of the members of the Quadripartite (WOAH, WHO, FAO, UNEP) and the Convention on Biological Diversity on the issue of zoonotic diseases, or at least in reviewing their guidelines and documents before prematurely considering the need for this new resolution under CITES; (3) the unnecessary broad focus of the Resolution that can divert limited resources away from core conservation efforts when not all species regulated under CITES carry the same potential for zoonotic disease transmission; and (4) the possibility of integrating key/targeted provisions in the draft Resolution into existing resolutions, e.g. Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Transport of live specimens*; Resolution Conf. 13.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Wild meat*; and Resolution Conf. 15.2 on *Wildlife trade policy reviews*.
12. Comments and suggestions received from the working group members for the improvement of the draft Resolution are presented as information document for this meeting, and they should be useful for proceeding with further discussions on a new Resolution on CITES and One Health. For example, some comments pointed out that the preambular part of the draft was far too long and that much of the information in it could be presented as introductory material in a document and not in the Resolution itself. The comments also emphasized that the operational parts of the Resolution needed to be more focused on actions, especially with regards to the mandate of CITES (international wildlife trade).

Other developments since SC77

Memorandum of Understanding between the CITES Secretariat and the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)

13. As noted by AC33, the Secretariat finalized the MoU and joint programme of work with WOAH after SC77 and the MoU was signed by the CITES Secretariat and WOAH on 1 March 2024, in the margins of the 6th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6). A [copy of the MoU](#) is available on the CITES web site.

14. In May 2024, WOAHA released its [Guidelines for Addressing Disease Risks in Wildlife Trade](#), which enable key actors in wildlife trade to identify and select pragmatic, flexible, practical, adaptable and relevant risk-management strategies based on identified disease risks and available capacity, and to ensure their effective and sustainable implementation.

Convention on Biological Diversity: 16th meeting of the Conference of Parties (CBD COP16, Cali, Nov. 2024)

15. The co-chairs note that [Decision 16/19 on Biodiversity and Health](#) was adopted by the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP16, Cali, November 2024). This CBD decision includes a *Global Action Plan for Biodiversity and Health*, with actions for mainstreaming biodiversity and health interlinkages into the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. With regards to species management in Targets 4, 5 and 9 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, actions to ensure biodiversity and health co-benefits to be implemented taking the One Health and other holistic approaches into consideration are included in this global action plan.

Recommendations

16. The Standing Committee is invited to:
- a) acknowledge the following:
 - i) the [Memorandum of Understanding between the CITES Secretariat and WOAHA](#) signed in March 2024;
 - ii) the [Guidelines for Addressing Disease Risks in Wildlife Trade](#) released by WOAHA in May 2024;
 - iii) the [Global Action Plan for Biodiversity and Health](#) which was approved recently by the Convention on Biological Diversity at its 16th Conference of the Parties (Cali, Colombia; November 2024).
 - b) agree that there is no need for the establishment of a CITES advisory body to provide guidance based on best available science to Parties, in their efforts to reduce the risk of zoonotic pathogen spillover and transmission from wildlife trade and associated wildlife supply chains, including markets;
 - c) note that no consensus was reached by the working group on the matter of a new Resolution on One Health;
 - d) establish an in-session working group at SC78 to review the recommendations from AC33 presented in [Annex 1](#) of this report, for approval by the SC; and
 - e) agree that paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 19.17 have been implemented by the Standing Committee and propose renewal of paragraphs c) and d) of the Decision by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains and opportunities for practical collaboration, that AC33 agreed to share with the Standing Committee through the SC intersessional working group, as contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of document [AC33 Doc. 8](#), with subparagraphs 14 b) and 15 b) amended as in Paragraph 8 of the [AC 33 Summary Record](#)

With regards to proposed effective and practical solutions for reducing pathogen spillover risk in wildlife supply chains:

- a) The Secretariat, in collaboration with the Animals Committee, is requested to update the webpage on the Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international trade and create a Communication Portal where Parties could rapidly access up to date information on pathogens and wildlife trade.
- b) Taking into consideration that not all Parties have detailed and robust Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) for wildlife health surveillance, the Animals Committee may consider developing guidelines based on existing material from the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNEP, World Health Organization (WHO) and WOAHA and on the international trade from World Customs Organization (WCO) and World Trade Organization (WTO) for Parties to use as a model in developing or improving their SoP for wildlife health surveillance
- c) Gather tangible good practices for one or two high-risk taxonomic groups included in the CITES Appendices, and make this information available to the Parties. Possible taxonomic groups of focus could include old World monkeys (Cercopithecidae) or other non-human primates; bats (Pteropodidae); or certain rodent groups, in CITES trade.
- d) Through the CITES-WOAH partnership, apply CITES' expertise on wildlife trade in the Quadripartite's work and enhance Parties' capacity for steps recommended by WOAHA and the Quadripartite (including compliance with WOAHA international standards, collaboration with national veterinary services, development of SoPs for wildlife surveillance, connect with existing Quadripartite information and tools to mitigate zoonotic risks.
- e) Continue to work on improving standards and protocols for transport of live animals and veterinary samples.

Opportunities for practical collaboration under the direction of existing Resolutions, Decisions and agreements:

- a) Encourage Parties to take appropriate measures to ensure their national laws implement the standards and best practices of WOAHA and to implement a functional surveillance network to monitor the pathogen spillover risks;
- b) Consider undertaking a review of the existing approach by Parties relating to the transport of live animals to identify means to enhance/improve the process, including the review of the Management Authority seeking advice from the Scientific Authority and other relevant authorities on the review of a CITES permit application, the issuing of the CITES permit and the transport of live specimens to ensure collaboration at each step of the process for a rapid and safe transport of the specimen;
- c) Invite Parties to collaborate with their national Veterinary Services to ensure national implementation of International Standards and Guidelines relevant to wildlife trade risk management, and to advocate through their Veterinary Services for strengthening of existing International Standards and tools;
- d) Promote the coordination of relevant competent authorities involved in the process of authorisation, certification, and control of international trade of live animals and products of animals (importation, transit, and exportation) to ensure the proper implementation of all necessary measures in respect of the different existing relevant international agreements and mechanisms;
- e) The CITES Secretariat, as a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), could advise on how the work being conducted by the Animals Committee can contribute to this CPW joint initiative focused on embedding the sustainable use and management of

wildlife in the One Health agenda, including assisting countries in piloting the WOAH Guidelines for Addressing Disease Risks in Wildlife Trade.

DRAFT RESOLUTION¹:

ONE HEALTH AND CITES: REDUCING HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH RISKS FROM WILDLIFE TRADE

CONCERNED that novel or unusual zoonotic pathogens pose a significant risk to wildlife, livestock and people;

CONSCIOUS that emerging or re-emerging diseases in wildlife can have serious implications for the conservation status of species, especially when their populations are small and fragmented;

AWARE that preventative approaches to managing health issues are much more cost-effective than addressing health problems after they emerge;

NOTING that wild animal populations can be natural reservoirs of pathogens that could impact domestic animals and people, increase pandemic risk, and affect food production, livelihoods and wider economies;

RECOGNIZING that trade in live wild animals presents opportunities and pathways for pathogens to spread between animals and to spill over to humans, creating the potential for the emergence and transmission of diseases of zoonotic origin;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the conditions under which live animals are collected, bred, prepared and shipped, including the effects of crowding, stress and injury, can increase the risk of mutation and spillover of pathogens and transmission of disease from wild species to other wildlife, domestic animals and/or humans;

ACKNOWLEDGING that live wildlife markets and some forms of intensive animal breeding and farming can act as drivers of pathogen mutation, increasing likelihood of pathogen transmission between species, including between wild species and humans;

RECALLING estimates from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services (IPBES) that 1.7 million currently undiscovered viruses are thought to exist in mammalian and avian hosts, of which between 631,000 and 827,000 could have the ability to infect humans;

RECALLING the devastating consequences of COVID-19, which likely originated in wild animals, and previous pandemics which have their origins in wild animal pathogens;

RECOGNIZING that the One Health approach aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems, and has been endorsed by multiple international organizations, United Nations Agencies and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), and the World Bank;

NOTING that the WHO, the WOAH, UNEP, and the FAO, have formed the Quadripartite on One Health, which has developed the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022- 2026), and the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP);

NOTING ALSO that the 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) recognizes the importance of a One Health approach as an overarching consideration for implementation of the GBF, and it includes a commitment to prevent overexploitation, minimize impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reduce the risk of pathogen spillover;

WELCOMING the significant work by various bodies, including FAO, the WOAH Working Group on Wildlife Diseases, the IUCN Wildlife Health Specialist Group and Conservation Planning Specialist Group, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), including its Resolution 5/6 *Biodiversity and Health*, and multiple non-governmental agencies and organizations, including but not limited to:

¹ As mentioned in Paragraphs 11-12 of this working group report, no consensus was reached by the working group on this draft Resolution.

