

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

MORNING

Membership of in-session working groups

The Standing Committee agreed to the participation of Humane Society International and UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre in the in-session working group on captive-breeding and to the participation of the Global Tiger Forum in the in-session working group on Asian big cats.

47. Elephants (Elephantidae spp.)

47.1 Elephant conservation, illegal killing and ivory trade SC66 Doc. 47.1

In support of the analysis by the programme Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and by the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17), the Standing Committee urged all Parties to report comprehensive and accurate data as required by the MIKE and ETIS monitoring systems by 31 January 2016, and to conduct and release the results of elephant population surveys according to MIKE standards in a timely manner. It requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties to this effect and noted Kenya's request to issue a separate Notification to the Parties on large ivory seizures.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a proposal to incorporate Decision 14.78 (Rev. CoP16) in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) for consideration at CoP17.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to CoP17 the following draft decision:

17.xx *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding:*

- a) *convene a meeting of representatives from Parties concerned with the development and implementation of National Ivory Action Plans, in cooperation with partner organizations in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) and, as appropriate, other Parties and experts, to:*
 - i) *review the development and implementation of National Ivory Action Plans and, inter alia, exchange experiences and best practices;*
 - ii) *identify opportunities, including opportunities that promote long-term collaboration among enforcement authorities, for cross-border collaboration and regional cooperation, joint actions, and resource mobilisation; and*
 - iii) *discuss shared challenges and technical assistance needs.*
- b) *report on the implementation of the present decision to the Standing Committee at its 69th or 70th meeting, with recommendations as appropriate.*

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to consider the matter of trade in pre-convention ivory in its reporting at CoP17.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for consideration at CoP17 to consolidate the provisions directed to the Parties in Decision 16.83 and recommendations g) to k) in paragraph 36 of document SC66 Doc. 47.1 and incorporate them in the section *Regarding the traceability of elephant specimens in trade* in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16).

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to report on trade in live Asian elephant at CoP17.

As part of the Secretariat's proposed revisions to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) for consideration at CoP17, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for using country-specific data from the ivory stock declarations of Parties in MIKE and ETIS analysis.

The Standing Committee agreed to propose a decision, for consideration at CoP17, to request the Secretariat, subject to available resources, to provide guidance, in accordance with the provisions of Resolutions Conf. 9.10 (Rev. CoP15) and Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16), on "best practices" for the management of legal and illegal ivory stockpiles.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to draft a report on its behalf and in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee summarizing the actions decided and determinations made by the Standing Committee regarding Decisions 16.78-16.81 and 16.83 at its 64th, 65th and 66th meetings. This report would underscore the implementation by the Standing Committee of Decision 16.82.

47.2 Report of the MIKE and ETIS Subgroup..... *No document*

The Standing Committee noted that the MIKE and ETIS Subgroup would meet in the margins of the present meeting and would report back later in the week.

47.3 Disposal of ivory stocks: the growth of ivory destructions SC66 Doc. 47.3

The Standing Committee noted the actions taken since the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee by China, Ethiopia, Hong Kong SAR, India, Kenya, Mozambique, the Republic of Congo, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates and the United States, in destroying ivory stockpiles.

47.6 Update on the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI) SC66 Doc. 47.6

The Standing Committee noted and welcomed the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI); noted that the EPI member States encourage other range States to join the EPI member states in working towards the above objectives; and encouraged non-range States, International Organizations and NGOs that have not yet done so to contribute their technical and financial support, in order to facilitate the African Elephant Action Plan's speedy implementation.

The Standing Committee noted the following actions delivered through the Elephant Protection Initiative: development of a standardized ivory Inventory Protocol and Inventory Technology; development of Standards and Guidelines for National Elephant Action Plans; nine inventories of ivory stockpiles in accordance with the requirements of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP16) completed or underway; development of five National Elephant Action Plans to facilitate the national level implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan; and the commitment of growing levels of funding for the implementation of National Elephant Action Plans.

29. National Ivory Action Plans process..... SC66 Doc. 29 (Rev. 1)

The Standing Committee agreed that it would consider later in the week the amendments proposed by the European Union to the recommendations of the Secretariat in paragraph 49 of document SC66 Doc. 29 (Rev. 1) once they have been circulated as an in-session document.