

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

Identification Manual

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of documents CoP18 Doc. 21.1 and Doc. 54.1 after discussion in the fourth session of Committee II (see document CoP18 Com. II Rec. 4).

Identification manual

Directed to the Secretariat

18.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) continue collecting information on identification materials and share it through the CITES Website and the CITES Virtual College, and
- b) subject to the availability of external funding, and with input from the joint working group called for under Decision 18.CC, revise and redesign the CITES Virtual College in order to make the identification materials available in a more user-friendly manner.

18.BB The Secretariat shall undertake a review of Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on *Identification Manual*. It shall:

- a) collect and compile information on the current state of species identification activities and needs, and assess their relevance for the review of Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16);
- b) consider whether Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) would best be revised or replaced with a new resolution on *Identification of specimens of CITES-listed species*, and prepare a draft text of the revised or new resolution;
- c) propose a revised draft resolution in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and the Standing Committee; and
- d) report on the progress and make recommendations at the meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees, and the meeting of the Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

18.CC The Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a joint working group on identification materials that are used by Parties to identify CITES-listed species and provide inputs to the Secretariat based on the outcomes of the following working group tasks, in consultation with the Secretariat:

- a) review selected identification materials, including material compiled as per Decision 18.BB paragraph a), and assess the need for their revision and improvement, taking into account the materials that are being developed or have already been developed by Parties and materials requested in Decisions or Resolutions;
- b) review Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on *Identification Manual*, taking into account the review outlined in Decision 18.CC paragraphs a) and c), to promote accuracy and availability of identification materials;
- c) consider ways to improve the accuracy and availability of identification materials on CITES-listed species; and
- d) report on progress with these activities at the next meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.EE The Standing Committee shall:

- a) provide inputs on the draft resolution text prepared by the Secretariat and revised by the Animals and Plants Committees, to ensure that the needs for identification materials expressed by Parties and authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement are taken into account; and
- b) submit the revised draft resolution to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.

Directed to Parties

18.FF Parties are encouraged to support the efforts of the working group on identification materials by providing to the Secretariat information on available identification and guidance materials that are used by Parties, and particularly by enforcement and inspection officers, to facilitate implementation of the Convention.