

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

Strategic planning

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS DIRECTED TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Secretariat has compiled in Annex 1 to this document the list of all instructions directed to the Animals Committee, or that may require that it be consulted or informed, that can be found in the currently valid Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties.
3. Annex 2 to this document lists all currently valid Decisions of the Conference of the Parties directed to the Animals Committee or that may require its assistance.
4. The Animals Committee is invited to include the instructions mentioned above in its work programme for 2010-2013, to determine priorities and to consider how best to achieve their effective implementation.

INSTRUCTIONS IN RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE DIRECTED TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

Resolution	Instruction
<p><i>Conf. 8.13 (Rev.)</i> <i>Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade</i></p>	<p>The Animals Committee to monitor developments in microchip-implant technology and application techniques and to advise the Secretariat about such developments, for the information of the Parties</p>
<p><i>Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15)</i> <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i></p>	<p>In cases where a species is transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II subject to an export quota or special measure approved by the CoP, and where problems have arisen and the Secretariat has been unable to resolve them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where the Plants Committee, the Animals Committee or a Party becomes aware of problems in compliance with the management measures and export quotas of another Party, the Secretariat shall be informed and, if the Secretariat fails to resolve the matter satisfactorily, it shall inform the Standing Committee which may, after consultation with the Party concerned, recommend to all Parties that they suspend trade with that Party in specimens of CITES-listed species, and/or request the Depository Government to prepare a proposal to transfer the population back to Appendix I. 2. If, on review of a quota and its supporting management measures, the Animals or Plants Committee encounters any problems with compliance or potential detriment to a species, the relevant Committee shall request the Depository Government to prepare a proposal for appropriate remedial action.
<p><i>Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP15)</i> <i>Inclusion of species in Appendix III</i></p>	<p>REQUESTS the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee to assist Parties if necessary in reviewing the status of species in Appendix III, subject to available funding;</p> <p>URGES Parties having included species in Appendix III to periodically review the status of these species and, taking into account these guidelines and any recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees, to consider the necessity to maintain them in that Appendix;</p>
<p><i>Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP14)</i> <i>Transport of live specimens</i></p>	<p>DIRECTS the Animals and Plants Committees to deal with matters related to the transport of live specimens;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to participate in meetings of the Live Animals and Perishables Board of IATA in order to amplify or update the Live Animals Regulations and the Perishable Cargo Regulations; b) to examine new or additional references for transport of live specimens for incorporation into the present Resolution, if appropriate; c) to examine developments related to the transport of live plant specimens for incorporation into the present Resolution, if appropriate; and d) to examine regularly high mortality shipments of live specimens and make recommendations to relevant Parties, exporters, importers and transport companies on how to avoid this in the future

Resolution	Instruction
<p>Conf. 11.12 (Rev. CoP15)</p> <p><i>Universal tagging system for the identification of crocodylian skins</i></p>	<p>DIRECTS the Secretariat to report deficiencies of the system or specific instances of concern to the Animals Committee and the relevant Parties, as appropriate</p>
<p>Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15)</p> <p><i>Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</i></p>	<p><u>Regarding proposals to transfer populations from Appendix I to Appendix II for ranching</u></p> <p>e) in order to be discussed at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, any proposal for amendment of the Appendices pursuant to this Resolution be received by the Secretariat at least 330 days before that meeting. In consultation with the Animals Committee, the Secretariat shall seek appropriate scientific and technical advice to verify that the criteria specified in paragraph</p> <p><u>Regarding changes to the ranching programme described in the proposal to transfer a species from Appendix I to Appendix II</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDS that:</p> <p>b) any Party with an approved ranching proposal submit any changes to the information supplied in paragraph c) above under RECOMMENDS to the Secretariat. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals Committee, should determine whether the changes proposed substantially alter the original ranching programme, and undermine or jeopardize the conservation of the wild population. The Secretariat should advise the Party of its determination accordingly;</p> <p>c) in cases where the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals Committee, concludes that changes to the ranching programme that are proposed in accordance with paragraph h) would result in substantial changes to management of the species, the proposed management be treated as a new proposal, requiring the submission of a proposal pursuant to this Resolution and to the requirements of Article XV of the Convention</p>
<p>Conf. 11.19</p> <p><i>Identification Manual</i></p>	<p>Receive reports from the Secretariat on progress made with the Identification Manual.</p>
<p>Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP15)</p> <p><i>Conservation and management of sharks (Class Chondrichthyes)</i></p>	<p>DIRECTS the Animals Committee to examine information provided by range States on trade and other available relevant data and information, and report their analyses at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>ENCOURAGES Parties to obtain information on implementation of NPOA-Sharks or regional plans, and to report directly on progress to the CITES Secretariat and at future meetings of the Animals Committee;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Animals Committee to make species-specific recommendations at meetings of the Conference of the Parties if necessary on improving the conservation status of sharks; and</p> <p>DIRECTS the Animals Committee to report progress on shark and ray activities at the meetings of the Conference of the Parties.</p>

Resolution	Instruction
<p><i>Conf. 12.7 (Rev.CoP14)</i></p> <p><i>Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish</i></p>	<p>DIRECTS the Secretariat to provide at each meeting of the Animals Committee a written report, including references to relevant documents, on its activities related to the conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Animals Committee, in collaboration with the Secretariat, interested Parties, international organizations and relevant experts, to monitor progress on the relevant provisions of this Resolution and to carry out on a three-year cycle starting in 2008, and using information from preceding years, an evaluation of the assessment and the monitoring methodologies used for stocks of Acipenseriformes species subject to the provisions under RECOMMENDS further, paragraph a);</p> <p>URGES range States to cooperate with the Animals Committee and the Secretariat with a view to implementing the provisions under RECOMMENDS further, paragraph a), and the paragraph DIRECTS the Animals Committee above;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Animals Committee to provide to the Standing Committee its recommendations on actions to be taken based upon the above-mentioned monitoring of progress and three-year cycle evaluation; and</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><i>Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)</i></p> <p><i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i></p>	<p><u>Selection of species to be reviewed</u></p> <p>b) on the basis of recorded trade levels and information available to the Animals or Plants Committee, the Secretariat, Parties or other relevant experts, species of priority concern shall be selected for review by the Animals or Plants Committee;</p> <p>c) in exceptional cases where new information indicates an urgent concern, the Animals or Plants Committee may add a species to the list of species of concern at another stage;</p> <p><u>Consultation with the range States concerning implementation of Article IV</u></p> <p>e) the Secretariat shall report to the Animals or Plants Committee on the response of the range States concerned, including any other pertinent information;</p> <p>f) when the Animals or Plants Committee, having reviewed the available information, is satisfied that Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), is correctly implemented, the species shall be eliminated from the review with respect to the State concerned;</p> <p><u>Compilation of information and preliminary categorization</u></p> <p>g) in the event that the species is not eliminated from the review in accordance with paragraph f) above, the Secretariat shall proceed with the compilation of information regarding the species;</p> <p>h) when necessary, consultants shall be engaged by the Secretariat to compile information about the biology and management of and trade in the species and shall contact the range States or relevant experts to obtain information for inclusion in the compilation;</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<p>i) the Secretariat or consultants, as appropriate, shall summarize their conclusions about the effects of international trade on the selected species, the basis on which such conclusions are made and problems concerning the implementation of Article IV, and shall provisionally divide the selected species into three categories:</p> <p>i) 'species of urgent concern' shall include species for which the available information indicates that the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), are not being implemented;</p> <p>ii) 'species of possible concern' shall include species for which it is not clear whether or not these provisions are being implemented; and</p> <p>iii) 'species of least concern' shall include species for which the available information appears to indicate that these provisions are being met;</p> <p>j) before the report of the Secretariat, or consultant, is considered by the Animals or Plants Committee, the Secretariat shall transmit it to the relevant range States, seeking comments and, where appropriate, additional information. Range States shall be given 60 days to respond;</p> <p><u>Review of information and confirming of categorization by the Animals or Plants Committee</u></p> <p>k) the Animals or Plants Committee shall review the report of the Secretariat or the consultants and the responses received from the States concerned and, if appropriate, revise the preliminary categorization proposed;</p> <p><u>Formulation of recommendations and their transmission to the range States</u></p> <p>m) the Animals or Plants Committee shall, in consultation with the Secretariat, formulate recommendations for the remaining species.</p> <p>Deadlines for implementation of these recommendations should be determined by the Animals or Plants Committee. They must be appropriate to the nature of the action to be undertaken, and should normally be not less than 90 days but not more than two years after the date of transmission to the State concerned;</p> <p>o) for species of possible concern, these recommendations should specify the information required to enable the Animals or Plants Committee to determine whether the species should be categorized as either of urgent concern or of least concern. They should also specify interim measures where appropriate for the regulation of trade. Such recommendations should differentiate between short-term and long-term actions,</p> <p>Deadlines for implementation of these recommendations should be determined by the Animals or Plants Committee;</p> <p><u>Measures to be taken regarding the implementation of recommendations</u></p> <p>q) the Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Chairman of the Animals or Plants Committee, determine whether the recommendations referred to above have been implemented and report to the Standing Committee accordingly;</p> <p>s) when the Secretariat, having consulted with the Chairman of the Animals or Plants Committee, is not satisfied that a range State has implemented the recommendations made by the Animals or Plants Committee in accordance with paragraph n) or o), it should recommend to the Standing Committee appropriate action, which may include, as a last resort, a suspension of trade in the affected species with that State. On the basis of the report of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee shall decide on appropriate action and</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<p>make recommendations to the State concerned, or to all Parties; and</p> <p>v) the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chairman of the Animals or Plants Committee, shall review recommendations to suspend trade that have been in place for longer than two years and, if appropriate, take measures to address the situation;</p>
<p><i>Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15)</i></p> <p><i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Annex 2</u></p> <p><u>Procedure to be followed by the Secretariat before registering new operation</u></p> <p>3. If any Party objects to the registration, the Secretariat shall refer the documentation to the Animals Committee to review the objection. The Animals Committee shall comment on the objection within 60 days. The Secretariat shall forward the comments made by the Animals Committee to the Parties concerned and allow a further 30 days for resolution of the identified problem(s)</p>
<p><i>Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15)</i></p> <p><i>Standard nomenclature</i></p>	<p>RECOMMENDS that:</p> <p>c) where there are domesticated forms of listed taxa, the Animals and Plants Committees recommend names for the wild and domestic forms;</p> <p>e) upon receiving proposals to amend the Appendices to the Convention, the Secretariat seek, where appropriate, the advice of the Animals and Plants Committees on the correct names to use for the species or other taxa in question;</p> <p>f) whenever a change in the name of a taxon included in the Appendices is proposed, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals or Plants Committee, determine whether this change would alter the scope of protection for fauna or flora under the Convention. In the case where the scope of a taxon is redefined, the Animals or Plants Committee shall evaluate whether acceptance of the taxonomic change would cause additional species to be included in the Appendices or listed species to be deleted from the Appendices and, if that is the case, the Depositary Government should be requested to submit a proposal to amend the Appendices in accordance with the recommendation of the Animals or Plants Committee, so that the original intent of the listing is retained. Such proposals should be submitted for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees will be considered;</p> <p>g) if there is conflict regarding the choice of taxonomic authority for taxa for which no standard references have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties, countries authorizing export of animals or plants (or parts or derivatives thereof) of such taxa inform the CITES Secretariat and prospective importing countries of their preferred published taxonomic authority. 'Taxonomic authority' means a recent published paper or monograph that reviews the nomenclature of the taxon being exported and that has been reviewed by professionals in the pertinent discipline. In cases where specimens of the taxon are exported from several countries and the exporting countries do not agree, or the exporting and importing countries do not agree, on the taxonomic authority, the Animals or Plants Committee should determine the most appropriate taxonomic authority, until a formal recommendation to the Conference of the Parties is made. The Animals or Plants Committee shall include this interim decision in its report to the Conference of the Parties, for adoption. The Secretariat shall notify the Parties about the interim decision;</p> <p>j) when the Animals or Plants Committee recommends a change in the name of a taxon to be used in the Appendices, it also provide an evaluation of the implications for the implementation of the Convention;</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<p>RECOMMENDS the following procedure for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones:</p> <p>a) the process for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones shall be initiated directly by the Animals or Plants Committee on their own initiative or by the submission of a proposal to the Committees by:</p> <p>i) one or more Parties; or</p> <p>ii) the Secretariat, on its own initiative or in response to information it has received from the Parties; and</p> <p>RESOLVES that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals or Plants Committee, may make orthographical changes in the lists of species included in the Appendices to the Convention, without consulting the Conference of the Parties, and shall inform the Parties of those changes;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees, and in the implementation of its memoranda of understanding or cooperation, or programmes of work with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, to consider ways of harmonizing the taxonomy and nomenclature of species included in their respective provisions;</p> <p>DIRECTS the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees, to promote harmonization of the taxonomy and nomenclature used by biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements</p>
<p><i>Conf. 13.4</i></p> <p><i>Conservation of and trade in great apes</i></p>	<p>URGES the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and the Animals Committee to work closely with GRASP, and to explore and implement other measures through which the Convention can contribute to the conservation of great apes and to the promotion of public awareness of the threat posed to great ape populations by illegal trade</p>
<p><i>Conf. 14.3</i></p> <p><i>CITES compliance procedures</i></p>	<p>The Animals and Plants Committees, acting in accordance with instructions from and authority delegated by the Conference of the Parties, advise and assist the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties with regard to compliance matters, inter alia, by undertaking necessary reviews, consultations, assessments and reporting. These Committees are entrusted with specific tasks in the handling of matters related to the Review of Significant Trade.</p>
<p><i>Conf. 14.8</i></p> <p><i>Periodic Review of the Appendices</i></p>	<p>a) The Animals and Plants Committees should share their experience, especially during joined meetings, regarding the undertaking of periodic reviews of taxa included in the Appendices (including financing of reviews, processes, format and outputs).</p> <p>b) The Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a schedule for the Periodic Review of the Appendices and identify a list of taxa they propose to review during the next two intersessional periods between meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP). The list should be established at their first meeting after the meeting of the Conference of the Parties that initiates the review period.</p> <p>d) the Animals and Plants Committees will identify the list of taxa to be reviewed.</p> <p>f) the Animals and Plants Committees will inform the Standing Committee about the finalized selection of taxa to be reviewed.</p> <p>g) The Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees shall keep the Standing Committee informed about the conduct of periodic reviews of taxa included in</p>

Resolution	Instruction
	<p>the Appendices.</p> <p>h) The Animals and Plants Committees shall conduct or organize the reviews, seeking information, participation and support from the range States. The regional representatives of the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees shall seek assistance from range States within their region to support the taxon reviews.</p> <p>i) Each review (in the format of a proposal used to amend the Appendices) is to be submitted as a working document to the Animals or Plants Committee for review.</p> <p>j) In cases where a review indicates, and the technical committee concerned agrees, that it would be appropriate to transfer a taxon from one Appendix to another, or to delete a taxon from the Appendices, the Animals or Plants Committee shall, in consultation with the range States, prepare (or arrange the preparation of) a proposal to amend the Appendices</p>
<p><i>Conf. 15.1</i></p> <p><i>Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the biennium 2012-2013</i></p>	<p>INSTRUCTS the Secretariat:</p> <p>c) in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, to assign scientific consultants and define terms of reference for specific science-based projects. Such a process should be implemented in a fashion that would not have a negative impact on the budget but rather effectively utilize the scientific excellence of the Parties which is available to the Secretariat via the Chairs of the technical committees</p>

DECISIONS DIRECTED TO THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE OR THAT MAY REQUIRE ITS ASSISTANCE

(Associated Decisions to the Parties, other committees, organizations or the Secretariat are included for information.)

Biodiversity Indicators Partnership

Directed to the Secretariat

- 15.11 The Secretariat shall continue to provide its services as a key indicator partner in the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, consulting the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees where necessary, and shall report on its work in this regard at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat

- 15.12 Without taking a position about the necessity for, or nature of, such a Platform, the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, participate in discussions concerning a possible IPBES, to provide all necessary input into the process of IPBES and to ensure that the role of CITES receives due recognition. The Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee to seek additional guidance.

Climate change

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 15.15 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.

Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.91 The Secretariat is encouraged to continue to develop and refine its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for development, establishment, and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, and shall, as appropriate, consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee on this programme. This consultation may include:
- a) solicitation of input from the Committees regarding materials used in the capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
 - b) a request for new information from the Committees on methods used for establishing quotas and for relevant case studies on the establishment of quotas.

Non-detriment findings

Directed to the Parties

- 15.23 Parties are encouraged:
- a) to consider the outputs of the International Expert Workshop on Non-Detriment Findings (Cancun, November 2008) to enhance CITES Scientific Authorities' capacities, particularly those related to

- the methodologies, tools, information, expertise and other resources needed to formulate non-detriment findings;
- b) taking into account Resolution Conf. 10.3, to prioritize activities such as workshops on capacity building to better understand what non-detriment findings are and how to enhance the ways to formulate them; and
 - c) to report their findings regarding paragraphs a) and b) above at the 25th and 26th meetings of the Animals Committee and 19th and 20th meetings of the Plants Committee.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

15.24 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review feedback received from Parties on the outputs from the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings and advise on a path forward on how best to use the outputs to assist Scientific Authorities in the making of non-detriment findings;
- b) prepare a discussion paper for consideration at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16) with options on how to use the workshop outputs, including, if considered appropriate, a draft resolution on the establishment of non legally binding guidelines for the making of, non-detriment findings; and
- c) review the non-detriment finding training materials used by the CITES Secretariat when conducting regional capacity-building workshops and provide advice for their improvement; and
- d) taking account of the results of the International Expert Workshop on Non-detriment Findings (Cancun, November 2008) and the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2009/023 of 8 June 2009:
 - i) establish the mechanism for reporting from the Parties on their findings in an open and intersessional process;
 - ii) prepare draft guidance on the making on non-detriment findings at their 25th and 19th, and 26th and 20th meetings respectively;
 - iii) submit this draft guidance to the Secretariat to be conveyed to Parties for comment in a Notification to the Parties; and
 - iv) review comments received from Parties and prepare revised draft guidance as a tool for making non-detriment findings for submission and consideration at CoP16.

Review of the Appendices

Directed to the Animals Committee

13.93 (Rev. CoP15) The Animals Committee shall, immediately following the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, include the Felidae in its Review of the Appendices. This review shall initially focus on the listing of the *Lynx* species complex, which includes species that are listed because of similarity of appearance, such as *Lynx rufus*. In addition to evaluating the listings of these species against the criteria for inclusion of species in Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), the Animals Committee shall assess the management and enforcement measures available to achieve effective control of trade in these species so as to resolve the continued need for look-alike listings. This assessment should also include a review of trade information to determine whether these species are actually confused in trade or whether the look-alike problem is merely hypothetical. The Animals Committee shall provide a report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress of the review of all Felidae and particularly on their review of *Lynx* spp. and look-alike issues.

Criteria for the inclusion of species in Appendices I and II

Directed to the Secretariat

15.28 The Secretariat shall:

- a) prepare a report that will summarize its experience in applying criterion Annex 2 a B and the introductory text to Annex 2 a of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) to some or all of the commercially exploited aquatic species that were proposed for inclusion on Appendix II at the 13th, 14th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties, highlighting any technical difficulties or ambiguous issues encountered, including, where appropriate, illustrations of these matters by comparison with application of the criteria to other species;
- b) request IUCN/TRAFFIC and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to each prepare a report, subject to the availability of external funding, with the same requirements as the report referred to in paragraph a) above; and
- c) submit its report and any received under paragraph b) above for consideration at the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

15.29 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) on receipt of any or all of the reports referred to in Decision 15.28, and having sought the participation of representative(s) of the Plants Committee, IUCN, TRAFFIC, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other appropriate experts, develop guidance on the application of criterion Annex 2 a B and the introductory text to Annex 2 a of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) to commercially exploited aquatic species proposed for inclusion on Appendix II;
- b) recommend the best way to incorporate the guidance for use when applying Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) to commercially exploited aquatic species, without affecting the application of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) to other taxa; and
- c) submit its conclusions and recommendations at the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

15.30 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report and recommendations submitted by the Animals Committee under Decision 15.29 together with comments or other input that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations may wish to submit; and
- b) submit the Animals Committee's recommendations, together with its comments, at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II

Directed to the Animals Committee

15.51 The Animals Committee shall:

- a) evaluate the merit of reinstating the ability to transfer suitably qualified populations that continue to meet the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) Annex I from Appendix I to Appendix II pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) or Resolution Conf. 9.20 (Rev.); and
- b) if merit is found, draft a revision of the terms of paragraph A. 2 in Annex 4 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) to eliminate the requirement that downlisting proposals pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) or Resolution Conf. 9.20 (Rev.) must also meet the criteria in Annex 1 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15).

Review of Significant Trade

13.67 The Conference of the Parties has adopted the Terms of reference for an evaluation of the (Rev. CoP14) Review of Significant Trade contained in Annex 1 to these Decisions. Viz:

Process

3. The Animals and Plants Committees will oversee the evaluation, which will be administered by the Secretariat.
4. A working group composed of members of the Animals and Plants Committees, Parties, the Secretariat and invited experts will be responsible for advising on the evaluation process, reviewing the findings of associated research and developing recommendations for wider consideration by the Parties.
5. The Secretariat will regularly report on the progress of the evaluation at meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees.
6. A final report, which may include proposed amendments to existing Resolutions or Decisions, or other recommendations, and which will incorporate the comments of the Animals and Plants Committees and of range States addressed in the report, will be submitted by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees for consideration at a future meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Chairman of the Animals or Plants Committee may submit an interim report to the Standing Committee when appropriate and considered useful.

Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species

Directed to the Secretariat

15.52 The Secretariat shall:

- a) contingent on the availability of external funds, contract an appropriate expert to prepare a guide to advise the Parties on the appropriate use of source codes;
- b) provide a draft of this guide to the Animals and Plants Committees for review and comment; and
- c) prepare and distribute the final product, incorporating the feedback of the Animals and Plants Committees, to inform the Parties on the appropriate use of source codes.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

15.53 The Animals and Plants Committees shall review and provide feedback to the Secretariat on the draft guide to advise the Parties on the appropriate use of source codes.

Transport of live specimens

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

15.59 The Animals and Plants Committees, in consultation with the Secretariat, should:

- a) proceed with replacing the CITES *Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipment of wild animals and plants* (1981) with new guidelines for non-air transport of live animals and plants for consideration at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16);
- b) consult and liaise with relevant transport experts and other stakeholders, *inter alia*, to gather information related to non-air transport;
- c) review and propose revisions to Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP14) and Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15) for consideration at CoP16; and
- d) report on the implementation of this decision at CoP16.

Standard nomenclature

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 15.62 a) Subject to funding, the Animals Committee shall undertake a review of recent proposed changes to the taxonomy and nomenclature of CITES-listed mammals, reptiles and amphibians of Madagascar, with a view to producing checklists to be considered by the Animals Committee in preparation for the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- b) If nomenclature changes are identified affecting Appendix-III listings, the nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee should advise the Secretariat whether these changes also result in changes in distribution affecting the countries issuing certificates of origin.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 15.63 The Animals and Plants Committee shall conduct an analysis to identify taxa listed in the Appendices that can be included under the name of a higher taxon without altering the scope of the listing, to be consistent with the section on "Higher taxa" in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), and, where appropriate, prepare proposals for submission to the Conference of the Parties by the Depository Government.

Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 15.64 The Animals Committee shall:
- 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.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 15.65 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.

Great whales

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 14.81 No periodic review of any great whale, including the fin whale, should occur while the moratorium by the International Whaling Commission is in place.

Snake trade and conservation management

Directed to the Secretariat

- 15.75 The Secretariat shall, subject to available funds, convene a technical workshop to consider the conservation priorities and management and enforcement needs related to the trade of snakes in Asia, with a particular focus on the markets and commercial trade in East, South, and Southeast Asia.
- a) The Secretariat shall invite the members of the Animals and Standing Committees, representatives from range, exporting and consumer states, and relevant inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in this workshop, to be held within 12 months of the conclusion of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- b) The Secretariat shall contract with appropriate technical experts to prepare documents on Asian snake conservation, trade management, enforcement, and biology for the workshop and shall invite workshop participants to submit the same.
- c) The findings and recommendations of this workshop should be reported by the Secretariat to the Animals and Standing Committees.

Directed to the Animals Committee

15.76 The Animals Committee shall consider the results of this workshop and provide their recommendations to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

Directed to the Standing Committee

15.77 The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations by the Animals Committee and make its own recommendations at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Tortoises and freshwater turtles

Directed to the Animals Committee

15.79 The Animals Committee, at its 25th meeting, shall review the final study from the IUCN Species Survival Commission, Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group (IUCN-TFTSG) mentioned in Decision 14.128¹ and make recommendations to the Standing Committee and/or at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.

Sea cucumbers

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.100 (Rev. CoP15) The Animals Committee shall evaluate the outcomes of the FAO Workshop on Sustainable Use and Management of Sea Cucumber Fisheries, conducted in 2007, and recommend appropriate follow-up actions at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to support this initiative.

¹ Note from the Secretariat: Decision 14.128 was deleted at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It read as follows: "The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, contract the Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission to undertake a study which would assist in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP13)."