

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

SUMMARY

AFTERNOON

11. Organization of special meetingsSC66 Doc. 11

The Standing Committee agreed to recommend that the Conference of the Parties, at its 17th meeting, be invited to include an extra paragraph in Resolution Conf. 17.XX on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2017-2019* amended as follows:

ENCOURAGES donors funding special meetings organized by the Secretariat to include funding provisions for translation of meeting documents and interpretation during special meetings into the working languages of the Convention (especially for meetings held in regions where most Parties use French or Spanish as an official language) and to disburse funds to the Secretariat in sufficient time prior to the special meeting to ensure the timely submissions, distribution and translation of documents and communication of information about travel and accommodation arrangements and provision of on-site interpretation services.

12. Arrangements for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17)

12.1 Preparation for CoP17 SC66 Doc. 12.1

The Standing Committee noted the oral report by South Africa.

12.2 Draft agenda..... SC66 Doc. 12.2

The Standing Committee approved the draft provisional agenda for CoP17 annexed to document SC66 Doc. 12.2.

12.3 Draft working programme SC66 Doc. 12.3

The Standing Committee approved the draft provisional working programme for CoP17 annexed to document SC66 Doc. 12.3.

12.4 Rules of Procedure SC66 Doc. 12.4

The Standing Committee agreed to make no changes to rules 26.1 and 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and to refer back to the interpretation of these rules as agreed by the Conference of the Parties at its 16th meeting.

12.5 Guidance on the submission of credentials: Report of the working group SC66 Doc. 12.5

The Standing Committee endorsed the comments in paragraphs 7 and 8 of document SC66 Doc. 12.5, including the draft *Guidance for submission of credentials of representatives of Parties to meetings of the Conference of the Parties* with the second paragraph under “3. Credentials must be signed by an authorized signatory, and his/her name and title must be clearly shown” of the draft Guidance amended as follows:

~~In exceptional circumstances, the~~ Credentials Committee will recommend acceptance of credentials granting powers to the Representative, any Alternative Representative or Advisers of a Party if they are issued by an alternate signatory (in a temporary or acting capacity). ~~In this case, the formal authority of the alternate signatory to sign on behalf of the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs must be clearly indicated in the credentials, or in an accompanying decree or other official document.~~

12.6 Selection of nominees for chairmanship of the committees SC66 Doc. 12.6

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to put forward nominations for the chairmanship of committees at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties before the deadline of 24 January 2016.

12.7 Sponsored Delegates Project SC66 Doc. 12.7

The Standing Committee endorsed the recommendations made by the Secretariat in paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 as follows:

The Standing Committee encouraged, via its regional representatives, Parties and all other organizations interested in providing financial support and wishing to help achieve the goal of full participation of all Parties in CoP17 through the Sponsored Delegates Project, to contact the CITES Secretariat.

The Standing Committee encouraged potential donors to make their donations to the Secretariat well in advance of CoP17.

The Standing Committee recommended to Parties and other potential donors who are considering providing financial support to delegations from developing countries to attend CoP17, to do so through the Sponsored Delegates Project.

The Standing Committee further noted that the European Union is considering proposing a draft resolution on the Sponsored Delegates Project to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting.

30. National reports

30.2 Special reporting requirements: Report of the working group SC66 Doc. 30.2

The Standing Committee agreed to reconvene the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements as an in-session working group with the membership listed in paragraph 3 of document SC66 Doc. 30.2 and asked the working group to take into account the comments made on that document during the plenary session. The Standing Committee agreed to the participation of New Zealand to the in-session working group in lieu of Australia.

41. Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens

41.1 Report of the Secretariat..... SC66 Doc. 41.1

41.2 Report of the Animals Committee..... SC66 Doc. 41.2

and

32. Enforcement matters

32.3 Implementation and enforcement of the Convention as it relates to the trade in species listed in Appendix I: Report of the working group..... SC66 Doc. 32.3

and

32.4 Illegal trade in Bahamian Rock Iguanas (*Cyclura rileyi*): Report of the contact group SC66 Doc. 32.4

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group with the following mandate:

- In light of the comments made in documents SC66 Doc. 32.3 and 32.4 and of the comments made during the plenary discussion, to revise the text of the draft decisions in document SC66 Doc. 41.1 and to revise the text of the draft resolution on *Review of trade in specimens reported as produced in captivity* in the annex to document SC66 Doc. 41.2.
- To propose wording for a specific reference to Resolution Conf. 4.25 (Rev. CoP14) in the revision to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: Canada, China, Colombia, European Union, France, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand (Chair), Niger, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America and Viet Nam; the Chair of the Animals Committee; and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), TRAFFIC, the Lewis & Clarke College and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The Standing Committee agreed that the recommendation in paragraph 12 of document SC66 Doc. 32.3 would be considered under agenda item 28 on *Application of Article XIII*.

The Standing Committee noted that the recommendations related to the implementation of the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime in paragraphs 9b) and 9c) of document SC66 Doc. 32.4 are currently being implemented.

44. Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

44.1 Report of the Secretariat..... SC66 Doc. 44.1

and

44.2 Report of the working group SC66 Doc. 44.2

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to ensure that adequate control measures are in place to secure Asian big cat specimen stockpiles, and to ensure strict application of these measures.

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to take note of India's Wild Life Protection Act (WLPA), the guidelines of the India Central Zoo Authority on the disposal of animal carcasses in zoos, and the standard operating procedures for disposal of tiger and leopard carcasses and body parts issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority of India, as good examples of practices and controls that could be put in place to prevent Asian big cat parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade, and to manage or dispose of specimens from Asian big cats; and to consider implementing similar measures, as appropriate.

The Standing Committee welcomed Operation Protection of Asian Wildlife Species II (Operation PAWS II), initiated and coordinated by INTERPOL across 17 Parties with support from ICCWC and multiple donors.

The Standing Committee encouraged China, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam to continue and further strengthen their engagement in operational enforcement activities within framework of the INTERPOL Project Predator Tiger Crime Initiative, and any similar future initiatives.

The Standing Committee agreed to reconvene the Working Group on Asian big cats as an in-session working group with the mandate to review paragraph 58e) of document SC66 44.1 and the recommendations of document SC66 Doc. 44.2

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: China (Chair), India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Viet Nam, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Asiacat, Born Free Foundation, Environmental Investigation Agency, Elephant Action League, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Panthera, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, Wildlife Protection Society of India and World Wildlife Fund.