

Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in effect after the 14th meeting

This list of Decisions has been produced in accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP13) of the Conference of the Parties. It contains the Decisions (other than Resolutions) adopted at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (The Hague, 2007) as well as the Decisions adopted at previous meetings that remain in effect after the 14th meeting.

The Decisions in this section are grouped by subject, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP13).

Every Decision that was adopted at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties has a number starting with 14. Every Decision that was adopted at a previous meeting and remains valid is included here with its original number, indicating the meeting at which it was adopted.

If the Conference of the Parties amended a Decision at a meeting after the one at which it was adopted, the original number of that Decision is followed by the indication '(Rev. CoPXX)', where XX represents the number of the meeting at which the amendment was adopted. Thus the Decision numbered 13.14 (Rev. CoP14) was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting and amended at its 14th meeting.

Readers of this publication will recall that Decisions of the Conference of the Parties should in principle be valid for only a short term and should be deleted by the Secretariat when they have been implemented or when they become redundant or obsolete. In cases where the Secretariat has deleted part of a Decision that is obsolete or has made a correction, it has annotated the Decision but not changed the number.

Information on Decisions that are no longer valid is available from the Secretariat in Geneva.

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Strategic matters

CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.1 The Standing Committee shall develop indicators for each of the objectives contained in the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013, based upon the work of the Strategic Vision Working Group convened at CoP14.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.2 The Secretariat shall circulate the Annex attached to the report of the Strategic Vision Working Group (document CoP14 Com. II. 20) by Notification, and request input on remaining indicators to be developed and agreed upon. Based on the comments received, the Secretariat shall prepare a compilation of the suggested amendments and proposals regarding indicators and any other outstanding items, for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 57th meeting.

CITES and livelihoods

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.3 The Standing Committee shall, subject to the availability of external funding, and requesting the assistance of organizations including the IUCN Species Survival Commission, initiate and supervise a process to develop, by the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties:
- a) tools for voluntary use by the Parties for the rapid assessment at the national level of the positive and negative impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor, in conformity with Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13); and
 - b) draft voluntary guidelines for Parties to address these impacts, particularly in developing countries. The guidelines should, where possible, assist Parties to develop local, national and regional initiatives that take account of the impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor. This process may benefit from taking account of the deliberations and recommendations of the CITES and Livelihoods Workshop (5-7 September 2006) and should draw on the technical contributions of Parties, the Secretariat, non-governmental organizations and other national and international agencies, such as IUCN – The World Conservation Union.

For further clarification, the process shall not include consideration of the criteria for amendment of the Appendices or the requirement to make non-detriment findings.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.4 The Secretariat shall seek external funds to enable the Standing Committee to initiate and develop the process described in Decision 14.3.

Scientific committees

Review of the scientific committees

Directed to Parties

- 14.5 Parties and regions should utilize or develop long-term sustainable funding mechanisms to support their representatives.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.6 The Standing Committee in cooperation with the scientific committees and the Secretariat shall develop a costed proposal to assess the costs, advantages and disadvantages of the provision of a chairman independent of regional duties and responsibilities, selected by the Conference of the Parties on a regional rotational basis.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 14.7 The Animals and Plants Committees should evaluate the need to further review and revise the terms of reference in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP14) and as necessary revise the terms of reference for presentation at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 14.8 The Animals and Plants Committees shall carry out internal monitoring through the regional reports and the reports of the chairmen of the scientific committees to the Conference of the Parties, and Table 3 of document SC54 Inf. 5 can be appended to the format for the preparation of regional members regional reports.

Manual for regional representatives of the scientific committees

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.9 Regarding the manual for regional representatives, contained in the Annex to document PC16/AC22 WG2 Doc. 1, the Secretariat shall:
- a) seek funding for its translation, publication in the three working languages of the Convention and distribution; and
 - b) when it has been tested by members of the scientific committees and updated accordingly, and funds are available, organize the publication and distribution of printed and electronic versions of the manual as capacity-building materials for regional representatives of the scientific committees.

Improving regional communication and representation

Directed to the Secretariat

- 13.14 The Secretariat shall ensure that any vacancies in the Animals and Plants Committees (Rev. are brought immediately to the attention of the Standing Committee, in order to fill the CoP14) vacancies as soon as possible.
- 13.15 The Secretariat shall publish on the CITES website forthcoming deadlines relevant to (Rev. the work of the Animals and Plants Committees. CoP14)

- 13.16 The Secretariat shall explore funding options to ensure that the regional representatives (Rev. and the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees from CoP14) developing countries and countries with economies in transition can attend the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and fully participate in the committee work.
- 13.17 The Secretariat shall look for funding to support the holding of regional meetings in association with regional seminars or other related meetings organized by the Secretariat. The regional representatives should prepare the agenda and chair the meeting.

Capacity building

Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.79 The Secretariat shall develop a brochure that will illustrate the importance of registering scientific institutions under Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention and demonstrate how the registration procedures can be applied in a simplified manner.

Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species

Directed to Parties

- 12.90 The Parties should seek funding in order to:
- a) assist the Secretariat in implementing its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
 - b) support exporting countries in their efforts to gather information needed to set quotas.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.91 The Secretariat is encouraged to continue to develop and refine its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for development, establishment, and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, and shall, as appropriate, consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee on this programme. This consultation may include:
- a) solicitation of input from the Committees regarding materials used in the capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
 - b) a request for new information from the Committees on methods used for establishing quotas and for relevant case studies on the establishment of quotas.
- 12.92 To facilitate the development and refinement of its capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, the Secretariat may invite Parties to provide new information regarding the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of such quotas, and regarding the most appropriate ways of disseminating relevant information to the Parties in a timely and cost-effective manner.

12.93 The Secretariat shall seek funding to:

- a) continue its capacity-building programme for the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
- b) support exporting countries in their efforts to gather information needed to set quotas.

Support to Master's programmes

Directed to Parties

14.10 Parties are requested to provide, in accordance with national legislation, financial assistance to academic institutions offering Master's degree courses on CITES and CITES-related subjects in order to support the continuation of these courses.

Regional cooperation and coordination

Directed to Parties

14.11 Parties should urge regional environmental organizations to take a more active role in regional cooperation and coordination of CITES to build capacity in their region.

Virtual college

Directed to the Secretariat

14.12 The Secretariat shall seek external funding to establish and operate a CITES Virtual College, in collaboration with academic institutions and training organizations, to provide Internet-based training on the Convention that will be available to all Parties.

14.13 The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, produce its capacity-building tools in the six official languages of the United Nations.

Capacity building in Oceania

Directed to the Secretariat

14.14 The Secretariat shall:

- a) seek funding to convene an enforcement-focused capacity-building workshop and regional meeting for the Oceanian region before the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee, in order to improve regional implementation of the Convention; and
- b) subject to availability of funds, invite the Parties of the Oceanian region, Party observers, non-party States and regional intergovernmental organizations as may be appropriate.

Cooperation with other organizations

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat

14.15 The Plants Committee shall collaborate with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), especially regarding target xi “No species of wild flora endangered by international trade” and other issues related to flora species included in the CITES Appendices, and the Secretariat shall communicate the results of its work in the context of its Memorandum of Understanding with the CBD Secretariat.

Cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Directed to the Secretariat

14.16 The Secretariat shall initiate discussions with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on how cooperation between the two organizations related to forestry and non-timber forest products might be enhanced.

14.17 The Secretariat shall report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on those discussions and on the progress made in implementing the Memorandum of Understanding between FAO and the CITES Secretariat.

Harmonization of nomenclature and taxonomy with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Directed to the Secretariat

14.18 In close cooperation with the nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees, the Secretariat shall, in the implementation of its memoranda of understanding or cooperation, or programmes of work with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, continue to consider ways of harmonizing the taxonomy and nomenclature of species included in their respective provisions. The Secretariat shall report and make recommendations on this matter at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Review of Resolutions

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.19 The Standing Committee should review any proposals from the Secretariat to correct non-substantive errors or minor editorial faults in current Resolutions and decide whether they should be referred to the Conference of the Parties. In cases where the Committee agrees with the proposals and considers that they need not be referred to the Conference, it may instruct the Secretariat to republish the Resolutions with the necessary corrections.

Review of the Appendices

Directed to the Animals Committee

13.93 The Animals Committee shall, immediately following the 13th meeting of the (Rev. Conference of the Parties, include the Felidae in its Review of the Appendices. This CoP14)¹ review shall initially focus on the listing of the *Lynx* species complex, which includes species that are listed because of similarity of appearance, such as *Lynx rufus*. In addition to evaluating the listings of these species against the criteria for inclusion of species in Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14), the Animals Committee shall assess the management and enforcement measures available to achieve effective control of trade in these species so as to resolve the continued need for look-alike listings. This assessment should also include a review of trade information to determine whether these species are actually confused in trade or whether the look-alike problem is merely hypothetical. The Animals Committee shall provide a report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress of the review of all Felidae and particularly on their review of *Lynx* spp. and look-alike issues.

