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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

NATIONAL LAWS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION: REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat. It provides an update on the legislative progress made by Parties since the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), other activities undertaken by the Secretariat in support of the efforts undertaken by Parties, as well as proposed recommendations of the Secretariat for the consideration of the Standing Committee.

Background

- 2. In paragraph 1 of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention*, the Secretariat is directed as follows:
 - a) to identify those Parties whose domestic measures do not provide them with the authority to:
 - *i)* designate at least one Management Authority and one Scientific Authority;
 - *ii)* prohibit trade in specimens in violation of the Convention;
 - iii) penalize such trade; or
 - iv) confiscate specimens illegally traded or possessed.
- 3. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 17.58 to 17.64 on *National laws for the implementation of the Convention* (set out in the annex to the present document).
- 4. It is recalled that each of these four minimum requirements must be met by the legislation of CITES Parties to enable effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention. The National Legislation Project (NLP) is the Convention's primary mechanism for encouraging and assisting Parties' legislative efforts. In consultation with the concerned Party, the Secretariat analyzes national legislation in relation to the minimum requirements and placed in one of three categories, as follows:
 - Category 1: legislation that is believed generally to meet the requirements for implementation of CITES;
 - Category 2: legislation that is believed generally not to meet all of the requirements for the implementation of CITES; or
 - Category 3: legislation that is believed generally not to meet the requirements for the implementation of CITES.

5. For a detailed explanation of the NLP and the tools available, Parties and observers are invited to consult the webpage on National laws for implementing the Convention on the CITES website at https://cites.org/legislation.

Summary of progress

- 6. Substantial progress in adopting legislative measures for the implementation of the Convention has been reported by many Parties since SC69. At the time of writing this document (end of July 2018), the progress has not (yet) led to the legislation of additional Parties being placed in Category 1 of the NLP. The <u>updated table</u> (July 2018) with the current status of legislative progress for implementing CITES is available on the CITES website and has been provided as an information document for the present meeting. As indicated in the table, over 60 Parties and dependent territories have provided updates to the Secretariat since CoP17.
- 7. The total number of Parties is unchanged at 183, of which 101 (55 %) have legislation placed in Category 1. While progress and commitment may seem significant with well over half of the Parties with legislation in Category 1, there is still a total of 75 Parties with legislation placed in Category 2 or 3, many of which have been Parties to the Convention for decades. The legislation of two Parties (Nepal and Myanmar) has been moved from Category 3 to 2 as new laws have been adopted in both Parties, while implementing regulations are still underway. There are also seven Parties in Table 2 of recently acceded Parties. If legislation meeting the minimum requirements has not been submitted to the Secretariat after eight years, the Party will be moved to Table 1 and their legislation placed in Category 3.
- Category Parties Percent 101 Category 1 55.2% Category 2 42 23.0% Category 3 33 18.0% **Recent Parties** 7 3.8% 183 100.0% Total Recent Parties, Category 1 3.8% Category 2 Category 3 Category 3 18.0% Recent Parties Category 2, Category 1, 23.0% 55.2%
- 8. The status is currently as follows:

National Legislation Project July 2018

Progress of Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3

Parties requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority

9. In accordance with Decisions 17.61 and 17.64 (c), at is 69th meeting, the Standing Committee identified six additional Parties (Botswana, Guinea, Congo, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Uzbekistan) that require its attention as a priority based on an overall assessment of the following elements, proposed by the Secretariat¹:

¹ See SC69 Doc. 27 (Rev. 1), paragraph 42

- a) Parties that have acceded to the Convention over twenty years ago;
- b) Parties that have shown no indication of commitment to adopt adequate legislation for implementation of the Convention, e.g. by not submitting a legislative timetable;
- c) Parties that have relative high volumes of trade as source, transit or destination countries;
- d) Parties that have received legislative assistance; and
- e) Parties that are facing compliance procedures under Article XIII.
- 10. The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to formally inform these Parties of its decision, drawing attention to Decisions 17.62-17.63 (SC69SR, page 18). Accordingly, formal letters were sent to the six Parties in December 2017.
- 11. A total of twenty Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 have now been designated by the Standing Committee as requiring its attention as a priority: Algeria, Belize, Botswana, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Guinea, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uzbekistan. To facilitate the overview of the Committee, a brief summary of progress made by these Parties is presented below. Parties marked with * are currently subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for lack of national legislation. For more details, please refer to the Status table (Annex 1, Table 1):

<u>Algeria:</u> The revised draft law was submitted to the national parliament in 2017 and adoption and promulgation was expected to take place in 2017. However, the adoption has been delayed due to the difficult political situation in the country.

<u>Belize</u>: The draft law has been approved by the Attorney General in late 2017 and is expected to be submitted to Parliament before the present meeting.

<u>Botswana</u>: The draft Bill was submitted to the Parliament in 2016. However, it seems that the Bill has not yet been adopted by the Parliament.

<u>Comoros</u>: Under the Small Scale Financial Agreement (SSFA) in place with the Secretariat, national consultation workshops have been held and draft legislation prepared. However, the draft has not yet been submitted to the Secretariat for comments despite numerous reminders and extended deadlines.

<u>Congo</u>: A legislative plan was signed with Congo in late 2017. At the time of writing, no substantive progress on the implementation of the plan had been reported to the Secretariat. However, the Secretariat understands that work on the draft legislation is advancing.

<u>India</u>: Based on a detailed analysis of the existing legislation by the Secretariat, India agreed by a letter in March 2018 that the legislation needed to be revised and informed the Secretariat that the process of amending the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972 had been initiated.

<u>Kazakhstan</u>: A preliminary analysis of the existing legislation was provided to Kazakhstan in Russian in May 2018. Kazakhstan is still considering how to address the identified gaps.

<u>Kenya</u>: A process for amendments to the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013 has been initiated through the Parliamentary Miscellaneous Amendment Bill 2018. This seeks to address some of the issues raised by the Secretariat in its preliminary analysis provided to Kenya in 2016.

Lao People's Democratic Republic: A compilation and analysis of the legislative framework has been produced by the Lao People's Democratic Republic in collaboration with international partners. A draft decree for the full and effective implementation is being prepared (see document SC70 Doc. 27.3.1 for further details).

<u>Liberia*</u>: The revised adopted law, entitled "An Act adopting the National Wildlife Conservation and Protected Area Management Law" was submitted to the Secretariat in spring 2017. However, the Law is insufficient to meet the minimum requirements, and identified gaps are being addressed by Liberia.

<u>Mauritania</u>*: The draft law on international trade in endangered species for the implementation of CITES in Mauritania has recently been finalized. Despite a setback due to the passing of the focal point for CITES in Mauritania, the draft has recently been cleared by the legal department and submitted to the parliament for adoption.

<u>Mozambique</u>: CITES legislation (Act and Regulation) has been put into place by Mozambique. The Regulation has not yet been submitted to the Secretariat in a working language.

<u>Pakistan</u>: Revised implementing regulations submitted for adoption and, in July 2018, to the Secretariat for observations.

<u>Rwanda</u>: A revised wildlife conservation and protected area management law has been prepared; and the Secretariat provided some observations in June 2018.

<u>Somalia</u>*: With the assistance of the United Nations Environment Progamme (UNEP), Somalia has prepared several drafts of CITES implementing legislation as part of broader hunting and forestry legislation for observations by the Secretariat. The most recent draft was submitted to the Secretariat for observation in July 2018.

<u>United Republic of Tanzania</u>: The legislation for Tanganyika (Tanzania mainland) has been signed by the Minister in July 2018; only publication in the Government Gazette is pending. Implementing regulation for Zanzibar is expected to be enacted before the present meeting.

<u>Uzbekistan</u>: Draft revised legislation has been prepared and submitted based on the analysis prepared by the Secretariat.

- 12. At the time of writing, no progress has been made or reported by the following Parties requiring the attention by the Standing Committee as a priority: Djibouti*, Ecuador and Guinea. With regard to Djibouti, the Secretariat had noticed that the Ministry of Environment has shown more interest and engagement in CITES in recent years than the designated Management Authority. However, internal discussions in Djibouti has concluded that moving the CITES Management Authority to the Ministry of Environment was not possible, and no legislative progress has been made.
- 13. The Article XIII process in **Guinea** has not yet been completed and hence Guinea is still subject to a recommendation to suspend trade (Notification to the Parties No. 2013/017 of 16 May 2013). At the time of writing no progress had been reported by Guinea. The situation in Guinea will be further discussed under agenda item 27.3.3 of the present meeting.
- 14. **Ecuador** was identified as a Party requiring the attention of the Standing Committee already at its 65th meeting. However, no significant progress in the adoption of CITES implementing legislation has been reported to the Secretariat by Ecuador since SC69.

