

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



Joint sessions of the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and
the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 20-21 July 2018

COUNTRY-WIDE REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair: the representative of Europe of the Animals Committee (Mr. Fleming);

Members: the representative of Africa of the Plants Committee (Ms. Koumba Pambo), the representative of Europe of the Plants Committee (Mr. Carmo), the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón) and the botanical nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Parties: Canada, European Union, Hungary, Madagascar, Peru, South Africa and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Center for International Environmental Law, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC and World Wildlife Fund.

Mandate

Pursuant to Decision 17.111, the in-session working group shall, based on document AC30 Doc. 12.3/PC24 Doc. 13.3 and its Annex, undertake the following:

- a) consider the outcomes of the report in the Annex to AC30 Doc. 12.3/PC24 Doc. 13.3, and any other relevant findings;
- b) draft conclusions and recommendations as appropriate, and
- c) draft a way forward to bring the results of the implementation of Decision 17.111, and its conclusions, to the attention of the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting and/or of the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

Recommendations

The working group:

1. welcomes the evaluation of the country-wide RST for Madagascar as outlined in Annex to AC30 Doc. 12.3 / PC24 Doc. 13.3 and noted the achievements, shortcomings, challenges and lessons learned and recorded in the Annex;

2. notes it would have been useful to have had available to the Committees a comprehensive assessment of the resources required to implement the process and, therefore, the working group recommends that any decision on a future country-wide review process fully considers the resources required;
3. concludes that a country-wide review process has significant merit but such 'reviews' are likely to be more effective if they address implementation of the Convention in its entirety than if restricted to Article IV alone;
4. recommends that the development of a country-wide process be explored to support not only the science-based implementation of the Convention, in particular the making of non-detriment findings, but also wider implementation issues. These can be considered in the light of other relevant processes to enhance implementation of the Convention at national and/or regional level; and
5. recommends that the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat, bring the conclusion in paragraph (iii & iv) above to the attention of the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting with a proposed set of draft Decisions (seeking a mandate to explore whether the scientific issues identified in the country-wide RST for MG can be integrated into other existing mechanisms or whether a new mechanism should be developed) for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.