

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Geneva (Switzerland), 17–28 August 2019

Committee II

Strategic matters

RURAL COMMUNITIES AND LIVELIHOODS

This document has been prepared by the working group on livelihoods and rural communities on the basis of documents CoP18 Doc. 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, 18.1, 18.2, and 18.3, after discussion in the third and fourth sessions of Committee II (see documents CoP18 Com. II Rec. 3 and Rec.4).

Draft decisions on engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.57 (Rev. CoP18) The Standing Committee shall:

- a) examine the terminology used in different Resolutions and Decisions when referring to "indigenous peoples", "local communities" or "rural communities"; and
- b) make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on whether there is need for consistency of terminology across these Resolutions and Decisions.

18.AA The Standing Committee shall:

- a) establish an intersessional working group to consider how to effectively engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in the CITES processes, taking into account the discussions from the last intersessional period and any information provided pursuant to Decision 18.BB and present its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.
- b) when establishing the intersessional working group, endeavor to achieve regional balance of Parties and observers, and give special consideration to participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities*.
- c) develop non-binding guidance that proponent Parties may use, as appropriate, in consulting with indigenous peoples and local communities* as part of the consultations that may take place on proposals to amend the Appendices.
- d) make recommendations on the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES processes to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

* For the purpose of this Decision, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.BB The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification inviting Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES processes;
- b) consult and collaborate with relevant organizations and experts to gather information on experiences and lessons learned to complement information received from Parties under point a) above; and
- c) compile the information received from the Parties and other relevant organizations and provide a summary to the Standing Committee.

Draft decision on Livelihoods

Directed to the Parties

18.CC Parties are invited to:

- a) collate or conduct new case studies, using the standard template, that demonstrate how the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities* who live alongside wildlife in the trade of CITES-listed species contributes to their livelihoods and the conservation of the species in the wild, including examples of providing such support by wildlife-related authorities and other stakeholders and submit them to the Secretariat;
- b) engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES decision-making and implementation processes at the national level to better achieve the objectives of the Convention; and
- c) where appropriate, incorporate issues related to CITES implementation and livelihoods into national wildlife conservation and socio-economic development plans, as well as in relevant projects being developed for external funding, including funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Global Wildlife Programme.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.DD The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional working group on CITES and livelihoods, which will work in collaboration with the Secretariat to:

- a) monitor the progress made by Parties in implementing Decision 18.CC to engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES decision-making processes to better achieve the objectives of the Convention; and
- b) review the report of the Secretariat on the progress made under Decisions 18.EE and on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES and livelihoods* and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.EE Subject to the availability of external financial resources, the Secretariat shall:

- a) support the collation or conduct of new case studies on CITES and livelihoods as described in Decision 18.CC, paragraph a), and assist Parties to present the case studies in appropriate platforms, and in formats and manners that are most effective for targeted audiences;
- b) commission a review, with inputs of experts from different disciplines, of relevant case studies on CITES and livelihoods, both existing and new, as well as existing guidelines on sustainable use of wildlife and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*, to identify best practices;

- c) based on the review, prepare guidance on how to maximize the benefits for indigenous peoples and local communities* of CITES implementation and trade in CITES-listed species;
 - d) taking into account past work on traceability reported in CoP18 Doc. 42, explore the possibility of using registered marks of certification, existing and new, and other traceability mechanisms, for products of CITES-listed species produced by indigenous peoples and local communities* consistent with CITES provisions, in order to enhance conservation and livelihood outcomes;
 - e) facilitate the organization of a workshop to review the guidance developed as described in paragraph c) above, to present new case studies on CITES and livelihoods, and to facilitate the exchange of experiences in collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations;
 - f) organize the production of outreach materials, including publications and short videos based on the case studies, to raise awareness of and promote best practices in CITES implementation and livelihoods including its contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to share such materials on appropriate platforms, including the CITES website, social media channels, external media, and exhibitions; and
 - g) make efforts to establish global partnerships with relevant international and regional organizations, including conservation organizations and development agencies to work together in activities regarding CITES and livelihoods.
- 18.FF The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 18.EE and Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on CITES and livelihoods.
- 18.GG Subject to the availability of external financial resources, the Secretariat shall organize a joint meeting of the intersessional working group on engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* and the intersessional working group on CITES and livelihoods to support the implementation of Decision 18.AA and 18.DD.

Draft revised Resolution on CITES and Livelihoods

Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18)

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3. RECOGNIZES that:

- a) empowerment of rural communities should be encouraged through measures that may include, as appropriate:
 - i) engaging rural communities in territories under the Party's jurisdiction, in national processes when preparing and submitting proposals to amend the Appendices, draft resolutions, draft decisions, and other documents for consideration at meetings of the Conference of Parties and when reviewing such documents submitted by other Parties;
 - ii) consider including, as far as possible and as deemed necessary by the Party, representatives of rural communities in territories under the Party's jurisdiction in the official national delegations to meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
 - ii) Promoting transparency and participation of rural communities in the development and implementation of national CITES-related policies;
 - ~~ii) iv)~~ maximizing the benefits for rural communities of CITES implementation and trade concerned, in particular to support poverty eradication;
 - iii) v) promoting associations of primary users of wildlife, however they are defined; and
 - ~~iv) vi)~~ recognizing resource tenure and ownership, and traditional knowledge of or in rural communities associated with CITES-listed species, subject to any applicable national or international law;

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