

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



Sixty-first meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 August 2011

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Elephants

ELEPHANT MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 15th meeting (Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.78 (Rev. CoP15) as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

In preparation for the 61st and 62nd meetings of the Standing Committee, pending the necessary external funding, the Secretariat shall:

- a) *produce an updated analysis of MIKE data, pending the availability of adequate new MIKE data;*
- b) *invite TRAFFIC to submit an updated analysis of ETIS data and UNEP-WCMC to provide an overview of the latest elephant trade data;*
- c) *invite the IUCN/SSC African and Asian Elephant Specialist Groups to submit any new and relevant information on the conservation status of elephants, and on pertinent conservation actions and management strategies; and*
- d) *invite the African elephant range States to provide information on progress made in the implementation of the African elephant action plan.*

On the basis of the information specified above, the Secretariat shall recommend actions for consideration by the Standing Committee.

3. In compliance with Decision 14.78 (Rev. CoP15) and in preparation for the present meeting, the Secretariat produced an updated analysis of MIKE data. It also invited TRAFFIC, UNEP-WCMC and the IUCN/SSC African and Asian Elephant Specialist Groups to provide the analysis and information that are referred to in paragraphs b) and c) of the Decision. These were received and integrated into a single coherent report, presenting an up-to-date overview of the status of elephants, the illegal killing of elephants and the trade in elephant specimens. The Secretariat also incorporated information on the status of the African Elephant Fund, as this is relevant to conservation actions and management strategies concerning African elephants. The substantive report is presented in Annex 1, and tables and references in Annex 2.
4. In addition, the Secretariat invited the African elephant range States to provide information on progress made in the implementation of the African elephant action plan for communication at the present meeting.

Recommendations

5. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee:
 - a) review the actions proposed in the section 'Recommendations' in Annex 1, and consider their adoption; and
 - b) consider any proposals that the African elephant range States may wish to make concerning the implementation of the African elephant action plan.