- a) the focus on wildlife disease by the CMS, decisions of the CMS Conference of the Parties in 2024, establishment of the CMS Migratory Species and Health Working Group of the Scientific Council, and the report on diseases of concern in the CMS Review on Migratory Species and Health (UNEP/CMS/COP14/Inf.30.4.3);
- b) the focus on biodiversity and health by the CBD, including CBD Decision 15/29 adopted at COP15 in 2022 which *inter alia*, encourages CBD Parties " To further integrate the One Health approach, among other holistic approaches, in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans ...".
- c) the guidance provided by the *Ramsar Wetland Disease Manual*, which provides practical disease guidance for habitat managers and policymakers;
- d) the work of the intergovernmental negotiating body, 'The World Together', to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response;
- e) the Global Early Warning System for Health Threats and Emerging Risks at the Human-Animal-Ecosystems Interface (GLEWS+), which aims to inform prevention and control measures, through the rapid detection and risk assessment of health threats and events of potential concern at the human-animal-ecosystems interface;
- f) Other existing global disease information and intelligence systems, including those coordinated by the Quadripartite related to early warning, emerging infectious diseases and wildlife health;

WARMLY WELCOMING the development of national wildlife health strategies by some Parties;

NOTING, HOWEVER, that national planning for and responses to wildlife health have, in many situations, yet to be acknowledged as essential elements of pathogen spillover prevention, disease prevention, preparedness, surveillance or monitoring programmes, epidemiological investigations, and/or outbreak responses by all sectors;

NOTING ALSO that many developing countries lack functional wildlife health-related programmes and strategies, policies and the infrastructure needed to protect human health, and agricultural and wildlife interests from endemic or introduced pathogens or diseases;

NOTING the benefits of cross-sectoral organizational structures and communication involving health management authorities, health professionals, biologists, veterinarians and natural resource professionals, indigenous peoples and local communities for planning and responding to the complex issues surrounding human, animal and ecosystem health;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of and the need for both urgency in reporting and inclusion of contextual epidemiological and environmental information, and to assure good communication and avoid unnecessary overlap in global reporting requirements;

RECALLING the Guidance issued in April 2021 by the WHO, WOA, and UNEP, which calls on national competent authorities, *inter alia*, to suspend trade in live caught wild animals of mammalian species for food or breeding purposes and close sections of food markets selling live caught wild animals of mammalian species as an emergency measure, and emphasizes the relevance of this guidance to other utilizations of wild animals;

NOTING the existing Cooperation Agreements between the CITES Secretariat and the WOA, the International Air Transport Association (IATA), and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); and the cooperation between CITES and other biodiversity-related conventions, as recognised in Resolution Conf. 10.4 (Rev. CoP14) on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity*, Resolution Conf. 13.3 on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)*, Resolution Conf. 16.4 on *Cooperation of CITES with other biodiversity-related conventions*, Resolution Conf.18.4 on *Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, and Resolution Conf. 18.5 on *Cooperation and Synergy with the World Heritage Convention*";

RECALLING the requirements in Articles III, IV and V of the CITES Convention that "the Management Authority of the State of export is satisfied that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment",

RECALLING CITES Resolutions on various aspects of wildlife disease prevention related to international wildlife trade, especially, Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Transport of live specimens*, Resolution Conf 11.3 (Rev CoP18) on *Compliance and enforcement*, and Resolution Conf. 13.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Wild meat*,

CONVINCED that CITES should play a central role in significantly reducing the risk of future human and animal infectious disease epidemics and pandemics of zoonotic origin derived from international trade in wild animals;

RECOGNIZING the following definitions:

- *One Health*: An integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems (from OHHLEP).
- *Spillover*: the process by which an infectious agent, usually at relatively high prevalence, is transmitted into a new *host*, usually crossing a species barrier.
- *Spillback*: The transmission of a pathogen from humans to animals.
- *Wild meat (or 'bushmeat')*: meat from wildlife harvested for food, including game (meat from any wild or feral animal that is hunted for food).
- *Wet market*: a marketplace (including informal markets, legal and illegal) selling live animals, fresh meat, fish, produce, and/or other perishable goods (including vegetables) as distinguished from "dry markets" that sell durable goods such as fabric and electronics.
- *Zoonosis*: any disease or *infection* that is naturally transmissible from vertebrate animals (animal reservoir) to humans (from WHO)

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

Enabling approaches for health

1. ENCOURAGES Parties to adopt One Health and ecosystem approaches that recognize the interconnection between people, animals, plants and their shared environment, ensuring equitable, evidence-based and precautionary decision-making and a multi-sectoral unified approach to health and ecosystem management;
2. ENCOURAGES Parties to promote and enhance multisectoral and transdisciplinary collaboration at the national level, and cooperation at the international level, in order to prevent and respond to health threats related to wildlife trade;

Tackling drivers of wildlife health problems related to international wildlife trade

3. URGES Parties to recognize the links between trade in wildlife, pathogen spillovers, and disease emergence and to prioritise preventative approaches that minimize the risk of infectious disease to humans and wildlife via pathogen spillover by reducing wildlife/livestock and wildlife/human interfaces, especially by:
 - a) endeavoring to reduce spillover to humans at sites of wildlife/human interfaces, especially high-risk sites such as wildlife wet markets selling live or freshly slaughtered wild birds and mammals;
 - b) endeavoring to prevent pathogen contamination / spillover to and from wildlife from feral or otherwise released animals, from legally and illegally traded animals (including commercial urban markets), and from invasive non-native species;
 - c) focusing efforts on eliminating, reducing or otherwise managing those practices that are at high risk for pathogen spillover and transfer.

