

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

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

CITES Appendices

DIALOGUE MEETINGS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Resolution Conf. 14.5 records the decision of the Conference of the Parties to establish dialogue meetings as a formal series of CITES meetings. It defines 'dialogue meetings' as:

consultative meetings between range States of a certain species or group of species, with the aim of seeking consensus in relation to a proposal submitted for amendment of the CITES Appendices when there are strong divisions between those States.

3. The Resolution also records that the Conference of the Parties:

AGREES that:

- a) *a dialogue meeting may be called for either by the Conference of the Parties or by the Standing Committee;*

....

- c) *if a Party intends to submit, amongst other things, a proposal to amend the Appendices and, as a result of seeking the comments of the other range States, becomes aware that there is a need for an exchange of views between them, it may ask the Standing Committee to instruct the Secretariat to organize a dialogue meeting, subject to the availability of external funding.*

4. Consequently the Secretariat encourages Parties that intend to submit proposals to amend the Appendices at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to consult other range States as early as possible, especially if they are likely to be contentious. It recommends that the Standing Committee be informed of any such proposals, so that it can consider, at its 62nd meeting (23-27 July 2012) whether a dialogue meeting is necessary or desirable.