

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



Joint sessions of the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee and
21st meeting of the Plants Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 2-3 May 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade controls and marking

REVIEW OF IDENTIFICATION AND GUIDANCE MATERIAL (DECISION 16.59)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on *Identification Manual*, paragraph h), the Secretariat herewith provides a report on the progress made with the production of the *Identification Manual*.
3. Launched in 1977, the Identification Manual is one of the Convention's longest-running initiatives. The Manual is managed by the Secretariat and has been accessible from the CITES website as the CITES Wiki Identification Manual (http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php) since 2009.
4. At the time of writing (January 2014), there were 768 registered users, 21 of whom have requested editing rights. No user edits or additions have been made to the animal or plant sheets since the publication of *the Manual* on the CITES website.
5. The Conference of the Parties, at its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), adopted Decisions 16.59 to 16.61 on the *Identification Manual*. Decision 16.59 is directed to the Animals and Plants Committees and is as follows:

The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) *form an intersessional working group comprising at least one representative from each region of both Committees to assist in identifying CITES-listed taxa, taking account of existing CITES identification and guidance material as well as other material produced by Parties, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations;*
- b) *determine, in collaboration with Parties, the current availability of identification and guidance material (printed and electronic) to increase accessibility to Parties;*
- c) *consult with Parties to assess the need for additional identification material, including material under production by Parties and requested in Decisions;*
- d) *compile a list of outstanding Decisions directing the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees, and the Secretariat to produce identification and guidance material for CITES-listed taxa;*

- e) *review, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and, taking into account new Web-based technologies, make recommendations, including amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on Identification Manual, to promote accuracy and availability of identification and guidance material; and*
 - f) *report progress at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*
6. In Decision 16.60, Parties are encouraged to support the efforts of the Working Group by:
- a) *providing to the Secretariat information on available identification and guidance material that is used by Parties, and particularly by enforcement and inspections officers, to facilitate implementation of the Convention;*
 - b) *evaluating the status of pending identification material and identify difficulties associated with the completion of this material; and*
 - c) *consulting with enforcement and inspection officials to assess current needs with regard to identification materials and guidance needs, and possible improvements to meet those needs.*
7. In Decision 16.61, the Secretariat is directed:
- ...to issue a Notification to the Parties within six months of the close of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties requesting information on available identification and guidance materials for compilation by the Secretariat and report on its contents at the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 21st meeting of the Plants Committee to assist in the establishment of the Working Group and in the implementation of Decision 16.59.*
8. As required by Decision 16.61, the Secretariat issued Notification No. 2013/036 on 16 August 2013 on the Identification Manual, where it invited Parties, organizations and experts to contribute information, in paper or electronic format, on available identification and guidance materials, particularly those materials used by enforcement and inspections officers.
9. At the time of writing (February 2014), contributions and information in response to Notification No. 2013/036 have been received from China, Congo, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Spain and the United States of America. Moreover, the Secretariat has been in direct communication with intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and experts regarding information on identification and guidance materials, resulting in additional contributions from the European Union (Germany, Greece, Lithuania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, the Pew Environment Group and TRAFFIC.
10. Information received from Parties and other interested bodies or persons relating to the identification of CITES species is currently being compiled in the relevant section the CITES Virtual College (<https://cites.unia.es/cites/mod/resource/view.php?id=57#ID-manuals>). This information is being organized according to the submitting Party or institution, as well as by species, family or special topic.
11. The Secretariat notes that several Decisions adopted at CoP16, other than those listed above, contain references to the need for identification and guidance materials, including on the use of forensic identification. These Decisions are provided in Annex 1 to the present document. In addition to Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16), several other Resolutions contain references to identification and guidance materials. These are listed in Annex 2.
12. The Secretariat has formed an internal task team to address a variety of identification and traceability issues, and has adopted a multidisciplinary approach to meet the objectives under the many different Decisions and Resolutions related to the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species. This new approach was necessitated by the development of new identification software, devices and technologies, including forensic technologies, which provide new opportunities to trace and identify specimens in trade more effectively.
13. While including identification and guidance materials on the CITES Virtual College may facilitate access and dissemination, there are other data platforms that provide greater flexibility in the use of materials and data, particularly with regard to adding, updating or collaborating on identification materials, and

communication. An example is the WIKI-type system¹ that provides the platform for the *CITES WIKI Identification Manual*.

