

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



Sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 11-15 January 2016

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)

Report of the working group on Sturgeons and paddlefish

DRAFT REVISION OF RESOLUTION CONF. 12.7 (REV. COP16) ON
CONSERVATION OF AND TRADE IN STURGEONS AND PADDLEFISH

This document has been prepared by the working group on Sturgeons and paddlefish in relation to agenda item 55.1 and submitted at the request of the Standing Committee at its fourth session.

Considering document SC 66 Doc. 55.1 Annex, at SC 66 the Working Group recommends document SC66 Doc. 55.1 Annex with following amendments to the Standing Committee:

NB: *Text to be deleted is ~~crossed-out~~. Proposed new text is underlined.*

1. Referring to the two options provided on page 7 of document SC66 Doc. 55.1 the WG concluded to recommend option 2 with following amended text in Res. Conf. 12.7 (rev. CoP 16):

“RECOMMENDS, with regard to regulating trade in sturgeon products, that:”

- a) each importing, exporting and re-exporting Party establish, where consistent with national law, a registration system for ~~caviar processing plants~~ facilities producing caviar, including aquaculture operations that process and package caviar and those facilities that re-package caviar operations, and repackaging plants in its territory and provide to the Secretariat the list of these facilities and their official registration codes and clearly state whether it is a processing or a repacking plant. Where consistent with the national registration system Parties should add ‘P’ to registration numbers for processing plants and ‘R’ for repacking plants. Where appropriate Parties should on a voluntary basis include in their notification of caviar processing aquaculture plants the sturgeon or paddlefish species used in the respective processing plant. The list should be updated when changes occur and communicated to the Secretariat without delay. The Secretariat should ~~distribute~~ include this information ~~via a Notification to the Parties and include it~~ in its register on the CITES website;
2. The working group discussed the special exemption of 125g caviar under the provision of Article VII, paragraph 3 as personal and household effects and came to the conclusion not to propose any changes in this respect.
 3. Referring to a definition of “country of origin of caviar” the WG agreed on the necessity to have such a definition and the majority of the WG proposes the following wording be included in Annex 1 of Res. Conf. 12.7 (rev. CoP 16) in paragraph b) as definition:

Country of origin of caviar: Country in which a registered processing plant harvests roe of Acipenseriformes species to process caviar.

Consequently, Res. Conf. 12.3 (rev. CoP 16) in section II **Regarding export permits and re-export certificates** shall be amended respectively.

4. Referring to the intervention made by the Russian Federation in SC 66 the WG agreed to amend Res. Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP 16) - deletion of three paragraphs - as follows:

In the preambular part:

~~RECALLING the concepts endorsed and the progress made toward conservation of Acipenseriformes in the Caspian Sea under the 'Paris Agreement' approved at the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee (Paris, June 2004);~~

...

~~CONSIDERING that Eurasian range States of Acipenseriformes species are in need of funds and technical assistance in order to develop regional management and monitoring programmes for conservation, habitat protection, and the combating of illegal fishing and trade;~~

and under URGES paragraph e):

~~e) — in the case of range States of sturgeons in the Eurasian region, take into account the recommendations in documents CoP12 Doc. 42.1 and SC61 Doc. 48.2 when developing regional conservation strategies and action plans;~~