

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

SUMMARY

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER
MORNING

Welcome from the host Government

The Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, Mr. Dmitry Kobylkin welcomed the participants to Russia and gave an opening address.

Opening remarks of the Chair

The Chair also welcomed the participants and gave an opening address.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Standing Committee adopted the provisional agenda in document SC70 Doc. 1.

2. Adoption of the working programme

The Standing Committee adopted the draft working programme in document SC70 Doc. 2 (Rev. 1).

3. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure and report of the working group

The Standing Committee adopted the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee contained in the Annex to document SC70 Doc. 3 with the following amendment:

Under Rule 11, paragraph 1: add at the end of the paragraph the following sentence "Working documents may be submitted by any Party, the Secretariat, the Chair of the Standing Committee, the Chair of the Animals Committee, the Chair of the Plants Committee or any non-Party observers at the request of the Chair."

4. Credentials

The Standing Committee noted that, at present, 13 of the 18 delegations of the members of the Standing Committee had provided credentials and that a further update would be provided later at the meeting.

5. Admission of observers

The Standing Committee noted the list of organizations that had been invited to attend the meeting as contained in document SC70 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1).

6. Financial matters

and

7. Report on proposed budget scenarios for 2020-2022

The Standing Committee noted documents SC70 Doc. 6 and SC70 Doc. 7 and agreed that further discussion on these matters would be referred to the Finance and Budget Sub-Committee (FBSC).

8. External Funding: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 8 and the progress made in implementing Decisions 17.12 to 17.15; welcomed the generous support of donors for the implementation of the Convention and the successful outcome of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-7) replenishment and the work of the Global Wildlife Program to date; and agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting the replacement of Decisions 17.10 to 17.16 by the draft decisions on external funding contained in the Annex to document SC70 Doc. 8 with the amendment to Decision 18.DD as follows:

18.DD In providing financial assistance, Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to take into consideration the administrative and financial management support needed to ensure that the funded activities are managed in an efficient, effective and accountable manner.

The Standing Committee noted the recommendation to the Secretariat to include in the terms of reference of the Wildlife Donor Roundtable mentioned in Decision 18.FF the inclusion of Parties that would need assistance for the implementation of the Convention as participants in the Wildlife Donor Roundtable.

9. Administration of the Secretariat

9.1 Administrative matters, including host country arrangements for the Secretariat

The Standing Committee welcomed the generous yearly contribution of Switzerland of one million Swiss francs for 2019-2022.

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 9.1 and the comments of the Parties and agreed to refer the proposed amendment to recommendation 26 b) in document SC70 Doc. 9.1 to the FBSC.

9.2 Administrative hosting models for the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted the oral report by the Chair and agreed that further consideration of the administrative hosting models for the Secretariat would be referred to the FBSC.

9.3 Report of UNEP on administrative matters

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 9.3.

10. Arrangements for the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18)

10.1 Preparations for CoP18

The Standing Committee noted the oral report provided by Sri Lanka.

10.2 Draft agenda

The Standing Committee approved the draft provisional agenda for CoP18 annexed to document SC70 Doc. 10.2.

10.3 Draft working programme

The Standing Committee approved the draft provisional working programme for CoP18 annexed to document SC70 Doc. 10.3 with the following amendments: agenda items 40 on *Identification Manual*

and identification of tiger skins and 60 on *Pangolins (Manis spp.)* should be considered by Committee I and agenda item 78 on *Inclusion of species in Appendix III* should be considered by Committee II.

The Standing Committee noted the request by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization that enough time be allocated in the working programme of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the consideration of proposals on marine species.

10.4 Review of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties with a mandate to review primarily Rule 26, including the new language for Rule 26.3, but also Rules 27 and 32, focusing on areas of consensus.

The membership of the in-session working group on the Rules of Procedure was agreed as follows: Canada (Chair), Botswana, China, Congo, Ethiopia, European Union, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, Niger, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, and United States of America; and IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Lewis and Clark – International Environmental Law Project, and Species Survival Network.