14. The Identification Manual could be enhanced through the introduction of new functions and technologies to hold the many different existing identification and guidance material, as well as those currently being planned or developed. This would, for instance, enable users to gather material on a single species, thereby facilitating the identification of the specimen. It would also be possible to enhance the materials, for example with videos or lessons learned from enforcement and Customs officials, CITES Authorities, or rangers in the field. It may also provide a more cost-effective approach to the development of identification and guidance materials. Finally, WIKI technologies are able to accommodate technical specifications required by new applications for hand-held devices, including tablets and smartphones, thereby facilitating access to and increase use of CITES-related identification and guidance material.
15. The enhancement of the CITES WIKI Identification Manual with new functions and technologies is subject to the availability of external resources. The Secretariat is currently engaged in discussions with potential donor Parties, bodies or persons regarding the possibility of obtaining financial resources to further develop the Manual. Furthermore, at CoP16, the Secretariat invited relevant organizations with experience in the development of identification manuals and in the use of Web 2.0 tools, such as Wikis, to contribute to the ongoing development of the Manual (see document CoP16 Doc. 44.1). The Secretariat is likewise reaching out to organizations and partners with requisite technical expertise in this domain to collaborate in its enhancement.
16. The Secretariat has held discussions with European entrepreneurs on the possible development of mobile apps to identify and trace CITES-listed species in trade. One example of such a collaboration is the pro bono development by NEST'up, a programme of the Government of Wallonia (Belgium) to support young entrepreneurs and start-up businesses. One of the new products under development is a smartphone application that can trace snakes and snake products to confirm their legal origin. The application makes it possible for a hunter to take a photo of the snake he or she has just collected, which in turn generates a unique tracking number for that specimen.²
17. In light of the above, the Secretariat believes possible the use of a more strategic approach that aims to make work related to identification and guidance material mutually supportive, and provides the Parties with greater choices in their use, particularly with regard to the application of new technologies and devices. The Secretariat believes that a more strategic approach to activities related to identification material, particularly with regard to the application of new technology, would provide Parties with a greater range of choices. Such an approach could include:
 - a) Enhancement of the CITES WIKI Identification Manual to accommodate the hosting of identification and guidance materials produced by Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, research institutes and universities, among others.
 - b) Use of the CITES WIKI Identification Manual as a repository for identification and guidance materials produced by Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, research institutes and universities, among others; and
 - c) Subject to the availability of external resources, enhancement of the *CITES WIKI Identification Manual* to accommodate different types of media, increase opportunities for collaboration and be available through hand-held devices and tablets.

Recommendation

18. The Animals and Plants Committees are invited to consider the information provided in this report as they undertake implementation of Decision 16.59.

¹ *WIKIs permit asynchronous communication and group collaboration across the Internet. Various described as a composition system, a discussion medium, a repository, a mail system and a tool for collaboration, WIKIs provide users with both author and editor privileges; the overall organization of contributions can be edited as well as the content itself. WIKIs are able to incorporate sounds, movies, and pictures; they may prove to be a simple tool to create multimedia presentations and simple digital stories. Seven things you should know about WIKIs. EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative, July 2005. Available at: <https://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/eli7004.pdf>.*

² *CITES and business experts break new ground to trace wildlife trade.* (http://www.cites.org/eng/news/pr/2013/20131127_python_app.php)

