

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

WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER
AFTERNOON

56. Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.): Report of the working group

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on rhinoceroses with the mandate to review the recommendations in paragraph 92 of document SC70 Doc. 56 and make any necessary modifications and to indicate whether paragraphs 93 through 96 of document SC70 Doc. 56 should be submitted to the Conference of the Parties as draft decisions, after having ensured that these draft decisions are not duplicating provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) on *Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses*.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Chair), China, Kenya, Malaysia, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United States of America, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe; the International Union for Conservation of Nature; and Born Free Foundation, Conservation Force, Humane Society International, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund and Zoological Society of London.

61. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.): Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted the reports received from China, Thailand and the United States of America, thanking these Parties for the reports submitted; further noted the low response rate from Parties; and requested other Parties, in particular those affected by illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles, to provide reports for consideration by the Committee at its 71st meeting.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP13) on *Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles*, presented in Annex 5 to document SC70 Doc. 61, to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for consideration with paragraph 1 b) amended as follows:

b) range States of tortoises and freshwater turtles to consider developing management strategies concerning CITES-listed tortoises and freshwater turtles, including regional action plans for the conservation of tortoises and freshwater turtles, in collaboration with the Secretariat, industry representatives, interested governmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders as appropriate.

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties and observers to provide feedback to the Tortoise and Freshwater Turtles Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature on the draft guidance on how to photograph tortoise and freshwater turtle specimens for identification purposes, as presented in Annex 6 to document SC70 Doc. 61, for such feedback to be considered in the finalization of the guidance.

67. Annotations

67.1 Report of the working group

The Standing Committee noted the general support for the proposed amendment to Annotation #5 for *Pericopsis elata* as described in paragraph 16 of document SC70 Doc. 67.1 and invited interested Parties to draft an amendment for consideration at CoP18, if they so wish.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP17) included in Annex 1 to document SC70 Doc. 67.1 and the proposed amendments to the Interpretation section of the CITES Appendices included in Annex 2 to document SC70 Doc. 67.1.

The Standing Committee established an in-session working group on Annotation #15 with the following mandate to:

- a) consider the two options identified for the revision or replacement of Annotation #15 in document SC70 Doc. 67.1, taking into account the changes proposed to option 1) by Peru on behalf of Central and South America and the Caribbean, and provide guidance on the possible way forward;
- b) consider paragraphs b) to i) of Decision 16.162 and propose new draft decisions should the work in these paragraphs be continued;
- c) review and finalize draft decisions on a mechanism to conduct a periodic review of the existing annotations and a pre-review or screening process of annotations and on an information system to process all relevant trade data related to trade transactions in specimens of CITES-listed tree species authorized under the provisions of the Convention.

The membership of the working group was agreed as follows: Canada (Chair), Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, European Union, France, Gabon, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America; and Center for International Environmental Law, Environmental Investigation Agency (U.K.), Environmental Investigation Agency (USA), International Wood Product Association, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, League of American Orchestras, Species Survival Network, World Resources Institute, and World Wildlife Fund; and C.F. Martin & Co., Inc., Chambre Syndicale de la Façture Instrumentale (CSFI), Confédération des Industries Musicales Européennes (CAFIM), Fender Musical Instrument Corp., ForestBased Solutions Llc., International Association of Violin and Bow Makers, Overseas Traders, Paul Reed Smith Guitars, and Taylor Guitars.

67.2 Appendix II orchids: Report of the Plants Committee

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 67.2 and agreed to submit the following draft decisions to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

18.AA Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) seek information on the trade in orchid parts and derivatives (wild and artificially propagated) in consideration of the potential conservation impact of exempting orchid products from CITES controls, completing the work already initiated on orchids used in the production of cosmetics and personal care products and then considering orchids used in other commodities (e.g. medicinals and foodstuffs), subject to the availability of funding;
- b) seek information from Parties and relevant other stakeholder groups, including industry, on: the trade in orchid products from source to final product, including the identification of the major industry sectors involved in the trade; how non-detriment findings and legal acquisition findings are made; traceability along the trade chain; and trade reporting. It should also request information on orchid parts and derivatives used in products, sectors involved, and conservation concerns for wild populations;

- c) undertake an analysis of the potential conservation impact of orchid exemptions, subject to the availability of funding. This may include developing case studies on key orchid species identified in trade as finished products, including but not limited to, the species identified in the Annex to Document PC22 Doc. 22.1, Annex 2 to Document PC23 Doc. 32, and Annex 3 to Document PC24 Doc. 28, as well as the two case studies of orchid foodstuffs outlined in Document PC22 Inf. 6, workshop(s), or a study on trade data sources;
- d) based on the information obtained from Parties, as well as from other sources, analyse the risks of trade in products containing parts or derivatives of orchids to conservation and provide its conclusions about such risks. Based on the findings and the analyses, the working group shall highlight any knowledge gaps, review the current annotation for Appendix II-listed orchids, and suggest amendments, as it considers appropriate;
- e) where relevant, work in close consultation with the Standing Committee, including its Working Group on Annotations; and
- f) report its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

18.BB Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall consider the findings and recommendations of the Plants Committee and provide the results of the work and its recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

18.CC Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) provide support to the Plants Committee for implementation of Decision 18.AA; and
- b) seek funding to implement Decision 18.AA.

18.DD Directed to the Parties

Parties are encouraged to:

- a) submit to the Plants Committee, through the Secretariat, information on the trade in orchid products from source to final products; and
- b) provide funding for Decision 18.AA, and provide assistance to the Secretariat in reaching out to other stakeholders and user groups that may be able to provide funding to support this work.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the definition of “cosmetics” amended as follows:

Any product or mixture of products which is applied to an external part of the body only (e.g. skin, ~~lips,~~ hair, nails, ~~external genital organs, lips~~) or to teeth or the mucous membranes of the oral cavity with a view the intent to clean, odourise, change the appearance or protect ~~and/or keep these parts in good condition~~. Cosmetics may include the following: make-up, perfume, skin cream, nail polish, hair colourants, soap, shampoo, shaving cream, deodorant, sunscreens, toothpaste.

11. Revision and replacement of CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee agreed to propose the replacement of Resolution Conf. 16.3 (Rev. CoP17) on *CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020* by a new resolution found in Annex 2 of document SC70 Doc. 11 for consideration by the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with Objective 4.1 amended as follows:

- Objective 4.1 Parties support wildlife trade policies that increase the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities and deter poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit the following draft decisions for consideration by the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

Decision 18.BB directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) undertake a comparative analysis in order to illustrate the linkages between the adopted CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and the goals within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, once adopted, the post-2020 biodiversity framework, and present their analysis to the Standing Committee for their information; and
- b) review the objectives of CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 against the current CITES Resolutions and Decisions and identify to the Animals and Plants Committee as appropriate, and to the Standing Committee those objectives (if any) where the current CITES policies as found in the Resolutions and Decisions do not appear to address activities in support of achieving that objective of the CITES Strategic Vision.

Decision 18.CC directed to the Animals and Plants Committee

The Animals and Plants Committees will review the draft analysis prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 18.BB paragraph 2 and provide their recommendations to the Standing Committee.

Decision 18.DD directed to the Standing Committee

- a) The Standing Committee shall, in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and taking into account the information provided by Parties via the Report on Implementation as well as the comparative analysis prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 18.BB paragraph a), make recommendations on new or revised indicators of progress to be included in the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030*, for consideration by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- b) The Standing Committee shall review the information provided by the Secretariat in Decision 18.BB paragraph 2, as well as the views of the Animals and Plants Committees, and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee requested the United States of America and the European Union to propose new text for Decision 18.AA as an in-session document.

The Standing Committee agreed to recommend to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting the deletion of Decisions 17.18 and 17.19.

12. Review of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17): Report of the working group

The Standing Committee agreed to not include the terms of reference of the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup in the proposed revisions to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17).

The Standing Committee agreed the additional amendment proposed in paragraph 9 of document SC70 Doc. 12.

The Standing Committee also agreed the additional amendment proposed to the conflict of interest policy found in paragraph 13 of document SC70 Doc. 14.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to present in an in-session document the amendments to Annex 2 of document SC70 Doc. 12 made during the plenary session, as well as proposed draft decisions to consider whether the terms of reference of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee should be included in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) and to draft guidance to assist Chairs of working groups in their role.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee, to make editorial corrections to the draft new Resolution on *Establishment of Committees*.

13. Potential conflicts of interest in the Animals and Plants Committee: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee approved the following standard disclosure form which is to be filed by candidates before their election by the Conference 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

A “conflict of interest” refers to any current financial interest which could significantly impair the individual’s impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a member of the Committee. A candidate’s employment by itself does not automatically constitute a conflict of interest.

1. Do you or an ~~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 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

14. Designation and roles of Management Authorities

The Standing Committee welcomed the submission to CoP18, by the Secretariat of the draft resolution on *Designation and roles of Management Authorities* and invited Parties to provide their comments in writing to the Secretariat.