

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

TIGERS

1. Decision 10.66 b) requires that the Standing Committee shall, in consultation with interested Parties and where appropriate, undertake technical and political missions to tiger range and consumer States, to assist in developing strategies for improving control of tiger trade and related activities.
2. The Secretariat was asked by the Standing Committee Chairman to co-ordinate the technical missions pursuant to Decision 10.66 b).
3. The technical missions will be led by the Secretariat and will include personnel from TRAFFIC and an officer from the law enforcement agency of a Party. The terms of reference for the technical mission are attached as Annex 1.
4. The following range States have been asked to co-operate by welcoming the team: Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Russian Federation and Viet Nam. The following consumer States have also been asked to participate: Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
5. The Secretariat has noted that the Global Tiger Forum is to hold its next meeting in January 1999 in India and believes that would be an appropriate venue at which to start the technical missions.
6. The Secretariat suggests that the regional representatives to the Standing Committee encourage range and consumer States in their area to participate.

Tiger conservation and trade

Terms of reference for technical missions

Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 9.23 (Rev.) and Decision 10.66(b), the Standing Committee agreed at its 40th meeting (London, United Kingdom, March 1998) to technical and political missions to tiger range and consumer States. Appropriate individuals will be asked to undertake the technical missions. Their report will be used by political missions to range and consumer States.

The following considerations are the basis of guidelines for the Technical mission. The team should, nonetheless, have flexibility to pursue lines of enquiry that emerge during the course of the missions, if it can reasonably be expected that the principal aim of the mission can be better achieved. Additional guidance should be sought from either the CITES Secretary-General or the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

1. The missions will seek to assist in developing strategies for improving control of tiger trade and related activities.
2. The team will consist of a professional member of the CITES Secretariat's Enforcement Assistance Unit, a professional law enforcement officer from a CITES Party and a staff member of TRAFFIC International with knowledge of the details of the tiger trade.
3. The team will identify effective legislation to conserve tigers and control trade in tiger products and derivatives and associated trade in other Appendix-I species and report in a manner that will facilitate the dissemination of that information to relevant Parties.
4. The team will identify examples of effective practical control of trade in tigers and associated trade in other Appendix-I species and report upon these in order to facilitate the dissemination of that information to relevant Parties.
5. The team will identify examples of effective anti-poaching and other enforcement actions and report upon these in a manner that facilitates the dissemination of that information to relevant Parties.
6. The team will identify examples within range States of effective public education and awareness initiatives that have assisted in reducing illegal killing of tigers and report upon these in a manner that facilitates the dissemination of that information to relevant Parties.
7. The team will identify examples within consumer States of effective initiatives of public education and awareness that have assisted in reducing demand for tiger products or derivatives and report upon these in order to facilitate the dissemination of that information to relevant Parties.
8. The team will identify within range and consumer States aspects of conservation and control of trade that would benefit from improvement and report upon these in a manner that facilitates the dissemination of that information to the relevant Party and to other Parties.

9. During the course of the missions, the team will be expected, to consult widely with national CITES Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and law enforcement agencies. Wherever possible, the team will contact traders and consumers, including suppliers, practitioners and users of traditional medicines. With advice from the relevant Management Authority, the team may also consult or obtain information from any other relevant organization or individual in that range or consumer State.
10. Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 9.13 (Rev.), the Global Tiger Forum will be consulted.
11. The missions' report will be submitted, if possible, to the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee and, in any case, prior to the next Conference of the Parties.