

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

SUMMARY

FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY
AFTERNOON

68. Saiga antelopes (*Saiga* spp.) (*Decision 19.216*)

68.1 Report by Kazakhstan..... SC78 Doc. 68.1

and

68.2 Report of the Secretariat..... SC78 Doc. 68.2 (Rev. 1)

The Standing Committee:

- a) noted the information in document SC78 Doc. 68.1;
- b) encouraged range States of the saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.) and important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives to put in place measures to effectively manage saiga specimen stockpiles;
- c) invited the Secretariat to submit draft decisions on the saiga antelope based on outcomes of the 5th meeting of Saiga MOU signatories, the status of implementation of Decisions 19.213 to 19.217 on *Saiga antelope* (*Saiga* spp.) and the outcomes of the discussion at SC78 to ensure synergy between CITES and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the joint CMS-CITES work programme
- d) noted the progress on the implementation of Decision 19.214;
- e) noted the concerns expressed by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation relating to the use of source codes U and O for saiga specimens due to challenges linked to the making of legal acquisition findings; and
- f) invited the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties to seek information on stockpile controls and other information concerning the management of and trade in saiga specimens to help inform the preparation of the CoP20 document.

38. Enforcement matters

38.1 Report of the Secretariat

[*Resolutions Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19); Conf. 11.8 (Rev. CoP17);*
Conf. 17.6 (Rev. CoP19); Decision 19.83]..... SC78 Doc. 38.1

The Committee:

- a) agreed to submit to CoP20 the proposed:

- i) amendments to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 17.6 (Rev. CoP19) on *Prohibiting, preventing, detecting and countering corruption, which facilitates activities conducted in violation of the Convention*, as presented in Annex 1 to document SC78 Doc. 38.1;
 - ii) amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, by adding a new sub-paragraph d) to paragraph 9 under *Regarding enforcement at national level*, as presented in Annex 2 to document SC78 Doc. 38.1; and
 - iii) draft decisions 20.AA to 20.CC on *Wildlife crime linked to the Internet*, presented in Annex 3 to document SC78 Doc. 38.1;
- b) noted the information provided on activities conducted in accordance with the Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties as outlined in paragraphs 2 to 8 of document SC78 Doc. 38.1;
- c) welcomed the SADC Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching Strategy 2022 – 2032, launched by SADC Member States; and
- d) recommended to CoP20 that:
- i) Decision 19.77 be incorporated in Resolution Conf. 17.6 (Rev. CoP19) and Decision 19.78 be incorporated in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) and can be deleted; and
 - ii) Decisions 19.81 to 19.83 on *Wildlife crime linked to the Internet* be deleted and replaced with the proposed new set of draft decisions.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 17.6 (REV. COP19)
ON PROHIBITING, PREVENTING, DETECTING AND COUNTERING CORRUPTION,
WHICH FACILITATES ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN VIOLATION OF THE CONVENTION

New text is underlined and deleted text is in strikethrough.

4. ENCOURAGES Parties, and especially CITES Management Authorities to:
- a) ensure that corruption risk mitigation policies and strategies are in place to address corruption risks associated with wildlife crime;
 - b) ~~to~~ work closely with existing national anti-corruption commissions, and like bodies, law enforcement agencies, judicial authorities, as well as with relevant civil society organisations, in the design and implementation of integrity policies, which might also include deterrence initiatives, such as mission statements, codes of conduct and 'whistle-blower' schemes, taking into account the relevant provisions of the UNCAC; and
 - c) ensure that collaboration mechanisms are in place between CITES management and anti-corruption authorities to facilitate swift and decisive action where corrupt activities are detected;

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

New text is underlined and deleted text is in strikethrough.

9. RECOMMENDS that Parties:

[...]

