

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

Summary record of the third plenary session

25 September 2016: 14h15 - 15h30

Chair: M. Nkoana-Mashabane (South Africa)

Secretariat: J. Scanlon
D. Kachelriess
D. Morgan
H. Okusu

Rapporteurs: F. Davis
M. Groves

Administrative and financial matters

4. Rules of Procedure

The Chair of the Standing Committee, as Chair of Working group on the Rules of Procedure established by Plenary on Saturday 24 September, introduced document CoP17 Plen. 2 and its annexes, presenting the outcomes of the Working group. Annex 1 contained proposed changes to the draft Rules of Procedure in Annex 2 of CoP17 Doc. 4.1 (Rev 1). Annex 2 contained a statement from the European Union (EU) in relation to agenda item 4.1, and Annex 3 a draft decision on the Rules of Procedure directed to the Standing Committee. He thanked the Parties for their constructive engagement and concessions made in the spirit of compromise. He noted that a number of outstanding issues that had not been resolved by the Working Group would be addressed in a structured process under the guidance of the Standing Committee.

Japan, on behalf of the Asian region, supported the outcomes of the Working group.

The Rules of Procedure in Annex 2 of CoP17 Doc. 4.1 (Rev 1) with the amendments in Annex 1 of document CoP17 Plen. 2 were adopted. The draft decision on the Rules of Procedure directed to the Standing Committee in Annex 3 of document CoP17 Plen. 2 was adopted and the Statement made by the European Union to CoP17 in relation to agenda item 4.1 was noted. Resolution Conf. 13.8 (Rev. CoP16) was repealed.

Strategic matters

14. Cooperation with organizations and multilateral environmental agreements

14.3 Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

The Secretariat introduced document CoP17 Doc. 14.3, which had been prepared by the Secretariat of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). The document invited the Conference of the Parties to consider requesting that CITES Parties involved in the harvest and/or trade of toothfish not cooperating with CCAMLR report on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.4 and provide such reports to CCAMLR. It contained two draft decisions directed to the Secretariat to that effect.

The EU and its Member States and Chile supported the draft decisions and encouraged Parties to strengthen their cooperation with CCAMLR. New Zealand encouraged all Parties to comply with the CCAMLR Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS).

The Republic of Korea, while supporting collaboration between the CITES Secretariat and CCAMLR, noted that toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) were not included in the CITES Appendices and trusted that implementation of Resolution 12.4 did not impose a burden on the Secretariat.

TRAFFIC urged the Animals Committee to investigate whether toothfish merited inclusion in Appendix II and suggested some revisions to Resolution Conf. 12.4.

The two draft decisions in paragraphs D and H of the Secretariat's comments in document CoP17 Doc. 14.3 were adopted.

14.4 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Mexico, on behalf of the Chair of the Standing Committee, introduced document CoP17 Doc. 14.4, which described progress in implementing Decisions 16.13 to 16.16. The Annex to the document contained proposed revisions to these decisions.

The interim Chair of the Plants Committee drew attention to the desirability of Parties to commenting on the draft scoping report of the Platform's proposed thematic assessment of the sustainable use of biodiversity, referred to in Notification to the Parties No. 2016/054.

The United States of America proposed deleting "for the conveyance of government requests" in paragraph b) in draft decision 16.14 in Annex 1 of the document.

Document CoP17 Doc. 14.4 was noted and the draft revisions to Decisions 16.13 to 16.16 with the amendment proposed by the United States were adopted.

14.5 Cooperation with other organizations

The Secretary-General to CITES introduced document CoP17 Doc. 14.5 which provided details of cooperation between CITES and various other organizations. He noted that the Ministerial Lekgotla, hosted by South Africa immediately prior to CoP17, had shown that CITES could contribute to a wider range of Goals and Targets than those mentioned in paragraph 8 of the document. The Annex to the document contained proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.3 on *CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020*.

Brazil proposed adding Agenda 2030 before "Sustainable Development Goals" in the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the General Introduction in the Annex.

Noting the role of CITES in safeguarding species used in medicine, TRAFFIC encouraged engagement and collaboration between CITES and the World Health Organization.

The document was noted and the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.3 in its Annex, along with the additional amendments proposed by Brazil were adopted.

14.6 Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation on Biological Diversity

Mexico introduced document CoP17 Doc. 14.6, which described progress in implementing Resolution Conf. 16.5. Annex 1 to the document contained a draft report on CITES' contribution to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation on Biological Diversity (GSPC) 2011-2020. Annex 2 contained information on plant species included in Periodic Review and Review of Significant Trade processes. The document contained recommendations (paragraphs 7 and 8) asking the Conference of the Parties to endorse the report in Annex 1 for submission to COP13 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and requesting the Secretariat to publish and maintain updated on its website the information in Annex 2 of the document and to request UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre to include in its website an interactive version of the online flora currently available in Annex 5 of document PC22 Doc. 7.2 (Rev. 2).

The recommendations in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the document were adopted.

19. United Nations World Wildlife Day

The Secretariat introduced document CoP17 Doc. 19, which documented the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.1, noting that the United Nations General Assembly had adopted resolution A/RES/68/205 proclaiming 3 March as United Nations World Wildlife Day. Annex 1 to the document contained a draft resolution to replace Resolution Conf. 16.1. Annex 2 contained a series of draft decisions.

Nepal supported the document and noted the importance of including local communities in efforts to reduce illegal wildlife trade

Japan supported the draft resolution and proposed replacing “URGES” with “ENCOURAGES” in its fourth operative paragraph.

The draft resolution, as amended by Japan, and the draft decision in Annex 2 of the document were adopted, Resolution Conf. 16.1 was repealed.

The meeting adjourned at 15h30.