Review of Significant Trade

Review of Significant Trade

13.67 The Conference of the Parties has adopted the *Terms of reference for an evaluation of (Rev. the Review of Significant Trade* contained in Annex 1 to these Decisions. CoP14)

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II plant species

Directed to the range States of Cistanche deserticola, Dioscorea deltoidea, Nardostachys grandiflora, Picrorhiza kurrooa, Pterocarpus santalinus, Rauvolfia serpentina and Taxus wallichiana, to the regional representatives for Asia on the Plants Committee and to the Secretariat

14.20 The bodies to which this Decision is directed should ensure:

- a) implementation of regionally coordinated actions to improve the management of and prevent illegal trade in the seven species, including, *inter alia*, measures to combat illegal trade, regional capacity-building workshops and harmonization of regulations and legislation; and
- b) submission of progress reports at the 17th and 18th meetings of the Plants Committee.

¹ Note from the Secretariat: the Secretariat has updated this Decision following the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Compliance and enforcement

National wildlife trade policy reviews

Directed to Parties

- 14.21 Exporting and importing countries are invited to carry out national wildlife policy reviews in order to facilitate a better understanding of the effects of wildlife trade policies on the international wildlife trade.
- 14.22 Parties that undertake a wildlife trade policy review on a voluntary basis are invited to share relevant details of their reviews and lessons learned with other Parties.

Directed to Parties and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

- 14.23 Parties and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should provide feedback on the draft of the wildlife trade policy review framework, as well as financial and technical assistance for conducting the national trade policy reviews.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.24 Contingent on the availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with relevant international organizations such as the United Nations Environment Programme or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and with interested exporting and importing Parties:
- a) facilitate a review of their national policies regarding the use of and trade in specimens of CITES-listed species, taking into account environmental, social and economic issues and relevant policy instruments;
 - b) compile information voluntarily provided by the Parties regarding their national wildlife trade policy reviews and make this information available to other Parties;
 - c) report at the 57th and subsequent meetings of the Standing Committee and at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made with regard to the implementation of this Decision; and
 - d) seek external financial support from bilateral, multilateral and other interested donors and partners to support further wildlife trade policy reviews and related capacity-building activities.

National laws for implementation of the Convention

Directed to Parties

- 14.25 Before the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee, any Party or dependent territory that has been party to the Convention for five or more years, with legislation in Category 2 or 3, should:
- a) submit to the Secretariat, in one of the working languages of the Convention, newly enacted legislation for implementation of the Convention; or
 - b) provide adequate justification for its failure to do so.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.26 With respect to Parties and dependent territories that do not comply with Decision 14.25 or decisions of the Standing Committee in relation to national laws for implementation of the Convention, the Standing Committee shall consider appropriate

compliance measures, which may include recommendations to suspend commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species to and from such Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.27 The Secretariat shall:

- a) compile and review the information submitted by Parties on legislation adopted before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) to fulfil the requirements laid down in the text of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP14);
- b) prepare or revise the analyses of national legislation and the categories, and advise the Parties concerned of the initial or revised analyses, specifying any requirements that are not yet met;
- c) provide technical assistance to Parties requesting advice in the formulation of legislative proposals for CITES implementation by providing, to the extent resources are available:
 - i) legal guidance in the preparation of necessary legislative measures;
 - ii) training of CITES authorities and other relevant bodies responsible for the formulation of wildlife trade policies or legislation; or
 - iii) any specific support relevant to the fulfilment of the legislative requirements for the implementation of CITES and also consider assisting Parties requesting it to assist implementing agencies with advising their governments of the need to enact adequate national laws;
- d) on the basis of information, *inter alia*, provided in Parties' biennial reports, compile good examples and prepare specialized material for the development of more effective legislation, especially in relation to verification of the legal acquisition of specimens in trade, incorporation of exemptions and special procedures, adoption of appropriate and proportionate penalties and enactment of legislation for specific species or specimens;
- e) report at the 57th and 58th meetings of the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in enacting adequate legislation and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures, including suspension of trade;
- f) identify for the Standing Committee any countries that require attention as a priority under the National Legislation Project; and
- g) report at CoP15 on:
 - i) the legislation adopted by the Parties to implement the Convention and any recommendations relating to Parties that have not adopted adequate legislation for implementation of the Convention; and
 - ii) any progress concerning technical assistance provided to the Parties in the development of their national legislation for implementation of CITES.

Cooperation between Parties and promotion of multilateral measures

Directed to Parties

14.28 Parties with stricter domestic measures and reservations should review them, as and when appropriate, in order to determine whether they are effective in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention to ensure that trade in wild fauna and flora species is not detrimental to their survival.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.29 The Standing Committee shall establish at its 57th meeting a working group which, operating by electronic means, should:
- a) review and, if necessary, revise any consultancy report produced under Decision 14.30;
 - b) organize, with the help of the Secretariat, a meeting with representation from all CITES regions to discuss the above report; and
 - c) based on the report of the meeting mentioned above, consider the need to draft for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties any revised or new resolutions.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.30 The Secretariat shall, if external funds are made available for the purpose:
- a) hire a consultant to prepare a report on ways to assess whether:
 - i) the Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties are implemented by all Parties as consistently as possible and whether there is a need to clarify, revise or repeal them; and
 - ii) the scope for multilateral CITES processes that reduce the need by Parties for recourse to stricter domestic measures and reservations should be further developed; and
 - b) assist the Standing Committee in organizing the meeting mentioned in Decision 14.29.

Gathering and analysis of data on illicit trade

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.31 The Secretariat shall convene, subject to external funding, a meeting of the CITES Enforcement Expert Group to identify measures to improve the gathering of data on illicit trade from and by relevant international, regional and national law enforcement organizations, CITES Management Authorities and the CITES Secretariat, and to discuss ways in which such data could be analysed to provide a clearer understanding of illicit trade in specimens of CITES-listed species. The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the outcome of the meeting and any recommendations made by the Group.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.32 The Standing Committee shall consider the report of the Secretariat and also consider:
- a) endorsing any relevant recommendation that could be implemented prior to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
 - b) requesting the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Enforcement Expert Group

Directed to the Secretariat

14.33 The Secretariat shall:

- a) convene a meeting of the CITES Enforcement Expert Group to:
 - i) assess progress in implementing the recommendations made by the Group at its meeting in Shepherdstown in 2004; and
 - ii) assess available information relating to any national action plans recommended in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP14);
- b) seek external funds to enable a meeting of the Group;
- c) notify Parties and publish the outcomes of the meeting, including any recommendations, on the CITES website, seeking additional comments; and
- d) report on this matter at the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.34 The Standing Committee should review the Secretariat's report at its 58th meeting and, if appropriate, adopt any recommendations directing the Secretariat to prepare a discussion document or proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP14) for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

E-commerce of specimens of CITES-listed species

Directed to the Secretariat

14.35 The Secretariat shall:

- a) request, through a Notification issued after the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, information from Management Authorities regarding:
 - i) the scale and nature of wildlife trade arranged via the Internet that apparently involves their country;
 - ii) perceived problems relating to such trade, including illicit trade;
 - iii) the effectiveness of any measures that Parties have taken to address the trade in wildlife via the Internet, including the use of codes of conduct; and
 - iv) any changes in trade routes and methods of shipment that have been observed as a result of increased use of the Internet to promote trade in wildlife;
- b) using the services of a suitably-qualified consultant, review the information submitted by Parties and prepare a background document for consideration at a workshop;
- c) seek external funding to convene a workshop on wildlife trade via the Internet, to which the following should be invited to participate: CITES Management Authority and enforcement officials from Parties with emerging or existing wildlife trade arranged via the Internet; experts on Internet trade; owners of relevant websites and Internet service providers; ICPO-Interpol and the World Customs Organization; and representatives of other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

- d) publish the outcomes of the workshop, including any recommendations, on the CITES website, seeking additional comments; and
- e) report on this matter at the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.36 The Standing Committee should review the Secretariat's report at its 58th meeting and determine whether additional measures are necessary including, if appropriate, directing the Secretariat to prepare a discussion document and draft resolution for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

National reports

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.37 The Standing Committee, with the assistance of the Secretariat, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and IUCN – The World Conservation Union, shall undertake a review of the recommendations to Parties to provide special reports under the Convention, assess whether they have been or might be effectively incorporated into the annual and biennial reports and consider how the biennial report format might be revised to facilitate such incorporation. It shall report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on its conclusions and recommendations.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.38 The Secretariat shall:
- a) continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other biodiversity-related conventions, UNEP and other bodies in order to facilitate the harmonization of knowledge management and reporting;
 - b) identify additional ways to reduce the reporting burden on Parties, *inter alia*, in the context of its ongoing review of the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, its support to the Standing Committee on electronic permitting and its work with IUCN or other organizations to compile and analyse CITES-related reports; and
 - c) report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the results of this work.

Reporting on trade in artificially propagated plants

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.39 The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre:
- a) conduct a survey of reporting practices of Parties relating to trade in artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II, e.g. regarding the degree of completeness and detail;
 - b) identify cases where the compilation of trade data pertaining to artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II has contributed to a significant extent to the detection of illegal trade or to any other analysis related to the conservation of wild flora;
 - c) taking into consideration the results of paragraphs a) and b) above, analyse the Convention text and Resolutions in order to identify binding and non-binding elements of reporting, with special emphasis on artificially propagated plants of

taxa included in Appendix II. The Secretariat shall list options for streamlining such reporting; and

- d) report on its findings to the Plants Committee prior to its 18th meeting.

