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

CIE

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

SUMMARY

FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY MORNING

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- a) Concerning Congo/*Pericopsis elata*: the Committee <u>retained</u> the recommendations a) to e) and requested the Secretariat to provide an update on their implementation at SC79;
- b) Concerning Equatorial Guinea/*Guibourtia tessmannii*: the Committee <u>noted</u> that recommendation a) has been implemented, and that recommendations b) to d) remain ongoing;
- c) Concerning Indonesia/*Aquilaria malaccensis*, the Committee <u>noted</u> that recommendations a) and b) have been implemented, and that recommendation c) remains ongoing;
- d) Concerning Malaysia/*Aquilaria malaccensis*: the Committee <u>retained</u> recommendations a) to c) and <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to provide an update on their implementation at SC79;
- e) Concerning Mozambique/*Dalbergia melanoxylon:* the Committee <u>retained</u> recommendations a) to g) and <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to provide an update on their implementation at SC79;
- f) Concerning Nicaragua/*Dalbergia retusa*: the Committee <u>noted</u> that recommendations a) and b) have been implemented, and that recommendations c) and d) remain outstanding;
- g) Concerning United Republic of Tanzania/Dalbergia melanoxylon: the Committee <u>retained</u> recommendations a) to d) and <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to provide an update on their implementation at SC79;
- h) Concerning United Republic of Tanzania/Osyris lanceolata: the Committee <u>noted</u> that recommendation a) has been implemented and <u>agreed</u> that this species/country combination can be removed from the RST process.

The Committee <u>noted</u> the Secretariat's report as contained in paragraph 17 d) of document SC78 Doc. 34.3 and <u>requested</u> Mozambique to implement adequate control measures and inspection procedures to detect and intercept illegal shipments of specimens of *Dalbergia melanoxylon* and to report on this matter to the 79th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The Committee <u>noted</u> document SC78 Doc. 63 and that there was no support to submit the amendment to Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building* included in paragraph 7 of document SC78 Doc. 63 to CoP20.

The Committee <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to prepare an in-session document with the edits that Belgium and the North American Region wished to make to the draft decisions in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 63 for later consideration by the Committee.

39. Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa (Decision 19.88)

The Committee:

- a) noted the conclusions reached by the working group as presented in paragraph 9 a) and b) of document SC78 Doc. 39.1, as well as the limited participation of Parties as members of the working group, in working group discussions;
- b) <u>agreed</u> to submit to CoP20 draft decisions 20.AA to 20.CC as presented in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 39.1; and
- c) <u>agreed</u> that Decision 19.88, paragraph b), has been implemented and can be proposed for deletion.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON WILDLIFE CRIME ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Directed to Parties and donor organizations

20.AA Parties and donor organizations are encouraged to:

- a) notify the Secretariat of any funding opportunities that should be included on the CITES website in accordance with Decision 20.BB paragraph a); and
- b) explore the possibility to make available additional funding for activities to support Parties with CITES implementation and efforts to combat wildlife crime.

Directed to the Secretariat:

20.BB The Secretariat shall:

- a) make information available on the CITES website about initiatives, projects and funding opportunities, to bring to the attention of Parties available funding sources they can reach out to for support in their efforts to implement CITES and combat wildlife crime; and
- b) organize a forum, in collaboration with relevant initiatives, partners and donors, focused on how Parties can access funds in support of their efforts to implement CITES and combat wildlife crime.

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

20.CC Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to support CITES Parties in their efforts to implement the Convention and combat wildlife crime, in particular with the implementation of CITES Decisions relevant to them, national or regional strategies developed and being implemented by Parties and, as appropriate, consider such support in the development of work programmes or initiatives.

39.2 Report of the Secretariat SC78 Doc. 39.2

- a) <u>welcomed</u> the activities undertaken by Parties in West and Central Africa and the support provided to these Parties as outlined in document SC78 Doc. 39.2;
- b) <u>agreed</u> to submit draft decision 20.AA in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 39.2 to the Conference of the Partis; and

- c) recommended to the Conference of the Parties that:
 - i) Decisions 18.90 (Rev. CoP19), 19.84, 19.85, 19.86, 19.87 and 19.88 can be deleted as they have been implemented or are already incorporated in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*; and
 - ii) Decision 18.91 (Rev. CoP19) can be deleted, as it has been incorporated in the draft decisions prepared by the Standing Committee working group on *Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa*.

