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

Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
The Hague (Netherlands), 3-15 June 2007

Committee II

Purpose-of-transaction codes on CITES permits and certificates

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

This document has been prepared by the chairman of a working group following discussion of document CoP14 Doc. 39 at the eighth session of Committee II.

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.XX The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional joint working group to review the use of Purpose-of-Transaction Codes by Parties, with the following Terms of Reference:

a) the working group shall be composed of Parties from as many of the six different CITES regions as possible, and appropriate non-governmental organizations, with expertise in the issuance of CITES documents and use of Purpose-of-Transaction codes for evaluation within the permit issuance process and trade data analysis;

b) the working group shall:
   i) determine the extent to which the use of the current Purpose-of-Transaction codes gives rise to difficulties of interpretation by Parties;
   ii) identify the purpose and assess possible benefit for the use of such codes for all trade involving Appendix-I, -II, and -III specimens; and
   iii) focus on defining and/or clarify Purpose-of-Transaction codes to encourage consistent utilization of the codes, including the possible elimination of current codes or the inclusion of new codes;

c) in evaluating the use and definition of Purpose-of-Transaction codes, the working group should take into account any difficulties of implementation by Parties and the potential resource implications of inclusion of any new codes or deletion of current Purpose-of-Transaction codes;

d) the working group should submit a report and any recommendations for amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP13) at the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee, for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and

e) the working group should carry out the majority of its work via email to keep costs to a minimum.