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 14.40 The Plants Committee shall consider the report of the Secretariat and assess the usefulness to its programme of work of reporting on trade in artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II. It shall report its findings to the Standing Committee at its 58th meeting.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.41 The Standing Committee shall:
- a) taking into consideration the results of the Plants Committee's assessment, analyse in what manner, for which groups of plants, etc., such reporting could be streamlined, where appropriate; and
 - b) report on its findings at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and submit draft wording to amend Resolutions concerned, where appropriate.

Incentives for the implementation of the Convention

Directed to Parties

- 14.42 Parties that develop incentive measures for the effective implementation of the Convention are encouraged to include relevant details in their biennial reports.
- 14.43 Parties are encouraged to consider the adoption of standard operating procedures to complete the formalities required for trade in CITES-listed species in an efficient manner. Management Authorities are encouraged to liaise with national ministries and agencies responsible for regulation and promotion of exports and imports in their countries to benefit from the expertise and support they offer in this area.
- 14.44 The Parties shall consider practical ways to enhance stakeholder engagement in the implementation of the Convention (e.g. promoting good practices and codes of conduct that facilitate the work of CITES authorities, help to reduce time-frames for the completion of CITES procedures and enhance the role of the private sector in intelligence gathering to identify and prosecute illegal traders).

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.45 Using *inter alia* information provided by Parties in their biennial reports, the Secretariat should conduct a survey of the fees for CITES permits and cost of CITES-related administrative services, and provide basic guidance to Parties on how cost-recovery programmes can be designed and used for internalizing the cost of implementing the Convention in this regard.
- 14.46 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall continue its cooperation with the BioTrade Initiative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development under a signed Memorandum of Understanding to ensure the conservation of wild species subject to international trade and promote private sector compliance with CITES requirements and national legislation.
- 14.47 The Secretariat shall report on the progress made with regard to the implementation of Decisions 14.45 and 14.46 at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Trade control and marking

Introduction from the sea

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.48 The Standing Committee shall:

- a) at its 57th meeting (SC57), establish a working group on Introduction from the Sea, which shall work primarily through electronic means, to consider a definition for 'transportation into a State', clarification of the term 'State of introduction' and the process for issuing a certificate of introduction from the sea as well as other issues identified for further consideration in the final report of the CITES Workshop on Introduction from the Sea Issues (Geneva, 30 November – 2 December 2005);
- b) include in the working group representatives of CITES authorities and fishery authorities from each of the six CITES regions and request the participation of the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, two regional fishery bodies, the fishing industry, and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations with CITES and fishery expertise;
- c) contingent on the availability of external funding, convene a meeting of the working group between SC57 and SC58; and
- d) ask the working group to prepare a discussion paper and draft revised resolution for consideration by the Standing Committee at SC58 and for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

International expert workshop on non-detriment findings

Directed to Parties

14.49 Parties:

- a) are encouraged to provide financial support for an international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs), the main goal of which is to enhance CITES Scientific Authorities' capacities, particularly those related to the methodologies, tools, information, expertise and other resources needed to formulate NDFs; and
- b) are also encouraged to provide any help and information regarding methodologies, tools, information, expertise and any other resources used to formulate NDFs on specific taxa in order to contribute to the development of such a workshop, the results of which should be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 15th meeting.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

14.50 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the proceedings resulting from the expert workshop on non-detriment findings under the terms set out in Decision 14.49; and
- b) prepare, for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a discussion paper and, if considered appropriate, a draft resolution on the making of non-detriment findings.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.51 The Secretariat shall:

- a) as a matter of high priority, assist in obtaining funds from interested Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other funding sources to support an international expert workshop on non-detriment findings under the terms set out in Decision 14.49;
- b) assist the Steering Committee, chaired by Mexico, in preparing for the workshop;
- c) ensure that the proceedings resulting from the expert workshop on non-detriment findings are made available to the general public via the CITES website; and
- d) report on these activities at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

14.52 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) review the CITES trade data maintained by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre to determine the species for which source code R has been used for trade, and the countries where this has occurred;
- b) survey countries applying source code R to species other than crocodylians transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II subject to ranching, and obtain information on the management programme for the species to which this source code is applied;
- c) review the literature on wildlife management for current information on management systems that would resemble ranching (i.e. primarily focused on the harvest of specimens representing early life stages for rearing in captivity) and identify common elements in these programmes;
- d) based on this review, propose a definition of ranching and the use of source code R for CITES purposes; and
- e) report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of this decision.

Revision of Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP14) (Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II)

Directed to the Secretariat

14.53 The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Animals Committee, examine Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP14) (Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II) with a view to proposing revisions to the Resolution to make its structure more logical, clarify certain recommendations, edit text and reduce overlap between sections for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Purpose codes on CITES permits and certificates

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.54 The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional joint working group to review the use of purpose-of-transaction codes by Parties, with the following terms of reference:
- a) the working group shall be composed of Parties from as many of the six CITES regions as possible, and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, with expertise in the issuance of CITES documents and use of purpose-of-transaction codes for evaluation within the permit issuance process and trade data analysis;
 - b) the working group shall:
 - i) determine the extent to which the use of the current purpose-of-transaction codes gives rise to difficulties of interpretation by Parties;
 - ii) identify the purpose and assess possible benefit for the use of such codes for all trade involving Appendix-I, -II and -III specimens; and
 - iii) focus on defining and/or clarifying purpose-of-transaction codes to encourage consistent utilization of the codes, including the possible elimination of current codes or the inclusion of new codes;
 - c) in evaluating the use and definition of purpose-of-transaction codes, the working group should take into account any difficulties of implementation by Parties and the potential resource implications of inclusion of any new codes or deletion of current purpose-of-transaction codes;
 - d) the working group should submit a report and any recommendations for amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP14) at the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee, for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
 - e) the working group should carry out the majority of its work via email to keep costs to a minimum.

Electronic permitting

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.55 The Standing Committee shall extend the mandate of the Working Group on Information Technologies and Electronic Systems in order for it to perform the following tasks:
- a) analyse the information collected with the questionnaires in order to define the commonalities among Parties and the extent to which these systems are interoperable;
 - b) evaluate and analyse the information provided by the Secretariat on the experience of other bodies and conventions or agreements [UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, World Customs Organization] on the use of electronic systems and permits;
 - c) collaborate with the Secretariat in drafting guidelines on the use of common information exchange formats, protocols and standards and electronic signatures;
 - d) promote the development and use of electronic permitting systems among Parties;

- e) further explore the availability of a few Parties to participate in case studies; and
- f) report to the Standing Committee at its 58th meeting on the results of its work.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.56 Subject to the availability of financial and human resources, the Secretariat, in cooperation with the Working Group on the Use of Information Technologies and Electronic Systems, shall prepare a CD-ROM and Web-based toolkit on electronic permitting systems for consideration at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee to assist Parties with the implementation of electronic permitting systems. The toolkit shall include:
- a) advice on the use of common information exchange formats, protocols and standards for use with electronic permitting systems;
 - b) advice on the use of electronic signatures and other electronic security measures;
 - c) advice on the development and implementation of interoperable information exchange pilot projects on electronic permitting systems;
 - d) a list of Parties willing to assist less developed countries in developing electronic permitting systems;
 - e) a list of Parties currently using electronic permitting systems; and
 - f) information on new developments in the use of electronic documents by relevant organizations.
- 14.57 The Secretariat shall collaborate with UNEP-WCMC in the further development and dissemination of Internet-based software tools.

Transport of live specimens

Directed to Parties

- 14.58 With regard to transport of live animals by means other than air, Parties should consider the *Guidelines for the Transport of Animals by Sea* of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the OIE *Guidelines for the Transport of Animals by Land* published in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* in instances when the *Live Animals Regulations* of the International Air Transport Association are inappropriate, and to avoid potential problems with new, duplicate or overlapping regulations (national, regional or international).

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 14.59 The Animals Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, should:
- a) participate in the regular meetings of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and in the ongoing reviews of the OIE *Guidelines for the Transport of Animals by Sea*, the OIE *Guidelines for the Transport of Animals by Land* and, if appropriate, the OIE *Guidelines for the Transport of Animals by Air*;
 - b) collaborate with OIE in the development of its Web portal with information on national regulations and other guidelines applicable to modes of transport for live animals other than by air, and verify its pertinence to the CITES Parties;
 - c) examine new or additional references for transport of live animals;
 - d) review at its 24th meeting the following documents from the Secretariat:
 - i) an analysis of the Parties' legislative provisions on the transport of live animals by road, rail and ship contained in materials gathered under the CITES National Legislation Project; and

- ii) draft legislative guidance for the transport of live specimens; and
- e) report on the implementation of this decision at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties including, where appropriate, proposals to amend the Resolution on Transport of live specimens.

Physical inspection of timber shipments

Directed to the Secretariat

14.60 The Secretariat shall establish an electronic working group, which, in consultation with the Plants Committee and relevant intergovernmental organizations, shall:

- a) solicit and compile existing procedures adopted by the Parties for:
 - i) identification of CITES-listed and look-alike timber species; and
 - ii) physical inspection of shipments of CITES-listed timber species; and
- b) indicate how those procedures can be accessed by CITES authorities.

On that basis, the working group should identify possible elements for further work and report at the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.61 The Standing Committee, with the support of the Secretariat, and in consultation with Parties and relevant intergovernmental organizations, shall examine the outcome of the working group, to identify best practices and capacity-building measures that may be implemented with technical and/or financial support from donors.

Review of the universal tagging system and trade in small crocodilian leather goods

Directed to the Standing Committee

14.62 The Standing Committee shall, at its 57th meeting, initiate a process to review the implementation and effectiveness of the universal tagging system and the trade in small crocodilian leather goods, including their impact on the effectiveness of the Convention. For that purpose, it shall establish a working group with representatives from exporting and importing countries, the Animals Committee, the Secretariat and other interested parties. The tasks of the working group, which might work electronically, shall be:

- a) to examine the implementation and effectiveness of the universal tagging system;
- b) to examine the implementation and effectiveness of issuing CITES documents for small crocodilian leather goods and related trade controls;
- c) to consider possible ways and conditions to alleviate the administrative burden related to trade in small crocodilian leather goods and to guarantee the legal origin of the specimens; and
- d) to report to the Standing Committee on the results of its work at its 58th meeting.

14.63 The Standing Committee shall, at its 58th meeting, consider the report of the working group established under Decision 14.62 and shall submit recommendations, as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 15th meeting.

Exemptions and special trade provisions

Personal and household effects

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.64 The Standing Committee shall extend the operation of its Working Group on Personal and Household Effects until the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) and oversee the Group's work in fulfilling the following terms of reference:
- a) clarify the relationship between 'tourist souvenirs' and 'personal and household effects';
 - b) clarify the interpretation of Article VII, paragraph 3 (b), of the Convention;
 - c) assess whether there are specific species or types of personal or household effects which, in view of conservation concerns, would require different treatment under Resolution Conf. 13.7 (Rev. CoP14);
 - d) collate information about how each Party has implemented Resolution Conf. 13.7 (Rev. CoP14), particularly with regard to requirements for export permits, and assess whether this indicates the need to amend the Resolution; and
 - e) report at each regular meeting of the Standing Committee until CoP15 and at CoP15.

Species trade and conservation

Fauna

Asian big cats

Directed to Parties

- 14.65 Asian big cat range States shall strengthen their efforts to implement Resolution Conf. 12.5 and, for tiger range States, report on progress at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee, and subsequent meetings of the Standing Committee, and at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15), with a review for CoP15 identifying gaps and additional measures needed.
- 14.66 All Parties, especially those evaluating their domestic tiger trade control policies, shall take into consideration the view of the Parties as expressed in Resolution Conf. 12.5.
- 14.67 Asian big cat range States shall improve international cooperation in conservation and trade control through continual dialogue, and when convened, tiger range States are invited to participate in the tiger trade enforcement workshop and the conservation strategy workshop.
- 14.68 Parties are strongly encouraged to develop or improve implementation of regional enforcement networks.
- 14.69 Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.70 Contingent upon availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall: convene a tiger trade enforcement meeting within 12 months of the end of CoP14; and cooperate in the development of a conservation strategy workshop, to be facilitated by IUCN – The World Conservation Union and the Global Tiger Forum (building on recent scientific work, including the 2006 Tiger Conservation Landscape Assessment) and other relevant organizations.
- 14.71 The CITES Secretariat, in consultation with Parties that have or seek to have specialized wildlife crime units, shall provide technical assistance and assist with the identification of additional opportunities for technical and financial support.
- 14.72 The CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force shall, in conjunction with the CITES Enforcement Expert Group and in consultation with tiger range States, establish a mechanism to regularly monitor and evaluate the scale and nature of illegal trade in Asian big cats.

Bushmeat

Directed to the Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group

- 14.73 The Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group is encouraged to collaborate with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in its work and is invited to draw to the attention of the Standing Committee and/or the Conference of the Parties to any matters relating to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.11.
- 14.74 The Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group is encouraged to continue its work, also by collaborating with the Convention on Biological Diversity Liaison Group on non-timber forest resources, and to report to the Standing Committee on progress made in implementing national action plans relating to the trade in bushmeat and other initiatives it takes regarding this subject. A report on the subject of bushmeat should be submitted at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Elephants: Conditions for the disposal of ivory stocks and generating resources for conservation in African elephant range States

- 10.2 a) The African elephant range States recognize:
(Rev. CoP11)
- i) the threats that stockpiles pose to sustainable legal trade;
 - ii) that stockpiles are a vital economic resource for them;
 - iii) that various funding commitments were made by donor countries and agencies to offset the loss of assets in the interest of unifying these States regarding the inclusion of African elephant populations in Appendix I;
 - iv) the significance of channelling such assets from ivory into improving conservation and community-based conservation and development programmes;
 - v) the failure of donors to fund elephant conservation action plans drawn up by the range States at the urging of donor countries and conservation organizations; and
 - vi) that, at its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties directed the Standing Committee to review the issue of stockpiles and to report back at the 10th meeting.

- b) Accordingly, the African elephant range States agree that all revenues from any purchase of stockpiles by donor countries and organizations will be deposited in and managed through conservation trust funds, and that:
 - i) such funds shall be managed by Boards of Trustees (such as representatives of governments, donors, the CITES Secretariat, etc.) set up, as appropriate, in each range State, which would direct the proceeds into enhanced conservation, monitoring, capacity building and local community-based programmes; and
 - ii) these funds must have a positive rather than harmful influence on elephant conservation.
- c) It is understood that this decision provides for a one-off purchase for non-commercial purposes of government stocks declared by African elephant range States to the CITES Secretariat within the 90-day period before the transfer to Appendix II of certain populations of the African elephant takes effect. The ivory stocks declared should be marked in accordance with the ivory marking system approved by the Conference of the Parties in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP14)². In addition, the source of ivory stocks should be given. The stocks of ivory should be consolidated in a pre-determined number of locations. An independent audit of any declared stocks shall be undertaken under the auspices of TRAFFIC International, in cooperation with the CITES Secretariat.
- d) The African elephant range States that have not yet been able to register their ivory stocks and develop adequate controls over ivory stocks require priority assistance from donor countries to establish a level of conservation management conducive to the long-term survival of the African elephant.
- e) The African elephant range States therefore urge that this matter be acted upon urgently since any delays will result in illegal trade and the premature opening of ivory trade in non-proponent range States.
- f) This mechanism only applies to those range States wishing to dispose of ivory stocks and agreeing to and participating in:
 - i) an international system for reporting and monitoring legal and illegal international trade, through an international database in the CITES Secretariat and TRAFFIC International; and
 - ii) an international system for reporting and monitoring illegal trade and illegal hunting within or between elephant range States, through an international database in the CITES Secretariat, with support from TRAFFIC International and institutions such as the African Elephant Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and the Lusaka Agreement.

Elephant conservation

13.26 The Conference of the Parties adopted the *Action plan for the control of trade in (Rev. elephant ivory* attached as Annex 2 to these Decisions. (Rev. CoP14)

Directed to African elephant range States

14.75 The African elephant range States shall continue their constructive elephant dialogue aiming to develop joint conservation policies and exchange of management experience in order to improve the management of elephant populations.

² Corrected by the Secretariat: originally referred to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev.), later corrected to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12).

The African elephant range States through the African elephant dialogue process shall develop an overall *African elephant action plan* for improved elephant management aiming at:

- a) accessing and directing resources, towards strengthening enforcement capacity in African elephant range States to combat poaching and illegal trade in ivory;
- b) the implementation of the *Action plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory*; and
- c) enhancing capacity building, managing translocations, reducing human-elephant conflicts and enhancing community-conservation programmes and development programmes within or adjacent to the elephant range.

The elephant range States will report to the Standing Committee on progress made under this decision with a view to providing the information necessary for the reviews referred to in Decision 14.78.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

- 14.76 Parties, trading countries, the ivory carving industry, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other donors are called upon to contribute significantly to the African Elephant Fund for the implementation of the *African elephant action plan* and the programme for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) to ensure their establishment and maintenance.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.77 The Standing Committee, assisted by the Secretariat, shall propose for approval at the latest at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties a decision-making mechanism for a process of trade in ivory under the auspices of the Conference of the Parties.
- 14.78 The Standing Committee shall conduct ongoing comprehensive reviews of the status of the elephant, trade in its specimens and the impact of the legal trade, based on data from MIKE, the Elephant Trade Information System and the implementation of the *Action plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory* and the *African elephant action plan* referred to in Decision 14.75.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.79 The Secretariat shall establish an African Elephant Fund that will be applied to the implementation of the *African elephant action plan*.

The Secretariat shall establish a steering committee consisting of representatives of the range States and donors to govern the African Elephant Fund and to support and advise African elephant range States on the implementation of the Action Plan.

The Steering Committee shall decide on the organization of the administration of the fund.

The Secretariat shall, as far as possible through MIKE funding, convene an African elephant meeting before 31 July 2008 and at later dates as necessary.

Giant clams

Directed to the Secretariat

14.80 The Secretariat shall seek external funding, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.2, Annex 1 paragraph 2 a), to enable a regional workshop to be held, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other appropriate regional organizations, in 2007 to initiate regional cooperation on the management of sustainable fisheries for Tridacnidae.

Great whales

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.81 No periodic review of any great whale, including the fin whale, should occur while the moratorium by the International Whaling Commission is in place.

