

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

SUMMARY

MORNING

Adoption of Executive Summaries

The executive summary of the first session in document SC69 Sum. 1 was adopted with the following amendments:

- Under agenda item 3, in the second paragraph, replace the word “by” with “with”, in the third paragraph, replace the word “by” with “with” and add an “s” at the end of the word purpose; in the fourth paragraph, replace “appeal the ruling of the Chair” with “call for a vote”, in the sixth paragraph, delete “, unless specified otherwise”.
- Under agenda item 5, replace “amended” with “and noted its amendment”.
- Under agenda item 7, insert “for” between “Terms of Reference” and “its Finance” and insert “(FBSC)” after the first use of “Finance and Budget Subcommittee”. In the last paragraph, delete “(FBSC)”.
- Under agenda item 8.2, in the sixth line, delete the semicolon and insert “to” between “and” and “provide”.
- Under agenda item 9.1 and 9.2, replace “Finance and Budget Subcommittee” by “FBSC”.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the executive summary of the second session in document SC69 Sum. 2.

The executive summary of the third session in document SC69 Sum. 3 was adopted with the following amendment:

- Under agenda item 51.1, in paragraph c), replace “of” after “when reporting” with “on”; in paragraph e), replace “advice” with “advise”.
- Under agenda item 51.2, in paragraph c), replace “invited” with “also directed the Secretariat in the Notification mentioned in paragraph b) above to invite”; paragraph d), after “implementation of”, insert “provisions relating to domestic ivory markets contained in”.
- Under agenda item 51.3, before “renewed”, insert “acknowledged the contributions made prior to or during the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee”.
- Under agenda item 29.3, replace “adopt” with “endorse”, delete “requested ETIS to use the new names in future ETIS Reports”, insert “and to request ETIS to use the new names in future ETIS Reports” after “to reflect these changes”; and in paragraph a), replace “revise” with “review”.

69. Annotations

69.1 Establishment of a working group on annotations SC69 Doc. 69.1

The Standing Committee established an intersessional working group on annotations with a mandate to:

Taking into consideration the advice of the Standing Committee on annotation #15 and on the best way to prioritize its work,

- a) further consider procedures for crafting annotations and develop recommendations for improving them;
- b) evaluate and address issues related to the drafting, interpretation and implementation of annotations, and assist Parties in drafting future annotations, drawing on appropriate expertise from within and outside its membership;
- c) conduct any relevant additional work on evaluating the existing annotations for plant taxa listed in Appendices II and III, with an emphasis on ensuring that such annotations are clear as to the types of specimens to be covered by a listing, can be readily implemented, and focus on those parts and derivatives primarily exported from the range States and those commodities that dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource;
- d) based on the results of the timber trade study directed to the Secretariat in Decision 15.35 (Rev. CoP16), to review the existing annotations for tree species and, if appropriate, draft amendments to those annotations and prepare clear definitions for the terms used in the annotations in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers, exporters and importers;
- e) in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, to continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical implementation of the annotation(s) of the agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.), taking into consideration the previous work done by the range and consumer States of these species;
- f) review outstanding implementation challenges resulting from the listings of *Aniba rosaeodora* and *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in the Appendices, particularly concerning trade in extracts, and propose appropriate solutions;
- g) draft definitions of terms included in annotations, in cases where the terms are not easily understood or where there has been difficulty in implementing the listing as a result of confusion about what commodities are covered, and submit them to the Standing Committee for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;
- h) conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants Committee; and
- i) prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration at the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The membership of the intersessional working group on annotations was agreed as follows: Canada (Chair), Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, European Union, France, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux, C.F. Martin & Co., Inc., Center for International Environmental Law, Chambre Syndicale de la Factice Instrumentale, Confédération des Industries Musicales Européennes, Environmental Investigation Agency – UK, Fender Musical Instruments Corp., Forest Based Solutions, Llc., Humane Society International, International Association of Violin and Bow Makers, International Wood Products Association, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, League of American Orchestras, Lewis & Clark – International Environmental Law Project, Madinter Trade, S.L., Species Survival Network, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, and World Wildlife Fund; and the Chair of the Plants Committee.

The Standing Committee requested the intersessional working group on annotations to propose guidance related to the issues raised related to annotation #16 for its consideration at its 70th meeting and noted that the working group Chair will take account of the interventions made during the debate when guiding the work of the working group.

69.2 Annotations for Appendix II orchids: Report of the Plants Committee *No document*

The Standing Committee noted the oral report of the Chair of the Plants Committee.

70. Review of Resolution Conf. 10.9 on Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II SC69 Doc. 70

The Standing Committee established an intersessional working group on Resolution Conf. 10.9 with a mandate to consider, *inter alia*, issues such as the scope of the Resolution; its relationship with Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17); and whether or how a more efficient and cost-effective mechanism to review elephant listing proposals could be developed; to work in collaboration and consultation with all African elephant range States; and to report to the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting. To the extent possible, the working group will operate in English and French.

The membership of the intersessional working group on Resolution Conf. 10.9 was agreed as follows: Germany (Chair), Botswana, Chad, China, Ethiopia, France, Israel, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and Community Rural Conservancy Communities & NASCO, Conservation Force, David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, Environmental Investigation Agency – UK, Humane Society International, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Ivory Education Institute, IWMC – World Conservation Trust, Livelihood International, Natural Resources Defense Council, Pro Wildlife, Safari Club International, The European Federation of Associations for Hunting & Conservation (FACE), The True Green Alliance, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Zoological Society of London.

71. Listing of marine species

71.1 Cooperation under the FAO-CITES 2006 MoU, with special reference to the scientific and technical evaluation of commercially exploited aquatic species listing proposals SC69 Doc. 71.1

The Standing Committee supported continued collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the CITES Secretariat and supported the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between FAO and the CITES Secretariat, noting the importance of Parties having access to the best available scientific information on species proposed for listing well prior to meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to consult with the Animals Committee and other relevant organizations as soon as possible when considering submissions of proposals for marine species.

The Standing Committee encouraged the Secretariat to consider ways to further enhance communication of reports of the FAO Expert Panel.

71.2 Analysis of the relevance of the advice provided by the FAO Panel of Experts for proposals on marine fish species and evaluation of the conservation benefits of marine fish species listed at CITES CoP16 and CoP17 SC69 Doc. 71.2

The Standing Committee agreed to defer consideration of this agenda item until the author of the document, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, joins the meeting.

72. Analysis of the relevance of the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) SC69 Doc. 72

The Standing Committee agreed to defer consideration of this agenda item until the author of the document, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, joins the meeting.

13. Designation and roles of Management Authorities..... SC69 Doc. 13

The Standing Committee established an intersessional working group on Management Authorities with a mandate to assist the Secretariat in the preparation of a draft resolution on Management Authorities for consideration at the 70th meeting of the Committee.

The membership of the intersessional working group on Management Authorities was agreed as follows: Norway (Chair), Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Gabon, Georgia, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United States of America, and Zimbabwe, and Center for Biological Diversity, Center for International Environmental Law, and World Wildlife Fund.

19. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions SC69 Doc. 19

The Standing Committee noted document SC69 Doc. 19 and the observations provided at the 69th meeting on the importance of the cooperation with other biodiversity related Conventions.

The Standing Committee encouraged the Secretariat to provide advice to Parties, via a Notification as necessary, on ongoing cooperative processes and their relationships.