- c) empower officials who have the responsibility to investigate crime involving fauna and flora with appropriate training, authority and resources to effectively carry out their responsibilities to address such crimes;

- d) as appropriate, integrate financial crime investigations into the investigation of crimes involving wildlife, and increase the use of financial investigation techniques to identify criminals involved in wildlife crime and their networks and address associated illicit financial flows from these crimes;
- e) address the role of corruption in facilitating crime involving fauna and flora, as recognized in Resolution Conf. 17.6 (Rev. CoP19), through implementation of effective anti-corruption measures; and
- f) conduct outreach to and support training for regulated industry to ensure understanding of CITES and national requirements in order to enhance compliance and support the legal trade;

DRAFT DECISIONS ON WILDLIFE CRIME LINKED TO THE INTERNET

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) make available to the Standing Committee, once they are published, the two regional studies identifying the CITES-listed species most frequently involved in illegal trade on digital and online platforms, and examining the relevant national laws and best practices implemented by Parties to combat wildlife crime related to the Internet;
- b) subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, conduct further studies in at least two additional regions to identify the CITES-listed species most frequently involved in illegal trade on digital and online platforms. The studies should also examine the relevant national laws and best practices implemented by Parties to combat wildlife crime related to the Internet; and
- c) based on the findings of these studies, prepare recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

20.BB The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee, and subsequently the Conference of the Parties at its 21st meeting, on the implementation of Decision 20.AA.

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.CC The Standing Committee shall review the Secretariat's report called for in Decision 20.AA and make recommendations, as appropriate.

38.2 International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime

[Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19)] SC78 Doc. 38.2 (Rev. 1)

The Committee:

- a) noted the information provided in document SC78 Doc. 38.2 (Rev. 1) on the efforts of Parties to combat wildlife crime and the support provided by the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC);
- b) encouraged Parties to actively engage in ICCWC initiatives and activities and to reach out to the Consortium for support, where needed; and
- c) welcomed the generous contributions from donor Parties towards the ICCWC Vision and its associated Strategic Action Plan, as anticipated by Decision 19.27 and Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, paragraph 20.

53. Stocks and stockpiles [Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP19)] SC78 Doc. 53

The Committee:

- a) noted the work conducted in past intersessional periods as summarized in paragraphs 3 to 11 of document SC78 Doc. 53;

- b) noted the review of existing provisions on stocks/stockpiles in Resolutions and Decisions and the information on their implementation contained in paragraph 12 of document SC78 Doc. 3 and the comment made by the Russian Federation indicating that they had reported on their saiga stockpiles;
- c) noted the comment made by Brazil about the use of 'existencias' as the proper translation for stockpiles in Spanish;
- d) agreed to submit the following definition of stockpiles for consideration by CoP20 for possible inclusion in the [CITES Glossary](#), along with the comments made by Parties on the definition during SC78:

'Stockpiles' refer to any quantity of legally stored dead specimens, including parts and derivatives, of CITES-listed species held by public or private entities. Specimens included in permanent collections held by scientific institutions for non-commercial purposes or by individuals as personal or household effects, as well as seized or confiscated specimens still under an enforcement procedure, are excluded from the definition. In general, provisions related to stockpiles in CITES Resolutions and Decisions are intended to ensure that these are secured, managed and disposed of in such a way that the specimens would not enter or re-enter illegal trade and for specimens of species listed in Appendix I not to be used commercially.

- e) agreed to not use the term stock in the context of accumulated dead specimens as defined and therefore agreed to submit the amendments to the five Resolutions as set out in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 53 for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- f) encouraged Parties to use the [Practical Guidance](#) and [Ensuring Effective Stockpile Management: A Guidance Document](#) as needed for the management of stockpiles of rhino horn, elephant ivory, pangolin scales and saiga horn, as well as stockpiles of other species where the guidance can be applied and provide feedback to the Secretariat on the use of the guidance; and
- g) agreed that Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP19) has been implemented and can be proposed for deletion.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE AMENDED TO REFER TO "STOCKPILES" INSTEAD OF "STOCKS"
(new text is underlined; deleted text is in ~~strike through~~)

**Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP19) on
Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses**

Preambular paragraph

CONCERNED that threats to rhinoceros populations and demand for rhinoceros horns and other parts and derivatives still exist, and that the cost of ensuring adequate security for rhinoceroses and rhinoceros horn ~~stocks~~ stockpiles is increasing and cannot easily be met by many range States;

Operative paragraphs 2, 7 and 9:

2. URGES

- a) all Parties that have ~~stocks~~ stockpiles of rhinoceros horn to identify, mark, register and secure such ~~stocks~~ stockpiles, and declare these to the Secretariat each year before 28 February, in a format to be defined by the Secretariat;
- b) the Secretariat and other appropriate bodies, where possible, to assist those Parties with inadequate legislation, enforcement, or control of ~~stocks~~ stockpiles, by providing them technical advice and relevant information;

7. DIRECTS the Secretariat, prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and pending external funding, to commission the IUCN/SSC African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups and TRAFFIC to submit a report to the Secretariat on:

[...]

- c) ~~stocks~~ stockpiles of specimens of rhinoceros and ~~stock~~ stockpile management,

9. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:

- a) make an aggregated summary of the rhinoceros horn ~~stock~~ stockpile declarations of Parties available to the IUCN/SSC African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups and TRAFFIC for analysis and inclusion in their reporting to the Secretariat pursuant to the Resolution;

**Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP 19) on
Trade in elephant specimens**

Preambular paragraph

RECOGNIZING also that the theft of ivory, including from inadequately secured government ~~stocks~~ stockpiles, further adds to illegal trade and wildlife crime;

Paragraph 7:

7. FURTHER URGES those Parties in whose jurisdiction there is an ivory carving industry, a legal domestic trade in ivory, an unregulated market for or illegal trade in ivory, or where ivory stockpiles exist, and Parties designated as ivory importing countries, to ensure that they have put in place comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory, enforcement and other measures to:

[...]

- c) introduce recording and inspection procedures to enable the Management Authority and other appropriate government agencies to monitor the movement of ivory within the State, particularly by means of:
 - i) compulsory trade controls over raw ivory; and
 - ii) comprehensive and demonstrably effective ~~stock~~ stockpile inventory, reporting, and enforcement systems for worked ivory;

[...]

- e) maintain an inventory of government-held stockpiles of ivory and, where possible, of significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory, and inform the Secretariat of the level of this ~~stock~~ stockpile each year before 28 February, inter alia to be made available to the programme Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) for their analyses, indicating the number of pieces and their weight per type of ivory (raw or worked); for relevant pieces, and if marked, their markings in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution; the source of the ivory; and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year;

**Resolution Conf. 11.8 (Rev. CoP17) on
Conservation of and control of trade in the Tibetan antelope**

Paragraph 1

1. RECOMMENDS that

- d) all Parties and non-Parties in whose territory ~~stocks~~ stockpiles of Tibetan antelope parts and raw materials exist, adopt a registration system and national measures to prevent such ~~stocks~~ stockpiles from re-entering into trade;

**Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on
Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species**

Paragraph 1

1. URGES

[...]

- i) those Parties and non-Parties on whose territories there exist ~~stecks~~ stockpiles of parts and derivatives of tiger and other Asian big cat species (such as tiger bone ~~stecks~~ stockpiles), but not including pre-Convention specimens, to consolidate and ensure adequate control of such ~~stecks~~ stockpiles, and where possible destroy the same, with the exception of those used for educational and scientific purposes;

**Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19) on
Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species**

Annex 2 CITES guidelines for the disposal of confiscated live plants

OPTION 1 – MAINTENANCE IN CULTIVATION, last paragraph

Where plants are transferred by the confiscating authority but not sold, ownership by the Management Authority should be specified as one of the terms and conditions of the transfer. Where the country of origin may desire return of the plants, this desire should be respected, so long as the condition of the plants is such that they will survive the return voyage. The custodian (botanic garden or other organization) of confiscated plants should only move confiscated ~~stecks~~ plants to another facility for legitimate propagation purposes with the authorization of the administrative authority.

**Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on
Conservation of and trade in pangolins**

Paragraph 3

3. ENCOURAGES Parties on whose territories ~~stecks~~ stockpiles of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist, to take urgent steps to establish and apply, where not yet done, strict control measures to secure and monitor these ~~stecks~~ stockpiles, and inform the Secretariat of the level of ~~stecks~~ stockpiles each year, indicating the type and number of specimens, the species, the source of the specimens, management measures, and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year;

54. Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)
[Decision 18.185 (Rev. CoP19)]..... SC78 Doc. 54 (Rev. 1)

The Committee:

- a) encouraged Parties, in particular African elephant range States, to step up their efforts to implement paragraph 7 e) of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Trade in elephant specimens* concerning stockpiles, with a view of submitting the information to the Secretariat every year;
- b) invited its regional Members and Alternate regional Members, as part of their regular contact with Parties in their region, to remind Parties of the activities they are urged to take in paragraph 7 e) of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19);
- c) agreed to submit the amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Trade in elephant specimens* contained in Annex 1 to document SC78 Doc. 51.1 (Rev. 1) as amended by the Chair of the Standing Committee and Belgium to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting;
- d) agreed to submit the draft decisions on contained in Annex 2 to document SC78 Doc. 51 (Rev. 1) to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting;
- e) invited the Secretariat to include the Elephant Protection Initiative's [Gold Standards Assessments](#); [Procedures for the Transfer of Wildlife Products](#); and [Storeroom Management Procedures for Wildlife Products](#) in the "Practical guidance on ivory stockpile management" and publish it on the [Elephants page of the CITES Website](#); and
- f) requested the Secretariat to continue to engage with Burundi on the status of its ivory stockpile and, if invited, conduct a technical mission to verify the current status of the Burundi stockpile and to report to the Committee on its findings.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 10.10 (REV. COP19) ON
TRADE IN ELEPHANT SPECIMENS

7. FURTHER URGES those Parties in whose jurisdiction there is an ivory carving industry, a legal domestic trade in ivory, an unregulated market for or illegal trade in ivory, or where ivory stockpiles exist, and Parties designated as ivory importing countries, to ensure that they have put in place comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory, enforcement and other measures to:

[...]

- e) maintain an inventory of government-held stockpiles of ivory and, where possible, of significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory, and inform the Secretariat of the level of this stock each year before 28 February, *inter alia* to be made available to the programme Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) for their analyses, indicating the number of pieces and their weight per type of ivory (raw or worked); for relevant pieces, and if marked, their markings in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution; the source of the ivory; and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year; and
- f) ensure that adequate funding, capacity building and training are available to ensure ivory stockpiles are inventoried, secured, and when appropriate, disposed of consistently with the Convention;

8. DIRECTS the Secretariat to annually publish updated summary data based on the inventories submitted by Parties disaggregated to regional but not country level, including the total ivory stockpiles by weight;*

DRAFT DECISIONS ON
MANAGEMENT OF STOCKPILES

Directed to Parties

- 20.AA** Parties are encouraged to inform the Secretariat if they need training support in managing and securing their stockpiles of CITES-listed specimens.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 20.BB** Subject to extrabudgetary resources and upon request, the Secretariat shall:

- a) provide training support to Parties for the secure management of stockpiles of CITES-listed specimens; and
- b) inform the Standing Committee of any lessons learned on stockpile management, as appropriate.

55. Transport of live specimens (*Decisions 19.158 and 19.159*) SC78 Doc. 55

The Committee encouraged regional representatives to reach out to Parties in their region to make them aware of Notification to the Parties No. 2025/004 that indicates that the Secretariat had secured 160 single-user access licenses for the IATA LAR 2025 edition In English, French and Spanish, specifically for developing country Parties.

The Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the following draft Decision to replace Decision 19.159.

Directed to the Secretariat, in consultation with the Standing Committee

* Belgium (Committee Member for Europe), speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, introduced an additional amendment to this paragraph during the tenth session that was accepted by the Committee. Poland (Committee Member for Europe), also speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, withdrew that additional amendment during the adoption of the executive summaries after the meeting. The withdrawal of the additional amendment was agreed by the Standing Committee.

- 20.AA** The Secretariat shall in consultation with the Standing Committee work with IATA to make available at nominal cost or for free on an annual basis to authorized representatives of the management authorities and enforcement authorities as electronic or hard copies, depending on the needs of the Party those sections of the *IATA Live Animal Regulations* and *IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations* relevant for authorities to meet CITES obligations.

67. Pangolins (*Manis* spp.) (Decision 19.204)

67.1 Report of the Animals Committee..... SC78 Doc. 67.1

The Committee:

- a) supported the recommendation by the Animals Committee relating to the use of the conversion parameters presented in the table in paragraph 12 for *M. gigantea*, *M. javanica*, *M. pentadactyla*, *M. tetradactyla* and *M. tricuspis* by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for law enforcement and court purposes;
- b) encouraged Parties to use the following identification materials to support the identification of seized pangolin specimens at species level:
 - https://www.traffic.org/site/assets/files/17352/eng_identification_sea_e.pdf and
 - <https://www.usaidrdw.org/pangolin-guide/>; and
- c) agreed to submit the draft decisions in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 67.1 for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON PANGOLINS (*MANIS* SPP.)

Directed to the Secretariat

- 20.AA** The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts and in collaboration with the pangolin range States to further develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species, in particular *M. culionensis*, *M. crassicaudata* and *M. teminckii*, taking into account document AC33 Doc. 35. These conversion parameters should enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for court purposes.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 20.BB** The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review the conversion parameters for all pangolin species, developed in accordance with the provisions of Decision 20.AA, to enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, and that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for law enforcement and court purposes; and
- b) make recommendations as appropriate to the Parties and the Standing Committee.

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

- 20.CC** Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support pangolin range States with resources, both financial and technical expertise, to implement *in-situ* pangolin conservation and management programmes developed in response to Decision 18.238.

67.2 Report of the Secretariat..... SC78 Doc. 67.2

The Committee:

- a) noted the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2024/096;

- b) requested the Secretariat, in its implementation of paragraph 13 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19), to develop time-bound and measurable recommendations based on the most updated information available, directed to Parties (range, transit, and consumer countries), as appropriate, for consideration at CoP20;
- c) agreed for onward submission to CoP20, the proposed amendments to paragraphs 3 and 13. a) in Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins*, as presented in the Annex to document SC78 Doc. 67.2; and
- d) recommended to CoP20:
 - i) the deletion of Decisions 18.238 and 19.202, as the matter of *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes and stocks of pangolins specimens are already reflected in paragraphs 3 and 10 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins*; and
 - ii) the deletion of Decisions 18.239, 19.200 and 19.203, paragraphs a), b), e) and f), as they have been implemented.

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 17. 10 (REV. COP19)
ON CONSERVATION OF AND TRADE IN PANGOLINS

New text is underlined and deleted text is in ~~strike through~~.

3. ENCOURAGES Parties on whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist, to take urgent steps to establish and apply, where not yet done, strict control measures to secure and monitor these stocks, and inform the Secretariat of the level of stocks each year before 28 February, in a format to be defined by the Secretariat, indicating the type and ~~number~~ quantity of specimens, the species, the source of the specimens, management measures, and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year;

[...]

13. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to:

- a) prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and pending external funding, prepare a report in consultation with the pangolin range States and Parties affected by illegal trade in pangolins, on the conservation status of pangolins in the wild, ~~and trade controls measures put in place by in Parties, using information provided by the range States on measures taken to comply with this Resolution and related relevant Decisions and to use an aggregated summary of the pangolin stock declarations of Parties and any other relevant additional information provided by relevant Parties to inform the report;~~ and

DECISIONS ON PANGOLINS (MANIS SPP.) THAT ARE STILL VALID

Directed to Parties

19.201 *All Parties are strongly encouraged to identify seized pangolin specimens at species level and report the seizures at species level in their annual illegal trade reports.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.203 (Rev. CoP20) *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) ~~issue a Notification inviting Parties, international organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that developed tools and materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) or identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, to bring such materials to the attention of the Secretariat;~~

~~b) bring any materials reported in accordance with paragraph a) of the present Decision to the attention of the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, as appropriate, together with any recommendations it may have, and taking into account any subsequent recommendations from the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, make such materials available to the Parties;~~

~~ae) subject to external funding, provide training to Parties on the identification of pangolin specimens;~~

~~be) work with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to initiate activities and support the efforts of Parties to address illegal trade in Pangolin specimens; and~~

~~e) report on the implementation of Decisions 18.238 and 18.239 to the Animals Committee, together with any recommendations it may have;~~

~~f) report on the implementation of Decision 19.202 to the Standing Committee, together with any recommendations it may have; and~~

~~ce) report to the 20th 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of the present Decision.~~

75. An assessment of the practicalities of the CoP12 decision that the Convention should apply to fungi SC78 Doc. 75

The Committee noted document SC78 Doc. 75 and invited Parties, in particular Peru, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America, to provide any feedback relating to the implications relating to the application of the Convention to fungi in particular the practical considerations to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

76. Annotations [Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP19)]SC78 Doc. 76 and SC78 Doc. 76 Add.

The Committee:

a) noted the report and the advice provided by the working group in paragraphs 7 through 18 of document SC78 Doc. 76;

b) endorsed the amendments proposed by the working group to annotation #4 as described in paragraph 16 of document SC78 Doc. 76;

~~f) finished products packaged and ready for retail trade of Aloe ferox and Euphorbia antispythitica packaged and ready for retail trade;~~

c) invited regional representatives of the Standing Committee, with support from the Secretariat, to obtain, if possible, feedback from range States of *Aniba rosaeodora* and *Bulnesia sarmientoi* on whether they can support the revisions to annotation #11 and annotation #12 described in paragraph 12 of document SC78 Doc. 76;

Proposed #11

Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood, powder and extracts, except the following products containing such extracts when the extract is not the primary or highest-percentage ingredient in the product:

- a) *finished products packaged and ready for the retail trade;*
- b) *finished fragrance mixtures; and*
- c) *finished flavour mixtures.*

Proposed #12

Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and extracts, except the following products containing such extracts when the extract is not the primary or highest-percentage ingredient in the product:

- a) *finished products packaged and ready for the retail trade;*

- b) *finished fragrance mixtures; and*
- c) *finished flavour mixtures.*

- d) endorsed the proposed addition of text to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) on *Implementation of the Convention for tree species* (Annex 1 to document SC78 Doc. 76) and in the Interpretation Section of the Appendices (Annex 2 to document SC78 Doc. 76); and

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION CONF.10.13 (REV. COP18) ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR TREE SPECIES

1. RECOMMENDS that:

[...]

- d) for the purpose of annotations in the Appendices for parts and derivatives of species traded as timber, definitions to be used should, to the extent possible, be based on the tariff classifications of the Harmonized System of the World Customs Organization. Note references to Harmonized System codes refer to the language of the definition adopted by CITES, and not to the Harmonized System code that applies;

NEW PARAGRAPH OF THE INTERPRETATION SECTION OF THE APPENDICES

- xx. Note references to Harmonized System codes refer to the language of the definition adopted by CITES, and not to the Harmonized System code that applies.