Grey parrot

*Directed to the range States of *Psittacus erithacus**

14.82 The range States of *Psittacus erithacus* should participate in the development and implementation of regional management plans for the conservation of and trade in *P. erithacus erithacus* and *P. erithacus timneh*.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.83 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall develop regional management plans for the conservation of and trade in *P. erithacus erithacus* and *P. erithacus timneh*, in collaboration with the range States, relevant experts, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. Issues to be addressed in these plans should include:

- a) development of biologically sustainable national export quotas in cooperation with neighbouring range States;
- b) development of standards for making non-detriment findings;
- c) providing details of the control measures in place or to be implemented to verify the origin of the specimens;
- d) cooperation on studies on the population status and demography of the species and the status of its habitat;
- e) cooperation on long-term monitoring efforts;
- f) actions to implement law enforcement programmes to combat poaching and illegal trade (both national and international) and report on the results of the programmes in terms of enforcement efforts, seizures and prosecutions;
- g) agreements on reliable methodologies for assessing population status and population monitoring;
- h) investigations of the possibility of establishing *in situ* captive-breeding facilities for the species;
- i) encouragement of the participation of all range States, enforcement authorities, importing countries, experts, the NGO community and the private sector in implementing these plans; and
- j) considering expanding the management plans to include other psittacine species in the region.

- 14.84 The Secretariat shall seek funding for and organize workshops in West and Central Africa to assist range States in the development and implementation of regional management plans for the conservation of and trade in *P. erithacus erithacus* and *P. erithacus timneh*.
- 14.85 The Secretariat should identify cases where there has been a history of exports in excess of quotas and, as long as necessary, verify export permits issued to ensure that quotas are not exceeded.

Hawksbill turtle

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.86 The Secretariat shall:
- a) provide support to, and collaborate with, the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean region (Cartagena Convention) and its Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW Protocol), in raising funds to conduct, before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a meeting about hawksbill turtles for the wider Caribbean region with the purpose of promoting collaboration, planning and information sharing within the region, and to cooperate with other organizations and multilateral agreements that have a mandate concerning the conservation, management and sustainable use of this species in the wider Caribbean region;
 - b) request the above mentioned organizations to include issues related to illegal trade in hawksbill turtles in the regional meeting's agenda;
 - c) request these organizations to enable the participation of the CITES Secretariat in the regional meeting as an observer, as well as the participation of CITES Parties of the wider Caribbean region; and
 - d) request these organizations to provide the report including the results of the regional meeting, as well as, if available, information about the progress made regarding the implementation of the national management plans of the Parties of the wider Caribbean region and to submit this report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations

- 14.87 Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide funds to enable the development of the regional meeting and Parties in the region are encouraged to participate in it.

Rhinoceroses

Directed to Parties

- 14.88 Range States of African and Asian rhinoceroses and Parties that have stocks of rhinoceros horns and derivatives thereof should declare the status of their stocks of rhinoceros horns and derivatives before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with a format to be circulated by the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.89 The Secretariat shall:

- a) develop, in collaboration with the African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and TRAFFIC, a format for the declarations referred to in Decision 14.88 and distribute it through a Notification to the Parties;
- b) invite TRAFFIC to review information on the accumulation of rhinoceros horn stocks in range States and the routes by which horns enter and flow to illegal markets, with priority countries for such review being those in which either there has been a recent significant increase in poaching levels, where discrepancies might exist in reported horn stockpiles, where volumes of horn stockpiles are unknown or where insufficient crossborder collaboration to combat illegal rhinoceros horn trade has been reported; and
- c) request IUCN – The World Conservation Union and TRAFFIC to include an analysis of the information provided by the Parties on stocks of rhinoceros horns and derivatives thereof, and of the review referred to in paragraph b) above in their reporting to the Secretariat pursuant to Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP14) and for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

14.90 The Secretariat shall:

- a) examine the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP14) in the range States where illegal poaching of rhinoceroses appears to have increased and to pose a significant threat to populations of rhinoceroses, particularly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nepal and Zimbabwe;
- b) collaborate with the World Heritage Convention in addressing rhinoceros poaching and illegal trade issues in World Heritage sites in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, *inter alia* to support greater coordination with neighbouring countries, facilitate the collation and distribution of intelligence information and provide capacity building for wildlife law enforcement personnel;
- c) encourage relevant range States to link rhinoceros conservation actions where possible with the CITES site-based programme for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants; and
- d) report on the implementation of these Decisions at the 57th and 58th meetings of the Standing Committee and at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Saiga antelope

Directed to all range States of the Saiga antelope (Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) and to China as a former range State

14.91 All range States of *Saiga tatarica* should fully implement the measures directed to them that are contained in the *Medium-Term International Work Programme for the saiga antelope (2007-2011)*, developed in support of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concerning 'Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*)' and its *Saiga Action Plan*.

14.92 The Russian Federation should, as soon as possible, sign the MoU concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*) and implement its *Saiga Action Plan*.

14.93 All range States of *Saiga tatarica* should provide information on the measures and activities they undertook to implement the *Medium-Term International Work Programme for the saiga antelope (2007-2011)* in their biennial reports for the periods 2007-2008 and 2009-2010.

Directed to States that are important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives

- 14.94 Important consumer and trading States of saiga parts and derivatives are encouraged to collaborate among each other in managing and controlling trade in saiga antelope, and should take into consideration the recommendations formulated in *Trade in saiga antelope horns and other parts: an overview of recent global trade trends and conservation aspects with a focus on market demand in Southeast Asia* (Annex 6 to document CoP14 Doc. 56), particularly those relating to:
- a) the development of coherent policies and procedures for the disposal of confiscated saiga parts and derivatives;
 - b) the registration and marking of saiga parts and derivatives that are kept in government or private ownership, regular monitoring of such stockpiles, and the adoption of a labelling system for products containing saiga specimens;
 - c) the reduction of the overall consumption of saiga parts and derivatives in close cooperation with medicine manufacturers and communities using traditional Asian medicine, e.g. by restricting the varieties of patent medicines that are allowed to contain saiga horn, researching and promoting appropriate substitutes for the saiga horn, and confining the prescription of medicines containing saiga horn to the most essential treatments; and
 - d) the improvement of trade controls on China's borders with Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Mongolia by providing training and promoting the exchange of enforcement-related information amongst relevant authorities, and controls of trade to and from saiga-trading countries.
- 14.95 Important consumer and trading States of saiga parts and derivatives should provide information on their implementation of Decision 14.94 in their biennial reports for the periods 2007-2008 and 2009-2010.

Directed to Parties and others

- 14.96 Donor Parties, aid agencies, businesses using and producing saiga products, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are urged to assist all range States and consumer countries in any way possible with the conservation of the saiga antelope, particularly by focusing funding, resources and expertise on the measures specified in the *Medium-Term International Work Programme for the saiga antelope (2007-2011)*, developed in support of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*) and its *Saiga Action Plan*.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.97 The Secretariat shall:
- a) cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals on issues pertaining to the saiga antelope, including:
 - i) the implementation of the *Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga antelope (2007-2011)*;
 - ii) the organization of the second meeting of the signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*), scheduled to take place in 2008;
 - iii) facilitating collaboration between the range States of the saiga antelope and major consumer Parties; and
 - iv) securing support for implementing the Medium-Term International Work Programme *inter alia* by exploring possibilities to establish an enabling

mechanism to use funds from the traditional Asian medicine industry for *in situ* conservation of the saiga antelope; and

- b) report on the implementation of Decisions 14.91 to 14.97, including a written summary of the information contained in biennial reports from relevant Parties, for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and recommend appropriate actions.

Sea cucumbers

Directed to the Secretariat

14.98 The Secretariat shall bring to the attention of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and prior to the FAO Workshop on Sustainable Use and Management of Sea Cucumber Fisheries, the discussion paper on *Biological and trade status of sea cucumbers in the families Holothuriidae and Stichopodidae* in Annex 1 to document CoP14 Doc. 62, and the following recommendations by the Animals Committee to range States of these taxa and Parties that are engaged in trade in them:

- a) develop and implement national adaptive management plans for species of high conservation concern, such as those identified as of 'high concern' and 'concern in certain countries of its range' in Annex 3 of the discussion paper on *Biological and trade status of sea cucumbers in the families Holothuriidae and Stichopodidae*, including minimum harvest size and total allowable catch, and apply where appropriate a precautionary approach, such as restrictive fisheries measures;
- b) develop regional management strategies to manage the resource;
- c) develop a standardized approach for the collection and reporting of fisheries and trade data, including species collected, locations, habitat, weight, size and number of individuals;
- d) encourage greater communications and cooperation between fisheries and CITES authorities at the national level for the management of and trade in specimens of these species;
- e) increase significantly basic biological and ecological research and stock assessments, particularly for species of high conservation concern, such as those identified as of 'high concern' and 'concern in certain countries of its range' in the discussion paper referred to in paragraph a) above;
- f) conduct socio-economic evaluations of the sea cucumber fisheries, especially in developing countries, to identify clearly their importance and role in the livelihoods of coastal fishing communities;
- g) enhance the enforcement capacity to reduce illegal fishing, transshipment and landings, as well as the capacity to implement the current Appendix-III listing;
- h) explore the potential of mariculture in promoting the sustainable use of the resource, with experience from China, and identify best practices;
- i) consider the merits of inclusion of their species of conservation concern in Appendix III, where appropriate;
- j) support the development of harmonized codes for reporting international trade in sea cucumber products; and
- k) develop and distribute identification guides that clearly distinguish sea cucumbers subject to international trade.

14.99 In the context of the Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and FAO, the Secretariat shall promote cooperation with FAO concerning the conservation of and trade in sea cucumbers in the families Holothuriidae and Stichopodidae, *inter alia* by

bringing the outcomes of the FAO Workshop on Sustainable Use and Management of Sea Cucumber Fisheries to the attention of the Parties and supporting relevant capacity-building activities.

