

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

Forty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 22-25 April 2003

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Periodic review of the Appendices

REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Standing Committee on the basis of document SC49 Doc. 20, taking into consideration comments from the members of the Committee and observers and noting that some of their suggestions may be more appropriately directed to the Animals or the Plants Committees.
2. The document provides revised recommendations concerning the periodic review of animal and plant species included in the CITES Appendices as provided for in Annex 2 of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12) on the Establishment of Committees.
 - a) The Animals and Plants Committees should share their experience regarding the undertaking of periodic reviews of species included in the Appendices (including the **financing of reviews**, the process, the format and output) and establish a schedule for the periodic review of the Appendices, listing the species they propose to review during the next two intersessional periods between meetings of the Conference of the Parties.
 - b) The Secretariat should send a copy of this list to all Parties requesting that range States of the species send their comments on the need to review these species to the Secretariat, to relay to the members of the **Animals or Plants Committee concerned and of the Standing Committee**.
 - c) Taking these comments into account, the Animals and Plants Committees should **in consultation with the Standing Committee** finalize the selection of the species to be reviewed.
 - d) **The Animals and Plants Committees** ~~They~~ should conduct or organize the reviews, seeking information from the range States. A draft of each review (in an agreed format) should be provided **by the Secretariat** to the range States for comment **within an agreed timeframe, and these comments should be taken into consideration** before the review ~~is~~ is considered final.
 - e) **Inter-governmental bodies having a function in relation to the management or conservation of, or trade in species selected for review should be provided with the relevant draft reviews for comment within an agreed timeframe, and these comments should be taken into consideration when finalizing the review.**

- f) **The regional representatives of the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees should seek assistance from range States within their region to support the species reviews conducted by the Animals and Plants Committees.**
- g) In cases where a review indicates, and the **technical** Committee **concerned** agrees, that it would be appropriate to transfer a species from one Appendix to another, or to delete a species from Appendix II, the **Animals or Plants** Committee should, in consultation with **[the Standing Committee and]** the range States, prepare (or arrange the preparation of) a proposal to amend the Appendices **[and keep the Standing Committee informed]**.
- h) ~~The Committee (or~~ The Secretariat on behalf of the **Standing** Committee should provide copies **of the proposal** to the range States and request that one or more should submit the proposal for consideration at the following meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- i) If no range State is willing to submit the proposal, the Secretariat should request the Depository Government to submit it [as specified in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12)] and to include the comments of the range States in the supporting statement.
- j) **Proposals resulting from the periodic review of the Appendices must be submitted for decision by the Conference of the Parties, and not be withdrawn.**