

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MORNING

The executive summary of the fifth session contained in document SC65 Sum. 5 was adopted with the following amendments:

Under item 42.3, it will be recorded that the Secretariat was requested to provide a list of contents of the proposed background document for the working group on the decision-making mechanism; and

Under item 42.5, the spelling of "Botswana" will be corrected.

6. Credentials ..... No document

The Committee noted that there were delegations of 68 Parties present, of which three had not provided credentials. All delegations of the members of the Standing Committee had provided credentials.

49. Annotations

49.1 Report of the interim working group ..... SC65 Doc. 49.1

The Committee noted the document and oral report of the chair of the interim working group on annotations and agreed to re-establish the working group with the mandate provided under Decision 16.162 as well as the following additional task: to consider the results of the timber trade study called for in Decision 15.35 and, in particular, to consider whether current annotations regarding tree species adequately cover the types of specimens primarily exported from source countries; to assess the advantages and disadvantages of potential changes to those annotations; and, if appropriate to prepare draft amendments to the annotations for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Committee also agreed that the working group would be co-chaired by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and that its members would comprise Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland; Ms Caceres as a representative of the Animals Committee, and Ms Rivera (Central and South America and the Caribbean), Mr Sajeve (Europe), Mr Leach (Oceania), Mr Luke (Africa) and Ms Al-Salem (Asia) as representatives of the Plant Committee; and the European Commission, the American Herbal Association, the Centre for International Environmental Law, Humane Society International, IWMC World Conservation Trust, Lewis and Clark College, and TRAFFIC.

49.2 Annotations for tree species included in Appendices II and III ..... No document

The Committee noted the oral progress report of the Secretariat, as supplemented by the representative of ITTO, and also noted the continuing collaboration between CITES Secretariat and ITTO on this and other matters under the ITTO-CITES programme.

22. National laws for implementation of the Convention..... SC65 Doc. 22

The Committee agreed with the conclusion of the working group that it was not necessary to establish an intersessional working group on legislation and that it would be more useful instead if each regional representative of the Committee could collaborate with the Parties in their region about any legislative assistance needs and then inform the Secretariat.

27. Enforcement matters

27.1 Report of the Secretariat..... SC65 Doc. 27.1

The Committee agreed to the terms of reference presented in document SC65 Com. 2 for the intersessional working group on implementation of Decision 16.39. It also noted that, with regard to the humphead wrasse, the Secretariat would issue a Notification to the Parties to obtain updated information on trade in this species, and that it would report the results at the 66th meeting of the Committee.

43. Rhinoceroses

The Committee agreed the recommendations presented in document SC65 Com. 3, which combined and superseded the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Rhinoceroses (SC65 Doc. 43.1) and the report of the Secretariat (SC65 Doc. 43.2).

38. Asian big cats..... SC65 Doc. 38

The Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group on Asian big cats to be Chaired by China and comprising India, Indonesia, Malaysia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam, IUCN, Asiatic, Born Free Foundation, Elephant Action League, Environmental Investigation Agency, International Fund for Animal Welfare, IUCN, Panthera, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, Wildlife Protection Society of India and WWF.

The Committee endorsed the recommendations in document SC65 Com. 4 as the terms of reference for the working group, with the following amendments:

- Paragraph f) to read:

encourages Parties to review all relevant national legislation to ensure that national measures restricting internal and international trade in Asian big cats and their parts and derivatives are comprehensive in that, recalling Decision 14.69, parts and derivatives obtained from specimens bred in captivity are included;

- Paragraph g) to read:

recalling Decisions 14.66 (Rev. CoP15) and 14.69, as well as Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), requests all Parties where internal and international trade in Asian big cats and their parts and derivatives is permitted, to report at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee on what legal trade is allowed, the species and trade volume involved, and describe how such trade is monitored and enforced, and to inform about measures taken to prevent illegal exports;

- Paragraph h) to read:

encourages Parties to engage with e-commerce trading site companies and to encourage them to ensure that no online advertisements are made for illegal specimens of protected species;

- Paragraph k) to read:

recalling Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16), urges Parties to address the growing use of Asian big cats, including as pets, parts and derivatives as luxury items through targeted demand reduction strategies, including behavioural change interventions, and to strengthen demand reduction efforts;

- Paragraph n) to read:

in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP 16), requests all Parties with national or privately held stockpiles of captive-bred or confiscated Asian big cat body parts and derivatives to report to the Secretariat on the volume of these stockpiles, measures taken to guarantee the security of these stockpiles and, if applicable, actions to destroy such stockpiles with the exception of those used for educational or scientific purposes;

39. Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*)..... SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2)

The Committee endorsed the recommendations in document SC65 Com. 5 as the terms of reference for the intersessional working group on cheetahs with the following amendments:

- Item 2 to read:

Consider the relevant decisions of the 65th session of the Standing Committee (Geneva, July 2014) and the recommendations of the AC presented in Annex 3 of document SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2), and made in accordance with Decision 16.72;

- Item 4 to read:

Work with the Secretariat to develop a questionnaire for all cheetah range, transit and consumer States to document the status of the implementation and enforcement of CITES provisions relevant to the trade in cheetahs, and the challenges experienced by these States. A draft of the questionnaire will be prepared by 15 August 2014 and finalized by the working group by 1 September 2014. The Secretariat should contact relevant Parties, inviting them to complete the questionnaire and any other information, and return it by 15 November 2015;

- Item 5 to read:

Convene a workshop on illegal take of and trade in cheetahs, taking into account the information gathered through the questionnaire, subject to the availability of funding; and

- Item 6 to read:

Coordinate with the Secretariat the organization of a workshop with the terms of reference specified in paragraph 3 of Annex 3 of document SC65 Doc. 39 (Rev. 2), which should be held before March 2015, subject to the availability of funding..

25. Ranching operations in Madagascar

25.1 Report of Madagascar..... SC65 Doc. 25.1

and

25.2 Report of the Secretariat ..... SC65 Doc. 25.2

The Committee agreed to the recommendation contained in paragraph 7 of document SC65 Com. 1 and noted paragraph 8 of the same document.