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.100 The Animals Committee shall evaluate the outcomes of the FAO Workshop on Sustainable Use and Management of Sea Cucumber Fisheries, to be conducted in 2007, and recommend appropriate follow-up actions at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to support this initiative.

Sharks and stingrays

1. Implementation and effectiveness

Directed to Parties

14.101 When considering or developing proposals to include shark species in the CITES Appendices, Parties are encouraged to consider factors affecting implementation and effectiveness, including those identified in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) Annex 6; in particular:

- a) non-detriment findings for commercially-traded marine species, including situations involving target and bycatch fisheries, and for shared stocks, migratory species and introductions from the sea;
- b) monitoring and enforcement practicalities, given that sharks are generally traded in parts (meat, fins, cartilage, etc.); and
- c) the likely effectiveness of listing, particularly when bycatch fisheries or non-fishery anthropogenic issues are involved.

14.102 Parties are encouraged to continue developing manuals and guides for the identification of sharks and shark products in international trade and to make these available to other Parties and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through the CITES Secretariat before the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.103 The Secretariat shall distribute a Notification to the Parties on implementation of listings for shark species. It shall focus specifically on obtaining from Parties' Scientific and Fishery Authorities case studies on the development of non-detriment findings for shark species, and shall collate and summarize these for provision to the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings to be held in Mexico.

2. Commodity codes

Directed to Parties

14.104 Parties are encouraged to:

- a) use their commodity codes, where they exist, for traded fish products in order to differentiate between fresh/chilled, frozen and dried, processed and unprocessed, shark meat, oil, skin, cartilage and fin products, imports, exports and re-exports, for both CITES-listed and non-listed species; and
- b) report progress at the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Animals Committee on implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6, under RECOMMENDS.

14.105 Parties are encouraged to use the existing species-specific FAO catch data recording fields for the reporting of shark catches and discards, and to work within FAO to amend these, if required, so as to achieve a more accurate picture of shark mortality through fishing.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.106 The Secretariat shall distribute a Notification to the Parties requesting them to provide details of their commodity codes for fish products (e.g. fresh/chilled, frozen and dried, processed and unprocessed, meat, oil, skin, cartilage and fins), imports, exports and re-exports, for both CITES-listed and non-listed species, collate the responses and report at the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee.

3. Species-specific reviews and recommendations

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.107 The Animals Committee shall continue activities specified under Resolution Conf. 12.6, including refinement of the list of shark species of concern, in collaboration with FAO, taking account of those referenced in Annex 3 to document CoP14 Doc. 59.1, and shall report on these activities at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to Parties

14.108 Parties landing and exporting products from shark species of concern identified by the Animals Committee are encouraged to:

- a) improve liaison between their CITES and fisheries authorities;
- b) ensure that levels of international trade are not detrimental to the status of these species; and
- c) report at the 24th and 25th meetings of the Animals Committee on the fisheries, environmental and international trade management measures adopted, levels of landings and exports, and the status of these stocks and fisheries.

4. South American freshwater stingrays

Directed to the Secretariat

14.109 The Secretariat shall liaise with, as a minimum, the key range States³ of the family Potamotrygonidae (South American freshwater stingrays), relevant Regional Fishery Bodies, FAO and the ornamental fish industry to facilitate the organization of and seek external funding for a regional workshop that will report at the 23rd or 24th meeting of the Animals Committee. This workshop will:

- a) review the distribution and status of the wild populations of this taxon, the role of captive breeding and international trade records;
- b) advise on the development of methods for ensuring the sustainable utilisation of and international trade in these species;
- c) in consultation with all relevant range States, jointly examine crossborder trade that may be facilitating illegal trade; and
- d) develop a cooperative strategy for monitoring and regulating international trade within South America and to other States, taking into consideration the contribution of captive breeding to *in situ* conservation.

³ Brazil, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay (other range States and territories are Argentina, Bolivia, French Guyana, Guyana and Suriname).

Directed to the Animals Committee

14.110 The Animals Committee shall consider the outputs of the South American freshwater stingray workshop and, in consultation with workshop participants, shall make any necessary species-specific recommendations to range States and to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting on improving the conservation status and regulation of international trade in these taxa.

5. Capacity-building

Directed to Parties

14.111 When making non-detriment findings for CITES-listed shark species, Scientific Authorities are encouraged to seek advice from relevant scientific, research and management bodies.

14.112 Parties are encouraged, through their delegations to the FAO Committee on Fisheries, to call on FAO to facilitate greater support for countries whose capacity to assess and manage their shark fisheries is limited, and to provide the resources necessary for FAO to undertake this work.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.113 The Secretariat, in consultation with the Steering Committee of the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings to be held in Mexico, shall seek to ensure that this workshop considers the development of non-detriment findings for sharks, including transboundary, migratory, straddling and high seas stocks.

14.114 The Secretariat shall liaise with FAO and regional fishery bodies to explore the organization of and seek external funding for a capacity-building workshop on the conservation and management of sharks. This workshop should:

- a) consider the outputs of the Mexican international expert workshop on non-detriment findings;
- b) use *Galeorhinus galeus* as a case study for stock assessment and management measures for internationally-traded transboundary migratory coastal shark stocks, and develop recommendations for improving the monitoring, regulation and management of international trade in this and other shark species;
- c) consider tools and approaches for the development of assessments and non-detriment findings for shark species and for the monitoring and regulation of international trade in these species;
- d) consider tools and approaches to determine whether specimens are of legal origin; and
- e) develop recommendations for consideration at the 23rd or 24th meeting of the Animals Committee.

6. International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks)

Directed to Parties

- 14.115 Shark fishing and trading entities, particularly the major fishing or trading entities⁴, are strongly encouraged to identify opportunities to:
- a) improve, in cooperation with FAO and relevant fishery management bodies, the monitoring and reporting of catch, bycatch, discards, market and international trade data, at the species level where possible;
 - b) establish systems to provide verification of catch information;
 - c) report on their progress at the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Animals Committee; and
 - d) implement the FAO IPOA-Sharks as a matter of priority, where they have not done so.
- 14.116 Parties that are members of a regional fishery management organization are strongly encouraged to request through FAO and regional fishing management organizations where appropriate that these organizations develop and implement regional shark plans and associated measures to assist in species identification and monitoring, as called for in the IPOA-Sharks, by mid-2009 in order to report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties.

7. Illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 14.117 The Animals Committee, in consultation with FAO, shall examine and report on linkages between the international trade in shark fins and meat and IUU shark fishing activities, including where possible:
- a) the main species of sharks taken by IUU fishing; and
 - b) the relative importance of fins compared to meat in international trade arising from IUU fishing.

Sturgeons and paddlefish

Directed to Parties

- 14.118 Caspian Sea sturgeon range States are requested to participate actively in the two-year Technical Cooperation Programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other opportunities available through the relevant regional agencies, and communicate their progress to the Secretariat.
- 14.119 Range States which share stocks are requested to take into consideration the recommendation that total export quotas for 2008 (from 1 March 2008 to 28 February 2009) shall not be higher than those agreed to in 2007 for each species and shall be set on the basis of scientific data.

⁴ Based on the FAO 2004 data, the top 20 shark fishing areas and entities, in descending order of catch, are: Indonesia, the European Community, India, Spain, Taiwan (province of China)*, Mexico*, Argentina, the United States of America*, Thailand, Pakistan, Japan*, Malaysia*, France, Brazil, Sri Lanka, the Islamic Republic of Iran, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Nigeria and Portugal. Only those marked with * have currently implemented National Plans of Action for Sharks.

Directed to Parties and others

14.120 Parties, commercial stakeholders and all interested organizations are urged to assist in providing funding and resources to complete the tasks assigned to the Animals Committee as outlined in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14).

Directed to the Secretariat

14.121 The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties before September 2007, as a follow-up to Notification to the Parties No. 2005/053, which:

- a) reminds Parties to send copies of caviar export permits and re-export certificates in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14);
- b) encourages Parties to do this in a timely manner, i.e. no longer than one month after a permit or a certificate has been issued in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14);
- c) provides a description of the caviar-trade database maintained by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre; and
- d) underlines the role that such a database could play in assisting in the effective monitoring of export quotas and in helping to reduce certain types of fraud, such as the excess of re-exports from an export permit.

14.122 The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties to remind Parties, when preparing their annual report, to separate trade in caviar and meat from trade in live specimens by using the agreed codes and the preferred units as instructed in the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* in the Annex to Notification to the Parties No. 2006/030 on Annual reports, as follows:

- a) for caviar: "CAV" as code and "kg" (kilograms) as unit;
- b) for meat: "MEA" as code and "kg" as unit;
- c) for live fertilized eggs: "EGL" as code and either "no." (number of specimens) as the preferred unit or "kg" as the alternative unit; and
- d) for live fish (fingerlings, juveniles and adults): "LIV" as code and "no." as unit.

14.123 The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties to remind Parties of the recommendation that total export quotas for 2008 (from 1 March 2008 to 28 February 2009) shall not be higher than those agreed to in 2007 for each species.

14.124 The Secretariat shall communicate to the Parties the outcome of the workshop on Identification of Acipenseriformes Species in Trade that was organized by the Sturgeon Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission with the assistance of the German Government and the Secretariat.

