

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

Cooperation between CITES and the World Heritage Convention

DRAFT RESOLUTION AND DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of document CoP18 Doc. 15.6 after discussion in the third session of Committee II (see document CoP18 Com. II Rec. 3).

Cooperation and synergy with the World Heritage Convention

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 16.4, on *Cooperation of CITES with other biodiversity-related Conventions*;

AWARE that Natural and Mixed World Heritage Sites host a high proportion of the global populations of many CITES-listed species;

NOTING that illegal offtake of CITES-listed species from many World Heritage sites is further endangering these species, and is one of the reasons why many such sites have been designated as World Heritage in Danger;

ACKNOWLEDGING the ongoing cooperation between CITES and the World Heritage Convention via the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions;

RECOGNIZING Paragraphs 35 and 36 of Decision 41 COM 7 of the World Heritage Committee, which encourages cooperation between CITES and the World Heritage Convention; and

RECOGNIZING how the joint programme of work between CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) is contributing to the conservation of many species of mutual concern, and thus provides a model for cooperation between CITES and other Conventions at a practical level;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. ENCOURAGES the Secretariat and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to engage in closer cooperation, as appropriate and subject to availability of external resources, on sites and species of mutual concern;
2. ENCOURAGES the CITES Management and Scientific Authorities of those Parties that are also Party to the UNESCO World Heritage Convention to cooperate with their respective World Heritage Focal Points;
3. INVITES donors to support activities that benefit the objectives of both CITES and the UNESCO World Heritage Convention; and
4. URGES Parties with World Heritage natural or mixed sites within their territory, whose integrity is threatened by poaching of CITES-listed species and associated illegal trade to reach out to other range, transit and consumer countries as part of their efforts to address the issue.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON COOPERATION AND SYNERGY WITH
THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.AA The Secretariat shall enter into dialogue with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre with a view to developing a Memorandum of Understanding and, if considered appropriate and subject to availability of external resources, a joint programme of work.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.BB The Secretariat shall submit a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to the Standing Committee for its review, recommendations, and approval.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.CC The Standing Committee shall consider the draft Memorandum of Understanding transmitted by the Secretariat on cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and provide its recommendations or approval.