

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

Interpretation and implementation matters

Trade control and traceability

TRACEABILITY: REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

1. This document has been prepared by Mexico and Switzerland as the Chairs of the Standing Committee Working Group on Traceability.*

Recommendations

2. The Standing Committee is invited to propose the following recommendations for consideration of the Conference of Parties at its next meeting (CoP18)

The Conference of Parties is invited to:

- a) **with reference to Decision 17.152 paragraph a)**, to approve the working definition of CITES traceability as provided by the Intersessional Working Group on Traceability at its meeting at SC70 and recommend Parties to use, where feasible this working definition, which reads as follows:

Traceability is the ability to access information on specimens and events in a CITES species supply chain.*

** This information should be carried, on a case by case basis, from as close to the point of harvest as practicable and needed, to the point at which the information facilitates the verification of legal acquisition and non-detrimental findings and helps prevent laundering of illegal products.*

- b) **with reference to Decision 17.152 paragraphs b), c), d), e) and f)**, to take note of information documents SC70 Inf. 31 on working definition for traceability, SC70 Inf. 32 on technical standards for CITES traceability, SC70 Inf. 33 on Information on projects related to traceability and SC70 Inf. 34 on managerial best practice guidelines for planning and implementing CITES traceability systems, which provide guidance to Parties that implement traceability projects for CITES;
- c) **with reference to Decision 17.152 paragraph h)**, given elements above, to consider that it is not deemed to be necessary at this time to develop a resolution on traceability taking into account the current level of implementation of traceability in CITES, and to consider that the mandate given in 17.152 has been met;

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

- d) request the Secretariat to:
 - i) include the working definition on traceability in to the CITES glossary;
 - ii) continue to provide information on traceability projects and latest developments on the CITES web page on traceability¹;
 - iii) process the revisions and comments made by the Working Group on traceability during its meeting at SC 70 on the Information documents (indicated on paragraph b) above) and make them available on the CITES Web page in traceability;
 - iv) continue to support Parties in the implementation of traceability systems
 - v) continue working with UN/CEFACT and other relevant international organizations on the integration of CITES requirements into international standards and recommendations for traceability; and
 - vi) review reports submitted by Parties on their experiences in implementing traceability and to report as deemed necessary to the Standing Committee in the intersessional period following CoP 18.
- e) encourage the WG on sharks when dealing with the issue of traceability to consider the documents developed in this WG; and
- f) encourage the projected workshops on Non-Detriment Findings to also consider the issues of traceability and the supporting documents mentioned under paragraph b) above.

¹ https://cites.org/eng/prog/Cross-cutting_issues/traceability