

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

ELECTION OF REGIONAL MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
AND OF MEMBERS OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS COMMITTEES

1. This document has been submitted by the Secretariat in relation with agenda item 9 and the regional meetings to be held on 17 August 2019.
2. The selection of Regional Members and Alternate Regional Members of the Standing Committee and of the Animals and Plants Committees takes place at regional meetings held during the regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The selected Members and Alternates are formally elected by the Conference of the Parties, which also appoints the nomenclatural specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees.
3. A list of the current Regional Members of the Standing Committee and of the Members of the Animals and Plants Committees is presented in Annex 1. The names of the Members whose term ends at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties appear in italics and the cell is highlighted in red. The list of candidates for each vacancy is clearly indicated in each red cell. Where there is no candidate, this is also clearly indicated in a red font.
4. The Secretariat notes that the formal term of Members chosen by the Standing Committee to fill intersessional vacancies is taken to begin at the following meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It should be noted that, although the nomenclatural specialists are not selected by the regions, they have been included in the table in Annex 1, as the process for seeking candidates applies to their positions as well.
5. The Conference of the Parties has adopted guidelines regarding the process to be followed for the selection of the above-mentioned Members and Alternate Members. These are contained in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17). Paragraphs 3 and 5 of that Resolution, regarding regional representation in the Standing Committee and regarding representation in the Animals and Plants Committees respectively, are included in Annex 2 for ease of reference.

Committee Members and Alternate Members for election/re-election

STANDING COMMITTEE

Members and Alternate Members whose term ends at the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are indicated in *italics*.

Member	Alternate
Africa	
– <i>Niger</i> <i>Candidate: Morocco</i>	– Morocco <i>Possible vacancy: No candidate so far</i>
– Congo	– Chad
– Ethiopia	– Kenya
– Namibia	– Madagascar
Asia	
– China	– Japan
– <i>Indonesia</i> <i>Candidates: India, Indonesia</i>	– Nepal
– Kuwait	– Republic of Korea
Central and South America and the Caribbean	
– Peru	– Brazil
– <i>Guatemala</i> <i>No candidate so far</i>	– <i>Honduras</i> <i>No candidate so far</i>
– Bahamas	– Dominican Republic
Europe	
– <i>Hungary</i> <i>Candidate: Poland</i>	– <i>Poland</i> <i>Candidate: Ireland</i>
– Israel	– <i>Albania*</i> <i>Candidate: Belarus</i>
– <i>Portugal</i> <i>Candidate: Belgium</i>	– <i>Belgium</i> <i>Possible vacancy. Candidate: Spain</i>
– Russian Federation	– Georgia
North America	
– Canada	– <i>Mexico**</i> <i>Candidate: United States of America</i>
Oceania	
– New Zealand	– Australia

* At CoP17 the spokesperson for the European region explained that it had agreed that Albania would only serve as an alternate for Israel for one intersessional period.

** Mexico resigned with effect from the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ANIMALS COMMITTEE

Members and Alternate Members whose term ends at the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are indicated in *italics*.

Member	Alternate
Africa	
– Mr. Guy Appolinaire Mensah (Benin)	– <i>Mr. Moustafa Fouda (Egypt)</i> <u>No candidate so far</u>
– Mr. Pantaleon M. B. Kasoma (Uganda)	– <i>Ms. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka (Uganda)</i> <u>No candidate so far</u>
Asia	
– Mr. Giyanto (Indonesia)	– Mr. Arvin C. Diesmos (Philippines)
– Mr. Ashgar Mobaraki (Iran)	– <i>Mr. Nobuo Ishii (Japan)</i> Candidate: <i>Ms Saeko Terada (Japan)</i>
Central and South America and the Caribbean	
– <i>Mr. Marcel Enzo Calvar Agrelo (Uruguay)</i> Candidate: <i>Mr. Edgardo Daniel Ramadori (Argentina)</i>	– <i>Mr. Néstor Herrera (El Salvador)</i> <u>No candidate so far</u>
– <i>Mr. Paul Edward Ouboter (Suriname)</i> <u>No candidate so far</u>	– <i>Mr. José Alberto Álvarez Lemus (Cuba)</i> <u>No candidate so far</u>
Europe	
– <i>Mr. Mathias Lörtscher (Switzerland)</i> Candidate: <i>Mr. Mathias Lörtscher (Switzerland)</i>	– <i>Mr. Simon Nemtzov (Israel)</i> Candidate: <i>Mr. Ruslan Novitsky (Belarus)</i>
– <i>Mr. Vincent Fleming (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)*</i> Candidate: <i>Ms. Dagmar Zíková (European Union)</i>	– <i>Ms. Dagmar Zíková (European Union)</i> Possible vacancy: Candidate: <i>Mr. Gerald Benyr (Austria)</i>
North America	
– <i>Ms. Rosemarie Gnam (United States of America)*</i> Candidate: <i>Mr. Hesiquio Benitez (Mexico)</i>	– <i>Ms. Carolina Caceres (Canada)*</i> Candidate: <i>Ms. Cecilia Loughheed (Canada)</i>
Oceania	
– Mr. Hugh Robertson (New Zealand)	– Mr. Troy Makan (New Zealand)
Specialist on zoological nomenclature	
– Mr. Peter Paul Van Dijk	

* Mr Vincent Fleming, Ms. Rosemarie Gnam and Ms. Carolina Caceres resigned with effect from the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

PLANTS COMMITTEE

Members and Alternate Members whose term ends at the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are indicated in *italics*.

Member	Alternate
Africa	
– Mr. Ali Mahamane (Niger)	– Ms. Kirsti Nghidinwa (Namibia)
– Ms. Aurélie Flore Koumba Pambo (Gabon)	– Ms. Beatrice Khayota (Kenya)
Asia	
– <i>Mr. Edwino S. Fernando (Philippines)</i>	– <i>Ms. Joeni Setijo Rahajoe (Indonesia)</i>
– <i>Candidate: Dr. Tika Dewi Atikah (Indonesia)</i>	– <i>Candidate: Dr. Zeng Yan (China)</i>
– Mr. Byoung Yoon Lee (Republic of Korea)	– Ms. Shereefa Al-Salem (Kuwait)
Central and South America and the Caribbean	
– <i>Ms. Vera Teresinha Rauber Coradin (Brazil)</i>	– <i>Ms. Karina Ramírez (Peru)</i>
– <i>Candidate: Ms Fabiola Roció Núñez Neyra (Peru)</i>	<i>No candidate so far</i>
– Mr. César Augusto Beltetón Chacón (Guatemala)	– <i>Ms. Delys Albert Puentes (Cuba)</i>
	<i>No candidate so far</i>
Europe	
– Mr. Paulo J.L. Carmo (Portugal)	– Mr. David Kikodze (Georgia)
– <i>Mr. Maurizio Sajeva (Italy)</i>	– Ms. Ursula Moser (Switzerland)
– <i>Candidate: Ms. Ursula Moser (Switzerland)</i>	<i>Possible vacancy. Candidates: Mr. Daniel Wolf (Germany) or Mr. Leonid V. Averyanov (Russian Federation)</i>
North America	
– <i>Ms. Adrienne Sinclair (Canada)*</i>	– Mr. Hesiquio Benítez Díaz (Mexico)
– <i>Candidate: Ms. Rosemarie Gnam (United States of America)</i>	
Oceania	
– <i>Mr. Greg Leach (Australia)</i>	– Mr. Marika Vuli Tuiwawa (Fiji)
– <i>Candidate: Mr. Damien Wrigley (Australia)</i>	
Specialist on botanical nomenclature	
– <i>Mr. Noel McGough</i>	
– <i>Candidate: Ms. Ronell Renett Klopper (South Africa)</i>	

* Ms. Adrienne Sinclair and Mr. Greg Leach resigned with effect from the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Extract from Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17)