RELEVANT DECISIONS ON IDENTIFICATION AND GUIDANCE MATERIALS

Decision	Relevant paragraph(s)
Decision 16.58 on <i>Physical inspection of timber shipments</i>	a) obtain information and materials from those Parties that have reported that they have developed tools and procedures for the identification and measurement of CITES-listed tree species, and the physical inspection of timber shipments;
Decision 16.59 on the <i>Identification manual</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall: a) form an intersessional working group comprising at least one representative from each region of both Committees to assist in identifying CITES-listed taxa, taking account of existing CITES identification and guidance material as well as other material produced by Parties, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations; b) determine, in collaboration with Parties, the current availability of identification and guidance material (printed and electronic) to increase accessibility to Parties; c) consult with Parties to assess the need for additional identification material, including material under production by Parties and requested in Decisions; d) compile a list of outstanding Decisions directing the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees, and the Secretariat to produce identification and guidance material for CITES-listed taxa; e) review, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and, taking into account new Web-based technologies, make recommendations, including amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.19 on Identification Manual, to promote accuracy and availability of identification and guidance material; and f) report progress at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
Decision 16.60 on the <i>Identification manual</i>	The Parties are encouraged to support the efforts of the Working Group by: a) providing to the Secretariat information on available identification and guidance material that is used by Parties, and particularly by enforcement and inspections officers, to facilitate implementation of the Convention; b) evaluating the status of pending identification material and identify difficulties associated with the completion of this material; and c) consulting with enforcement and inspection officials to assess current needs with regard to identification materials and guidance needs, and possible improvements to meet those needs.
Decision 16.61 on the <i>Identification manual</i>	The Secretariat is directed to issue a Notification to the Parties within six months of the close of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties requesting information on available identification and guidance materials for compilation by the Secretariat and report on its contents at the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 21st meeting of the Plants Committee to assist in the establishment of the Working Group

Decision	Relevant paragraph(s)
	and in the implementation of Decision 16.59.
Decision 16.64 on <i>Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens</i>	The Secretariat shall report at the 65th and 66th meetings of the Standing Committee on significant cases where it has taken initiatives or entered into a dialogue with Parties on trade in specimens declared as bred in captivity or ranched where there is serious doubt about the identified source of the specimens in trade.
Decision 15.64 on <i>Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) identify existing coral reference materials that could be adopted as standard nomenclatural references for CITES-listed corals; and b) update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination.
Decision 15.65 on <i>Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade</i>	The Secretariat shall, upon receiving the updated list from the Animals Committee, transmit this information to the Parties through a Notification to the Parties, and by publishing the list on the CITES website.
Decision 16.70 on <i>Asian big cats</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) develop a leaflet containing simple illustrations and guidance, to increase awareness of illegal trade in Asian big cats and the endangered status of the species amongst front-line law enforcement staff and border control staff.
Decision 16.78 on <i>Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens (Elephantidae spp.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) examine and advise about existing DNA-based and forensic identification techniques for sourcing and ageing ivory, identify relevant forensic facilities and research institutions, and consider the need for further research in these areas;
Decision 16.83 on <i>Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens (Elephantidae spp.)</i>	Parties involved in large scale ivory seizures (i.e. 500 kg or more) should collect samples from the ivory seized within 90 days of the seizure and, if possible, from all large seizures from the past 24 months. They should submit the samples for analysis to begin immediately to appropriate forensic-analysis facilities capable of reliably determining the origin of the ivory samples, with the aim of addressing the entire crime chain.
Decision 16.102 on <i>Snake trade and conservation management (Serpentes spp.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) issue a Notification to the Parties encouraging Parties to engage with interested institutions to investigate the possibility of forensic identification of specimens of CITES-listed snakes in trade, and requesting Parties to inform the Secretariat about the results of such engagement;
Decision 16.121 on <i>Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) increase enforcement activities to deter, detect and address illegal and undocumented trade in CITES-listed live tortoises and freshwater turtles, and their parts and derivatives, inter alia by providing relevant training to national enforcement authorities, strengthening the enforcement and implementation of the Convention for these species, disseminating identification materials and increasing awareness amongst the judiciary;
Decision 16.122 on <i>Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) subject to external funding, contract a consultant to identify and evaluate tortoises and freshwater turtle identification and capacity-building materials, and assist with developing

