

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

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

Strategic and administrative matters

Evolution of the Convention

ACTION PLAN TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CONVENTION

1. The Secretariat presents herein a report on the Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 10th meeting in respect to the "Action Plan" to improve the effectiveness of the Convention.
2. In compliance with Decision 10.111 (*"A report on the implementation of the Action Plan adopted shall be submitted for consideration by the Standing Committee and further transmission with any comments to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties"*), elements of this report were presented at the 40th, 41st and 42nd meetings of the Standing Committee. The report has been updated following comments received from the Parties present at those meetings.
3. In all, some 34 Decisions were taken regarding the CITES Action Plan at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Some 16 Decisions were directed to the Secretariat, eight to the Parties, five to the Standing Committee, two each to the Animals and Plants Committees and one to UNEP.
4. The Secretariat recommends that all of these Decisions should now be deleted from the list of current Decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Processes that have started will be seen through to their natural conclusion. However, if the Conference of the Parties wishes to establish long-term processes, these should be recorded in a new resolution (rather than a 'decision').

Directed to the Parties

Regarding improvement of the effectiveness of the Convention

- 10.5 *The Conference of the Parties should further strengthen the Reviews of Significant Trade in Species Included in Appendix II through the Animals and Plants Committees.*

The Plants Committee, at its ninth meeting (Darwin, Australia, June 1999), agreed on a draft Resolution to implement procedures for plants similar to those relating to animals through the provisions of Resolution Conf. 8.9. The Plants Committee also indicated that it would like to see their proposed draft combined with that Resolution. At its 15th meeting, the Animals Committee discussed the draft resolution from the Plants Committee and requested the Secretariat to prepare one draft resolution on Significant Trade in Species Included in Appendix II, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting (refer Doc. 11.41.2). It also proposed new wording for Decision 10.79 regarding the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9, including more detail on the procedures for consulting the range States concerned.

At its 14th meeting, the Animals Committee selected a series of species for inclusion in Phase IV of the Review. At its 15th meeting, it evaluated the reports from the consultants, and at the time of writing (January 2000), it is seeking comments from the relevant Parties prior to formulating recommendations on the basis of this evaluation.

- 10.6 *The Parties should submit draft resolutions and adopt Resolutions that are clear.*

The Secretariat will continue to assist the Parties in the preparation of Resolutions and will provide comments on drafted resolutions to help ensure that they are clear and readily implementable. The Secretariat has already provided comments to a number of Parties on draft resolutions in preparation for the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- 10.7 *The Parties should take action to encourage additional training and capacity building at the bilateral level.*

The Parties have continued to support the work of the Secretariat by providing assistance in training and activities related to capacity building. These activities are described below under Decision 10.102 Directed to the Secretariat.

Since CoP10, the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (FAN) has convened the following bilateral training sessions:

- 7 - 9.10.1998 a working meeting to exchange experiences with representatives from the Wildlife Enforcement Group of New Zealand was held at the Federal Agency of Nature Conservation (FAN) with the assistance of the Federal Criminal Investigation office (BKA) and the Federal Customs Investigation Office (ZKA).
- 9 - 13.11.1998 the FAN together with teachers from the German Education Centre of the Federal Customs Administration in Münster held a CITES training seminar for Customs authorities in Luxembourg. The seminar was jointly organized by the CITES Management Authority and the Customs Administration of Luxembourg.
- 23 - 25.3.1999 the FAN organized at its International Nature Conservation Academy on the Isle of Vilm a meeting for CITES enforcement officers of Eastern European countries. The meeting was also attended by enforcement officers of Denmark and Austria as well as representatives from the CITES Secretariat. The objectives of the meeting were international exchange of experiences on the implementation of CITES in the different countries, discussing new ways to further the fight against fraud in particular sensitive areas and to improve the co-operation in enforcement in general terms. A follow-up meeting with the

financial support of the German government is scheduled for the first half of 2000 in Estonia.

- 23 - 27.8.1999 the FAN held at its International Nature Conservation Academy (INCA) on the Isle of Vilm, with the support of TRAFFIC Europe, a CITES training seminar for CITES Management Authorities and Customs Agencies of Eastern European countries. The meeting was attended by representatives from Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. The major objective of the seminar was to learn more from each other about how CITES is implemented in the participants' home countries and to help each other to improve the working and the implementation of the Convention in general terms. A similar seminar at the INCA is planned for August 2000.
- 11 - 15.10.1999 the FAN together with teachers from the German Education Centre of the Federal Customs Administration in Münster held again a CITES training seminar for Customs authorities in Luxembourg. The seminar was jointly organized by the CITES Management Authority and the Customs Administration of Luxembourg.
- 15 - 19.11.1999 the Customs Training Institute of Cologne with the support of the FAN conducted a CITES seminar for Customs officers from Hungary. Among other objectives was the introduction of Hungarian representatives to Customs procedures implementation of CITES in the European Union.
- 29.11. - 2.12.1999 the FAN together with the support of TRAFFIC Europe (German office) organized a CITES training seminar near Frankfurt/Main for representatives of the CITES Management Authority of China and for representatives of provincial wildlife and forestry authorities. The major objective of the seminar was to discuss general questions related to the implementation of CITES and to introduce Chinese representatives to the implementation of CITES in the European Union.

At its meetings, the Plants Committee regularly discusses training in relation to CITES implementation for plants, and programmes developed by individual Parties.

Parties are encouraged to participate in bilateral training and capacity building activities. Interested Parties are requested to contact the Secretariat.

- 10.8 *All Parties are urged to involve their Customs and Police Authorities with the ICPO-Interpol Subgroup on Wildlife Crime and to co-operate with the CITES Enforcement Working Group of the World Customs Organization. They are also urged to consider establishing individual memoranda of understanding between their relevant enforcement authorities and the CITES Secretariat.*

An increasing number of Parties are represented at meetings of the CITES Working Group of the World Customs Organization and the ICPO-Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group. The latter Group has recently moved to establish regional representation at its meetings and also the holding of regional meetings. The Secretariat is of the opinion that this provides a better opportunity for more countries to participate in Interpol's work against wildlife crime. The Secretariat would, however, welcome greater participation in both groups particularly by Parties from Asia and South America.

Memoranda of Understanding between the Secretariat and the enforcement authorities of the United Kingdom and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement / Clark R. Bavin National Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory have been signed. The Secretariat encourages more Parties to sign memoranda with the Secretariat regarding enforcement and will be pleased to provide copies of the above memoranda to any interested Party.

- 10.9 *The Parties should increase their efforts to make contributions to CITES implementation in kind, e.g. through staff secondments.*

The Parties have continued to support the work of the Secretariat through staff secondments. Since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the United Kingdom has continued the secondment of an officer to the Enforcement Assistance Unit in the Secretariat, in 1998 and

1999. Similarly, China seconded an officer to the Secretariat in 1999. The Secretariat encourages Parties to follow these examples.

- 10.10 *The Parties should consider giving support to subsequent stages of the initiative to harmonize the reporting requirements of biodiversity related Conventions, subject to the results of the WCMC feasibility study.*

WCMC has co-ordinated the harmonization process in partnership with the Convention on Biological Diversity, CITES, the Convention on Migratory Species, the Convention on Wetlands, UNEP and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. Currently, an initiative to share and disseminate information is being implemented through the creation of WWW pages containing common information.

At the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat presented for endorsement a document prepared by WCMC entitled "Feasibility Study for a Harmonized Information Management Infrastructure for Biodiversity-related Treaties (August 1998)". The Committee endorsed the work done by the Secretariat, recommending that it continue working in collaboration with the other biodiversity-related conventions on this important topic.

- 10.11 *The Parties should encourage co-ordination between the CITES Secretariat and the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO).*

The CITES Secretariat obtained in 1997 the status of observer with the Trade and Environment Committee (CTE) of the World Trade Organization. The Committee holds several sessions every year in which some 200 representatives of member States participate.

In September 1997, at a regular meeting of the Committee, the CITES Secretary-General made a presentation on the Convention followed by a question-and-answer session. The Secretariat participated in a meeting of the Committee on Trade and Environment in June 1999 and presented a document explaining the trade-regulating aspects of the Convention.

The Secretariat is in very close contact with the WTO Secretariat and is consulted regularly by the latter on issues related to wildlife trade regulations as well as on relevant documents and reports issued by trade-related agencies.

- 10.12 *The CITES Management Authorities are encouraged to work with trade experts in their countries to improve mutual understanding of the objectives of both CITES and the WTO.*

Parties are encouraged to co-ordinate, at the national level, the activities of their government departments responsible for trade and those responsible for environment, to ensure that consistent positions are presented in CITES and in the WTO.

This issue is also discussed in document Doc. 11.12.3.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 10.59 *In co-operation with the other permanent Committees, a subcommittee shall be set up to develop, with the co-operation of the Secretariat, a medium/long-term (3-6 years) framework document for the structure of the work of the permanent Committees. This document shall give consideration to the development of performance indicators for the Convention.*

At the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee the Secretariat made the following recommendation: The Standing Committee should establish a subcommittee at its 40th meeting and invite the Animals, Plants, Nomenclature and Identification Manual Committees to participate in its work. It would be desirable to have a draft document for review at the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee discussed this recommendation but did not reach a conclusion. The Committee deferred taking a decision pending discussion of the Strategic Plan of the Convention but did not return to consideration of the Secretariat's

recommendations. Consequently, the Secretariat's recommendation was presented again at the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee decided to address the issue of the work of the permanent Committees in the context of the Strategic Plan of the Convention. It was decided that the Strategic Plan should itself, in the final text, take account of the need to develop performance indicators, so that further external reviews of the effectiveness of the Convention are not necessary (refer Doc. 11.12.2).

- 10.60 *The work with the Secretariat shall continue to consolidate existing Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, when necessary and appropriate, provided their original text and preamble are maintained to preserve their original intent.*

With respect to the consolidation of Resolutions, the process has continued and further drafts of consolidated resolutions have been prepared by the Secretariat. These are for consideration at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (refer Doc. 11.17). As agreed by the Conference, a draft will be presented in which no changes are made. However, an additional version will be presented in which minimal changes are proposed to improve the grammar, correct errors, update the text where necessary, and remove anomalies, contradictions and text that is redundant or out of date.

There is no process of consolidation of Decisions. These are updated by the Secretariat after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties. However, because of the way in which the original list of Decisions was compiled, it includes texts that should instead be incorporated into Resolutions and texts that may no longer be appropriate but that can not be deleted by the Secretariat as part of the regular process of updating. The Secretariat suggests that it should, on behalf of the Standing Committee, aim to complete the work of reviewing the Decisions before the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- 10.61 *Regional representatives shall co-ordinate and consult with other countries in their region, prior to meetings of the Standing Committee and meetings of the Conference of the Parties.*

This decision reflects the guidelines for regional representatives in the Standing Committee, in Decision 10.3.

The Secretariat has suggested that it would be useful for the regional representatives to include in their reports to each meeting of the Committee an indication of the consultations that they have undertaken prior to the meeting.

- 10.62 *A mechanism shall be developed (possibly through the creation of a Finance Subcommittee) for the consideration of budgetary matters immediately before the start of each meeting of the Standing Committee.*

The Standing Committee established a Finance Subcommittee, which met for the first time on the day before the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee. The Subcommittee comprises one representative of each region plus the Depositary Government.

- 10.63 *It shall be ensured that the issue of the synergy between the biodiversity-related Conventions remains on the agenda of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties.*

This issue has been included in the Provisional Agenda for the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see Agenda item 12 and Doc. 11.12.3) and the Decision will remain in effect, to ensure that the item continues to be included for future meetings.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 10.71 *The review of species in connection with the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 shall continue.*

The Parties have charged the Animals and Plants Committees with responsibility for carrying out a periodic review of the appendices. Many species were included in the CITES appendices at a time when there was no requirement to provide detailed biological data to justify such inclusion. Among these are also species included in the appendices because they were, and still are, covered by national legislation. Under the process of the Ten-Year Review a number of these species were deleted from the appendices or transferred from Appendix I to II. Others were maintained because the range States opposed the deletion or the transfer. Following the adoption of Resolution Conf. 9.24, a solid set of criteria is now available against which the correct listing of any species of flora and fauna can be evaluated. However, this review can only be completed successfully when the Conference of the Parties has the courage and the political will to acknowledge and endorse the recommendations resulting from this review. If this does not happen, Parties or Committee members, as well as range States, who have spent time and energy to carry out these evaluations will be discouraged from continuing their work, in particular since, for the animals, it already appeared difficult to find volunteers to do the work.

