

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



Sixty-first meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 August 2011

Strategic matters

COOPERATION BETWEEN PARTIES AND PROMOTION OF MULTILATERAL MEASURES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat. In the absence of an appointed Chair of the Working Group on Multilateral Measures, the Secretariat has consulted with the potential Chair of the Working Group (see paragraph 4 below).
2. At its 15th meeting (CoP15, Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.28 (Rev. CoP15), Decision 14.29 (Rev. CoP15) and Decision 14.30 (Rev. CoP15), which read:

***Directed to Parties***

14.28 *Parties with stricter domestic measures and reservations should review them, as and when (Rev. appropriate, in order to determine whether they are effective and necessary in order to CoP15) achieve the objectives of the Convention to ensure that trade in wild fauna and flora species is not detrimental to their survival.*

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

14.29 *The Standing Committee shall continue the Working Group on Multilateral Measures, (Rev. established at its 57th meeting, which, operating by electronic means, should: CoP15)*

- a) *review and, if necessary, revise any consultancy report produced under Decision 14.30 (Rev. CoP15);*
- b) *organize, with the help of the Secretariat, a meeting with representation from all CITES regions to discuss the above report; and*
- c) *based on the report of the meeting mentioned above, consider the need to draft for consideration at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties any revised or new resolutions.*

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.30 *The Secretariat shall, if external funds are made available for the purpose: (Rev. CoP15)*

- a) *hire a consultant to prepare a report on ways to assess whether:*
  - i) *the Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties are implemented by all Parties as consistently as possible and whether there is a need to clarify, revise or repeal them; and*
  - ii) *the scope for multilateral CITES processes that reduce the need by Parties for recourse to stricter domestic measures and reservations should be further developed; and*

*b) assist the Standing Committee in organizing the meeting mentioned in Decision 14.29 (Rev. CoP15).*

3. During and after CoP15, the Secretariat continued its efforts to identify representatives from Africa and Asia for the Working Group and to find an individual willing to serve as its Chair.
4. In the margins of the 19th meeting of the Plants Committee (Geneva, April 2011), South Africa advised the Secretariat that it wished to join the Working Group and that Ms Thea Carroll (head of the CITES Management Authority of South Africa) has indicated that she would be willing to serve as its Chair.
5. The Secretariat has identified USD 44,425 for undertaking the consultancy envisaged under Decision 14.30 (Rev. CoP15) and supporting the meeting envisaged under Decision 14.29 (Rev. CoP15). The large majority of this funding has been provided by the European Commission as part of its support for the implementation of CoP15 Decisions and, as mentioned in previous discussion documents for the same topic, other funds have been provided by the Safari Club International Foundation.
6. Ms Carroll and the Secretariat have been consulting about possible draft terms of reference for the Working Group and members will soon be contacted for their input.

#### Recommendation

7. Pursuant to Decision 14.29 (Rev. CoP15), the Standing Committee is invited to continue its Working Group on Multilateral Measures. The Committee is also invited to appoint a Chair of the Working Group and take note of the information contained in this document.
8. The Secretariat requests that the regional representatives from Asia to the Standing Committee assist it with identifying a representative from Asia for the Working Group.