

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

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Fifty-third meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 June-1 July 2005

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

CONSERVATION OF AND TRADE IN AFRICAN AND ASIAN RHINOCEROSSES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Standing Committee is directed by Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP13) on Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses to continue to pursue actions aimed at reducing illegal trade, ensuring that:
  - a) *all such actions are accompanied by evaluations of their effectiveness;*
  - b) *appropriate, cost-effective, standardized indicators of success are developed and/or refined to measure changes in levels of illegal hunting and of the status of rhinoceros populations in the range States; and*
  - c) *the policies that guide interventions are responsive and adaptive to the outcome of evaluations.*
3. Although this obligation has been directed to the Standing Committee since 1994, the Committee has only once discussed the matter in detail, at its 42nd meeting (Lisbon, 28 September – 1 October 1999). These discussions resulted in a document which was submitted at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Gigiri, 2000) (Doc. 11.32). Following discussion of that document, the Conference of the Parties adopted some changes to Resolution Conf. 9.14 but requested no substantive 'actions' by the Standing Committee.
4. The Standing Committee is invited to consider what, if any, actions it should pursue in relation to the reduction of illegal trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses.