

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



Seventy-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Lyon (France), 7 - 11 March 2022

SUMMARY

TUESDAY 8 MARCH  
EVENING

27. National reports: Submission of annual reports ..... SC74 Doc. 27

The Committee noted the call for Parties to submit their annual reports in a timely manner and for the Secretariat to explore ways to support Parties in the submission of their annual reports.

The Committee instructed the Secretariat to determine whether Albania, Burundi, Chad, Dominica, Iran, Libya, Mongolia, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe and the Syrian Arab Republic have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years, without having provided adequate justification. If so determined, the Secretariat will issue a Notification (60 days after the closure of this 74th meeting of the Standing Committee) recommending that Parties not authorize any commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties until they have provided the missing reports.

29. Compliance Assistance Programme: Report of the Secretariat ..... SC74 Doc. 29

The Committee noted the information provided by the Parties and the observers which is used by the Secretariat in the design of assistance programmes to eligible Parties. The Committee agreed to submit to CoP19 the following revised amendment to Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES compliance procedures*;

RECALLING ~~Decision 12.84, whereby that~~ the Conference of the Parties at its 12th meeting (Santiago, 2002) instructed the Secretariat to draft a set of guidelines on compliance with implementation of the Convention for consideration by the Standing Committee;

RECALLING FURTHER that the Standing Committee at its 50th meeting (Geneva, March 2004) decided to establish an open-ended working group to draft such guidelines;

RECALLING FURTHER that the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (Geneva, 2019) instructed the Secretariat to establish a Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP);

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. TAKES NOTE of the Guide to CITES compliance procedures annexed to this Resolution; ~~and~~
2. RECOMMENDS that the Guide be referred to, when dealing with compliance matters;
3. TAKES NOTE that the Secretariat has established the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) to support Parties countries facing persistent compliance challenges; and

4. INVITES all Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources to provide financial and/or technical assistance for the effective implementation of the CAP.

The Committee further agreed to submit the following draft decisions to CoP19 to replace Decisions 18.68 to 18.70:

**19.AA Directed to the Parties**

Parties are invited to continue to provide financial or technical support to Parties subject to compliance mechanisms and other related compliance measures as specified in Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES compliance procedures* to further strengthen their institutional capacity.

**19.BB Directed to the Secretariat**

The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funding:

- a) upon request, conduct technical missions and facilitate the organization of in-country assistance coordination mechanisms to selected Parties eligible to benefit from the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP);
- b) in consultation with the International University of Andalucía which hosts the Masters Course in 'Management and Conservation of Species in Trade – The International Framework' and other relevant universities, explore the possibility and feasibility of training and deploying short term consultants to assist Parties benefiting from the Compliance Assistance Programme; and
- c) report to the Standing Committee on the progress made in the implementation of Decisions 19.AA and 19.BB.

**19.CC Directed to the Standing Committee**

The Standing Committee shall monitor progress in the implementation of the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) and report its findings and recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

31. Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews: Report of the Secretariat..... SC74 Doc. 31

The Committee agreed that it was premature to conclude on the need to develop a new mechanism to provide targeted support to Parties at a national level based on the scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar. The Committee further agreed that the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees should, in consultation with the Secretariat, and if appropriate, propose to CoP19 draft decisions, possibly as part of the draft decisions on the capacity-building framework, in order to ensure this work be continued.

22. Capacity-building: Report of the working group ..... SC74 Doc. 22

The Committee noted document SC74 Doc. 22 and the progress made in implementation of Decisions 18.39 through 18.46. The Committee agreed to submit to CoP19 the following amended draft resolution and draft decisions on *capacity-building*.

Draft resolution Conf. 19.XX on *Capacity-building*

REITERATING Goal 3 of the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* as set out in Resolution Conf. 18.3, and specific objectives 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7, that Parties (individually and collectively) have the tools, resources and capacity to effectively implement and enforce the Convention, contributing to conservation, sustainable use and reduction of illegal trade in CITES listed species;

RECALLING that the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* recognizes the relationship of CITES with and the contribution it makes to other international efforts and actions, including achieving the relevant Sustainable Development Goals, and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

FURTHER RECALLING that the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* requests cooperation among Parties, relevant international partners, international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to support activities that contribute to CITES implementation and enforcement;

ACKNOWLEDGING the availability of the technological tools and innovations that support capacity-building activities are rapidly evolving;

RECOGNIZING the need for a more integrated and coherent approach to capacity-building in supporting the implementation of the Convention;

AWARE that many Parties would benefit from both general capacity development and capacity-building targeted to help address implementation, compliance, and enforcement issues;

RECOGNIZING the special and diverse needs of developing country Parties, in particular the Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, with regard to difficulties in the establishment, staffing, training and equipment of Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities, as well as enforcement authorities and entities;

RECOGNIZING that capacity-building and compliance assistance efforts to improve the effectiveness of CITES can involve every aspect of the Convention, and need to be broadly integrated;

NOTING with appreciation efforts by various national, regional and international organizations and initiatives to support Parties in the effective implementation of the Convention; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that CITES capacity-building efforts benefit from external funding, that improved coordination among donors is needed to make efficient and strategic use of limited resources, and that an integrated framework for capacity-building can provide a vehicle for more effective coordination;

#### THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. AGREES that full implementation of CITES requires the provision of adequate tools and resources and timely capacity building efforts;
2. INVITES Parties to:
  - a) support the capacity-building efforts of other Parties through sharing of information regarding capacity-building materials and efforts, translating materials into both the working languages and non-working languages of the Convention, offering advice related to CITES implementation, as appropriate, and providing of financial support for in-person training or training opportunities;
  - b) ensure the inclusion of capacity-building, including targeted, technical, enforcement and compliance assistance, in the bilateral and multilateral programmes of development aid in which they participate; and
  - c) utilize the CITES Virtual College to support capacity-building activities and provide the Secretariat with inputs for the improvements of its services;
3. ENCOURAGES Parties to use the CITES implementation reports, as well as direct expression of interest, to inform the Secretariat about their capacity needs, underlining their most urgent needs;
4. DIRECTS the Secretariat to:
  - a) seek external funding and provide capacity-building support to Parties, paying particular attention to the needs of Parties identified through compliance procedures, CITES implementation reports and direct expressions of interest, recently acceded Parties, and the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;
  - b) cooperate with institutions and organizations in planning and delivering joint capacity-building activities of relevance to the Convention, in consultation with the Standing Committee and with the Animals and Plants Committees, including scholarships for in-person training or training opportunities;

- c) collect information on capacity-building materials and efforts from Parties and others, and make these resources available to Parties through the CITES website; and
  - d) continue to undertake the revision and enhancement of the CITES website and of the CITES Virtual College, in consultation with the Standing Committee and with the Animals and Plants Committees, including selected online courses, to update the content and to improve their effectiveness in providing access to capacity-building resources to Parties;
5. REQUESTS the Animals and Plants Committees to offer advice and input as appropriate to Parties and to the Secretariat related to CITES implementation and capacity-building activities, which may include identifying capacity-building needs and priorities and making recommendations for developing or improving capacity-building materials and tools;
6. INVITES Parties and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to make funding available to the Secretariat for carrying out its capacity-building projects and activities, and provide appropriate materials that facilitate the capacity-building activities and efforts of Parties and the Secretariat; and
7. REPEALS Resolution Conf. 3.4 on *Technical cooperation*.

Draft decisions on *Capacity-building*

**19.AA Directed to the Parties**

Parties are invited to share ideas, experiences, and information related to the development of an integrated capacity-building framework aiming to guide Parties, the Secretariat and external partners, as appropriate, to identify capacity-building needs and to prioritize, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor and review the benefit of their capacity-building efforts for more effective implementation of the Convention.

**19.BB Directed to the Standing Committee**

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) continue the development of an integrated capacity-building framework, including a common language and clear definitions, to improve the implementation of the Convention, with inputs from the Animals and Plants Committees, the Finance and Budget Subcommittee, and the Secretariat;
- b) in doing so, ensure the representation of perspectives and contexts of different regions and stakeholders (including from Parties that fund and Parties that receive capacity-building support) and consider developing a mechanism for Parties to identify the specific needs that, if met, would allow them to achieve full capacity to implement CITES; and
- c) provide a draft integrated capacity-building framework (which may include conceptual models, tools and guidance), along with its recommendations, for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

**19.CC Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees**

The Animals and Plants Committees shall engage in consultations with the Standing Committee, as called for in Decision 19.BB; and with the Secretariat as called for in Decision 19.DD.

**19.DD Directed to the Secretariat**

The Secretariat shall provide input to the Standing Committee and, subject to the availability of external funding and in consultation with the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees, organise technical workshops and regional consultations that would facilitate the implementation by the Standing Committee of Decision 19.BB.

32. Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on  
*Compliance and enforcement: Report of the working group* ..... SC74 Doc. 32

The Committee agreed to propose to CoP19 the amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Compliance and enforcement* as found in the Annexes to document SC74 Doc. 32. Annex 1 presents the recommended changes in underlined and strike through text, with explanatory notes, as needed, and Annex 2 presents a clean version of the Resolution with recommended changes accepted.

The Committee requested its Chair to work with the Chair of the intersessional working group on the review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) and the Secretariat to develop a draft decision to further consider the gaps in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18), taking into account other ongoing work under the Standing Committee.

33. Enforcement

33.1 Enforcement matters: Report of the Secretariat..... SC74 Doc. 33.1

The Committee:

- a) noted the activities reported upon;
- b) noted the reporting of the Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.6, paragraph b), concerning Ghana;
- c) welcomed the resolutions and declarations adopted since CoP18 in different fora concerning addressing wildlife crime, and encouraged Parties to actively pursue the implementation of the commitments made by UN Member States in these fora;
- d) encouraged Parties to step up efforts to actively pursue activities at national level to facilitate engagement to target money-laundering and illicit financial flows associated with wildlife crime, in particular by pursuing the implementation of paragraph 15.f) in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Compliance and enforcement*; and
- e) encouraged Parties to draw upon the tools, reports, handbooks and other resources developed that are available to them through the *Enforcement webpage* on the CITES Secretariat website, to inform and strengthen their responses to wildlife crime.

33.3 International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime:  
*Report of the Secretariat* ..... SC74 Doc. 33.3

The Committee:

- a) noted the broad range of activities reported upon and support available to Parties through ICCWC;
- b) encouraged Parties to draw upon the World Wildlife Crime Report 2020 developed by the UNODC in cooperation with ICCWC partners, to inform their decision-making and in support of the development of appropriate law enforcement responses to wildlife crime;
- c) invited China to work with the Secretariat to discuss their concerns about the World Wildlife Crime Report 2020 and to engage ICCWC partners in this regard;
- d) encouraged Parties that have implemented the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit to actively pursue mobilizing resources and to make dedicated efforts to implement the resulting recommendations, requesting support from ICCWC where needed;
- e) encouraged donors, international and national organizations with ongoing initiatives in countries that implemented the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit to liaise with national authorities to explore how their ongoing efforts could align with the recommendations of the Toolkit and support their implementation; and

- f) noted the progress made with the development of the ICCWC Vision 2030 and accompanying 2023-2026 Strategic Action Plan and encourage Parties to continue their support to ICCWC in the context of Decision 18.13.

33.2 Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species..... SC74 Doc. 33.2

The Committee:

- a) requested the Secretariat to publish the outcomes of the *Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species* on the CITES website;
- b) requested Parties to take note of the measures and activities agreed at the Task Force meeting to elaborate strategies to prevent and combat illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species, and to fully implement the measures and activities as relevant to them;
- c) requested the Secretariat to invite the intergovernmental agencies and enforcement networks outlined in the outcome document to actively pursue the measures and activities agreed at the Task Force in the implementation of their work programmes;
- d) invited Parties to:
- i) review the [Revised compendium of timber identification resources](#) available in the Annex to the Addendum to document PC25 Doc. 19, and communicate to the Secretariat by 30 April 2022 any additional information that could be used to further develop and update the compendium in preparation for its publication in a dedicated section of the CITES website; and
- ii) draw upon the information in the *Revised compendium of timber identification resources* to support their work; and
- e) recommended to CoP19 that Decisions 18.79 and 18.80 have been implemented and can be deleted.

The Committee agreed to propose adding to the draft decisions agreed at PC25 on identification of timber and other wood products an additional subparagraph to draft decision 19.CC in paragraph 19 of document PC25 SR, for submission to CoP19, as follows:

**19.CC Directed to the Plants Committee**

The Plants Committee shall, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and building on information on existing initiatives, and progress to date:

- a) consider progress and results reported by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.AA;
- b) consider the relevant outcomes of the online *Task Force meeting on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species* presented in the Annex to the Addendum to document SC74 Doc. 33.2;
- cb) determine gaps and complementarities in various tools and knowledge sources for timber identification, such as existing field identification guidelines and keys, and on their availability and usefulness;
- de) develop standardized information templates and other tools that could be used by Parties to facilitate sharing information on the content and status of wood sample collections, and exchange with research institutions, law enforcement agencies, and other authorities;
- ed) assist Parties to identify existing laboratory services for the identification of timber and wood products and to strengthen screening and forensic capacity to identify CITES- listed tree species in trade;

- f) determine methods to stimulate global, regional and national exchange of best practices in wood identification technologies between Parties; and
- gf) update the Standing Committee, as appropriate, on progress made on the implementation of Decisions 19.AA to 19.DD; and report its findings and recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

33.4 Wildlife crime linked to the Internet: Report of the Secretariat..... SC74 Doc. 33.4

The Committee noted document SC74 Doc. 33.4.

73. Pangolins (*Manis* spp.): Report of the Secretariat..... SC74 Doc. 73

The Committee:

- a) noted report presented in Annex 2 to document SC74 Doc. 73;
- b) noted that the Animals Committee will propose to CoP19 the following draft decision 19. AA:

***Directed to the Animals Committee***

19.AA The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review the conversion parameters for all pangolin species, developed in accordance with the provisions of Decision 18.239, to enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, and that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for law enforcement and court purposes; and
- b) make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.
- c) encouraged all pangolin range States to step up efforts and actively pursue the implementation of Decision 18.238, by taking urgent steps, where not yet done, to develop and implement *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes, which include population assessments; and
- d) reminded Parties about the [Pangolin Species Identification Guide and reference materials](#) developed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and encourage Parties to bring the guide and materials to the attention of all relevant authorities.

The Committee agreed to propose to CoP19 to renew Decision 18.238 and to submit to CoP19 the following amended draft decisions:

***Directed to Parties***

19.BB All Parties are strongly encouraged to identify seized pangolin specimens at species level and report the seizures at species level in their annual illegal trade reports.

19.CC Parties in whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist are encouraged to take urgent steps to establish and apply, where not yet done, strict control measures to secure these stocks, as called for in paragraph 3 of [Resolution Conf. 17.10 on Conservation of and trade in pangolins](#) and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

19.DD The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification inviting Parties, international organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that developed identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, to bring such materials to the attention of the Secretariat;

- b) bring any materials reported in accordance with Decision 19.CC paragraph a) to the attention of the Animals Committee, together with any recommendations the Secretariat may have;
- c) subject to external funding, provide training to Parties on the identification of pangolin specimens;
- d) work with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) to initiate activities and support the efforts of Parties to address illegal trade in Pangolin specimens; and
- e) report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decision 19.CC.

***Directed to the Animals Committee***

- 19.EE The Animals Committee shall review existing identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, and consider the need for new or additional materials to be developed, including to support the identification of seized pangolin specimens at species level, and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

- 19.FF The Standing Committee shall:
- a) consider the report and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decisions 19.AA and 19.DD, and make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and
  - b) report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.