DRAFT DECISION ON WILDLIFE CRIME ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Directed to the Secretariat

- **20.AA** Subject to extrabudgetary resources, the Secretariat shall work with its ICCWC partners to continue providing targeted support to Parties in West and Central Africa, to combat wildlife crime.

The Committee:

- a) noted the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2024/097, and that these responses were limited;
- b) <u>encouraged</u> Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, and donors, to take note of the need for support to Somalia and Yemen and, where possible, to provide assistance based on identified needs of these Parties:
- c) <u>agreed</u> to submit draft decisions 20.AA to 20.CC in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 40 as amended by Poland and the United States of America to the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) agreed that Decisions 19.104 to 19.106 can be deleted.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON ILLEGAL TRADE IN CHEETAHS (ACINONYX JUBATUS)

Directed to Parties affected by illegal trade in cheetahs

- **20.AA** Parties affected by illegal trade in cheetahs are encouraged to <u>pursue make every effort to fully implement</u> the recommendations outlined in the <u>CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document</u>, particularly to:
 - a) if they have not already done so, review their national legislation, taking into consideration the relevant provisions in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev.CoP20) on *Compliance and enforcement* and, where needed, revise such legislation to ensure that it adequately addresses illegal wildlife trade, including illegal trade in cheetahs;
 - b) ensure that adequate resources and capacities to enforce legislation addressing illegal trade in cheetahs are in place;
 - c) strengthen regional and international collaboration to address illegal trade in cheetahs <u>as</u> recommended in Section 3.1 e) through f) and Section 5.1 a) through i) of the CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document;
 - d) scale up activities to address illegal online trade in cheetah specimens, including by drawing upon the support available through INTERPOL, the <u>Wildlife Crime Linked to the Internet: Practical Guidelines for Law Enforcement Practitioners</u>, and as appropriate, reviewing their implementation of the provisions under "Regarding wildlife crime linked to the Internet", in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP20); and
 - e) report to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decision 20.AA, together with any recommendations it may have.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- **20.CC** The Standing Committee shall consider the report of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 20.BB and make recommendations to the Parties by the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

The Committee:

- a) <u>agreed</u> not to pursue, at this time, the development of a resolution on illegal trade in big cats, nor to consider revising Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other* Appendix-I Asian big cat species to extend its applicability to all big cat species;
- b) <u>agreed</u> to submit draft decisions 20.AA to 20.CC presented in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 42 to CoP20 for consideration; and
- c) <u>recommended</u> to CoP20 that Decisions 19.92 and 19.93 on the *CITES Big Cats Task Force* have been implemented and can be deleted.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON ILLEGAL TRADE IN BIG CATS

Directed to Parties

20.AA Parties affected by illegal trade in specimens of big cat species are encouraged to make every effort to fully implement the strategies, measures and activities outlined in the <u>CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document</u>, as relevant to them, and to report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decision 20.AA, together with any recommendations it may have.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- **20.CC** The Standing Committee shall:
 - a) consider the report and recommendations of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 20.BB and make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and
 - b) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties together with any recommendations it may have.
- 43. Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

[Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19); Decision 18.109 (Rev. CoP19)]

43.1 Report of the Secretariat SC78 Doc. 43.1

- a) noted the information provided by Parties in response to Notification to the Parties No. 2024/086;
- b) recommended to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 18.100, 18.101, 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105, 18. 106, and 19.109, as they are incorporated in Resolution Conf. 12.5

(Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species, the CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document and the draft decisions proposed in document SC78 Doc.42; and

c) <u>recommended</u> to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 18.107 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19), as they have been implemented.

