

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

Administrative and financial matters

Arrangements for the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20)

DRAFT PROVISIONAL WORKING PROGRAMME

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 65th meeting (Geneva, July 2014), the Committee decided that, as a general rule, the provisional working programme for future meetings of the Conference of the Parties should follow the schedule that was adopted for CoP16 and outlined in paragraph 12 of document [SC65 Doc. 11.1](#).
3. The Annex to the present document is a draft provisional working programme for CoP20. This programme relates only to the plenary sessions.
4. The deadline for the receipt of documents for the meeting is 27 June 2025. Until that time, it will not be known what new items could be added to the agenda. Consequently, it would be premature to prepare detailed provisional working programmes for Committees I and II.
5. For each item, the draft working programme in the Annex is annotated to indicate whether it is proposed to be discussed in plenary session only or whether it should first be discussed in Committee I or Committee II. However, in order to ensure a balance of work, these placements may need to be adjusted in the light of the full list of documents presented for discussion at CoP20 and as a consequence of discussions with the Chairs designate for Committees I and II.
6. The Secretariat wishes to draw the Committee's attention to the tentative evening sessions scheduled for Committee I and Committee II. Considering the number of agenda items Parties will consider at CoP20, the Secretariat considers that (at least) one evening session for each Committee is necessary. Furthermore, based on the experience of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat is proposing to schedule five days of sessions for Committees I and II (from Tuesday to Saturday included) before a two-day break on Sunday and Monday in order for the Committees to have enough time to consider all agenda items that may warrant the establishment of in-session working groups prior to the two-day break.

Recommendation

7. The Secretariat invites the Standing Committee to approve the Annex to the present document, with any amendments made during the present meeting, as the basis for the preparation of the provisional working programme for CoP20.

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Twentieth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Samarkand (Uzbekistan), 24 November – 5 December 2025

Administrative matters

PROVISIONAL WORKING PROGRAMME FOR THE PLENARY MEETING
(Draft)

Saturday 22 November 2025

Afternoon: 14h00-18h00 Registration of participants

Sunday 23 November 2025

Morning: 08h00-12h00 Registration of participants (cont.)

09h00-12h00 79th meeting of the Standing Committee

Afternoon: 14h00-18h00 Registration of participants (cont.)

14h00-17h00 79th meeting of the Standing Committee (cont.)

Monday 24 November 2025

Morning: 08h00-13h00 Registration of participants (cont.)

Morning: 09h00-13h00

Opening of the meeting

Plen. Opening ceremony

Plen. Welcoming addresses

Administrative and financial matters

Plen. 1. Election of Chair, Alternate Chair and Vice-Chairs of the meeting and of Chairs of Committees I and II

Plen. XX. Agenda

Plen. XX. Working programme

Plen. XX Rules of Procedure

XX. Credentials Committee

Plen. XX.1 Establishment of the Credentials Committee

Plen. XX.2 Report of the Credentials Committee

Plen. XX. Admission of observers

Strategic matters

XX. Committee reports and recommendations

XX.1 Standing Committee

Plen. XX.1.1 Report of the Chair

XX.2 Animals Committee

Plen. XX.2.1 Report of the Chair

XX.3 Plants Committee

Plen. XX.3.1 Report of the Chair

Afternoon: 14h30-17h30 Meetings of Parties on a regional basis

Tuesday 25 November 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

Wednesday 26 November 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

Thursday 27 November 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

and

Evening: 19h00-22h00 Meeting of Committee II (cont.)

Friday 28 November 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

and

Evening: 19h00-22h00 Meeting of Committee I (cont.)

Saturday 29 November 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

Sunday 30 November and Monday 1 December 2025

No official meetings

Tuesday 2 December 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

Wednesday 3 December 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 Meetings of Committees I and II (cont.)

and

Afternoon: 14h00-17h00

Thursday 4 December 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00 **Administrative and financial matters (cont.)**

XX. Administration, finance and budget of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

- (Com.II) XX.1 Administration of the Secretariat
- (Com.II) XX.2 Report of the Executive Director of UNEP on administrative and other matters
- (Com.II) XX.3 Financial reports for 2023-2025
- (Com.II) XX.4 Budget and work programme for 2026 to 2028
- (Com.II) XX.5 Arrangements for meetings of the Conference of the Parties
- (Com.II) XX Terms of reference of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee
- (Com.II) XX Emerging operational issues of the Committees
- (Com.II) XX Access to funding
- (Com.II) XX Sponsored delegates project

Strategic matters (cont.)

- XX. Committee reports and recommendations
 - XX.1 Standing Committee
 - Plen. XX.1.2 Election of new regional and alternate regional members
 - XX.2 Animals Committee
 - Plen. XX.2.2 Election of new regional and alternate regional members
 - XX.3 Plants Committee
 - Plen. XX.3.2 Election of new regional and alternate regional members
 - (Com.II) XX. *CITES Strategic Vision*
 - (Com.II) XX. Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade
 - XX. Cooperation
 - (Com.II) XX.1 Cooperation with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other international organizations
 - (Com.II) XX.2 Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
 - (Com.II) XX.3 Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative
 - (Com.II) XX.4 International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
 - (Com.II) XX.5 Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species
 - (Com.II) XX. World Wildlife Trade Report
 - (Com.II) XX. CITES and forests
 - (Com.II) XX. Financial and operational sustainability of the MIKE and ETIS programme
 - (Com.II) XX. Language strategy for the Convention
- Capacity-building**
- (Com.II) XX. Capacity building
 - (Com.II) XX. Compliance Assistance Programme

