

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



Thirtieth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 16-21 July 2018

APPROPRIATE AND ACCEPTABLE DESTINATIONS

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Chair: the representative of North America (Ms. Gnam);
- Parties: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Namibia, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe; and
- IGOs and NGOs: IUCN, Animal Welfare Institute, Annamiticus, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free Foundation, Environmental Investigation Agency UK, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, Fondation Franz Weber, DGHT, Global Eye, Humane Society International, IFAW, Lewis and Clark College – International Environmental Law Project, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Safari Club International, Species360, World Animal Protection, WAZA, Zoological Society of London and Zoological Society of San Diego.

Mandate

Taking into account discussions in plenary and any information from the Animals Committee's intersessional working group on the definition of the term "appropriate and acceptable destinations" the in-session working group shall:

- a) review the information contained in document AC30 Doc. 16 (Rev. 2) and its Annex, particularly paragraphs 36 to 40;
- b) develop (the outline) of a non-binding checklist similar to that outlined in paragraph 40; and
- c) make recommendations, including draft decisions, as appropriate, for the Committee's consideration and submission to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee, in accordance with Decision 17.179.

Recommendations

1. Concerning b), the working group recommends the following outline of non-binding guidance:

Factors that should be recommended under the guidance for evaluation when considering whether the proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it may include, but are not limited to:

- a) Physical housing (size and space [adequate space to display normal behaviour; to expand as the animal grows; availability of indoor/outdoor housing; and if animal is on public display, availability of private, off-exhibit area], construction materials, shelter from sun/rain, safety and security measures, suitable arrangements for quarantine, substrate type);

- b) Species-specific enclosure furnishings (for example provisions of pools, climbing equipment, hides, nest boxes, plants and hiding places);
  - c) Animal care & husbandry (climate conditions, including correct temperature and light; water quality parameters for aquatic species);
  - d) Dietary needs (species-specific food and nutritional requirements, access to potable water)
  - e) Adequate provisions of suitable veterinary and animal care (sufficient numbers and expertise of staff who care for the animals, disease considerations, preventative medicine);
  - f) Wildlife laws (comply with all relevant wildlife laws and/or regulations and possess all appropriate permits and licenses for the species involved);
  - g) Social well-being and animal behaviour (appropriate social groupings for the species, methods of integration, appropriate social and behavioural enrichment, ability to separate the group where needed);
  - h) Management (facility's adequate record-keeping);
  - i) Any other taxon-specific considerations.
2. Concerning c), the working group recommends that the following set of draft decisions be considered for submission to CoP18:

***Directed to the Secretariat***

18.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) create and maintain a dedicated webpage on the CITES website to make available the guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX] and to compile reference materials, published references, best practice examples, examples of Parties' appropriate and acceptable destination findings and suitably equipped to house and care for living specimens' findings, and other relevant information;
- b) issue a notification within 90 days of the close of CoP18 containing the non-binding guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX] on the provisions of paragraph 1, a) of Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP17) for living specimens of Appendix-II species subject to an annotation referring to "appropriate and acceptable destinations", as well as Article III paragraphs 3 (b) and 5 (b) for living Appendix-I specimens; and inviting Parties to submit relevant material for the CITES webpage created under paragraph a);
- c) source additional relevant information for inclusion on the dedicated webpage created under paragraph a); and
- d) issue a notification within 30 days of the close of SC73 inviting Parties to provide feedback on experience with using the guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX] as well as the information provided on the CITES webpage created under paragraph a) and report this to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee for their consideration and recommendations, as appropriate.

***Directed to the Parties***

18.BB Parties are invited to use the non-binding guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX] on how to assess whether proposed recipients of living specimens of CITES Appendix I listed species are suitably equipped to house and care for them and are further encouraged to submit relevant information for the webpage created under Decision 18.XX paragraph a).

**Directed the Animals Committee**

18.CC The Animals Committee shall:

- a) prepare non-binding best practice guidance on how to determine whether “the trade would promote *in situ* conservation”, in line with the provisions of paragraph 1, b) of Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP17), in consultation with the Secretariat;
- b) building on the existing non-binding guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX], prepare more detailed species-specific guidance for living specimens of African elephants and southern white rhinoceros, in consultation with relevant experts (including species and zoological facility experts) and the Secretariat;
- c) make the guidance and any recommendations available for consideration and endorsement by the Standing Committee; and
- d) review the report from the Secretariat on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 18.XX paragraph d) and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

18.DD The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report of the Animals Committee, regarding guidance on “*in situ* conservation” and existing non-binding guidance using the new guidance [contained in document CoP18 Doc. XX] and make recommendations, as appropriate, including possible revisions to Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP17) and any other relevant resolution, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- b) review the report from the Secretariat and any comments and recommendations coming from the Animals Committee on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 18.XX paragraph d) and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.