

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

CONSERVATION OF AND TRADE IN AFRICAN AND ASIAN RHINOCEROSSES

This document has been submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland* in relation to agenda item 45 on *Rhinoceroses*.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Conservation of, and trade, in African and Asian rhinoceroses

Further to SC61 Doc. 45.2, the EU and its Member States propose the establishment of a Working Group with the following terms of reference:

1. The working group on the conservation of, and trade in, African and Asian rhinoceroses is directed to:
 - a. Taking account of SC61 Doc 45.1 and SC61 Doc 45.2, and the responses to Decisions 15.71 and 15.72, on the basis of currently available information, work with the Secretariat to assess how trade patterns have developed since CoP15, taking account of illegal activities, consider the drivers for trade and measures taken to prevent it entering the illegal market
 - b. Consider the conclusions of the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement task force meeting in May 2011;
 - c. Work with IUCN and TRAFFIC to review data provided to them by the Parties on trade in rhinos and their parts or derivatives;
 - d. Collect and assess any scientific evidence that exists relating to the medicinal properties of rhino horn, in particular any which related to its curative properties for cancers or strokes;
 - e. Work intercessionally, and by electronic means as necessary, to identify urgent, short-term measures and longer term measures that can be taken by CITES Parties to reduce the illegal trade in rhinos and their parts and derivatives and to enhance existing controls on trade in rhino horn products and live rhinos to ensure the long term conservation of the species, reporting to SC62 with a view to developing recommendations for consideration at CoP16.

2. The working group shall report to the Standing Committee at its regular meetings

3. Membership of the working group should reflect a balance of interests and should be drawn from the Standing Committee together with co-opted experts from range states, transit and consumer countries, as well as the IUCN African and Asian Specialist Groups, international enforcement organisations and NGOs, but will not normally exceed 12 individuals in total.

4. The members of the working group should be a) involved in the on-the-ground implementation of the rhinoceros programmes; b) funding or otherwise actively supporting such programmes; or c) showing a particular interest in the implementation and developments of such programmes.

5. Once constituted, the working group should elect a chairman amongst its membership.