

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2011

IPBES  
Draft text

1. Considering that IPBES has held three consultative meetings and that the [UNGA and ??] UNEP governing council determined that the 1st Plenary meeting will take place in Nairobi in October 2011 to take important decisions on the structure, scope and functioning of IPBES.
2. Noting that Decision 15.12 and 15.13 (below) directed the Animals & Plants Committees and the Secretariat to provide input into the process of the development of IPBES in order that the Standing Committee can report to the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as required by Decision 15.16, as follows:

**15.12 Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat**

*Without taking a position about the necessity for, or nature of, such a Platform, the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, participate in discussions concerning a possible IPBES, to provide all necessary input into the process of IPBES and to ensure that the role of CITES receives due recognition. The Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and the Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee to seek additional guidance.*

**15.13 Directed to the Secretariat**

*The Secretariat shall work with the United Nations Environment Programme to identify possible sources of external funding to support the participation called for in Decision 15.12*

**15.14 Directed to the Standing Committee**

*The Standing Committee shall report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties concerning the IPBES*

3. The outcome of the process involved in Decision 15.12, was discussed at the 19th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee. As this Decision is now largely discharged, this paper now seeks the additional guidance from the Standing Committee as required by Decision 15.12.
4. The Committees, noting the outcome of the 3rd Ad Hoc Inter-governmental and Multi-stakeholder meeting on IPBES in Busan (June 2011), recommend that the Standing Committee **instruct** the CITES scientific committees, through their chairs, and the Secretariat to continue their engagement with IPBES and **request** the Secretariat to continue to seek funds to enable this continued participation.
5. The Committees **recommend** that the Standing Committee endorse the following points to guide the engagement of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees, the Secretariat and the Parties, in their engagement with IPBES.

- a) The representatives of the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee should participate in the IPBES plenary meetings, subject to the availability of financial resources, to ensure that CITES is properly represented; their terms of Reference should be determined by the Standing Committee
  - b) IPBES should support and establish a regular process for seeking the views and understanding the needs of biodiversity-related Conventions and Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements
  - c) IPBES should support access to reliable existing knowledge and generate knowledge on, and facilitate regular assessments of, the conservation and sustainable use of key species in ecosystems, including their economic valuation; IPBES should not duplicate the work of existing MEAS.
  - d) IPBES should provide particular support to the Scientific Authorities to the Parties to CITES. This could involve:
    - i) Improving access to knowledge to enable the CITES bodies and Parties to fulfil their functions more effectively, especially in the making of non-detriment findings and in the review of significant trade.
    - ii) Documenting best practice in the use of science in biodiversity conservation and in ensuring the continued provision of ecosystem services.
    - iii) Providing capacity building support to CITES Scientific Authorities from developing countries, upon request, to help them fulfil their specific obligations under CITES. This would both build capacity to carry out applied science and assist in meeting obligations under the Convention.
    - iv) In addressing the science-policy interface from both sides, IPBES should ensure that decision makers and policy makers, such as CITES Management Authorities, benefit from capacity building support on how to obtain, interpret and use scientific advice in the taking of decisions and the adoption of policy measures.
6. Management Authorities of Parties are encouraged to coordinate and enhance information exchange with their competent national authorities for IPBES.