

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



Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

Strategic matters

CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMME FOR SCIENCE-BASED ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF VOLUNTARY NATIONAL EXPORT QUOTAS FOR APPENDIX-II SPECIES
REPORT OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS COMMITTEES

1. This document has been submitted by the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committee, on behalf of the Animals and Plants Committees, and it has been prepared with the support of the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on this issue*.
2. At its 12th meeting (CoP12, Santiago 2002), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decision:

Directed to the Secretariat

12.91 *The Secretariat is encouraged to continue to develop and refine its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for development, establishment, and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, and shall, as appropriate, consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee on this programme. This consultation may include:*

- a) *solicitation of input from the Committees regarding materials used in the capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and*
- b) *a request for new information from the Committees on methods used for establishing quotas and for relevant case studies on the establishment of quotas.*

3. At its 15th meeting (CoP15, Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following Decision:

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

15.24 *The Animals and Plants Committees shall:*

...

- c) *review the non-detriment finding training materials used by the CITES Secretariat when conducting regional capacity-building workshops and provide advice for their improvement;*

At the PC19 (Geneva, Switzerland, 18-21 April 2011) and the AC25 (Geneva, Switzerland, 18-22 July 2011), the Committees agreed on the establishment of an Intersessional Working Group on Capacity Building, co-chaired by the AC representative of North America and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

5. The Intersessional Working Group worked electronically to provide comments and feedback on the non-detriment finding (NDFs) and quota documents and training materials available on the CITES website (through the Virtual College) and those arising from the Cancun Non-Detriment Finding Workshop (Mexico, November 2008). The results of the intersessional work were reported at the joint session of the 20th Meeting of the Plants Committee and 26th Meeting of the Animals Committee (Dublin, Ireland, 22-24 March 2012).
6. The AC representative of North America, as Co-Chair of the joint Working Group on Capacity-Building Programme for Science-Based Establishment and Implementation of Voluntary National Export Quotas for Appendix-II Species, introduced document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9. In connection with the recommendations in paragraphs 13 and 14, participants pointed out that various courses and workshops on the making of non-detriment findings already existed, including a course on the CITES website. The Secretariat thanked the Working Group for its comprehensive advice on improving this course.
7. The Committees adopted the recommendations in paragraphs 13 and 14, subparagraphs a) and b), of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9, as follows:
 - a) Request each Committee member to seek further examples/case studies from their region to provide to the Secretariat, in particular focusing attention on those countries with existing quotas that may have experiences or case studies to share.
 - b) Request the Secretariat to consider the suggestions for improvement as outlined in Annex to this document [AC26/PC20 Doc. 9]
 - c) Request the Secretariat to make available the contents of the CITES Virtual College in CD form for those without easy access to the CITES Virtual College via the Internet.
8. In relation to subparagraph c) of paragraph 14 of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9, the Committees noted that the CITES Virtual College contained a stand-alone course on the making on non-detriment findings, but recommended that it be updated and expanded. They requested that the Co-Chairs of the joint Working Group:
 - a) revise the recommendations in paragraph 14, subparagraph d), in light of the comments and discussion in plenary; and
 - b) draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) on Establishment of committees and relevant Decisions in order to require the Animals and Plants Committees to provide on a permanent basis scientific advice on training materials used in capacity-building.
9. Later in the meeting, the United Kingdom introduced document AC26/PC20 Com. 1.
10. In relation to paragraph 14 d) of document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9, the Plants and Animal Committees were invited to consider the a draft Decision directed to the Secretariat for submission at the 16th Conference of the Parties. It was adopted by the Committees with the amendment in paragraph a): replace “request” by “invite”.
12. In order to ensure that the Committees provide scientific advice to the Secretariat on its capacity-building materials on a permanent basis the Committees adopted the text changes, proposed by the Working Group, to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) on *Establishment of committees* in order to facilitate this work and the proposal to repeal the text in paragraph c) of Decision 15.24 and part of the text from Decision 12.91.
13. The CoP is invited to consider the draft decision, the text changes to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15), and the proposal for the Decisions 15.24 and 12.91 included in the Annex to the present document and to adopt them.
14. The Committees consider that the tasks addressed to them have been accomplished.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Animals and Plants Committees have made many helpful suggestions made for improving the Secretariat's capacity-building materials related to non-detriment findings, which are contained in the Annex to document AC26/PC20 Doc. 9. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the proposed amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) to make the provision of such advice a regular part of the Committees' work, and adopt the consequent amendments to Decisions 12.91 and 15.24.
- B. The Secretariat also recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the new draft decision in the Annex to the present document.

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Directed to the Secretariat

16.XX The Secretariat shall:

- a) invite Parties to submit their experiences and the results from workshops, projects or publications related to the making of NDFs for inclusion on the CITES website; and
- b) ensure this information is available in other formats (e.g. CD-Rom) where appropriate.

PROPOSAL ON CHANGES TO RESOLUTION CONF. 11.1 (REV. COP15)
ON ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES

In paragraph d) of the First RESOLVES of Annex 2 Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) on *Establishment of committees*, add the underlined text:

- d) *cooperate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities and provide scientific advice on training materials used in capacity-building; and*

PROPOSAL ON CHANGES TO DECISION 15.24

To repeal the text in paragraph c) of Decision 15.24

PROPOSAL ON CHANGES TO DECISION 12.91

To repeal the following text from Decision 12.91 as follows:

and shall, as appropriate, consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee on this programme. This consultation may include:

- a) *solicitation of input from the Committees regarding materials used in the capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and*
- b) *a request for new information from the Committees on methods used for establishing quotas and for relevant case studies on the establishment of quotas.*