14.125 The Secretariat shall assist in seeking external funding and resources from Parties and all relevant stakeholders in order to complete the task assigned to the Animals Committee as outlined in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14).

Tortoises and freshwater turtles

Directed to Parties

14.126 Parties should liaise with the World Customs Organization to promote the establishment and use of specific headings within the standard tariff classifications of the Harmonized System for tortoises and freshwater turtles and for products thereof.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.127 The Secretariat shall submit a written summary of the information on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP13) that is contained in biennial reports from Parties for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15).
- 14.128 The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, contract the Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission to undertake a study which would assist in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP13).

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 14.129 The Animals Committee shall review the study and make recommendations at CoP15.

Flora

Cactaceae and Orchidaceae: review of annotations

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 14.130 The Plants Committee shall:
- a) analyse the amendments of annotations #1, #4 and #8 of proposal CoP14 Prop. 26 in order to decide whether there is merit in further developing and refining them; and
 - b) if appropriate, prepare a proposal on annotations for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Euphorbia spp.

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 14.131 The Plants Committee shall:
- a) analyse trade data and conservation status of succulent *Euphorbia* species (except those species currently included in Appendix I);
 - b) prepare a revised list of succulent *Euphorbia* species that meet the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14) for inclusion in Appendix II;
 - c) prepare proposals for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties that provide for the deletion of *Euphorbia* species from Appendix II that do not meet the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14), are frequently traded and can be clearly identified by non-specialists; and
 - d) determine the need for identification material for species retained in Appendix II.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.132 The Secretariat shall seek to secure funding, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP14), Annex 2, for the production and printing of an updated CITES checklist of succulent *Euphorbia* species included in Appendices I and II.

Orchids: annotation for species included in Appendix II

Directed to Parties and the Plants Committee

14.133 Countries of export and import should make recommendations and prepare identification material on further exemptions for artificially propagated hybrids of Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II, taking into consideration the capacities of countries to implement and control such exemptions effectively. The results shall be sent to the Plants Committee, which shall evaluate them and adopt the appropriate measures.

Directed to the Plants Committee

14.134 The Plants Committee shall monitor and assess possible conservation problems arising from the implementation of the annotation to Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II and shall report on the issue at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Timber species and medicinal plants: non-detriment findings

Directed to the Plants Committee

14.135 The Plants Committee shall:

- a) develop principles, criteria and indicators for the making of non-detriment findings for wild specimens of high-priority taxa such as timber species, *Prunus africana* and other medicinal plants; and
- b) before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, support the organization of a workshop on non-detriment findings for tree species.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.136 The Secretariat shall raise funds to assist the Plants Committee in drafting guidelines on the making of non-detriment findings for wild specimens of timber species.

Agarwood-producing taxa

Directed to Parties involved in agarwood trade and to the Secretariat

14.137 Parties involved in trade in agarwood should, in consultation with the Secretariat, identify funds and produce identification materials for all forms of traded products under CITES control.

14.138 Parties concerned should identify and agree on which agarwood products and quantities should be exempted from CITES controls. Once agreed, Parties concerned should agree which range State will prepare and submit a proposal for amendment of the current annotation for agarwood-producing species to be considered at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

14.139 Draft standardized units of reporting shall be considered at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

14.140 Parties involved in agarwood trade shall prepare a glossary with definitions that illustrate the content of the amended annotations, the terms used and their practical application during enforcement and border controls. The Secretariat should facilitate the preparation and production of these materials, and strategies for incorporating them in training material.

Directed to Parties and the Secretariat

14.141 Parties and the CITES Secretariat will work with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to seek ways to share information through the establishment of networks, organization of regional workshops, capacity-building programmes, exchange of experiences and identification of financial resources.

Directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat

14.142 In consultation with relevant intergovernmental organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Plants Committee in consultation with the Secretariat should draft a definition of non-timber forest products to be considered at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

14.143 On the basis of the work on non-detriment findings for agarwood-producing species, that has been developed by TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and the Secretariat, the Plants Committee, in consultation with range States and the Secretariat, shall develop principles, criteria and indicators for the formulation of non-detriment findings for agarwood-producing species.

Directed to the Secretariat

14.144 The Secretariat shall assist in obtaining funding from Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, exporters, importers and other stakeholders to support a workshop aimed at strengthening the capacity of Parties to implement agarwood-related Decisions before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Bigleaf mahogany

14.145 The Conference of the Parties adopted the 'Action plan for the control of international trade in bigleaf mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*)', attached as Annex 3 to these Decisions.

Cedrela odorata, Dalbergia retusa, Dalbergia granadillo and Dalbergia stevensonii

14.146 The Conference of the Parties adopted the Action Plan attached as Annex 4 to these Decisions, to complete knowledge on the status of conservation of, trade in and sustainable use of *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*.

Taxus cuspidata

Directed to the Plants Committee

14.147 The Plants Committee shall discuss hybrids and cultivars, and other entities recognized in horticulture (e.g. forms and varieties), and provide recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting regarding their treatment under the Convention, particularly with regard to Article I, paragraph (b).

Tree species: annotations for species included in Appendices II and III

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 14.148 a) The Plants Committee shall review and, if appropriate, draft amendments to the annotations to the tree species listed in Appendices II and III and/or shall prepare clear definitions for the terms used in those annotations in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers, exporters and importers.
- b) The amended annotations shall focus on the articles that initially appear in international trade as exports from the range States and on those which dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource.
- c) The Plants Committee shall draft, if necessary, proposals to amend Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP14) and/or to amend the Appendices accordingly so that the Depository Government may submit them on its behalf for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.149 Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall prepare a glossary with definitions and training materials to illustrate the content of the amended annotations, the terms used and their practical implementation when applying the law and controls.

Tree species

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 14.150 The Plants Committee shall, during the period between the 14th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties, consider the opportunity to develop proposals to amend the Appendices on the basis of the *Contribution to an Evaluation of Tree Species* using the new CITES-listing criteria, and the results of regional workshops on sustainable management of timber species in 2007 and 2008.

Annex 1

Terms of reference for an evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade

Objectives

1. The objectives of the evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade are to:
 - a) evaluate the contribution of the Review of Significant Trade to the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a);
 - b) assess the impact over time of the actions taken in the context of the Review of Significant Trade on the trade and conservation status of species selected for review and subject to recommendations, taking into consideration the possible effects of these measures on other CITES-listed species;
 - c) formulate recommendations in view of the results and findings of the evaluation and the impact assessment; and
 - d) prepare a document on the evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade and the resulting conclusions and recommendations for consideration at the first appropriate meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Process

2. The evaluation will commence immediately after the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, contingent on the availability of sufficient funds to ensure its completion.
3. The Animals and Plants Committees will oversee the evaluation, which will be administered by the Secretariat. Consultants may be engaged to assist it in this regard.
4. A working group composed of members of the Animals and Plants Committees, Parties, the Secretariat and invited experts will be responsible for advising on the evaluation process, reviewing the findings of associated research and developing recommendations for wider consideration by the Parties.
5. The Secretariat will regularly report on the progress of the evaluation at meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees.
6. A final report, which may include proposed amendments to existing Resolutions or Decisions, or other recommendations, and which will incorporate the comments of the Animals and Plants Committees and of range States addressed in the report, will be submitted by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees for consideration at a future meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Chairman of the Animals or Plants Committee may submit an interim report to the Standing Committee when appropriate and considered useful.

Content of the evaluation

7. The evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade should include the following activities:
 - a) assess:
 - i) the process used to select species for review (including the reliance on numerical data), and the species selected as a result;
 - ii) the process and means used to compile and review information concerning the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a), for the selected species (including communications with the range States), and the subsequent use of this information by the Animals and Plants Committees for the categorization of species and the issuance of recommendations;

- iii) the types and frequency of recommendations made;
 - iv) the nature and rate of responses to recommendations, and problems identified;
 - v) the use of the recommendations by range States as guidance for managing target species and other CITES-listed species with similar characteristics;
 - vi) the nature and scale of the support provided to range States for implementing the recommendations, including field projects, financial aid and assistance in building local capacities;
 - vii) the ongoing process to monitor and review the implementation of recommendations, having regard to differing points of view as to where this responsibility should lie; and
 - viii) the impacts of the process on other aspects of CITES implementation, including how problems identified in the course of the review but not directly related to the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a), were addressed;
- b) conduct case studies of a representative range of species and countries subject to recommendations to assess subsequent short- and long-term changes, and whether these could be attributed to the process, in:
- i) conservation status of the target taxa in the range States;
 - ii) trade volumes and patterns of the target taxa, considering trade involving the range States subject to recommendations, other range States and non-range States;
 - iii) production or management strategies for the target taxa;
 - iv) market developments of conservation relevance (such as shifts in supply or demand);
 - v) costs and benefits associated with the management of and trade in the target taxa (such as the effects of trade suspensions and export quotas, shift in trade to non-CITES species or increased illegal trade);
 - vi) protection status of the target taxa within range States, and regulatory measures outside range States;
 - vii) trade patterns, conservation status and management for other CITES-listed species that might be suitable 'substitutes' for the target taxa; and
 - viii) changes in conservation policies in range States; and
- c) analyse the information to assess the effectiveness, costs and benefits⁵ of the Review of Significant Trade as implemented so far, by reference to the cost of the process and the time it takes, and identify means to improve the contribution it makes to the objectives of the Convention by reducing the threats to wild species.

