

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventy-first meeting of the Standing Committee
Colombo (Sri Lanka), 22 May 2019

Interpretation and implementation matters

Regulation of trade

IMPLEMENTATION OF ASPECTS OF DECISIONS 17.171 TO 17.172
ON STOCKS AND STOCKPILES (ELEPHANT IVORY)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Paragraph 6 of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) on *Trade in elephant specimens* URGES:

those Parties in whose jurisdiction there is an ivory carving industry, a legal domestic trade in ivory, an unregulated market for or illegal trade in ivory, or where ivory stockpiles exist, and Parties designated as ivory importing countries, to ensure that they have put in place comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory, enforcement and other measures to:

- a)
- b)
- c) *introduce recording and inspection procedures to enable the Management Authority and other appropriate government agencies to monitor the movement of ivory within the State, particularly by means of:*
 - i) *compulsory trade controls over raw ivory; and*
 - ii) *comprehensive and demonstrably effective stock inventory, reporting, and enforcement systems for worked ivory;*
- d)
- e) *maintain an inventory of government-held stockpiles of ivory and, where possible, of significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory, and inform the Secretariat of the level of this stock each year before 28 February, inter alia to be made available to the programme Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) for their analyses, indicating the number of pieces and their weight per type of ivory (raw or worked); for relevant pieces, and if marked, their markings in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution; the source of the ivory; and the reasons for any significant changes in the stockpile compared to the preceding year;*

3. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted two Decisions on *Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

17.171 *Where appropriate, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with Parties and subject to external funding:*

- a) *develop practical guidance for the management of ivory stockpiles, including their disposal, based on an analysis of best practices and in accordance with provisions in Resolutions Conf. 17.8 on Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species and Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) on Trade in elephant specimens;*
- b) *disseminate the guidance to the Parties and make it available on the CITES website; and*
- c) *report on the implementation of this Decision as part of its regular reporting to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17), prior to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.172 The Standing Committee shall make recommendations for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.

4. At the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018), the Committee noted that the Secretariat intended to finalise the development and dissemination of practical guidance for the management of ivory stockpiles in time to report at the present meeting.
5. The Committee further agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties, at its 18th meeting, the replacement of Decision 17.172 by the following draft decision:

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.AA The Standing Committee shall review the practical guidance for the management of ivory stockpiles, including their disposal, prepared by the Secretariat and make recommendations as appropriate for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

6. The Secretariat will report orally on the implementation of Decision 17.171 at the present meeting.