- a) noted the report provided by Czechia relating to the inspection of the facility that the Secretariat could not visit during its mission;
- b) noted the recommendation by the Animals Committee that the IUCN SSC <u>Guidelines on the use of</u> ex situ management for species conservation provide guidance to Parties on how to evaluate the conservation aspects of tiger captive-breeding facilities;
- agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions in Annex 2 to document SC78
 Doc. 43.2 as read out by the Secretariat in plenary and as amended by the United Kingdom of
 Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- d) encouraged China to consider:
 - granting a special exemption for the transport of individual live South China tigers (*Panthera tigris amoyensis*) identified as part of the conservation breeding programme, facilitating their transfer to respective facilities based on proposed pairings;
 - ii) developing standardized procedures for the handling of tiger carcasses, maintaining registers, and reporting to relevant authorities to further strengthen the existing provisions;
 - iii) establishing a central database to consolidate information from all facilities keeping tigers in captivity, including standardized data reported to the relevant authorities (provincial and the National Forestry and Grassland Administration) covering births, deaths and secured carcasses/ stockpiles of tiger specimens); and
 - iv) developing standard operating procedures for inspections and audits of facilities keeping tigers in captivity to ensure all relevant aspects are comprehensively inspected, particularly stockpile management and reconciliations of records of deaths and number of carcasses (that could include conversion factors to ensure all bones are kept secure).
- e) encouraged the United States of America to consider:
 - i) establishing a central database containing information on facilities keeping tigers in captivity;
 - ii) developing standardized registers based on a minimum or standardized set of information, including marking, sex and age classes, births and deaths, and disposal;
 - iii) developing standardized procedures for the handling of carcasses, including their destruction;
 - iv) addressing the concerns raised regarding the interim regulations published to implement the Big Cat Public Safety Act, as outlined in paragraph 50; and
 - v) conducting a follow-up inspection at the facility that could not be visited by the Secretariat.
- f) <u>agreed</u> that Decisions 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.108 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19) have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON TIGERS (PANTHERA TIGRIS) IN CAPTIVITY

Directed to Parties in whose territories there are facilities that breed large numbers of tigers and facilities housing large numbers of tigers

- 20.AA All Parties in whose territories there are facilities that breed large numbers of tigers and facilities housing large numbers of tigers are urged encouraged to consider taking the following methodical approach regarding these facilities to improve their conservation and educational value, as well as to put an end to the activities of facilities that do not have conservation or educational value, fail to comply with regulations and pose a risk regarding parts and derivatives from these animals entering illegal trade, in accordance with their domestic legislation:
 - a) identify facilities keeping tigers of genetic and conservation value and engage these facilities in coordinated conservation breeding for such animals;
 - b) identify facilities keeping tigers in captivity that are suitably located to ensure public access and that meet husbandry and welfare conditions based on national and international guidelines, and implement support programmes where needed (for example providing guidance on development of educational materials, signs and posters), for these facilities to fully transform into facilities with educational value that are raising awareness benefitting conservation of tigers in the wild, including bringing the attention of the public to illegal trade and the need to combat it;
 - c) implement and enforce measures to reduce the number of tigers in facilities that are not contributing
 to conservation of wild tigers or have limited educational value, by restricting breeding of tigers
 (e.g., by separating male and female tigers, sterilization or other disposal measures, including
 euthanasia) within these facilities and addressing the risks of inbreeding by requiring genetic
 monitoring, as well as restricting these facilities from acquiring any new animals;
 - taking into consideration Decision 14.69 that directs Parties to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers and that tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives, prohibit the establishment of new facilities keeping tigers in captivity with narrow exemptions where warranted;
 - e) assess the need for rescue centres, sanctuaries, or other disposal measures, including euthanasia, etc. as may be required due to the phase-out of intensive tiger operations;
 - f) review management practices and controls to regulate activities of facilities keeping tigers in captivity to ensure that they are adequate to prevent tiger specimens from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities, including licensing of such facilities, accurate record keeping of individual tigers, regular inspections and well-regulated disposal of tigers that die in captivity and handling of carcasses; and
 - g) report on the implementation of this approach <u>and</u>, in the case of relevant countries, report on the implementation of the country-specific recommendations made by the Standing Committee at its <u>77th and 78th meetings</u>, in their response to the Notification to the Parties issued by the Secretariat on Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) to facilitate reporting as required in Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species.

Directed to governments, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies, and non-governmental organizations

20.BB All governments, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies, and non-governmental organizations are encouraged urgently provide funds and other assistance to Parties with facilities that breed large numbers of tigers and those housing large numbers of tigers to support the implementation of Decision 20.AA.

The Committee:

- a) <u>requested</u> the Parties to which Decisions 19.117, 19.118 and 19.119 are directed to take the observations and conclusions of the Secretariat into consideration in their implementation of these respective Decisions;
- b) encouraged Angola and Viet Nam to strengthen their engagement and to pursue information and intelligence exchange, as well as joint operations, to address rhinoceros specimen trafficking affecting them and report on any activities conducted in this regard to the Secretariat for inclusion in its report to the 20th meeting to the Conference of the Parties;
- c) requested Namibia to continue reviewing trends associated with the illegal killing of rhinoceroses and illegal trade in rhinoceros specimens affecting it, and the measures and activities being implemented to address these crimes, to ensure they are effective and adapted to respond to any newly identified trends:
- d) <u>requested</u> Parties to actively scale up efforts to collect samples from rhinoceros horn seized within their territories for forensic analysis and to fully implement Decision 19.115;
- e) <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to take into consideration the outcomes of the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force to be convened in its report to CoP20;
- f) <u>recommended</u> to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 19.121 and 19.122, as they have been implemented; and
- g) agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decision 18.116.

The Committee:

- a) <u>agreed</u> draft decisions 20.AA to 20.EE presented in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 46, for onward submission to CoP20;
- b) <u>invited</u> Poland to work with Madagascar on the submission to CoP20 of an additional draft decision directed to Parties affected by illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles from Madagascar;
- c) <u>invited</u> Madagascar to submit its update on the implementation of Decision 19.125 in writing to the Secretariat;
- noted the suggestion by the United States of America, on behalf of the North American region, that the
 activities proposed in the draft decisions be undertaken under the Compliance Assistance Programme;
 and
- e) recommended to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 19.125, 19.126 and 19.127.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON TORTOISES AND FRESHWATER TURTLES (TESTUDINES SPP.)

Directed to Madagascar

20.AA Madagascar is requested to:

a) provide an update on its Global Action Plan for the Conservation of Madagascar's endemic tortoises and freshwater turtles, including species-specific strategies, for the critically endangered tortoise and freshwater turtle species (*Astrochelys radiata, A. yniphora, Pyxis arachnoides* and *P. planicauda*);

- b) report on recent activities undertaken to implement the Global Action Plan and to finalize and implement the species specific strategies, taking into consideration the multifaceted threats of collection for local consumption and international trade compounded by habitat loss; and
- c) submit a report covering the aspects in sub-paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 20.AA to the Secretariat 90 days in advance of the 34th meeting of the Animals Committee, for it to be made available to the Committee.

20.BB Madagascar is requested to:

- a) report on recent activities undertaken to:
 - i) gather information and intelligence on the criminal networks operating within and from the Madagascar and pursue investigations targeting those individuals managing and organizing the illegal activities;
 - ii) facilitate information and intelligence exchange with Parties that seize and confiscate tortoises and freshwater turtles originating from Madagascar, with the aim of initiating investigations to bring criminals involved across the illegal trade chain to justice;
 - iii) strengthen enforcement of existing laws and regulations, as well as any activities that might be undertaken to consider reviewing and amending Madagascar's legislation as needed, taking into consideration paragraphs 6. c), d) and f) of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on Compliance and enforcement, and associated recommendations resulting from the implementation of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in the country; and
 - iv) inform and sensitize the public about endemic tortoise and freshwater turtle species of Madagascar and the importance of their conservation and protection, as well as to sensitize and raise awareness among its national law enforcement agencies regarding illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles and the importance of scaling up law enforcement efforts to address this illegal trade and analyse the outcomes of these activities.
- b) submit a report to the Secretariat 90 days in advance of the 81st meeting of the Standing Committee, for it to be made available to the Committee.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.CC The Secretariat shall review the reports from Madagascar in accordance with Decisions 20.AA and 20.BB and make them available to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee, respectively, together with any recommendations the Secretariat may have.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.DD The Animals Committee shall review the report from Madagascar and any recommendations the Secretariat may have in accordance with Decision 20.AA, and submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.EE The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report from the Animals Committee in accordance with Decision 20.DD and the report from Madagascar and any recommendations of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 20.CC, and agree recommendations directed to Madagascar, as appropriate; and
- b) report at the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decision 20.EE.

