

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

Sixty-second meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 23-27 July 2012

Strategic matters

Cooperation with other organizations

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, August 2011), the Secretariat provided a full report on cooperation between CITES and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in document SC61 Doc. 15.3 (available at <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-15-03.pdf>).
3. The new Executive Secretary of CBD, Mr Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, assumed his post on 15 February 2012 and the CITES Secretary-General met with him in the margins of the 12th special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum to the United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi, 20-22 February 2012). Mr Ferreira has expressed his strong commitment to continued and enhanced cooperation with CITES and other biodiversity-related conventions. In this connection, the two executive heads have already established a good working relationship.
4. Following a request from the CBD Secretariat, on the basis of a submission by the African Group, the CITES Secretariat provided a presentation via videoconference on the "CITES compliance and enforcement regime" to the *Expert meeting on cooperative procedures and institutional mechanisms to promote compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing and to address cases of non-compliance* (Montreal, 28 February – 1 March 2012). In addition to responding to questions from participating experts, the Secretariat was able to listen to presentations made by the CBD Secretariat on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The presentation of the CITES Secretariat is available on the CBD website at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ABSEM-COMP-01> and the final report of the meeting is available as document UNEP/CBD/ICNP/2/12 of the *Second Meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on ABS* (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ICNP-02>).
5. The CITES Secretariat has shared with CBD information related to the development of electronic trade documentation, particularly with regard to lessons learned in the establishment of national CITES e-permitting systems and in the harmonization of CITES e-permitting standards with the data model of the World Customs Organization (WCO). This experience may be of relevance to current discussions under the Nagoya Protocol¹ regarding the development of an internationally recognized certificate of compliance. Both secretariats have continued to collaborate under the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative, which is supported by UNEP and counts on the collaboration of 13 convention secretariats and other observer international organizations².
6. At its 20th session (Dublin, March 2012), the Plants Committee agreed on the text of a draft resolution on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* and further agreed to submit this draft resolution at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, March 2013) for consideration.

¹ Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

² <http://www.informea.org>

7. The CITES Secretariat has initiated cooperation with the Secretariats of CBD and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, as well as UNEP's Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, to better connect work on species with work on ecosystems and vice-versa. The CITES Secretariat is planning to attend relevant portions of the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CBD (Hyderabad, 8-19 October 2012) and is liaising with the CITES Management Authority of India as well as other partners mentioned above on the organization of a side event on species and ecosystems in the margins of that meeting.

Recommendation

8. The Standing Committee is invited to take note of this report.