Decision	Relevant paragraph(s)
	<p>additional materials as deemed necessary, including the preparation and distribution of multilingual [Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia (Melayu), Bengali, Burmese, Chinese, English, Hindi, Khmer, Lao, Thai, Urdu, Vietnamese and other languages as appropriate] identification materials focused on the shells and shell pieces of Asian tortoises and freshwater and terrestrial turtles;</p>
<p>Decision 16.136 on <i>Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)</i></p>	<p>a) subject to external funding and in consultation with the Animals Committee, organize a study to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) provide an overview of molecular, DNA-based and other forensic methods that could assist in identifying the species and populations of Acipenseriformes specimens in trade, determining the origin or age of specimens, and differentiating wild from captive-bred or aquacultured specimens; ii) review relevant developments in this area, including the availability and reliability of uniform identification systems; iii) evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the different methods (including practicality, costs, time-efficiency, reliability, technical requirements, etc.); and iv) formulate relevant guidance for CITES Parties, enforcement agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders;
<p>Decision 16.137 on <i>Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)</i></p>	<p>The Animals Committee shall assist the Secretariat in determining the specifications for the study referred to in Decision 16.136 and monitoring its conduct. It shall review the report of the study at its 27th or 28th meeting, and make recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the Standing Committee.</p>
<p>Decision 16.138 on <i>Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)</i></p>	<p>The Standing Committee shall review the study undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.136 and the recommendations that the Animals Committee formulated in compliance with Decision 16.137, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to Parties concerned or for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p>
<p>Decision 14.149 on <i>Annotations for tree species included in Appendices II and III</i></p>	<p>Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall prepare a glossary with definitions and training materials to illustrate the content of the amended annotations, the terms used and their practical implementation when applying the law and controls.</p>
<p>Decision 15.35 on <i>Annotations for tree species included in Appendices II and III</i></p>	<p>The Secretariat shall commission a trade study, subject to available funding, to be conducted by an external consultant in cooperation with the International Tropical Timber Organization, to review the trade in timber species listed in Appendices II and III to determine the types of specimens that initially appear in international trade or are exported from range States and regarding those which dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource. Once the specimens that meet these criteria have been determined, the study should also determine which six-digit universal HS codes and associated definitions are applicable to these specimens. The Secretariat shall provide the results of this</p>

Decision	Relevant paragraph(s)
	study to the Plants Committee.
Decision 16.152, Annex 3 of the <i>Action plan for Diospyros spp. and Dalbergia spp</i>	Madagascar shall: 3. Collaborate, as appropriate, and with key partners, as indicated in paragraph 2 above, to prepare identification material and tests for use in CITES enforcement to identify main taxa as they are traded;
Decision 16.155 on <i>Agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.)</i>	To facilitate the implementation of the annotation to agarwood-producing taxa, based on document CoP16 Inf. 3 and further information available, exporting and importing countries of agarwood-producing taxa should produce an identification manual for agarwood products and communicate it to the Secretariat.

RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS ON IDENTIFICATION AND GUIDANCE MATERIALS

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
<p>Resolution Conf. 7.12 (Rev. CoP15) <i>Marking requirements for trade in specimens of taxa with populations in both Appendix I and Appendix II</i></p>	<p>RECOMMENDS that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) with respect to the identification of live specimens, any marking system that requires the attachment of a tag, band or other uniquely marked label, or the marking of a part of the animal's anatomy be undertaken only with due regard for the humane care, well-being and natural behaviour of the specimen concerned; and b) with regard to parts and derivatives of ranched or captive-bred animals, where requested by individual Parties, the Secretariat purchase and disseminate appropriately coded tags or stamps, and that the costs be recovered from participating Parties.
<p>Resolution Conf. 8.13 <i>Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Parties, where possible and appropriate, without excluding the use of other methods, adopt the use of implantable transponders bearing permanent, non-programmable, unalterable and permanently unique codes for the identification of live animals;
<p>Resolution Conf. 9.20 <i>Guidelines for evaluating marine turtle ranching proposals submitted pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Trade controls d) Describe marking and tracking procedures for all parts and derivatives from approved ranches that will allow the unambiguous identification of ranch products, including methods for marking products and packages, packaging types, transport methods, shipping routes, product documentation, secure storage of products, inventory control up to the point of export and specification of the maximum quantities of products (quotas) to be exported annually.;
<p>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i></p>	<p>Annotation where applicable, provide identification sheets to be included in the CITES Identification Manual that illustrate the parts and derivatives covered under the annotation.</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i></p>	<p>RECOMMENDS that Parties cooperate in the development of techniques to enhance the traceability of elephant specimens in trade, for instance by supporting research to determine the age and origin of ivory and other elephant specimens, by supplying samples for forensic research, and collaborating with relevant forensic research institutions;</p> <p>URGES Parties to collect samples from all large-scale ivory seizures (i.e. a seizure of 500kg or more) that take place in their territories, and provide these to relevant forensic and other research institutions in support of enforcement and prosecutions; and</p> <p>DIRECTS the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to support activities that will enhance the traceability of elephant specimens in trade by: informing Parties about and evaluating relevant forensic facilities and research institutions; reviewing relevant developments and research activities, and advising the Parties and the Standing Committee accordingly; encouraging the sharing of forensic samples and data, including through existing DNA databases; and facilitating linkages with MIKE,</p>

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
	ETIS and national and international enforcement activities.
Resolution Conf. 10.8 (Rev. CoP14) <i>Conservation of and trade in bears</i>	<p>URGES all Parties, particularly bear range and consuming countries, to continue to take action to reduce the illegal trade in bear parts and derivatives by:</p> <p>g) sharing forensic technology to assist Parties lacking sufficient capabilities for the identification of bear parts and derivatives, and for examination of products labelled as containing parts and derivatives of bears;</p>
Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) <i>Traditional medicines</i>	<p>RECOMMENDS that the Parties:</p> <p>b) promote the development of techniques, including the application of forensic science, for identifying parts and derivatives used in traditional medicines;</p>
Resolution Conf. 10.20 <i>Frequent cross-border movements of personally owned live animals</i>	<p>d) the Management Authority require the applicant for a certificate of ownership to provide his name and address and pertinent data regarding the live animal, including the species, sex and mark number or other means of identification;</p>
Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) <i>Establishment of committees</i>	<p>Annex 2 Establishment of the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>The Conference of the Parties to the Convention</p> <p>RESOLVES to re-establish the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties, with the following terms of reference:</p> <p>c) assist the Secretariat with the implementation of the Resolution on the Identification Manual and Decisions related to it and, upon request of the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices with regard to possible identification problems;</p>
Resolution Conf. 11.4 (Rev. CoP12) <i>Conservation of cetaceans, trade in cetacean specimens and the relationship with the International Whaling Commission</i>	<p>Regarding cooperation in monitoring illegal trade in whale parts and derivatives</p> <p>ENCOURAGES all countries concerned to voluntarily:</p> <p>a) inventory all frozen whale parts and derivatives possessed in commercial quantities, indicating the species, quantity and geographic origin; and</p> <p>b) collect and inventory skin or meat samples for DNA identification from all such frozen whale specimens;</p> <p>RECOMMENDS that all countries concerned collect and inventory skin or meat samples for DNA identification from baleen whales:</p> <p>a) taken in a directed harvest;</p> <p>b) taken in aboriginal subsistence hunts; and</p> <p>c) taken incidentally to other fishing operations, and if any specimens from these whales will be entered into commerce;</p> <p>INVITES all countries concerned to cooperate in determining sources of whale parts and derivatives, and the species concerned, in cases of smuggling, by:</p> <p>a) where assistance is requested, providing skin or meat samples or digitized DNA sequencing to countries that have the capability to determine species and geographic origin of the animal, or to confirm the initial analysis;</p>

