

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2011

Cooperation with other multilateral instruments

CLIMATE CHANGE (DECISION 15.15)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 15th meeting (Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 15.15 as follows:

**Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees**

*Given the implications of climate change for science-based decision-making, the Animals and Plants Committees shall identify the scientific aspects of the provisions of the Convention and of Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties that are actually or likely to be affected by climate change, report their findings, and make recommendations for further action in relation to the Convention and to Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate, at the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee.*

and Decision 15.16 as follows:

**Directed to the Secretariat**

*The Secretariat shall request from the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements information on their activities that may be linked to climate change and CITES, and report to the Animals and Plants Committees and the Standing Committee.*

3. In compliance with Decision 15.16, the Secretariat wrote to the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements in December 2010 and the replies received are included in an Annex to the present document.
4. The 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee is scheduled to take place in July 2012. The Plants and Animals Committees will need therefore to report their findings and recommendations jointly in time for submission at that meeting.
5. At its 19th meeting, (Geneva, April 2011) the Plants Committee discussed this issue and proposed that as scientific aspects of the implementation of the following provisions of the Convention and of Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties are actually or likely to be affected by climate change, they should form the focus for the recommendations by the Animals and Plants Committees:
  - a) Species listings [Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) and 9.25 (Rev. CoP15)];
  - b) Non-detriment findings (Articles III and IV);
  - c) Periodic Review of the Appendices (Resolution Conf. 14.8);

- d) Review of Significant Trade [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), to the extent that this pertains to Article IV (non-detriment findings)];
- e) Quotas [Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15)]; and
- f) Trade in alien invasive species [Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14)].

Further, the Plants Committee proposed the establishment of an intersessional working group, under the co-chairmanship of the United States of America and a representative of the Animals Committee, to produce draft findings and recommendations for further action on point a) to f) above that could be finalized at the meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees in 2012. The Plants Committee representatives in this intersessional working group were agreed as: the representatives of Asia (Ms Zhihua), Africa (Mr Luke), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera) Oceania (Mr Leach), and the alternate representative of Europe (Mr Carmo), together with the observers from Australia, Canada, South Africa, the European Union, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, TRAFFIC International and WWF. The working group would work by email.

6. The Animals Committee is invited to decide on future activities, responsibilities and timelines for the implementation of Decision 15.15 taking account of the recommendations of the Plants Committee in paragraph 5 of the present document.