

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



Twenty-eighth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Tel Aviv (Israel), 30 August-3 September 2015

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Exemptions and special trade provisions

Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens (Decision 16.65)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.63 to 16.66 on *Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens*, as follows:

***Directed to the Secretariat***

16.63 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *contingent on the availability of external funds, contract an appropriate expert or experts to:*
  - i) *evaluate the concerns identified in the examples in document [SC62 Doc. 26](#), Annex regarding trade in specimens claimed to be derived from captive breeding or ranching;*
  - ii) *review CITES annual report data for specimens recorded using source codes C, D, F and R;*
  - iii) *identify problems with CITES implementation associated with these examples;*
  - iv) *consider ways to more effectively share available information on captive-breeding and ranching operations;*
  - v) *evaluate the utility of a captive-breeding database (including wider application of the existing UNEP-WCMC Captive-Breeding Database being developed for the European Union);*
  - vi) *prepare a report on its findings and recommendations, taking into consideration the report and recommendations of the working group on implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens presented at the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee; and*

vii) *develop draft checklists or guides for the inspection of captive-breeding and ranching facilities and review of permit applications for captive-bred and ranched specimens;*

b) *provide a draft of this report and additional materials to the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, for review; and*

c) *distribute final report and materials to the Parties if endorsed by the Animals and Standing Committees.*

16.64 *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.*

**Directed to the Animals Committee**

16.65 *The Animals Committee, at its 27th meeting, shall review the report and provide recommendations to the Standing Committee.*

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

16.66 *The Standing Committee, at its 65th meeting, shall:*

a) *review the report and the recommendations of the Animals Committee and make its own recommendations to the Parties concerned and the Conference of the Parties; and*

b) *consider proposing amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) or Resolution Conf. 14.3, or proposing a new resolution to provide a process for reviewing the implementation of CITES for specific examples of trade in specimens that are claimed to be produced via captive breeding or ranching.*

3. The European Union generously provided external funding to allow the implementation of these Decisions.
4. Concerning the reports to be commissioned by the Secretariat under Decision 16.63 a) subparagraphs i) to v):
  - a) The report on the evaluation of the concerns identified in the examples on trade in specimens claimed to be derived from captive breeding or ranching, as referred to in Decision 16.63 a) i) and iii), was undertaken by TRAFFIC and can be found in Annex 1 to document [AC27 Doc. 17 \(Rev.1\)](#).
  - b) The report of the review of CITES annual report data for specimens recorded using source codes C, D, F and R, referred to in Decision 16.63 a) ii) and iii), was undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and can be found in Annex 2 to document [AC27 Doc. 17 \(Rev.1\)](#).
  - c) The report considering ways to more effectively share available information on captive-breeding and ranching operations and evaluating of the utility of a captive-breeding database (including wider application of the existing UNEP-WCMC Captive-Breeding Database being developed for the European Union) referred to in Decision 16.63 a) iv) and v) was undertaken by Zoo & Wildlife Consulting Services and can be found in the Annex of the present document.
  - d) The contract for developing of draft checklists or guides for the inspection of captive-breeding and ranching facilities and reviewing permit applications for captive-bred and ranched specimens referred to in Decision 16.63 a) vii) has been placed with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and is underway. The Secretariat regrets that due to delays in placing the necessary contract, the report will not be available for review in time for the present meeting. It will be presented to the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, January 2016).
5. At its 65th meeting (Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee noted that the Secretariat would prepare the report on its findings and recommendations referred to in sub-paragraph a) vi) of Decision 16.63. In the meantime, an intersessional working group established by the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee

(Veracruz, April 2014), has been undertaking a very similar exercise. The report of this intersessional working group can be found in document AC28 Doc. 13.2. The Secretariat intends to prepare its own report to the Standing Committee based on both the results of the contract for the development of draft checklists or guides for the inspection of captive-breeding and ranching facilities and the review of permit applications for captive-bred and ranched specimens, and the recommendations and report of the Animals Committee.

6. The Animals Committee is invited to complete its review of the available reports and prepare its recommendations for the Standing Committee in accordance with Decision 16.65.