Solutions for tackling health problems related to wildlife trade

4. ENCOURAGES Parties to inform their regulation of wildlife use, management, and health by:
 - a) making proactive use of the substantial existing guidance provided by intergovernmental and other

organizations on how to prevent, manage and respond to wildlife diseases and to share best practice guidelines and experience;

- b) taking note of the CMS Migratory Species and Health Review (UNEP/CMS/COP14/Inf.30.4.3) and implementing its key recommendations, where relevant;
5. URGES Parties to develop strategies for prevention, preparedness and response to health threats related to wildlife trade by:
- a) adopting measures to ensure that live animals in trade do not present a risk to animal or human health, when implementing the requirements of the Convention to ensure that living specimens are so prepared and shipped as to minimise the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;
 - b) developing national action plans, in collaboration with other agencies where appropriate, focused on the prevention of pathogen spillover and health threats to wildlife, livestock, and humans that include appropriate regulation and management of wildlife exploitation and trade designed to eliminate the risk of pathogen spillover;
 - c) developing wildlife health strategies with contingency and emergency response plans, with input from all relevant stakeholders, thus ensuring appropriate responses in emergency situations;
 - d) strengthening and supporting wildlife health and disease surveillance, especially related to wildlife trade, including integrating ecological and population monitoring into surveillance systems;
 - e) ensuring that national regulation of wildlife farming and wildlife markets fully addresses all risks of pathogen spillover and disease transmission, and adopting a precautionary approach to such practices;
 - f) encouraging and supporting outbreak investigations, improvements in wildlife diagnostics, testing facilities and reporting systems, and data- and information- sharing, while additionally preventing unnecessary delays in diagnosis and research caused by regulatory requirements on transporting diagnostic or research specimens across national boundaries;

Knowledge gaps and prioritization

6. ENCOURAGES Parties and organizations, including research organizations, to address the significant knowledge gaps concerning the epidemiology and drivers of many diseases of wildlife and of the risks of pathogen emergence and spillover related to international wildlife trade;
7. ENCOURAGES Parties and funding organizations to support research and resourcing targeted at priority health threats to wildlife, particularly those species with unfavourable conservation status;

Cooperation

8. INVITES Parties to contribute voluntarily to rapid reporting systems for wildlife morbidity and mortality events, especially those related to wildlife trade, in collaboration with WOA national delegates and wildlife focal points, taking fully into account the WOA World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS), the joint FAO–WOAH–WHO Global Early Warning System for health threats and emerging risks at the human–animal–ecosystems interface (GLEWS+), and existing regional and national information systems;
9. ENCOURAGES Parties and non-governmental organizations to work with the Quadripartite to: assess response and capacity development needs; evaluate resources needed to deliver these; and work collectively with the donor community to provide the necessary resources;
10. URGES the CITES Management and Scientific Authorities and government agencies responsible for wildlife management and conservation to engage with their national representatives to WHO, to ensure that mechanisms to prevent pathogen emergence at source and One Health approaches are reflected in the WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response under negotiation, and other WHO processes;
11. ENCOURAGES the WHO to further work with the wildlife and environment sector on pandemic prevention and preparedness, and urges ongoing collaboration and coordination between intergovernmental bodies to further incorporate conservation and environmental considerations into existing mechanisms established

through the Quadripartite;

12. REQUESTS the Secretariat to continue to promote cooperation on prevention of zoonoses and pathogen spillover from international wildlife trade with the Quadripartite (especially the One Health High-Level Expert Panel), with CMS, CBD, and with other relevant bodies;
13. REQUESTS the Animals Committee to proactively collaborate with relevant work of the CMS's Scientific Council and the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) related to international wildlife trade and prevention of zoonoses and pathogen spillover;

Support

14. ENCOURAGES all Parties, donors, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, as a matter of urgency, to support the implementation of this Resolution through the provision of financial and technical support and capacity building to Parties and the Secretariat where necessary by providing technical and financial support to assist low- and middle-income countries in establishing appropriate wildlife management and use protocols and regulations that aim to prevent not only illegal and unsustainable trade, but also pathogen spillovers, and enhance pathogen and disease surveillance in wildlife populations, and management and control of wildlife diseases, including outbreak management;