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) analysing the samples provided by the country that has collected them, and fully consulting it regarding the results of the analysis before releasing them to other Parties or to the public; and c) obtaining and issuing necessary CITES documentation for export and import of the samples for analysis;
<p>Resolution Conf. 11.7 <i>Conservation of and trade in musk deer</i></p>	<p>URGES all Parties, particularly musk deer range and consuming countries and those through which musk deer specimens pass in transit, to take immediate action in order to reduce demonstrably the illegal trade in musk deriving from wild musk deer by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) pursuing the development of a clear labelling system for products containing musk, and the development and dissemination of forensic methods to detect natural musk in medicinal and other products; <p>RECOMMENDS that manufacturing and consumer States cooperate in the development and distribution of identification guides for manufactured products containing musk to assist with enforcement efforts;</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 11.8 (Rev. CoP13) <i>the Conservation of and control of trade in the Tibetan antelope</i></p>	<p>URGES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the processing countries of the products of the Tibetan antelope to continue their efforts to ban the processing of Tibetan antelope wool; b) all countries and territories with relevant experience and technical capabilities to strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information, technology and experience with regard to education and awareness, law enforcement such as smuggling routes and methods, and techniques for the identification of parts and derivatives of the Tibetan antelope;
<p>Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP13) <i>Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) all Parties, especially in the Asian region, to increase public awareness of the threats posed to tortoises and freshwater turtles from unsustainable harvest and unregulated trade, to encourage non-governmental organizations to develop, produce and distribute posters and other educational and informative materials on this subject, and to facilitate, where necessary, the compilation, dissemination and translation into local languages of information on tortoises and freshwater turtles for their use by enforcement officers, drawing on existing identification and enforcement guides, and focusing on identification, local names, distribution and illustrations;
<p>Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP15) <i>Trade in stony corals</i></p>	<p>URGES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) interested Parties and other bodies from range and consumer States to collaborate and provide support, coordinated by the Secretariat, to produce as a priority accessible and practical guides to recognizing corals and coral rock in trade and to make these widely available to Parties through appropriate media;
<p>Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15) <i>the Regulation of trade in plants</i></p>	<p>RECOMMENDS that Parties ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) enforcement officers are adequately informed of CITES requirements, procedures governing inspection and clearance of CITES plant specimens, and procedures necessary for the detection of illegal trade; b) enforcing agencies obtain access to materials and expertise

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
	enabling identification of plant specimens in trade, including whether the specimens are of wild or artificially propagated origin;
Resolution Conf. 11.12 (Rev. CoP15) <i>Universal tagging system for the identification skins</i>	The Conference of the Parties to the Convention RECOMMENDS: a) the maintenance of a universal tagging system for the identification of raw, tanned, and/or finished crocodylian skins by the general application of non-reusable tags to all crocodylian skins entering international trade from the countries of origin;
Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) <i>Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</i>	a) the term 'uniform marking system' means a system of marking each product approved by the Conference of the Parties for a species, which, as a minimum, includes the International Organization for Standardization two-letter code for the country of origin, a unique identification number and the year of production or, for products in stock or manufactured from products of the operation in stock at the time of the proposal, the year of approval of the proposal; b) in order to be considered by the Conference of the Parties, any proposal to transfer a population to Appendix II in order to conduct a ranching programme satisfy the following general criteria: ii) all products (including live specimens) of each operation must be adequately identified and documented to ensure that they can be readily distinguished from products of Appendix-I populations;
Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) <i>Identification manual</i>	Noting that the Identification Manual Committee was first established in 1977, and was one of the first committees serving the Parties to the Convention; GRATEFUL to all persons who have served this Committee, for the work they have done to develop the Identification Manual; NOTING also that between the sixth (Ottawa, 1987) and the 10th (Harare, 1997) meetings of the Conference of the Parties the Committee was without Chairman and membership; NOTING further that following the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Harare, 1997) only one Party has expressed interest in appointing members of the Committee; RECOGNIZING the need for a regular production of sheets for the Identification Manual in the three working languages of the Convention and that the work involved is not of a nature readily performed by a committee; THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION DIRECTS the Secretariat to: a) prepare texts on the identification of animal and plant species for inclusion in the Identification Manual in the three working languages of the Convention; b) when listings that include annotations are adopted, prepare sheets that illustrate the parts and derivatives covered under the listings, as appropriate, based on relevant data obtained from Parties whose proposals to amend the Appendices have been adopted; c) upon request from a Party, provide advice on the identification of species, or seek advice from experts on the

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
	<p>taxa concerned;</p> <p>d) ensure, where relevant, that the subject of identification of species or specimens is included in training seminars organized by the Secretariat;</p> <p>e) provide assistance to Parties in the development of national or regional identification manuals;</p> <p>f) obtain, from Parties whose proposals to include new species in the Appendices have been adopted, appropriate data for inclusion in the Identification Manual within one year after acceptance of such additions;</p> <p>g) publish, within its financial capacity, the Identification Manual;</p> <p>h) inform the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees on the progress made whenever appropriate; and</p> <p>i) report at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>EXHORTS Parties having successfully submitted proposals to include new species in the Appendices, to provide appropriate data for inclusion in the Identification Manual within one year after acceptance of such additions;</p> <p>APPEALS to Parties and organizations to provide funds to ensure the production of the Identification Manual; and</p> <p>REQUESTS the Parties to promote the use of the Identification Manual.</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) <i>Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species</i></p>	<p>a) countries and organizations with the relevant expertise to encourage and support range and consumer States, as a matter of urgency, in the development of practical identification manuals to aid the detection and accurate identification of parts and derivatives of Asian big cats;</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 12.7 (rev. CoP16) <i>Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish</i></p>	<p>CALLS UPON range States, importing countries and other experts and appropriate organizations, such as the IUCN/SSC Sturgeon Specialist Group, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Animals Committee, to continue to explore the development of a uniform DNA-based identification system for parts and derivatives and aquaculture stocks of Acipenseriformes species to assist in the subsequent identification of the origin of specimens in trade and the development and application of methods for differentiating wild from aquaculture origin caviar in cases where DNA-based methods are not useful;</p> <p>Annex 1: <i>CITES guidelines for a universal labelling system for the trade in and identification of caviar</i></p>
<p>Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i></p>	<p>f) registered captive-breeding operations shall ensure that an appropriate and secure marking system is used to clearly identify all breeding stock and specimens in trade, and shall undertake to adopt superior marking and identification methods as these become available;</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 13.11 <i>Bushmeat</i></p>	<p>Requests:</p> <p>a) countries and organizations with relevant expertise to support range and consumer States in the preparation or distribution of practical identification techniques to help determine whether bushmeat is derived from CITES-listed species;</p>
<p>Resolution Conf. 16.5 <i>Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant</i></p>	<p>Annex <i>List of potential CITES activities and products and their contribution to the objectives and targets of the updated Global</i></p>

Resolution	Relevant paragraph(s)
<i>Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity</i>	<i>Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020</i> CITES's potential contribution: CITES Identification Manual and Web pages.
Resolution Conf. 16.8 <i>Frequent cross-border non-commercial movements of musical instruments</i>	<p>c) the competent CITES authority require the applicant for a musical instrument certificate to provide their name and address and pertinent data regarding the musical instrument, including the species used to manufacture the instrument, and a means of identification, such as the manufacturer's name or serial number or other means of identification;</p> <p>h) the Parties concerned require that the musical instrument be appropriately identified and that the identification mark or a detailed description of the instrument be included on the musical instrument certificate so that the authorities of the State into which the musical instrument enters can verify that the certificate corresponds to the musical instrument in question;</p>