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

Regarding regional representation in the Standing Committee

3. RECOMMENDS that the following guidelines be implemented:

a) Selection of regional members and alternate regional members

- i) In the selection of regional members and alternate regional members, the following considerations should be taken into account:
 - A. for regions with one member and one alternate member, a rotation in the selection is recommended; and
 - B. for regions with more than one member and one alternate member, the selection should try to achieve a balanced representation (geopolitical, cultural, ecological);
- ii) The regional candidatures should be officially submitted by the interested Parties through a governmental channel, at least 120 days before a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. These candidatures should be communicated to all the Parties of the region through the Secretariat;
- iii) If more candidatures are submitted than there are positions available for any region, a vote should take place in a session of the Parties of that region to be held during the meeting of the Conference of the Parties. To be elected, a candidate should obtain an absolute majority (i.e. more than half the votes). Only the delegations duly accredited by the Conference should have the right to vote. The election should take place during the second week of the meeting; and
- iv) The election of a member and of the alternate should take place at the end of the term of office of their predecessors, in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure, through successive votes during a single process; and

b) Timing of replacement of members and alternate members

- i) The terms of office of the regional members and their alternates shall commence at the close of the regular meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second regular meeting thereafter;
- ii) For regions with one member and one alternate member, the selection should occur at every second meeting; and
- iii) For regions with more than one member and one alternate member, to guarantee some continuity, not all members and alternate members should be changed at the same meeting;

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Regarding representation in the Animals and Plants Committees

5. RECOMMENDS that the following guidelines be implemented:

a) Election of the candidates

- i) Parties proposing candidates as representatives should confirm, at the time of nomination, that the candidate will be supported and that they will obtain the necessary means to undertake their activities;
- ii) The names of the proposed candidates, and their *curricula vitae*, should be circulated to the Parties of the region concerned at least 120 days before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which the representatives will be elected. Although not regional representatives the same process should apply to candidates seeking election as specialists on botanical and zoological nomenclature;
- iii) Ideally the candidates should be associated with a Scientific Authority, have adequate knowledge of CITES and receive sufficient institutional support to carry out their duties. This information should also be included in the *curricula vitae*; and
- iv) As long as the representatives are persons, a Party shall not be accepted as a proposed candidate subject to a later identification of the person concerned by the Party; and

b) Timing of replacement of regional members and alternate members

- i) The procedure should be the same as that described above for the Standing Committee;
- ii) As alternate members are alternates of specified members, they should be elected at the same time as the members;
- iii) If a region wishes to re-elect a member or alternate member, there is nothing to prevent it from doing so; and
- iv) in the event that no nominations be received before the deadline the incumbent shall remain, if so willing and able, as an representative until a replacement is elected; and

c) Conflict of interest

A “conflict of interest”¹ refers to any current financial interest which could significantly impair the individual’s impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a member of the Committee. A candidate’s employment by itself does not automatically constitute a conflict of interest:

- i) Parties proposing candidates as members or alternate members are to request that, together with their names and *curriculae vitae*, each candidate provides a declaration of interest which should be circulated to the Parties of the region concerned at least 120 days before the meeting of the Conference by the Parties at which the representatives will be elected. In that declaration, the candidate should disclose any current financial interest that might call into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence in carrying out his or her duties as a member or alternate member of the Committee;
- ii) Following an election, the declaration of interest and the *curriculum vitae* of each member and alternate member shall be made available by the Secretariat to the Chair and the members of the Committee concerned, and to the Chair of the Standing Committee;
- iii) Each member shall, at the beginning of each meeting of the Committee, declare any financial interests that he or she considers calls into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the agenda for that meeting of the Committee. If a member has declared such an interest, he or she may take part in discussions but not in the decision-making

¹ Conflict-of-interest policies in scientific assessment bodies typically make a distinction between “conflict of interest” and “bias”, which refers to a point of view or perspective that is strongly held regarding a particular issue or set of issues.

regarding the agenda item in question. If the member is the subject of the potential conflict of interest, he or she shall not chair the meeting or sub-meeting for the agenda item in question; and

- iv) When taking part in meetings or seminars outside the CITES framework, the members and alternate members should specify that their interventions are not made on behalf of the Committee or of any CITES body, unless specific instructions have been issued by the Committee to that effect;