Other Parties subject to a warning

- 15. At SC69, the Standing Committee further agreed to issue a formal warning to Mongolia and Tunisia, requesting them to report to SC70. The Committee also agreed to adopt a recommendation to suspend trade if no substantive progress was reported to the present meeting (SC69SR, page 18). On behalf of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat issued the formal warning to Tunisia and Mongolia in December 2017.
- 16. The Secretariat is pleased to report that **Tunisia** responded by submitting a draft law to the Secretariat for comments in March 2018. The draft is currently being discussed with stakeholders and is expected to be submitted to the government for approval by September 2018. According to the legislative plan submitted by Tunisia, the legislation should be in place and in force in early 2019.
- 17. With regard to **Mongolia**, the Secretariat has not received any information regarding the legislative process since it received the acknowledgement of the formal warning in January 2018.

Progress of other Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3

18. The Secretariat is pleased to inform the Standing Committee that several other Parties have reported substantive progress towards adopting national legislation that meets the minimum requirements as set out in the Status table. **Angola** has, with the assistance of UNEP and the CITES Secretariat, completed the

legislative process; only the signature of the President on the Presidential Decree is pending before the entry into force which is expected to occur in September 2018. Once the legislation is in force, Angola will have completed its legislative process in less than five years after the country acceded to the Convention.

- 19. Myanmar enacted "The Conservation of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law (2018)" on 21 May 2018. On the basis of the unofficial translation of the law submitted to the Secretariat, the legislation of Myanmar has been moved from Category 3 to Category 2 in that it meets some, but not all, of the minimum requirements. Implementing Rules are currently under development and once in place, should allow the legislation to be placed in Category 1. In spring 2017, Nepal promulgated the "Act on Control of International Trade in Endangered Fauna and Flora, 2017", which still needs to be complemented by implementing Rules.
- 20. Progress has also been reported by Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Niger, Solomon Islands, Togo and Zambia.
- 21. On the other hand, the Secretariat notes that a number of Parties have not reported any progress in adopting measures since CoP17. This include Belarus, Bhutan, Burundi, Dominica, Eswatini (former Swaziland), Grenada, Jordan, Libya, Oman, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sudan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Targeted technical and legislative assistance

- 22. The Secretariat has continued to provide technical and legislative assistance to Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 through bilateral assistance and through regional workshops and seminars. The assistance has mainly consisted in providing comments and observations on draft legislation to help ensure that it will meet the CITES minimum requirements once it is adopted. Advice on institutional arrangements, such as the organization of the Management and Scientific Authorities and on mechanisms for issuing CITES permits and certificates has also been provided to a number of Parties and dependent territories.
- 23. The Secretariat would like to express its sincere gratitude to the donors that have made it possible to provide this assistance, in particular the European Union (EU). Further, the collaboration with UNEP on assistance to Parties in Africa has continued and the Secretariat is grateful for this support. Finally, the Secretariat would also like to thank Parties with legislation in Category 1 who are providing technical and financial assistance directly to Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 (in accordance with Decision 17.60) and invite them to continue to do so, while keeping the Secretariat informed. In this context, the Secretariat would like to welcome the Cooperative Agreement with the United States of America on *Strengthening CITES compliance and law enforcement in South East Asian Parties,* under which the Secretariat is *inter alia* providing legislative assistance to Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Small-scale funding agreements

- 24. A number of Parties have submitted very specific requests for technical and legislative assistance. With funding from its donors, in particular the European Union, the Secretariat has aimed to respond to all requests either through a small-scale funding agreement or through other means.
- 25. Since SC69, the Secretariat has signed small-scale funding agreements with Côte d'Ivoire and Togo. In addition, the Secretariat continues to work on the implementation of agreements already signed with Benin, Comoros, Mauritania and Saint Lucia. Benin and Mauritania have submitted final drafts of their CITES legislation to the Secretariat, incorporating comments made on previous drafts. Comoros is still to submit its draft law. Under the CITES-UNEP cooperation, UNEP has signed agreements with Eritrea and the Gambia that have almost been completed as well. Agreements with Angola, Niger and Somalia have been completed, and the legislative procedure of the first two Parties is almost finalized. Finally, UNEP is currently in touch with Lesotho with the aim of providing legislative support through a similar arrangement.

Russian speaking countries

26. With funding from the European Union, in cooperation with the Management Authority of Kyrgyzstan and United National Development Programme (UNDP) in Bishkek and with the logistical and substantive support of the Secretariat of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLEP) and Panthera, the CITES Secretariat organized a workshop on the strengthening of national frameworks for the effective implementation of CITES in Central Asia. The workshop, which took place outside of Bishkek from 22 to 25 May 2018, was attended by 38 participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The workshop aimed at strengthening the implementation of CITES from a legal, scientific and

enforcement perspective through presentations, exercises and exchange of experiences among the participants, while focusing on matters and species important to the region. The workshop aimed at contributing to the following four objectives:

- enable and empower officials from the four countries to develop national legislation that meets minimum CITES requirements;
- enhance collaboration between Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and enforcement authorities at national and regional levels;
- create opportunities to discuss and ask questions about CITES implementation (legal, management, scientific, enforcement aspects); and
- generate confidence and interest in participating in CITES processes.
- 27. The workshop has already produced some initial results: Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are revising their national legislation to bring it in line with CITES and qualify for Category 1 and a representative from Uzbekistan participated for the first time in a meeting of the Animals Committee in July 2018. In advance of the workshop, the Secretariat recruited a Russian-speaking lawyer to analyse the legislation of the four Parties and to identify gaps and suggest ways to address these. Furthermore, a number of Resolutions were unofficially translated into Russian with the generous in-kind support of Panthera and GSLEP. These are placed on the CITES website to facilitate their implementation by Russian speaking countries. The report of the workshop is available on the CITES website at https://cites.org/legislation.

Guidance for developing legislation to combat illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species

- 28. As a follow to the Africa-Asia Pacific Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime (Bangkok, July 2017) and pursuant to Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 71/326 on Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, the Secretariat contributed to an initiative led by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to develop a set of guidelines that can be used by Parties in combating illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species effectively, fairly and proportionately at the national level.
- 29. The result of this work will be a *Guide on drafting legislation to combat wildlife crime* to be launched in the fall 2018 by UNODC. The Guide contains suggestions for legislative provisions that are expected to complement the requirements iii) and iv) under the CITES National Legislation Project, set out in paragraph 2 above, with a particular focus on criminal law provisions, rather than on wildlife laws. The intention is to provide a tool for legislators and judicial authorities to better use the criminal justice system in addressing illegal trade in wildlife.

Plans for future technical and legislative assistance

- 30. In September 2018, the CITES Secretariat will co-facilitate a Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Central and West Africa to take place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Participants invited include senior officials from national wildlife authorities, prosecutors and judges in the following 19 Parties: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Madagascar, Mozambique, Niger, Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Togo. The Symposium is coorganized by the CITES Secretariat, UNEP, the UNDP Bangkok Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with other members of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Illicit Trade in Wildlife and Forestry Products as well as other partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The Secretariat would like to thank the EU for providing the funding to bring representatives of the CITES authorities to the symposium. The Secretariat will provide more information on the results of the symposium at the present meeting.
- 31. In spring 2019, the Secretariat is hoping to organize a mission to the Pacific Islands to assist particularly Tonga in the implementation of the Convention. This will focus on national legislation and institutional frameworks for the effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention in Tonga and will include a national workshop with all CITES-relevant authorities, a broader meeting with all stakeholders and one-on-one discussions with the CITES Management Authority in Tonga. Depending on the resources available, this may be combined with assistance to other Parties in the region with legislation in Category 2 or 3, in particular Palau and Samoa. The mission may also include participation at a regional pre-CoP workshop for Oceania organized by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), time and financial resources permitting.

Review of progress by the Standing Committee

- 32. Pursuant to Decision 17.62 the Standing Committee is expected to review progress of Parties in adopting legislation for effective implementation of the Convention and take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties that have failed to adopt those measures or failed to take steps to effectively implement their legislative timetable or submit an appropriate legislative timetable. Decision 17.63 provides that such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade in particular with regard to Parties requiring attention as a priority.
- 33. Based on the progress reported by Parties requiring the attention of the Standing Committee as a priority, set out in paragraph 11 above, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be taken with regard to the following Parties: Botswana, Comoros, Ecuador and Kazakhstan. In this context, it is noted that the following Parties are under a recommendation to suspend trade or already under consideration in an Article XIII procedure or both: Djibouti, Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mauritania and Somalia. Further, in view of the decisions at SC69 with regard to Tunisia and Mongolia (see paragraph 14-16 above), the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be taken with regard to Mongolia.
- 34. In addition, the Secretariat recommends that compliance measures be taken with regard to those Parties that have not reported any progress to the Secretariat since CoP17. At the time of writing, this concerns the following Parties: Belarus, Bhutan, Burundi, Dominica, Grenada, Jordan, Libya, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles and Sudan.

