

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

Forty-first meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 8-12 February 1999

Issues relating to species

Elephants

COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRECAUTIONARY UNDERTAKINGS FOR
THE SALE AND SHIPMENT OF RAW IVORY

1. This document presents the Secretariat's proposal to ensure compliance, by the range States concerned, with the precautionary undertakings given in relation to the sale and shipment of raw ivory permitted in accordance with Annotation ° 604 of Appendices I and II and referred to in paragraph h) of Decision 10.1, Part A.
2. The Secretariat will be present when the raw ivory is sold and shipped, in order to ensure that the precautionary undertakings are complied with.
3. These include the following:
 - a) The ivory shall be from the relevant range-State population only;
 - b) The raw ivory to be sold shall have been registered and held in a central store in each State concerned;
 - c) The ivory shall have been marked using the standard system, e.g. die-punched marks, which shall correlate with the records in the register;
 - d) For each trading State, the sale shall be conducted through a single centre;
 - e) The ivory shall be shipped, as far as possible, direct to Japan.
 - f) Personnel of the Secretariat (or parties agreed by the relevant range State and the Secretariat) shall be present at the time of sale, packaging and shipment, to check all details and the inventories.
4. In paragraph 2 of the Decision of the Standing Committee taken at its 40th meeting 'Regarding Decisions Adopted at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties Relating to Elephants' (transmitted to the Parties by Notification to the Parties No. 1998/09), the Committee welcomed the report of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe in document Doc. SC.40.9.2.7, which reiterates commitments to the undertakings given in their proposals to the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Prop. 10.25, Prop. 10.26 and Prop.10.27). These undertakings are also referred to in document Doc. SC.40.5.2.1. It should be noted that relevant undertakings were given in virtually identical form by each of the three range States concerned. The Secretariat will monitor the full compliance with these undertakings.