(Com.II) XX. Country-wide Review of Significant Trade

(Com.II) XX. CITES Tree Species Programme

CITES and people

(Com.II) XX. United Nations World Wildlife Day

(Com.II) XX. CITES gender action plan

(Com.II) XX. Youth engagement

(Com.II) XX. Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities

(Com.II) XX. Livelihoods

(Com.II) XX. Demand reduction to combat illegal trade

Existing Resolutions and Decisions

(Com.II) XX. Review of Resolutions

(Com.II) XX. Review of Decisions

Compliance

(Com.II) XX. National laws for implementation of the Convention

XX. Compliance matters

(Com.II) XX.1 Implementation of Article XIII and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *CITES compliance procedures*

(Com.II) XX.2 National ivory action plans process

(Com.II) XX.2 Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*)

(Com.II) XX. Review of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity*

(Com.II) XX. Possession of specimens of species included in Appendix I

Illegal trade and enforcement

(Com.II) XX. Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*

(Com.II) XX. Enforcement matters

(Com.II) XX. Annual illegal trade reports

(Com.II) XX. Wildlife crime linked to the Internet

(Com.II) XX. Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa

(Com.II) XX. CITES Big Cats Task Force

(Com.II) XX. Implementation of the priority recommendations from the review of the ETIS Programme

(Com.II) XX. ETIS categorization of Parties

(Com.II) XX. Closure of domestic ivory markets

(Com.II) XX. Ivory seizures and domestic ivory markets

(Com.II) XX. Trade in mammoth ivory

(Com.II) XX. Trade in Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*)

(Com.II) XX. Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*)

(Com.II) XX. Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)

(Com.II) XX. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)

Regulation of trade

- (Com.II) XX. Legal acquisition findings
- (Com.I) XX. Non-detriment findings
- (Com.I) XX. Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction
- (Com.II) XX. Introduction from the sea
- (Com.I) XX. Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species
- (Com.I) XX. Identification of timber and other wood products
- (Com.II) XX. Purpose-of-transaction codes
- (Com.II) XX. Electronic systems and information technologies
- (Com.I) XX. Review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on *Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade s*
- (Com.II) XX. Stocks and stockpiles
- (Com.II) XX. Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)
- (Com.II) XX. Transport of live specimens
- (Com.II) XX. Rapid movement of wildlife diagnostic samples and musical instruments
- (Com.II) XX. Specimens produced through biotechnology
- (Com.II) XX. Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'
- (Com.II) XX. Disposal of confiscated specimens
- (Com.II) XX. Labelling system for trade in caviar
- (Com.II) XX. Trade in stony corals

Exemptions and special trade provisions

- (Com.II) XX. Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source
- (Com.II) XX. Review of Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes*
- (Com.II) XX. Guidance on the term 'artificially propagated'

Species conservation and trade

- (Com.I) XX. Assessment of Appendix-I listed species
- (Com.I) XX. Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade

Fauna

- (Com.I) XX. West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)
 - XX. Elephants (Elephantidae spp.)
- (Com.II) XX.1 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on *Trade in elephant specimens*
- (Com.II) XX.2 Report on Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)
- (Com.II) XX.3 Report on the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS)
- (Com.II) XX. Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

- (Com.I) XX. Great apes (Hominidae spp.)
- (Com.II) XX. Pangolins (*Manis* spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. African lions (*Panthera leo*)
- (Com.II) XX. Jaguars (*Panthera onca*)
- (Com.II) XX. Tibetan antelope (*Pantholops hodgsonii*)
- (Com.I) XX. Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)
- XX. Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)
- (Com.II) XX.1 Report of the Secretariat
- (Com.II) XX.2 Report of the Standing Committee
- (Com.I) XX. Saiga antelopes (*Saiga* spp.)

Aquatic species

- (Com.I) XX. Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices
- (Com.I) XX. Eels (*Anguilla* spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)
- (Com.II) XX. Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)
- (Com.I) XX. Marine ornamental fishes

Flora

- (Com.I) XX. Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Boswellia trees (*Boswellia* spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]
- (Com.I) XX. Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)
- (Com.I) XX. Brazil wood (*Paubrasilia echinata*)
- (Com.I) XX. African tree species
- (Com.I) XX. Neotropical tree species
- (Com.I) XX. Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

Friday 5 December 2025

Morning: 09h00-12h00

Appendices of the Convention

- (Com.I) XX. Result of the African elephant dialogue meeting
- (Com.I) XX. Appendix-I species subject to export quotas

Annotations

- (Com.I) XX. Annotations
- (Com.I) XX. Annotation #15
- (Com.I) XX. Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another
- (Com.I) XX. Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species
- (Com.I) XX. Informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations
- (Com.I) XX. Orchids specimens exempted through annotation #4g)
- (Com.I) XX. Annotation of Cape aloe (*Aloe ferox*)

Nomenclature matters

(Com.I) XX. Standard nomenclature

(Com.I) XX. Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings

(Com.I) XX. Higher taxon listings in the Appendices

Proposals to amend the Appendices

(Com.I) XX. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

Afternoon: 14h00-16h00

Proposals to amend the Appendices (cont.)

(Com.I) XX. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

Conclusion of the meeting

Plen. XX. Determination of the time and venue of the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Plen. XX. Closing remarks

17h00-18h00

80th meeting of the Standing Committee and extraordinary meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees