

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

Specimens produced from synthetic or cultured DNA

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of document CoP18 Doc. 43 after discussion in the tenth session of Committee II (see document CoP18 Com. II Rec. 10).

Specimens produced through biotechnology

Directed to the Parties

18.AA Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding:

- a) cases where they have issued, or received requests to issue, CITES permits and certificates for specimens produced through biotechnology;
- b) other situations when they have applied the interpretation of Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives* to fauna and flora products produced through biotechnology; and
- c) technological developments and applications taking place, particularly in their jurisdiction, that may result in the manufacture of specimens produced through biotechnology that may have impact on the interpretation and implementation of the Convention.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

18.BB The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the complete study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, monitor the most recent scientific and technological advancements and applications that may lead to the synthetic production of specimens of CITES-listed species, and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions; and
- b) provide any relevant scientific advice and guidance on matters relevant to international trade in specimens produced through biotechnology and communicate it to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.CC The Standing Committee shall:

- a) discuss whether and how to apply the term “readily recognizable part or derivative” to trade in products of biotechnology, which might potentially affect international trade in CITES-listed specimens in a way that would threaten their survival, including enforcement of CITES provisions;
- b) communicate to the Animals and Plants Committees any matters that may require scientific advice and guidance, as appropriate; and
- c) make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions or the development of a new resolution on trade in specimens produced from biotechnology.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.DD The Secretariat shall:

- a) present the study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, along with the Secretariat’s findings and recommendations, to the Animals and Plants Committees;
- b) collate information received from Parties in relation to Decision 18.AA, as well as any other information received from Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities related to the issue of specimens produced through biotechnology;
- c) communicate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant organizations as appropriate, to keep abreast of the discussions taking place on other fora on issues that may be relevant to specimens produced through biotechnology; and
- d) share the information collated under paragraphs b) and c) and report progress on the implementation of this decision to the Animals and Plants Committees, and the Standing Committee, as appropriate.