

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

TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER
AFTERNOON

31. Trade in specimens bred in captivity or artificially propagated

31.1 Review of ambiguities and inconsistencies in the application of Article VII, paragraphs 4 and 5, and related Resolutions: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on trade in specimens bred in captivity or artificially propagated with the mandate to revise Decisions 17.101 to 17.107 or to draft new decision(s) that would address the following elements: an update of the *Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source* in Annex 7 of document SC70 Doc. 31.1 including the comments found in Annex 8 of document SC70 Doc. 31.1; an exploration of the underlying CITES policy assumptions that may have contributed to the uneven application of Article VII, paragraph 4 and 5; further research and analysis; the engagement of the Animals and Plants Committees; and a reference to document SC70 Doc. 31.1.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: United States of America (Chair), Canada, China, European Union, France, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and China Wildlife Conservation Association, Global Eye, Humane Society International, Lewis and Clark – International Environmental Law Project and Species Survival Network.

31.2 Definition of the term 'artificially propagated': Report of the Plants Committee

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17), as contained in Annex 2 to document SC70 Doc. 31.2 and the inclusion of the new source code "Y" in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) as contained in Annex 1 to document SC70 Doc. 31.2.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to propose consequential changes to other Resolutions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit the following draft decisions to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting:

Directed to the Plants Committee

18.AA The Plants Committee shall review the implementation of paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) and the trade in specimens of artificially propagated Appendix-I species. The report shall include consideration of conservation benefits to wild populations and any adverse effects on the conservation of Appendix-I species that have been subject to the implementation of paragraph 4.

- 18.BB The Plants Committee, following the review under Decision 18.AA, shall consider any changes to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17), and as appropriate, propose such amendments for consideration of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.CC The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations of the Plants Committee made in accordance with Decisions 18.AA and 18.BB, and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

31.3 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.7 on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity*: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee endorsed recommendations 1 to 17 and recommendations 21 to 23 of the Animals Committee contained in document SC70 Doc. 31.3.

The Standing Committee agreed the following recommendation:

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia shall establish immediately, and until the Standing Committee recommends otherwise, a zero export quota for *Testudo hermanni*, and Sudan shall establish a zero export quota for *Vulpes zerda* and *Centrochelys sulcata* – the quota in all cases should apply to specimens from all sources. Both countries should provide responses to the questions posed by the Animals Committee at its 29th meeting to the Secretariat by 1 February 2019. The Secretariat will share the response(s) with the Animals Committee, through its Chair, and report to the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee.

32. Disposal of confiscated specimens: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on disposal of confiscated specimens with the mandate to draft a new decision to carry forward the work begun under Decisions 17.118 and 17.119.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: Switzerland (Chair), Argentina, Canada, China, European Union, France, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Peru, Spain, Sweden and the United States of America; and Eurogroup for Animals, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and San Diego Zoo Global.

33. Specimens produced from synthetic and cultured DNA: Report of the Secretariat and of the working group Chair

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on biotechnology with the mandate to review the information and recommendations referred to in document SC70 Doc. 33; propose changes to the draft decisions on *Specimens produced through biotechnology* contained in Annex 1 of document SC70 Doc. 33 based on the comments made during the plenary session; and consider any further recommendations on the way forward in regulating specimens produced through biotechnology, as needed.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: Mexico (Chair), France, Norway and the United States of America; and Center for Biological Diversity, China Wildlife Conservation Association, Lewis and Clark – International Environmental Law Project and San Diego Zoo Global.

27. Compliance matters

27.3 Application of Article XIII

27.3.2 Application of Article XIII in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

27.3.2.1 Report of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

and

27.3.2.2 Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee agreed the following recommendations:

Regarding quota setting and management

- a) The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) shall strengthen its Scientific Authorities by building capacity and allocating sufficient modern resources for the making of the non-detriment findings and the setting of annual export quotas based on the best available science;

*Regarding the management of trade in *Psittacus erithacus**

- b) Parties shall maintain the suspension of trade in specimens of the species *Psittacus erithacus* from DRC pending compliance with the recommendations made at SC69;
- c) Donors and cooperation agencies are encouraged to support DRC in the undertaking of population surveys and development of management plans for *Psittacus erithacus*;

Regarding trade in pangolin stockpiles

- d) Parties shall suspend trade in stockpiled specimens of *Manis* spp. from DRC, until further guidance is provided by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (CoP18);

*Regarding trade in *Pericopsis elata**

- e) The Plants Committee is requested to assess the third revision of the non-detriment finding for *Pericopsis elata* submitted by DRC and make appropriate recommendations in the context of the Review of Significant Trade for this species/country combination, including on exports of timber exported outside the annual export quota under claims of second transformation;

Regarding illegal trade

- f) DRC shall intensify efforts to conduct analyses of available information to map organized crime groups active in the country and convene multi-disciplinary investigative teams involving all relevant authorities, to work in close collaboration with local authorities in key identified areas, and initiate intelligence-driven operations and investigations, with a particular focus on pangolins and ivory;

Regarding compliance assistance

- g) Parties, partners and donors are encouraged to provide joint and coordinated financial, technical and logistical support to DRC to support the implementation of the above recommendations with a particular focus on scientific-related assistance;

Regarding reporting

- h) DRC should report to the Secretariat on progress made on the implementation of these recommendations by 31 December 2019, in order for the Secretariat to convey this report and its comments to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.

27.3.5 Application of Article XIII in Nigeria

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on Nigeria with the mandate to review the recommendations in paragraph 52, subparagraphs a), c), m) and p) of document SC70 Doc. 27.3.5.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: Portugal (Chair), Cameroon, China, European Union, Gabon, Nigeria, Senegal, the United States of America and Viet Nam; Environmental Investigation Agency (USA) and World Resources Institute; and ForestBased Solutions.