

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

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The document on cooperation with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), prepared by the Secretariat for the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC61, Geneva, August 2011), contained a set of proposed guidelines for cooperation between ICCAT and CITES, which had been developed by the ICCAT Secretariat (see the Annex to document SC61 Doc. 15.7<sup>1</sup>).
3. As indicated in the SC61 summary record, the Secretariat noted during its introduction of document SC61 Doc. 15.7 that the proposed guidelines “had not yet been agreed within ICCAT and that some ICCAT Parties wished to discuss the matter at their next meeting in November 2011 before initiating discussions on the matter with CITES”.
4. Following a brief discussion of the document, the Standing Committee:  
  
*agreed that the Secretariat should continue liaising with the ICCAT Secretariat until the ICCAT meeting in November 2011. The Committee further agreed that, if a draft document on enhancing cooperation between ICCAT and CITES resulted from that meeting, the Secretariat should report back at SC62 on that matter and make its report available well ahead of SC62 to enable consultations by Committee members.*
5. Before the 22nd Regular Meeting of the ICCAT Commission (Istanbul, 11-19 November 2011), the CITES Secretariat provided the ICCAT Secretariat with its preliminary comments on the proposed guidelines for cooperation between ICCAT and CITES. These preliminary comments, which included points made during the SC61 discussions on the proposed guidelines, were thereafter circulated by the ICCAT Secretariat to ICCAT Parties.
6. In December 2011, the ICCAT Secretariat conveyed to the CITES Secretariat the final text of the Guidelines for Cooperation between the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that had been adopted by the ICCAT Commission. The ICCAT Secretariat asked for the guidelines to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties to CITES for its consideration. A copy of the guidelines is contained in the Annex to this document.
7. Pursuant to its mandate under Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) to “carry out, between one meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the next, such interim activities on behalf of the Conference as may be necessary”, the Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties might endorse the draft guidelines mentioned in paragraph 6 above and then transmit them to the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, March 2013) for information.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-15-07.pdf>.

## Recommendation

8. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee endorse the proposed guidelines for cooperation contained in the Annex and transmit them to CoP16 for information.