

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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

Strategic matters

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS COMMITTEES:
REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 69th meeting (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the Standing Committee considered the functioning of the conflict of interest policy set out in paragraph 5 c) of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) on *Establishment of Committees*, based on document [SC69 Doc. 12](#), prepared by the Secretariat. As a result of its deliberations, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to develop and submit to its 70th meeting a standard disclosure form for declarations of interest as a means of promoting a standardized approach to such declarations.¹ The Standing Committee made other relevant recommendations that are contained in document SC70 Doc. 12 on the review of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17).

Standard disclosure form for declarations of interest

3. Pursuant to the Standing Committee's request, the Secretariat has developed a standard disclosure form for declarations of potential conflicts of interest of Members of the Animals and Plants Committees contained in the Annex to the present document. The proposed standard form is intended as a means of promoting a CITES standardized approach to such declarations.
4. If the suggested form is endorsed by the Standing Committee, each proposed candidate and each elected member of the Animals and Plants Committees would be asked to complete the declaration and submit it to the Secretariat. Any financial or other interests that could constitute a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest should be declared: first, with respect to the Member Himself or herself or relatives; and, second, with respect to any administrative unit with which the member has an employment or a contractual relationship. Only the name of the commercial entity and the nature of the interest is required to be disclosed and no amounts need to be specified (although they may be, if this information can be relevant to assessing the interest).
5. Information disclosed on the declaration shall reside within the Secretariat and shall be made available to the Chair of the relevant Committee, as deemed appropriate.

Recommendation

6. The Standing Committee is invited to consider and approve the standard disclosure form contained in the Annex to the present document, which is to be filed by candidates before their election by the Conference

¹ SC69 summary record, p.11.

of the Parties and by the elected members before every meeting of the Animals and Plants Committees, as part of the conflict of interest policy set out in paragraph 5 c) of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17).

Standard disclosure form for CITES declarations of interest

1. Do you, your immediate family member or your employer have any financial interest in the subject matter of the meeting or work in which you will be involved, which may be considered as constituting a real, potential or apparent conflict of interest?

Yes: No: If yes, please provide details:

2. Do you have, or have you had during the past four years, an employment or other professional relationship with any company, organization or institution directly involved in the harvesting, breeding, propagation, domestic or international trade of specimens of CITES-listed species or directly representing the interests of any such entity?

Yes: No: If yes, please give details in the box below.

1. Type of interest, e.g. investments, research support, advocacy, intellectual property, financial or non-financial interest (including details on any compound, work, etc.)	2. Name of company, organization or institution	3. Owned by you, a family member, employer, research unit or other?	4. Current interest? (or year ceased)

3. Is there anything else that could affect your objectivity or independence in the meeting or work, or the perception by others of your objectivity and independence?

I hereby declare that the disclosed information is correct and that no other situation of real, potential or apparent conflict of interest is known to me. I undertake to inform you of any change in these circumstances, including if an issue arises during the meeting or work itself and that I shall conduct myself in full compliance with the conflict of interest policy set out in paragraph 5 c) of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17).

Signature

Date

Name

Region