

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

FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER
MORNING

41. Stocks and stockpiles of specimens of CITES-listed species: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the following draft decision:

Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP18)

Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat, review the existing provisions agreed by the Parties concerning controls on stocks of specimens of CITES-listed species. It shall consider their objectives and implementation, and the resource implications for Parties and the Secretariat, and shall report its conclusions and recommendations at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

59. Snakes (Serpentes spp.): Report of the Secretariat and of the Animals Committee

The Standing Committee noted the conclusions of the Animals Committee in document SC70 Doc. 59 in fulfilment of Decision of 17.280.

62. Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*)

62.1 Report of the Secretariat

and

62.2 Report of Mexico

The Standing Committee encouraged donors to make co-funding available to the Secretariat for undertaking the study called for in Decision 17.149.

The Standing Committee agreed that the Secretariat shall include in Section 5 of the outline for a study on vaquita and totoaba in Annex 2 of document SC70 Doc. 62.1 an analysis of the potential impact of legal trade in totoaba on the conservation of the vaquita and totoaba.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties asking range, transit and consumer States of totoaba to provide information on the implementation of Decisions 17.146 to 17.148 and any other relevant information.

The Standing Committee noted the invitation extended by Mexico to the Secretariat at its 69th meeting and urged the Secretariat to undertake such a high level mission in early 2019 and to report orally on this mission at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a report to the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decisions 17.145 to 17.151, taking into account the information received from Parties in response to the Notification mentioned above, and propose amendments to Decisions 17.145 to 17.151, as appropriate to extend these Decisions.

63. Possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on *Implementation of the Convention for timber species*: Recommendations of Plants Committee

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) in Annex 1 of document SC70 Doc. 63, noting the concerns about the formulation of the consultation requirements in paragraphs 1 a) and b) of the Resolution expressed by Honduras, Peru and Chile and further noting that other elements of the Resolution might need further clarification.

64. Appendix III listings: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee noted that Parties generally consider that there are benefits for listing species on Appendix III, but implementation needs to be more effective and consistent.

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the following draft decisions:

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

The Animals and Plants Committees shall evaluate how nomenclature changes affect Appendix-III listings and propose guidance and recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting that address how such nomenclature changes are to be handled.

Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, shall at its 73rd meeting take into account the guidance and recommendations from the Animals and Plants Committees and make recommendations to address nomenclature changes that affect an Appendix-III listing, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP17), for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee and New Zealand as chair of intersessional working group, to prepare draft amendments to Resolution Conf.9.25 (Rev. CoP17) on *Inclusion of species in Appendix III* for consideration by the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, taking into account the results of the intersessional working group in document SC70 Doc. 64.

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties with species listed on Appendix III to review those listings from time to time in accordance with paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP17).

65. Guidance on the application of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) when preparing to list commercially exploited aquatic species in the Appendices

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 65 after the draft decisions in it were removed.

68. Review of Resolution Conf. 10.9 on *Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II*: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the repeal of Resolution Conf. 10.9 on *Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II*.

16. Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the following draft decisions to replace Decisions 17.44 to 17.48.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.AA The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding:

- a) contract a consultant to develop CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species, taking into consideration the results of the study commissioned by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 17.48, paragraph a), and any recommendations resulting from the workshop convened in accordance with Decision 17.48, paragraph b);
- b) submit the draft CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species to the Standing Committee for its consideration;
- c) support interested Parties in implementing demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species and provide necessary technical cooperation to those Parties on an ongoing basis.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.BB The Standing Committee shall review the guidance developed in accordance with Decision 18.AA, and make recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.

17. Livelihoods and food security: Report of the working group

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.41 to 17.43, noting that Israel objected to their renewal.

18. Community awareness on wildlife trafficking: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted the developments in the implementation of Decision 17.86 as described in document SC70 Doc. 18; and encouraged Parties to take into account the findings outlined in document SC70 Doc. 18 when preparing and implementing strategies to engage rural communities in the fight against poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and when preparing draft documents for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

19. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 19 and noted that the Secretariat intends to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.55 and 17.56.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a notification encouraging CITES focal points to liaise with their Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) counterparts to ensure that relevant CITES provisions are included in country submissions to the CBD Notification 2018-063 with their initial views on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including any evidence which could contribute to the scientific underpinning of the scale and scope of actions necessary to make progress towards the 2050 Vision set out by the CBD.

The Standing Committee also invited the Secretariat to submit relevant reports adopted by CITES to the CBD Secretariat to assist with the work on the post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. Notification and relevant reports of CITES to CBD.

23. United Nations World Wildlife Day: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 23 and noted that the Secretariat intends to propose to the Conference of the Parties the draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 17.1 in the Annex to document SC70 Doc. 23.

46. Review of precious corals in international trade (Order Antipatharia/Family Corallidae): Report of the Animals Committee

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.192 and 17.193 and noted the challenges posed by the lack of specific customs codes for international trade in precious corals and their parts and derivatives, when considering the finalized report of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and making its recommendations, as appropriate.

60. Queen conch: Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 60 and welcomed the 3rd meeting of the joint CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM Working Group on Queen Conch.

The Standing Committee noted that the Secretariat intends to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.286 and 17.289.

66. Periodic review of the Appendices: Report of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 66 and the progress being made by the Animals and Plants Committees in implementing Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17) and the conduct of periodic reviews.

Adoption of Executive Summaries

The executive summary of the first session in document SC70 Sum. 1 was adopted with the following amendments:

- Under agenda item 3, in the second paragraph, replace the words “none Party” with “non-Party”; and
- Under agenda item 9.1, the second paragraph should read “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 FBS”.

The executive summary of the second session in document SC70 Sum. 2 was adopted with the following amendments:

- Under agenda item 10.5, delete “that”;
- Under agenda item 10.6, in the second paragraph, replace “requirements for prioritizing” with “ways to prioritize”;
- Under agenda item 27.3.1, in paragraph 1, add a comma after “furniture” and renumber paragraph q) as paragraph 8; and
- Under agenda item 27.4, in the first paragraph, correct the title of Annex 3 to read “*Guidelines to the National Ivory Actions Plans process*” and correct the numbering of the recommendations.

The executive summary of the third session in document SC70 Sum. 3 was adopted with the following amendments:

- Under agenda item 27.3.4, include the following sentence at the end of the second paragraph: “The Standing Committee reached this conclusion on the basis of the analysis in paragraphs 52 to 60 of document SC70 Doc. 27.3.4 and approved the analysis and conclusion referred as option a).”; in the fourth line of fourth paragraph, replace “pending” with “outstanding”; and the fifth paragraph should read as follows:

“The Standing Committee requested Japan to report to the Secretariat by 1 February 2019 on i) the implementation of the technical remedial actions mentioned above, and ii) the remedial actions implemented and proposed by Japan to accommodate the compliance matters concerning Article III, paragraph 5(c), of the Convention. The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to convey these reports and its recommendations to the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee. At its 71st meeting, the Standing Committee shall review the Secretariat’s report and, if not satisfied that the provisions of Article III, paragraph 5(c), are met, take compliance measures.”