⁵ *The phrase 'effectiveness, costs and benefits' is intended to address issues such as whether or not the funds spent on the process give value for money comparable to that for other CITES activities, and whether the time-scale envisaged in the process is too long for species that are in rapid decline.*

Annex 2

Action plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory

1. All elephant range States⁶, and other Parties and non-Parties with an ivory carving industry or internal trade in ivory that is unregulated, should urgently:
 - a) prohibit the unregulated domestic sale of ivory (raw, semi-worked or worked). Legislation should include a provision which places the onus of proof of lawful possession upon any person found in possession of ivory in circumstances from which it can reasonably be inferred that such possession was for the purpose of unauthorized transfer, sale, offer for sale, exchange or export or any person transporting ivory for such purposes. Where regulated domestic trade is permitted, it should comply with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP14) (Trade in elephant specimens);
 - b) issue instructions to all law enforcement and border control agencies to enforce existing or new legislation rigorously; and
 - c) engage in public awareness campaigns publicizing existing or new prohibitions on ivory sales.
2. The Secretariat shall, by 31 August 2007, distribute to all Parties and non-Parties that have been identified in the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) report for the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as being affected by illicit trade in ivory a questionnaire relating to the control of trade in ivory. Questionnaires should be returned to the Secretariat by 31 December 2007.
3. All elephant range States are recommended to cooperate with relevant research projects studying the identification of ivory, especially by supplying relevant samples for DNA and other forensic science profiling.
4. The Secretariat should seek the assistance of governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations in supporting the work to eradicate illegal exports of ivory from the African continent and the unregulated domestic markets that contribute to illicit trade. The Secretariat shall also, if requested, work with the relevant countries in Africa and Asia to provide technical assistance for the implementation of this action plan. It shall provide similar assistance to any other Parties that have an ivory carving industry or internal trade in ivory. The Secretariat shall also continue its work, in conjunction with national, regional and international law enforcement organizations and networks (such as the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network, ICPO-Interpol, Lusaka Agreement Task Force and the World Customs Organization) to assist in combating illicit trade in ivory.
5. From 1 January 2008, the Secretariat shall undertake work to assess progress made with the implementation of the action plan. Where appropriate, this shall include *in situ* verification missions. Priority should be given to assessment of States that are identified during research by the Secretariat and through other appropriate sources of information to have active and unregulated internal markets for ivory or to be significantly affected by illicit trade in ivory. Particular priority should be given to Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Thailand and any other country identified through ETIS as being significantly affected by illicit trade.
6. Where an elephant range State fails to submit by 31 December 2007 the questionnaire referred to in point 2 above, the Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties advising that the Conference of the Parties recommends that Parties not authorize commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with the State in question. Such a recommendation shall remain in force until a completed questionnaire is received by the Secretariat.

⁶ Except any Party for which an annotation in the Appendices authorizes trade in worked ivory.

7. In cases where relevant Parties or non-Parties are found not to implement this action plan, or where significant quantities of ivory are found to be illegally sold, the Secretariat shall, following consultation with the Standing Committee, issue a Notification to the Parties advising that the Conference of the Parties recommends that Parties not authorize commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with the State in question.
8. The Secretariat shall report upon the implementation of the action plan at each regular meeting of the Standing Committee.

Annex 3

Action plan for the control of international trade in the bigleaf mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*)

1. All range States of the bigleaf mahogany should:
 - a) promote national synergies among the producing countries by establishing formally and specifically inter-institutional committees whose memberships include competent scientific organizations, in order to support Scientific Authorities;
 - b) perform studies of the sawn timber yields from logs, and on the height-diameter ratio, in order to improve management of and control over bigleaf mahogany timber;
 - c) foster forest management of the bigleaf mahogany in the region and validate or verify the reports submitted by forestry users, including periodic studies on ecology and growth dynamics;
 - d) examine the possibility of giving CITES species special treatment in technical standards for forest management plans that use census-taking of diameters smaller than the minimum cutting size in order to determine stocks of remaining trees, the setting of minimum cutting diameters, the percentage of remaining trees that should be left and harvesting techniques; and
 - e) facilitate the making of non-detriment findings by:
 - i) preparing, adopting and implementing, as a priority, forest management plans at a national and/or local levels that include specific requirements for the bigleaf mahogany, as outlined in the results of the International Workshop of Experts on Non-Detriment Findings on Bigleaf Mahogany held in Cancun (April 2007) (see document CoP14 Inf. 24) after its endorsement and adoption by the Plants Committee;
 - ii) developing and conducting forest inventories that enable specific identification and data analysis of the bigleaf mahogany, as well as programmes to monitor the distribution, population size and conservation status of the bigleaf mahogany, based on the results of the International Workshop on Non-Detriment Findings on Bigleaf Mahogany, after its endorsement and adoption by the Plants Committee, and incorporating the three basic requirements for non-detriment findings highlighted in document MWG2 Doc. 7, paragraphs 44 a) to c);
 - iii) implementing capacity-building programmes in monitoring and management, specifically related to the understanding and application of CITES requirements. This activity might also involve assistance from the Plants Committee and the Secretariat;
 - iv) submitting reports on progress in the implementation of this Action Plan to the Secretariat no later than 90 days before the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee, so that the Secretariat may include them in a report that it will present at that meeting; and
 - v) establishing working groups at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the present Action Plan.
2. The countries members of the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group should ensure the presence of their representatives at meetings of the Working Group, as well as the presence of at least one of the representatives of the Plants Committee from the range States.
3. Parties and international organizations should stress the importance of not authorizing any export without proof of legal origin of the timber. Importing countries should refuse mahogany shipments accompanied by CITES export permits issued under a court order,

unless the importing country can confirm that a non-detriment finding has been made by the Scientific Authority of the country of origin.

4. Bigleaf mahogany range States, in cooperation with importing countries and international organizations, should develop a regional strategy with timelines to address: non-detriment findings, legal origin, and compliance and enforcement issues. The strategy should include the 15 recommendations made in the report of the BMWG (document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1) and mechanisms to ensure adequate implementation and enforcement. Progress on implementation should be reported to the Secretariat 90 days before the 18th meeting of the Plants Committee.
5. The Standing Committee shall discuss compliance and enforcement with regard to the bigleaf mahogany at its 57th, 58th and 59th meetings, and recommend appropriate action.
6. The Plants Committee shall:
 - a) be the body under which the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group shall continue its work. The Working Group shall primarily comprise the range States of the species, the main importing countries and at least one member of the Plants Committee;
 - b) analyse at its 17th meeting the reports presented by the range States and progress made in implementing the present Action Plan directed to Parties, and review the need to include the species in the Review of Significant Trade;
 - c) discuss and examine at its 18th meeting the progress made with the implementation of the regional strategy; and
 - d) submit a report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made by the Working Group.
7. The Secretariat shall investigate the high volume of mahogany imports taking place in the Dominican Republic.
8. Importing and exporting Parties, the CITES Secretariat and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should seek ways to share information through the organization of regional workshops, capacity-building programmes, the exchange of experiences and the identification of financial resources to support exporting countries in their activities, training, studies, and capacity building. Amongst others, support in the form of funding for such capacity-building activities should be sought from bigleaf mahogany importing and exporting industries.

Annex 4

Action plan for *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*

1. The range States of *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii* shall:
 - a) complete and update the available information on the species mentioned in this Decision;
 - b) assess the populations of the species mentioned in this Decision, taking into account *inter alia* the distribution, cover, density, size structure, regeneration dynamics and changes in land use;
 - c) report the existence, extent and type of forest plantations of the species mentioned in this Decision;
 - d) compile the information related to export of the species mentioned in this Decision, including volumes and products, indicating the percentage from plantations;
 - e) report to the Secretariat progress in the compilation of the information outlined in paragraphs a), b), c) and d) above, 60 days before the 17th and 18th meetings of the Plants Committee, so that the Secretariat may present a report to the Committee and the Committee may adopt the necessary measures; and
 - f) consider the inclusion of their populations of *Cedrela odorata* in Appendix III, with the adequate annotation and ensure the implementation and enforcement of CITES with regard to that species in that Appendix.
2. Parties, with regard to *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*, shall:
 - a) compile the information on the import and re-export of the species mentioned in this Decision, including origin (wild or cultivated), volumes and products, indicating the country of origin and final destination;
 - b) report the existence, extent and type of forest plantations of the species mentioned in this Decision, including exported volumes and products; and
 - c) report to the Secretariat on the compilation of the information outlined in paragraphs a) and b) above, 60 days before the 17th and 18th meetings of the Plants Committee, so that the Secretariat may present a report to the Committee and the Committee may adopt the necessary measures.
3. The Plants Committee shall:
 - a) establish the relevant methodology and necessary formats for the presentation of the information requested for the implementation of this Decision;
 - b) receive, analyse and follow up the Action Plan at its 17th and 18th meetings; and
 - c) propose the relevant recommendations for *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii* at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. The Secretariat shall:
 - a) seek external funding from interested parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, exporters, importers and other entities directly interested in supporting this Decision;

- b) inform Parties of the management of funds that have been raised, of technical assistance and of how they may accede to these resources;
- c) request technical and financial support from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) in the framework of Resolution Conf. 14.4 on Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber; and
- d) promote and assist capacity building in the range States through workshops, trainings and other activities considered relevant in the period between the 14th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties.