

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



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-20 March 2012 and Dublin (Ireland), 22-24 March 2012

STURGEONS AND PADDLEFISH  
(Agenda item 15)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Chairs: representatives of Asia (Mr Pourkazemi) as Chair and representative of Africa (Mr Zahzah) as Co-Chair;
- Parties: Canada, China, Germany, Saudi Arabia and United States; and
- IGOs and NGOs: IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature, Association of Northeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies, ICIA – International Caviar Importers Association, IWMC – World Conservation Trust and TRAFFIC International.

Mandate

Taking account of the discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

1. Review Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14) regarding caviar labelling, product sources and species identification, etc., and, if necessary, propose draft amendments for consideration by the Committee.
2. Consider the actions proposed in documents AC26 Doc. 15.1 and 15.2 and provide recommendations to the Committee on amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14) concerning:
  - i) Written reporting by the Secretariat at each meeting of the Animals Committee on its activities relating to the conservation of and trade in sturgeon and paddlefish; and
  - ii) The instructions given to the Animals Committee to: monitor progress with relevant provisions of the Resolution; undertake three-year cycle evaluations of stock monitoring methodologies; and report to the Standing Committee.

Recommendations

Point 1:

The working group proposed the following draft amendment for the consideration of the committee:

In paragraph “g” under first RECOMMENDS, to delete first sentence and three words of second sentence. Paragraph read as:

“All caviar from shared stocks subject to export quotas should be exported before the end of the quota years (1 March – last day of February) in which it was harvested and processed. For this purpose the export permits for such caviar should be valid until the last day of the quota year at the latest. Parties should not import caviar harvested or processed in the preceding quota year”.

In Annex 1, in paragraph b: the definition of non-reusable labels should read as:

“Non-reusable label: any label or mark that cannot be removed or transferred undamaged to another primary container, which may seal the primary container. If the non-reusable label does not seal the primary container, caviar should be packaged in a manner that permits visual evidence of any opening of the primary container”.

The working group agreed that the word non-reusable is not correctly translated in the French version and recommends that this be corrected. The correct words should be “non réutilisable”.

The definition of secondary container should read as:

Secondary container: receptacle into which primary containers or groups of primary containers are placed.

Point 2:

- i) the working group agreed that Secretariat should continue to produce a written report at each meeting of the Animals Committee on its activities relating to the conservation of and trade in sturgeon and paddlefish.
- ii) Working group recommends to Animals Committee to submit the following recommendation for consideration by Standing Committee:

“Noting that limited progress has been reported since the 61st Meeting of the Standing Committee on the recommendations endorsed at that meeting (SC61 Doc. 48.2 annex), and that the Animals Committee continues to support these recommendations as important steps toward the conservation and management of sturgeon and paddlefish, the Animals Committee requests that the Standing Committee consider ways to ensure that these recommendations are implemented”.