

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

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Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Gigiri (Kenya), 10-20 April 2000

Strategic and administrative matters

Evolution of the Convention

IMPROVEMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONVENTION:  
FINANCING CONSERVATION OF SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

1. This document has been prepared and submitted by France.
2. Financing for implementation of the Convention, specifically for implementation of the provisions contained in Article IV, paragraph 3, concerning the monitoring of populations of species listed in Appendix II, is insufficient even with additional voluntary contributions from the Parties and assistance provided by donors.
3. The carrying out of projects for the conservation and sustainable management of wild species of fauna and flora requires funds that are not always available or possible to raise.
4. It is essential, therefore, that the Parties seek new sources of financing.
5. Decision 10.59, adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Harare, June 1997), led to the drafting of a Strategic Plan for the Convention by a working group of the Standing Committee.
6. Prepared in co-operation with the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat, this document was approved by the Standing Committee at its 42nd meeting (Lisbon, 28 September – 1 October 1999). See Notification to the Parties No. 1999/76 of 21 October 1999 (Strategic Plan for the Convention).
7. The purpose of the Convention identified in the Strategic Plan is "to ensure that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade."
8. In order to achieve this general purpose, seven goals were identified, most notably Goals 1 and Goal 7.
9. Goal 1, "Enhance the capacity of each Party to implement the Convention", is divided into 10 objectives, among which is objective 1.9, "to encourage the proper funding for CITES implementation and enforcement by Parties, including the adoption of national mechanisms that have resource users make a greater contribution to such funding."
10. Goal 7, "Provide the Convention with an improved and secure financial and administrative basis", is divided into eight objectives, among which are objectives 7.3, "to seek funding from GEF and others for priority actions under the Convention" and 7.5, "to encourage the development of new funding mechanisms."
11. Two complementary measures should be pursued to promote implementation of the Convention and to carry out projects contributing to the conservation and sustainable management of species of wild fauna and flora listed in the appendices of the Convention.

#### Obtain new funds

12. Parties wishing to establish or to develop funding mechanisms for actions aimed at reinforcing their capacity to implement the Convention should benefit from the experience acquired by other Parties.
13. Several Parties have established funding mechanisms in the form of funds for specific purposes for the conservation of indigenous species of wild fauna and flora. In several cases, these funds have been created by imposing charges on the use of specimens of these species.
14. A preliminary survey and study of these funds has already been made at the request of the Standing Committee. This work was presented in the document "Implementation of the Decisions of the Conference of the Parties related to species: Elephants: Conservation Trust Funds – a mechanism for channelling funds to elephant conservation" (Doc. SC.40.5.2.3 Annex B).
15. Taking this into account, it is proposed to create under the Standing Committee a specific working group to survey and study these achievements and to make the information gathered available.

#### Ensure maximum use of available funds

16. Because the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was created to support projects contributing to the management of biodiversity, it appears desirable that this source of financing should be used to promote the sustainable management of species of wild fauna and flora listed in the appendices of the Convention and for strengthening the human and financial resources required for implementation of the Convention.
17. The Secretariat of the Convention is requested, in co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to explore this possibility with the Secretariat of GEF in order to be able to provide detailed information to the proponents of projects at the time of preparation and to the Secretariat of GEF when considering requests for financing.
18. These two steps are covered in the attached draft decision.

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Improvement of the effectiveness of the Convention:  
Financing conservation of species of wild fauna and flora

1. The Standing Committee shall form a working group to:
  - a) survey funds made available by the Parties specifically for the conservation of wild fauna and flora;
  - b) study the operation of these funds, taking into account:
    - i) their origin and their organization;
    - ii) principles followed in allocating these funds;
    - iii) administrative structures and safeguards;
    - iv) amounts available;
    - v) probable trends concerning these sources of financing; and
    - vi) study of the overall effectiveness of the funds for the conservation of wild fauna and flora; and
  - c) study the suitability of these mechanisms for improving implementation of the Convention, especially for countering fraud, for implementation of the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 3, and for implementation of the Strategic Plan.
2. The Parties shall provide the working group with all relevant information on existing funds or those being established in territories under their jurisdiction.
3. The Standing Committee shall take all measures necessary to inform the Parties of the result of this study at the meeting of the Standing Committee during the second half of 2001.
4. The CITES Secretariat, in co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, shall propose to the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) the study of projects for the sustainable management of species of wild fauna and flora listed in the appendices of the Convention eligible for financing from GEF.
5. The CITES Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on progress, at its meeting to be held during the second half of 2001.