- e) agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the following draft decision as amended by Canada to replace Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP19).

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.XX The Standing Committee shall, in close collaboration with the Plants Committee, recognizing that the Plants Committee is an important source of expertise and advice to Parties on such scientific and technical issues:

- a) re-establish the working group on annotations, aiming to ensure balanced representation of importing and exporting Parties. The group shall include, but not be limited to, Members from the Standing Committee, Plants Committee, observer Parties, including representatives of CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, enforcement focal points, and industry representatives. The terms of reference for the working group shall include the following and may be expanded in response to other Decisions adopted by CoP20:
 - i) ~~in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including those related to tree species, particularly to assess the benefits of simplifying annotations #5, #6 and #17 or assessing the benefits of harmonizing annotations for species with the same genus, taking into account the guidance provided by Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*;~~
 - ii) further consider Annotations #11 and #12 with regard to determining when extracts become ingredients in finished products and consult with range States to ensure that the annotations would continue to regulate the specimens/commodities they export under the original rationale for the species listing in line with the guidance provided in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*;
 - iii) further consider Annotation #14 related to the agarwood producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.) in particular with regard to the implementation of paragraph e) “exhausted agarwood powder, including compressed powder in all shapes” and the

challenges related to the identification of exhausted agarwood powder by frontline enforcement officers;

- iv) develop or refine definitions of terms used in current annotations as appropriate, and submit them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;
 - v) conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee or the Plants Committee; and
 - vi) prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration by the Standing Committee.
- b) report its conclusions and any recommendations to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

81. Informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations (*Decision 19.267*)..... SC78 Doc. 81

The Committee:

- a) noted of the Secretariat's progress in the implementation of Decision 19.266 and of the report contained in Annex 2 to document SC78 Doc. 81;
- b) agreed with the approach to the review of existing annotations proposed in paragraphs 23-25 of document SC78 Doc. 81 and the draft decisions included in Annex 1 to document SC78 Doc. 81;

ADDITIONAL DECISIONS ON *ANNOTATIONS*

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties inviting Parties and observers to provide information on whether there have been any implementation issues or challenges concerning any of the annotations contained in Appendices I, II and III, and if so, describe the issues or challenges, including options for addressing these; and
- b) based on the responses received, prepare a report to the Standing Committee on identified implementation challenges with its recommendations for addressing these.

Directed to Parties and observer organizations

20.BB Parties and observers are encouraged to submit pertinent information to the Secretariat in response to the Notification concerning issues or challenges related to the implementation of annotations in the Appendices as well as options for addressing these.

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.CC The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report and the recommendations prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 20.AA; and
- b) formulate recommendations to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties concerning the implementation of the annotations, as appropriate.

- c) agreed to test the approach with respect to annotations that are proposed to be amended during the course of the meeting of the CoP, described in paragraph 26 of document SC78 Doc. 81 and requested the Secretariat to report back to the first regular meeting of the Committee following CoP20 on the experience and any results as well as any recommendations;

- d) noted the comments made by Belgium, Canada and the United States of America; and
- e) agreed that Decisions 19.266 and 19.267 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion.

79. Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another
[Decision 18.151 (Rev. CoP19)]..... SC78 Doc. 79 (Rev. 1)

The Committee:

- a) noted the comments made by Belgium, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Peru, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America on behalf of the North American region; and by the International Wood Products Association;
- b) agreed to submit for consideration at CoP20 updated draft guidance and best practices related to periods of transition and possible transitory measures provided in Annex to document SC78 Doc. 79 (Rev. 1) revised by the Secretariat taking into consideration the comments made by Parties and industry at SC78;
- c) requested the Chair, in consultation with the Secretariat, to prepare draft decisions to be submitted at CoP20, for further consideration of this topic at SC81, taking into account any comments made at this meeting; and
- d) agreed that Decision 18.151 (Rev. CoP19) has been implemented and can be proposed for deletion.