

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Colombo (Sri Lanka), 23 May – 3 June 2019

Interpretation and implementation matters

Exemptions and special trade provisions

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION CONF. 17.7 ON  
*REVIEW OF TRADE IN ANIMAL SPECIMENS  
REPORTED AS PRODUCED IN CAPTIVITY*

1. This document has submitted by the Standing Committee.\*

Background

2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 17.7 on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity* designed to review biological, trade and other relevant information regarding animal species subject to significant levels of trade using source codes C, D, F or R, to identify problems associated with the implementation of the Convention and to develop solutions.
3. Also at CoP17, the Conference of the Parties adopted three accompanying Decisions:

***Decision 17.103, directed to the Secretariat***

*The Secretariat shall provide its preliminary observations and recommendations regarding the first iteration of the Resolution Conf. 17.7, including opportunities for harmonisation with the process in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), and other opportunities to achieve the aims of the Resolution most effectively and cost efficiently, to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee.*

***Decision 17.105, directed to the Animals Committee***

*At its 30th meeting, the Animals Committee shall prepare a report of its observations and recommendations regarding the first iteration of Resolution Conf. 17.7, including opportunities for harmonisation with the process in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) and other opportunities to achieve the aims of the Resolution most effectively and cost efficiently, taking into account the recommendations of the Secretariat arising from Decision 17.103, and transmit the report to the Standing Committee.*

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

### **Decision 17.107, directed to the Standing Committee**

*At its 70th meeting, the Standing Committee shall prepare a report of its preliminary observations and recommendations regarding the first iteration of Resolution Conf. 17.7, including opportunities for harmonisation with the process in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), and other opportunities to achieve the aims of the Resolution most effectively and cost efficiently, and taking into consideration the report of the Animals Committee and the observations of the Secretariat. The Standing Committee will transmit its recommendations to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

#### Implementation of Decisions

4. The Animals Committee and the Secretariat presented their preliminary observations and recommendations to the Standing Committee in document [SC70 Doc. 31.4](#) and the Standing Committee concurred with their view that as a complete review cycle under Resolution Conf. 17.7 has yet to be completed, it would be premature to make significant changes to provisions of the Resolution or too soon to assess whether harmonisation with the process in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) *on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species* would be advisable.
5. Standing Committee Members agreed with the Secretariat's observation in Annex 2 of document SC70 Doc. 31.4 that the ability of some Parties to implement Resolution Conf. 17.7 could be compromised by a lack of external funds. They suggested that, in future, the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.7 may require a budget line from core funds.
6. On the basis of advice from the Animals Committee and the Secretariat, the Standing Committee agreed to propose to CoP18, the following three additions to Resolution Conf. 17.7 which provide additional guidance for the Animals and Standing Committees:

The following new sub-paragraphs be added after paragraph 2 c):

*Where the Animals Committee finds that a species/country combination raises concerns better dealt within the process of the Review of Significant Trade, it can introduce that combination into stage 2 of the process in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), paragraph 1 d) as an exceptional case.*

*Recommends that the Animals Committee, when selecting species-country combinations for review under paragraph 2 c) of the present Resolution, not select species-country combinations where the Standing Committee has already entered a dialogue with the country concerned over the use of source codes C, D, F or R under another compliance process.*

The following new paragraph be added after paragraph 2 j)

*Recommends that the Standing Committee, when making recommendations to the country or countries under paragraph 2 j) of the present Resolution in relation to the use of source codes C, D, F or R, avoid duplication with other compliance processes.*

7. The Standing Committee also agreed to propose that Decisions 17.103, 17.105 and 17.107 should be replaced by the draft decisions in Annex 1 to the present document, in order to continue the reflection on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.7.

#### Recommendations

8. The Standing Committee recommends the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 17.7 shown in paragraph 6 and the draft decisions shown in Annex 1 to the present document, coupled with the deletion of Decisions 17.103, 17.105 and 17.107.

## COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the proposals made by the Standing Committee.
- B. The Secretariat recalls that, accordance with its paragraph 1, Resolution Conf. 17.7 can only be implemented subject to available resources. The Secretariat expresses its gratitude to the European Union and the United States of America for providing the extrabudgetary funds necessary to implement the Resolution between CoP17 and CoP18. The Secretariat notes however that, as things stand, without such voluntary funding in future, it will not be able to implement the Resolution after CoP18. The Secretariat will be addressing this point during discussions on the budget and work programme for 2020 to 2022 under agenda item 7.4.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON REVIEW THE PROVISIONS OF  
RESOLUTION CONF. 17.7 (REV. COP18)

***Directed to the Animals Committee***

- 18.AA With the assistance of the Secretariat and in the light of its experiences with its implementation, the Animals Committee shall review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity* and make any recommendations for improvements to the Standing Committee.

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

- 18.BB With the assistance of the Secretariat, taking account of any report from the Animals Committee and in the light of its experiences with its implementation, the Standing Committee shall review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) and make any recommendations for improvements to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING  
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding.

The Secretariat does not believe that the adoption of the proposals in the present document will have any budgetary implications. They will entail workload implications for the Secretariat, Animals Committee and Standing Committee, but it is expected that these can be undertaken within current resources.