66. Great apes (Hominidae spp.):

The Committee:

- a) <u>noted</u> document SC78 Doc. 66 prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 2e) of Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18);
- encouraged all Parties to identify seized great ape specimens at species level and report the seizures at species level in their annual illegal trade reports in a timely manner following the *Guidelines for the* preparation and submission of the CITES annual illegal trade report and, as appropriate, consider contributing to the GRASP Apes Seizure database and the IUCN SSC A.P.E.S. database as per Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP18);
- encouraged Parties and relevant stakeholders to provide assistance in using identification methods in all range States and other Parties affected by illegal trade in great apes and explore way to secure funding to include new forensic tools to identify and trace great ape specimens to their source population;
- d) encouraged range States affected by illegal trade in great apes to address this issue as part of their implementation of the West Africa Wildlife Crime Strategy (WAWCS) adopted by the Economic Commission of West African States, as well as their respective National Wildlife Crime Strategies and action plans, where appropriate; and
- e) <u>noted</u> the suggestion to re-establish the Great Apes Enforcement Task Force and <u>invited</u> interested Parties from range, transit and consumer States to raise this issue at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- a) <u>noted</u> of the progress made in implementation of Decision 19.66 on *Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3* (*Rev. CoP19*) on Compliance and enforcement;
- b) <u>agreed</u> to include reference in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) to professional bodies to; raise awareness of the importance of members of professional bodies complying with CITES, encourage Parties to consider the relevance of the issue in their own context when drafting or reviewing national legislation, and to encourage professional bodies to provide CITES training to members;
- c) <u>agreed</u> to amend Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19), paragraph 23 b), to retain the overall 6 month time frame for Parties involved in compliance measures to respond to a request from the Secretariat, but requiring the justification for a lack of response to be provided at three months, with the Party then being required to provide the response within the next three months. Parties would therefore still have six months to respond, with the emphasis on a justification for delay at three months and providing the information within the six months;
- d) <u>noted</u> that matters raised as potential "further gaps" are not specifically compliance and enforcement matters appropriate for inclusion in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19);
- e) agreed that Decision 19.66 has been implemented and can be proposed for deletion at CoP20;
- f) <u>agreed</u> to submit the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf 11.3 (Rev.CoP19), contained in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 37 as amended by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the observations and conclusions of the working group for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of Parties; and
- g) <u>noted</u> the comments made by China and the Russian Federation concerning the term professional bodies.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 11.3 (REV. COP19) ON COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Note: new text is underlined and text proposed for deletion is in strikethrough

[...]

AWARE that a wide range of professional bodies are closely associated with the implementation of CITES and encourage them to promote an understanding of, and their members possess the knowledge and expertise to better understand the importance of compliance with the Convention amongst their members (for example: commercial traders, brokers, transporters, trade groups, veterinarians; zoological and aquarium facilities; universities and researchers; museum and antique collection organizations; bodies overseeing auction houses, conservation societies and rescue groups/emergency care facilities, taxidermists/hunting organizations and legal or accountancy accreditation bodies) and the importance of their members complying effectively with the Convention; and

[...]

V. Regarding coordination at national level

10. RECOMMENDS that:

- a) Parties establish inter-agency mechanisms for coordination and communication at the national level, bringing together Management Authorities and all governmental agencies responsible for the enforcement of CITES, including customs and the police;
- b) Parties that have not already done so consider nominating officials from relevant national enforcement and prosecuting agencies to participate in the INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group;
- c) Parties put in place, or further enhance, national measures and communication channels to ensure that the required level of real-time support can be provided to park rangers, and other wildlife and enforcement personnel who are confronted by heavily armed groups and exposed to serious risk of attack;
- d) Parties raise awareness amongst military personnel to sensitize them to the negative consequences of poaching and consumption of illegal fauna and flora; and
- e) Parties raise awareness among professional bodies in their national jurisdiction of the need for members to comply with CITES; and encourage professional bodies to provide CITES training for their members, and, where appropriate, to **consider** develop**ing** codes of conduct relating to trade in and management of CITES-listed species; and
- ef) Parties remind their diplomatic missions, their delegates on mission in foreign countries and their troops, including those serving under the flag of the United Nations, that they are not exempted from the provisions of the Convention;

[...]

13. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that Parties:

[...]

g) in developing or reviewing national legislation consider the role of professional bodies involved in CITES processes and the appropriate enforcement standards for the members of professional bodies regarding whether certain professional bodies should be held to higher standards than the general public if they are acting in contravention of the Convention;

[...]

IX. Regarding application of Article XIII

23. RECOMMENDS that:

- a) when, in application of Article XIII of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19), the Secretariat requests information on a potential compliance matter, Parties reply within one month or, if this is not possible, provide an approximate date by which they consider it will be possible to provide the requested information;
- b) when, within six months, three months, the information requested has not been provided, Parties provide the Secretariat with justification for why they have not been able to respond and provide the response within the following three months the information requested has not been provided, Parties provide the Secretariat with justification for why they have not been able to respond;