The Animals Committee initiated the process of reviewing the appendices at its 15th meeting (Antananarivo, Madagascar, July 1999). From the six main groups (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes and invertebrates) 30 species were selected for the first phase of the review. Several Parties and members of the Committee volunteered to carry out the review of 23 species. For the remaining seven species a reviewer has still to be nominated. The question was raised whether funds would be available for this work.

- 10.72 *Regional representatives shall co-ordinate and consult with other countries in their region, before meetings of the Animals Committee and meetings of the Conference of the Parties.*

This decision reflects the guidelines for regional representatives in the Animals Committee, in Decision 10.4.

The Secretariat has suggested that it would be useful for the regional representatives to include in their reports to each meeting of the Committee an indication of the consultations that they have undertaken prior to the meeting.

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 10.83 *The review of species in connection with the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 shall continue.*

See comments under Decision 10.71 above.

The Plants Committee initiated the process of reviewing the appendices at its eighth meeting (Pucón, Chile, November 1997). For details of the selected taxa, see Notification to the Parties No. 1009. About 350 species were reviewed, including all carnivorous plants, the genus *Ceropegia*, various succulents as well as several genera indigenous to the United States of America. The reviews were carried out by Parties and members of the Committee. At its ninth meeting (Darwin, Australia, June 1999) the Plants Committee evaluated the work of the various co-ordinators and recommended that about 250 species of nine genera either be deleted from the appendices, or transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II.

- 10.84 *Regional representatives shall co-ordinate and consult with other countries in their region, before meetings of the Plants Committee and meetings of the Conference of the Parties.*

This decision reflects the guidelines for regional representatives in the Plants Committee, in Decision 10.4.

The Secretariat has suggested that it would be useful for the regional representatives to include in their reports to each meeting of the Committee an indication of the consultations that they have undertaken prior to the meeting.

Directed to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- 10.92 *UNEP should produce meaningful results from the process of co-ordination of the activities of the Secretariats of environmental Conventions.*

This decision is dealt with more fully in document Doc. 11.14.

The Secretariat suggests that this decision be withdrawn or reformulated by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 10.95 *The Secretariat shall try to improve its information materials in order to enhance the public understanding of the positive effect of listing of species in Appendix II for the sustainable use of all concerned species.*

The Secretariat has been actively working on this issue, emphasizing the importance of CITES in the armoury of measures designed to ensure that use of wildlife resources is sustainable. Discussions have been established with WTO where the CITES Secretariat has emphasized that CITES is designed to facilitate wildlife trade that is sustainable.

Through the updated training materials of the Secretariat, emphasis has been placed on the fact that the provisions relating to trade in CITES Appendix-II species support and regulate sustainable use of internationally traded wildlife species.

The Secretariat is developing a public-relations programme, as part of its capacity-building initiatives, which will emphasize the positive conservation effects that can be obtained through the sustainable use of Appendix-II listed species.

- 10.96 *A model explanatory memorandum shall be developed in good time for the Parties to use when preparing draft resolutions for the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

The Secretariat has prepared the required explanatory memorandum. This was distributed with Notification to the Parties No. 1999/33 of 30 April 1999. At the same time, Parties were invited to comment on the document so that it could be improved in preparation for future meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

- 10.97 *In consultation with the Standing Committee, appropriate tools shall be developed to assist in the interpretation of existing Resolutions.*

At the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat proposed the creation of a CITES Implementation Manual. The Secretariat informed the Standing Committee, at its 41st meeting, of the plan for the development and publication of the Manual. It will serve as the main tool to assist the Parties in the interpretation of the Convention and of the Resolutions. As the Secretariat's own capacity is limited by the number of staff available, it has sought the co-operation of TRAFFIC in producing the Implementation Manual. In addition, the Secretariat is continuing to publish for the time being the "Evolution of CITES" and is planning to improve the information available through the Internet on its Web site.

