

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

CITES and livelihoods

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES ON
CITES AND LIVELIHOODS OF POOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

This document has been prepared by the Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods on the basis of document CoP15 Doc. 14, Annex 1, on CITES and livelihoods and in relation to agenda item 16 of the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee on the same subject.

CITES and livelihoods of poor rural communities

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev CoP13), adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004) where the Conference recognized that implementation of CITES-listing decisions should take into account potential impacts on the livelihoods of the poor;

RECALLING ALSO Decision ~~44.315.5~~ requesting the Standing Committee to ~~develop draft~~ continue the operation of its Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods and to finalize the toolkit for the rapid assessment at the national level of the positive and negative impacts of implementing CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor, as well as voluntary guidelines for Parties to address these the negative impacts, particularly in developing countries;

RECOGNIZING that CITES-listing decisions are neither the sole cause nor the sole solution to the livelihood problems of the poor rural communities, but that the effective implementation of such decisions can form part of a strategy to provide sustainable livelihoods for the poor ~~and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;~~ rural communities, in accordance with paragraph 203 of the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference *The Future We Want*.

RECOGNIZING that poor rural communities attach economic, social, cultural and ceremonial importance to some CITES-listed species;

RECOGNIZING that the implementation of CITES is better achieved with the engagement of poor rural communities;

RECOGNIZING that the proper implementation of CITES listings may enhance livelihoods by delivering long-term species conservation and reducing unsustainable and illegal trade;

RECOGNIZING ALSO that implementation of some listings (particularly Appendix-I listings) may impact livelihoods of the poor by restricting access to income, employment and other resources such as food, materials and medicines, but that it need not always do so if appropriate implementation strategies are adopted;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

AGREES that the following principles be considered when Parties address livelihood issues:

Regarding empowerment of the poor rural communities

ENCOURAGES all Parties to work with key stakeholder groups to design, implement and monitor effective strategies ~~for~~ with regard to the implementation of CITES listings recognizing that:

- a)- Solutions are likely to be case and situation specific;
- b) Although amendments to the CITES Appendices must, unless indicated otherwise in an annotation, come into effect 90 days after their adoption by the Conference of the Parties, developing appropriate solutions to mitigate negative impacts on the livelihoods of the poor may require more time to ~~incorporate significant~~ implement relevant policy changes;
- c) Developing guidelines ~~may~~ must be an ongoing process as more knowledge is gained about specific impacts and successful as well as ~~failed~~ unsuccessful experiences; ~~and~~
- ~~e) Monitoring which means that the monitoring and evaluation of strategies will be an important aspect of~~ priority aspects in the development of appropriate implementation strategies and policies; and
- d) Community and traditional knowledge should be considered in the implementation of CITES;

AGREES that:

- a) Empowerment of the poor rural communities should be encouraged through measures that include, as appropriate:
 - ~~i) Promoting transparency in the development and implementation of policies regarding poverty and the use of natural resources; , and in the value chains concerned;~~
 - ~~ii) Developing harvesters associations;~~
 - ii) Maximizing the benefit share for poor rural communities in the value chains concerned;
 - ~~iii) Developing associations of harvesters, managers, growers or any primary users of wildlife, however they are defined;~~
 - iv) Developing socially responsible trade associations with clear obligations for benefit sharing; and
 - ~~i) v) Recognizing of resource tenure and cultural and intellectual property rights for indigenous and , tribal and poor rural communities and the poor;~~
- b) Support for the implementation of CITES listings should be enhanced by public awareness and education, including education ~~of programmes for poor people~~ rural communities, to ensure that:
 - i) The positive aspects of CITES and ~~CITES-related~~ legislation are understood; ~~ii) The need to take measures to conserve CITES-listed species are conserved, and the potential benefits, particularly to poor people, that can accrue from doing so, are appreciated to poor rural communities realized;~~ and
 - iii) Poor communities support policies and activities designed to reduce or eliminate illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and
- c) As implementation of some listings may have short-term negative impacts on the poor rural communities, mitigation strategies should be adopted as appropriate. These strategies may include:
 - i) Developing ~~interim-aid packages~~ plans to provide assistance to the collectors and harvesters, managers, growers or any primary users of wildlife, however they are defined, most severely affected by the implementation of the CITES-listing decisions; and
 - ~~ii) Waiver of permit fees during the first six months of a listing so that local harvesters and producers can internalize the transaction costs generated by the implementation of the CITES-listing decisions;~~
 - ii) Providing alternative means of livelihoods.

Regarding enabling policies

INVITES Parties to initiate or strengthen collaborative partnerships among local, regional, national and international development and conservation agencies to enhance:

- a) Financial support for wildlife conservation and poor rural communities; and
- b) The complementarity of their work and CITES implementation;

RECOMMENDS that Parties explore the use of registered marks of certification and origin for products obtained legally and sustainably by poor rural communities, to indicate that the products are obtained legally and sustainably;

ENCOURAGES international financial institutions and cooperation agencies to assist Parties in the development of supportive policies and institutions at the regional, national and local levels to address negative impacts of the implementation of listings on poor rural communities.

Regarding compensatory mechanisms for the shift from in situ to ex situ production

AGREES that:

- a) Implementation of some CITES-listings may encourage *ex situ* production, which may lead to ~~delocalization~~ loss of profits. Mechanisms may be required to:
 - ~~i) Develop market for poor rural communities. Market-based incentives may then be required to encourage benefit sharing;~~
 - ~~ii) Remove and to remove barriers to the development of in situ production systems;~~
- b) Consumer countries may work with producer countries to develop effective strategies to support positive impacts and minimize negative impacts of the implementation of CITES listings. These ~~could~~ can include:
 - i) Working with *in situ* and *ex situ* producers and trade associations;
 - ii) Developing supportive strategies through bilateral conservation and development projects; and
- e) ~~Mitigation strategies may explore the use of alternative production systems such as ranching, artificial propagation or captive breeding.~~

Regarding RECOMMENDS that Parties adopt mitigation strategies ~~for human-wildlife conflict~~

RECOMMENDS THAT mitigation strategies, where appropriate, to provide alternatives or:

- a) compensation schemes (e.g., such as payment for ecosystem services, employment in eco-tourism or as game wardens; provision of tourist or local and
- b) Licences or concessions for tourism, hunting and collection permits; , fishing and harvesting; the development of alternative products);

Regarding enabling policies

~~INVITES Parties to initiate or strengthen collaborative partnerships between development and conservation agencies to enhance aid effectiveness for wildlife conservation; and eliminate duplication of efforts (e.g. CITES authorities making cross-sectoral links to seek assistance in mainstreaming wildlife trade policies into poverty reduction strategies and wider development plans).~~

~~ENCOURAGES international financial institutions and cooperation agencies to assist Parties in the development of multilateral and bilateral measures, supportive policies and institutions at the regional, national and local levels to address negative impacts of the implementation of CITES listings on the livelihoods of the poor. RECOMMENDS ALSO that mitigation activities not be based on CITES-listed species only but on the whole ecosystem that contains them.~~