

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



Twenty-second meeting of the Plants Committee  
Tbilisi (Georgia), 19-23 October 2015

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Exemptions and special trade provisions

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS FOR SPECIMENS OF CITES-LISTED SPECIES (DECISION 15.53)\*

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 15th meeting (Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 15.52 and 15.53 which stated:

***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.*

3. With respect to the implementation of Decisions 15.52 and 15.53, at its 27th meeting (Veracruz, April 2014), the Animals Committee:
  - a) agreed that, with respect to Decision 15.52, there is no need to seek to modify the number or definitions of the source codes currently available;
  - b) emphasised, therefore, that implementation of Decision 15.52 remains a high priority to help Parties to determine the correct source code to apply to specimens derived from captive production systems;
  - c) advised the Secretariat, when commissioning the report required under Decision 15.52, that it should ensure that the guide commissioned under this Decision should provide examples of the full range of

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\* *This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.*

different captive production systems and advise on the correct source code which should be applied to each; and

d) noted that the implementation of other Decisions related to captive breeding and other production systems [such as [Decisions 16.63 a\) vii\)](#) and [Decision 16.102 f\) i\)](#)] would also assist Parties in interpreting and applying source codes for such systems.

4. At its 65th meeting (Geneva, July 2014), the Standing Committee endorsed these conclusions.
5. Thanks to generous funding from the European Union, the Secretariat was able to commission the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to prepare a draft guide to advise the Parties on the appropriate use of source codes. The draft report is presented in the annexes to the present document.
6. Two different types of dichotomous key to correctly determine the appropriate source code are presented.
7. In placing the contract, the Secretariat took account of the suggestion from the Animals Committee in paragraph 3 c) of the present paper. However, for those source codes where it is relevant, the determination of the correct source code to use is determined by reference to the recommendations contained in the resolutions of the Conference of the Parties and not by a description of the captive production system for animals or cultivation system for plants which is being used. The Secretariat would welcome suggestions from the Animals and Plants Committees on how to incorporate examples of the production and cultivation systems into the selected key without over-complicating the guide.
8. The Animals and Plants Committees are invited to review and provide feedback to the Secretariat on the draft guide to advise the Parties on the appropriate use of source codes.