

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



Sixty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 November - 1 December 2017

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

National reports

SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Compliance with annual report submission requirements

2. In Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *National reports*, paragraphs 1, 14 and 15, the Conference of the Parties:

1. *URGES all Parties to submit their annual reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), by 31 October following the year for which they are due and in accordance with the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports distributed by the Secretariat, as may be amended with the concurrence of the Standing Committee;*
14. *INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to determine, on the basis of reports presented by the Secretariat, which Parties have failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution;*

and

15. *RECOMMENDS that Parties not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any Party that the Standing Committee has determined has failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution.*
3. At its 66th meeting (SC66), Geneva, January 2016, the Standing Committee determined that Bhutan, the Central African Republic, Congo, Grenada, Guinea, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Panama, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu had failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification, and agreed that if they did not provide their missing reports within 60 days of the present meeting the Secretariat would issue a Notification recommending that Parties not authorize any trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until the missing reports were provided.¹

¹ See agenda item 30.1 of the [SC66 Summary Record](#).

4. The Secretariat sent reminders to the Parties mentioned in paragraph 3, and the following reports were received within the 60-day deadline:

Bhutan (reports for 2011 to 2015), Central African Republic (2013 to 2015), Congo (2011 to 2014), Guinea (2013 and 2014), Mali (2012 to 2014), Mongolia (2011 to 2013), Nicaragua (2012 to 2014), Panama (2012 to 2014), Rwanda (2012 to 2014), San Marino (2011 to 2014) and Vanuatu (2012 to 2015).
5. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties Nos. 2016/022, 2016/023 and 2016/024 on 16 March 2016 informing Parties that, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), the Standing Committee recommended that they not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with Grenada, the Solomon Islands, and Sao Tome and Principe until further notice. On 1 April 2016, following receipt of the Solomon Islands' missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2016/033 withdrawing the recommended trade suspension against the Solomon Islands with immediate effect. On 20 January 2017, following receipt of Sao Tome and Principe's missing reports, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2017/007 also withdrawing the recommended trade suspension against Sao Tome and Principe, with immediate effect.
6. Lesotho, which had been under a recommendation to suspend trade since 2013 (Notification to the Parties No. 2013/020) submitted its reports (2012 to 2016) on 26 July 2017 and the recommendation was also withdrawn with Notification to the Parties No. 2017/053.
7. Afghanistan (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2013/018](#) of 17 May 2013), and Grenada (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2016/022](#) of 16 March 2016) remain subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for the non-submission of annual reports.
8. As mentioned above, the deadline for annual reports is 31 October each year for trade in the previous calendar year (e.g. 31 October 2017 for the 2016 CITES annual report). Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), the Secretariat would like to inform the Standing Committee that its records show that the following Parties have failed to submit annual reports for three consecutive years (or more) during the period 2013–2015 without having provided adequate justification: Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, Djibouti, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea and Saint Lucia.
9. In addition, the Secretariat's table of annual report submissions shows that the following Parties have not yet submitted their annual reports for the past two years (2014 and 2015):² Angola, Maldives, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. If the above-mentioned Parties fail to submit their 2016 CITES annual report, due on 31 October 2017 without adequate justification, they could also be subject to a Standing Committee recommendation to suspend trade. The Secretariat will advise the Committee about whether these reports have been received or not orally at the present meeting.

Recommendations

10. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17), and on the basis of the present report, and any updated information provided at the present meeting, determine whether the Parties listed in paragraphs 8 and 9 above have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification. If so determined, the Secretariat will issue a Notification (60 days after the end of the present Standing Committee meeting) recommending that Parties not authorize any commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until they have provided the missing reports.

² Available at <https://cites.org/eng/resources/reports.php>