Recommendations

- 35. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee:
 - a) commend Parties that have made substantive progress in adopting measures for the effective implementation of the Convention, including Angola, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan;
 - b) adopt a recommendation to all Parties to suspend commercial trade with Botswana, Comoros, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. The Secretariat shall inform the Parties concerned of this measure immediately after the present meeting. The recommendation shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed, unless the Party concerned adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or submits an appropriate legislative timetable or takes steps to effectively implement an existing legislative timetable. Upon the expiry of the 60 days after the recommendation is agreed, the Secretariat shall issue Notification to the Parties informing them of the recommendations to suspend commercial trade taking effect from that date; and
 - c) issue a formal warning to the Parties that have not reported any legislative progress since CoP17 (at the time of writing this included Belarus, Bhutan, Burundi, Dominica, Eswatini (former Swaziland), Grenada, Jordan, Libya, Oman, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sudan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), requesting them to immediately take steps to ensure progress be made before CoP18 and to report such progress to the Secretariat by 1 February 2019.
- 36. The Standing Committee may further wish to recognize and welcome the support provided by Parties, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in support of the development and adoption of national measures to effectively implement and enforce the Convention.

Decisions 17.58 to 17.64 on National laws for implementation of the Convention

Directed to the Parties

- 17.58 Parties whose legislation is in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project (NLP) are urged to submit to the Secretariat as soon as possible, and no later than by the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee, in one of the three working languages of the Convention, details of appropriate measures that have been adopted for the effective implementation of the Convention. Such Parties are called on to provide an update of their legislative progress by the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee.
- 17.59 Such Parties are urged to submit to the Secretariat by 3 January 2017 (i.e. 90 days after the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties) a legislative timetable, to be agreed with the Secretariat, if they have not already done so. Such timetables should clearly set out the steps that the Party commits to take in order to adopt appropriate measures to implement the Convention; relevant actors; deadlines and outputs, based on the format provided by the Secretariat.
- 17.60 Parties whose legislation is in Category 1 under the National Legislation Project are encouraged to review their national CITES-implementing legislation for areas where it may not fully satisfy the requirements of the Convention, in particular with regard to the possession of illegally traded specimens of CITES-listed species, and to adopt any necessary amendments. Those Parties are also encouraged to provide technical or financial assistance to one or more Parties whose legislation is in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project, either directly or through the Secretariat.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 17.61 At its 69th meeting, the Standing Committee shall review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and submission of agreed timetables and take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties affected by Decision 17.58 that have failed to submit an appropriate legislative timetable in accordance with Decision 17.59. The Standing Committee shall identify Parties requiring attention as a priority, with the assistance of the Secretariat.
- 17.62 At its 70th meeting, the Standing Committee shall review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and shall take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties affected by Decision 17.58 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or failed to take steps to effectively implement their legislative timetable. For Parties that have acceded to the Convention since March 2008, the Standing Committee may decide to allow more time to adopt appropriate measures.
- 17.63 Such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade with Parties affected by Decision 17.58 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or failed to submit an appropriate timetable, or failed to effectively implement their legislative timetable, in particular Parties requiring attention as a priority. Any recommendation to suspend trade with the Party concerned shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed, unless the Party adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or submits an appropriate legislative timetable, to be agreed with the Secretariat or takes steps to effectively implement their legislative timetable.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 17.64 The Secretariat shall:
 - a) compile and analyse the information submitted by Parties on measures adopted before the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18) to fulfil the requirements laid

down in the text of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on National laws for implementation of the Convention;

- b) review and agree to appropriate timetables, submitted by Parties, to the Secretariat and make such agreed timetables available for information to the Standing Committee;
- c) assist the Standing Committee in identifying countries with legislation in Category 2 or 3 requiring attention as a priority;
- d) subject to external funding, provide legal advice and assistance to Parties on the development of appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention, including legislative guidance for and training of CITES authorities, legislative drafters, policymakers, the judiciary, parliamentarians and other relevant government officials responsible for the formulation and adoption of CITES-related legislation;
- e) subject to external funding, cooperate, in the provision of legislative assistance, with the legal programmes of United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as regional organizations, such as the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), League of Arab States (LAS), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP);
- f) report at the 69th and 70th meetings of the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures, including as a last resort, recommendations to suspend trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and
- g) report at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress made with regard to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) and Decisions 17.58 through 17.64.