- 10.98 *In co-operation with the Animals and Plants Committees, a proposal for agreement by the Standing Committee shall be prepared for a presentation of the appendices that could be incorporated into a training manual for Parties.*

WCMC, with the financial support of the Secretariat, has prepared the "Checklist of CITES species" which is a document to assist in understanding the CITES appendices. This checklist

has been used at CITES training seminars. Currently the Secretariat is exploring the possibility of producing a version of the appendices in which the notes relating to each species are presented next to the name of the species. The Secretariat is also aware that some Parties, e.g. the United States of America, have created lists of CITES species including common names. The Secretariat agrees that the use of common names is of great benefit when reading the appendices. However, the Secretariat considers that the use of common names becomes extremely complex when all common names world-wide are compiled and will refrain from using these.

10.99 Further work to develop electronically accessible information shall be undertaken as part of the Information Management Strategy.

As part of the Secretariat's Information Management Strategy, all documents for the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee were made available electronically at the CITES Internet site (<http://www.cites.org>). All documents and proposals for CoP11 have also been placed on the CITES site.

An electronic training package (consisting of slides and overheads created in Microsoft Powerpoint) is now available from the Secretariat.

10.100 Where studies of CITES implementation are undertaken in relation to countries and taxa, the executants shall be encouraged to draw general lessons for CITES. The material obtained in these studies should be stored with bodies such as WCMC, as a depositary for Parties, and this could be done with external funding.

These recommendations are now included in the proposed new format for CITES species projects. Parties are now encouraged to report the data obtained from CITES projects to the Secretariat. The Secretariat is discussing with WCMC the form in which to store and manage this information on a database.

10.101 The ongoing Legislation Project (National Legislation for the Implementation of the Convention) shall be continued.

This decision is discussed more fully in document Doc. 11.21.1.

10.102 Action to encourage additional training and capacity building at a bilateral level shall be taken.

The Secretariat has been encouraging Parties to assist each other in strengthening their own capacity to better implement the Convention. For this purpose, the Secretariat is helping establish a network of CITES capacity-building centres. Some examples include the following.

The CITES Management Authority of Germany is helping to strengthen capacity among Customs officers and law-enforcement officers in Eastern Europe (see Decision 10.7).

The CITES Management Authority of the United States of America has been assisting Parties through its Forensic Laboratory located in Oregon. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service is currently assisting the CITES Management Authority of Colombia through an agreement called "Environmental Treaty for Colombia". An agreement of co-operation between these two countries has been signed for the implementation of CITES, through joint technical and operational activities, and for the securing of donor funds to assist Colombia in its implementation of the Convention.

The Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom, strongly supported by the Secretariat, has taken the initiative to develop a training package, containing slides and text, on the implementation of CITES for plants. The final version, prepared in co-operation with the Scientific Authorities of Italy, Spain and the Netherlands, has been distributed to the Parties in the three working languages of the Convention, with Notification to the Parties No. 1999/73.

The CITES Management Authority of Spain organized a successful Master's Course on CITES in May 1998. Employees of various CITES Management Authorities of Latin America were able to travel to Spain and participate in the course. The CITES Secretariat assisted with staff and

funding for the course. The second CITES Master's Course took place in October 1999 and was attended by participants from 15 countries.

The Secretariat will continue to promote these collaborations and more Parties are encouraged to participate in the programme. Interested Parties are requested to contact the Secretariat.

A regional enforcement training seminar, arranged by the CITES Secretariat, and funded and hosted by Hong Kong SAR, China, was held from 5-10 December 1999 and was attended by enforcement and Management Authority personnel from Cambodia, mainland China, Hong Kong SAR, Indonesia, Israel, Macao, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Secretariat staff were assisted in training presentations by representatives from HM Customs and Excise of the United Kingdom, TRAFFIC International and the Wildlife Enforcement Group, New Zealand.

10.103 A survey of stricter domestic measures already adopted by the Parties shall be carried out and a report shall be submitted to the Standing Committee, which shall consider a second stage of review.

The Secretariat distributed Notification No. 1999/57 to the Parties seeking their co-operation and asking that they provide details of stricter domestic measures adopted in accordance with Article XIV, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

At the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat introduced document Doc. 42.12.3 indicating that they had received only 11 responses to the Notification. The Standing Committee decided that a second stage of review was inappropriate but it was suggested that the Secretariat might make available, on the CITES Web site, knowledge of stricter domestic measures that would be of use to all Parties in regulating trade. For example, it was suggested that a list of Parties whose legislation requires the issuance of import permits for Appendix-II species and those Parties that have imposed prohibitions on certain forms of wildlife trade, would be useful. The Secretariat is in the process of progressing this suggestion.

10.104 A twice-yearly desk-top-published newsletter shall be produced.

The first issue of 'CITES World' was distributed during August 1998, the second in December 1998, the third in August 1999 and the fourth issue was distributed in December 1999.

At the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat requested that a new budget be established totalling CHF23,000 to facilitate the production of the newsletter. This was approved, and this sum has now been included in the budget projections for consideration at CoP11.

10.105 Within the work plan of the Information Management Strategy, a feasibility study shall be commissioned to identify specific requirements for improving electronic communications between the Parties.

Currently, the Secretariat's Information Management Strategy is focusing mainly on a study of Internet connectivity in Africa, as a pilot phase of the Strategy. A report on the Strategy is provided in document Doc. 11.57.

10.106 Co-operation with the World Customs Organization and ICPO-Interpol shall continue.

Co-operation with these agencies has continued since CoP10.

The Secretariat is of the opinion that co-operation with the World Customs Organization and ICPO-Interpol is already addressed in Resolution Conf. 9.8 (Rev.) and suggests that Decision 10.106 be repealed at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

10.107 *Consideration shall be given to the structuring of the working programme at meetings of the Conference of the Parties to give ample time for regional meetings, with interpretation where needed.*

The Secretariat has taken this need into account and with the agreement of the Standing Committee has prepared a provisional working programme for the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties that provides additional opportunity for regional meetings.

10.108 *Efforts shall continue, in co-operation with the Standing Committee, to develop a plan for the numbering of documents, in particular documents relating to the work of Committees I and II, for introduction for the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

The Secretariat has already introduced changes to the numbering of certain documents (cf Decisions of the Conference of the Parties). At the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat presented its plans for numbering of documents at future meetings of the Conference of the Parties. These changes were endorsed and have been used in the documentation prepared for CoP11.

10.109 *Efforts shall continue to identify priorities for work and for funding and to pursue efficiency savings, subject to decisions of the Parties.*

The Secretariat's work programme, established in accordance with UN procedures, reflects its work priorities. A detailed work plan for the Secretariat will be developed in association with the Strategic Plan for the Convention.

Priorities for the work of the Secretariat are established by the Convention, by the Conference of the Parties and by the Standing Committee. Moreover, since its resources are limited, the Secretariat decides on its priorities on a daily basis, within the framework established by this trinity.

Resolution Conf. 10.1 directs the Secretariat, in association with the Standing Committee, to treat certain areas of work as a priority (capacity building, legislation to implement the Convention, significant trade studies) and also to establish priorities for agreed items of work (Annex 4 of the Resolution) for which funds were not provided in the base operating budget, but for which funds were to be provided from savings, budget adjustments or a draw-down from the Trust Fund. The Secretariat made recommendations regarding such priorities at the 40th, 41st and 42nd meetings of the Standing Committee and, following discussions, the Committee decided to draw down funds for the following purposes.

At SC40: each of the following was assigned a level of priority:

- Documentation officer
- Permit confirmation officer
- Elephant Decisions
- Regional co-ordination
- Evaluation of captive-breeding/ranching operations
- Permit confirmation assistant
- CITES Web site
- CITES Listserver
- Counterpart contributions for projects
- Development of standardized indicators of success of rhinoceros conservation
- Training courses and materials (including the Master's course in Spain)
- Logistics for regional seminars

(In addition, significant increases were agreed for nine existing budget lines.)

At SC41:

- Meetings on assistance to Scientific Authorities
- CITES World (newsletter)
- Tiger missions

Verification of compliance with Decision 10.1 (Botswana)
and monitoring of ivory sales/shipments
MIKE (start-up phase)
IUCN Analysis of proposals for CoP11

At SC42:

Legal and Trade Policy Analyst
Senior Capacity Building Officer
Senior Enforcement Officer
SIDS Implementation
Regional capacity-building workshops.

10.110 Continued co-operation between CITES and the Convention on Biological Diversity shall be fostered and this should be extended to include other relevant Conventions.

This issue is discussed more fully in document Doc. 11.12.3.