

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



Sixty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 7-11 July 2014

SUMMARY

MORNING

1. Opening remarks of the Chair..... *No document*

The Chair welcomed the participants and gave an opening speech.¹

2. Report of the Secretary-General..... *No document*

The Secretary-General also welcomed the participants and gave an opening address.²

3. Agenda..... SC65 Doc. 3 (Rev. 1)

It was agreed that, under agenda item 51 *Any other business*, the Committee would consider the issue of purposes codes. With this amendment, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda in document SC65 Doc. 3 (Rev. 1).

4. Working programme SC65 Doc. 4

The Committee adopted the draft working programme in document SC65 Doc. 4, with the following amendments: to reverse the order of agenda items 8.1 and 8.2, under *Relationship with the United Nations Environment Programme*; item 42.7 on *Disposal of ivory stocks* would be considered with item 42.1 on *Elephant conservation, illegal killing and ivory trade*; and consideration of item 38 on *Asian big cats* would be brought forward to 8 or 9 July.

5. Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee SC65 Doc. 5

To give time for bilateral consultations, it was agreed to consider later three proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure, as follows:

Rule 20 to read as follows:

Documents to be considered at a meeting shall be provided to the Secretariat in one of the working languages and shall normally be provided to the Secretariat at least 60 days before the meeting where they are to be discussed, and should not be longer than 12 pages.

Rule 21, paragraph 2, to read as follows, and the existing paragraph 2 renumbered as 3:

At least 14 days before each meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat shall, to the extent possible, place on its website in the three working languages all documents mentioned in Rule 20 and paragraph 1.a) of Rule 21 above.

¹ The full text of the Standing Committee Chair' opening speech is available at: http://www.cites.org/eng/sc_chair-opening-remarks-SC65.

² The full text of the Secretary General's opening speech is available at: <http://cites.org/eng/CITES-SG-opening-remarks-SC65>.

In Rule 27, the following new sentence to be appended:

The decisions of the Committee shall come into effect upon endorsement of the Executive Summary in which they are contained.

6. Credentials..... *No document*

The Committee noted that credentials had been received from the delegations of 15 out of the 19 Parties that are members of the Standing Committee. All delegations that had not submitted their credentials were urged to do so as soon as possible.

7. Admission of observers SC65 Doc. 7

The Committee noted the list of organizations that had been invited to attend the meeting as contained in document SC65 Doc. 7.

8. Relationship with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

8.2 Report of UNEP.....SC65 Doc. 8.2

UNEP presented its report in document SC65 Doc. 8.2, which was noted by the Committee.

8.1 Briefing by the Chair / Secretary-General *No document*

The Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group to review the administrative hosting arrangements for the CITES Secretariat, with terms of reference as follows:

1. Review the observations and findings in the UN Joint Inspection Unit Report of 2014 entitled “Post-Rio+20 Review of Environmental Governance with the United Nations System” insofar as they relate to the hosting arrangements for the CITES Secretariat.
2. Explore the various models that exist within, or are linked to, the UN system for the hosting of convention secretariats, including different models within UNEP;
3. Consider the advantages and disadvantages of different hosting models for the CITES Secretariat, including retaining the status quo; and
4. Outline the steps that would need to be taken if the current hosting arrangements were to be changed.
5. The Chair of the Working Group will be the Chair of the Standing Committee and the Committee will be supported by the CITES Secretariat.
6. The Committee will report its findings to the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (Geneva, August 2015).

It was agreed that the membership of the working group would be as follows: Canada, China, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Norway (as Chair), Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union.

10. Administrative matters

The Committee noted the oral report of the Secretariat and agreed that the Chair of the Standing Committee should write to the Executive Director of UNEP to express concern regarding the proposed reporting of the Fund Management Officer from the Secretariat to UNEP Office for Operations for six months, and to suggest the possible secondment of a staff member from UNEP to the CITES Secretariat to assist with the implementation of Umoja.