

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



Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

Summary record of the second session of Committee I

5 March 2013: 11h00-12h05

Chair: C. Caceres (Canada)  
Secretariat: D. Morgan  
T. de Meulenaer  
Rapporteurs: S. Delany  
C. Rutherford

***Interpretation and implementation of the Convention***

Species trade and conservation

56. Saiga antelope

The Secretariat introduced document CoP16 Doc. 56, which described progress in implementation of Decisions 14.91, 14.93 (Rev. CoP15), 14.95 (Rev. CoP15), 14.96 and 14.97 (Rev. CoP15) regarding the saiga antelope. The Annex to the document contained a series of draft decisions proposed as replacements for the existing Decisions.

In response to a query from Japan, the Secretariat stated that the online saiga database of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) would be launched soon, and it indicated that the information required for the database was set out under the nine activities specified in the *Medium Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope (2011-2015)*. The CMS Secretariat confirmed that the database would be launched at a technical meeting in June 2013 and would serve as a tool to monitor progress in implementation of work under the Memorandum of Understanding concerning 'Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*)'.

China supported the adoption of the draft decisions and asked for clarification on the use of the word "trade", as this could have a different meaning in CITES from that in CMS, and regulation of domestic trade could be burdensome.

The United States of America and Ireland, speaking on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, also supported adoption of the draft decisions. They expressed the hope that range States would meet their reporting obligations so that the proposed decisions would be implemented more effectively than the existing ones.

The Russian Federation believed that, in order for conservation activities to be effective, the saiga should be transferred to Appendix I. It intended to submit a proposal to that effect at CoP17. China raised concerns about such a transfer, and considered that current conservation activities would be sufficient to stabilize the population.

The Committee agreed to repeal Decisions 14.91, 14.93 (Rev. CoP15), 14.95 (Rev. CoP15), 14.96 and 14.97 (Rev. CoP15) and accepted the draft decisions in the Annex to document CoP16 Doc. 56.

## 57. Snake trade and conservation management

Switzerland introduced document CoP16 Doc 57 (Rev. 1), which described progress in implementation of Decisions 15.75 to 15.78. The Annex to the document contained a series of draft decisions recommended by the Standing Committee for adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

China supported adoption of the draft decisions, and emphasized the importance of maintaining the balance between trade and conservation. Indonesia also supported adoption of the draft decisions and proposed the following amendments:

- In draft decision 16.AA, at the end of paragraph a), sub-paragraph ii), insert This guidance should also include guidelines on wild population-based production systems thorough improved management of populations and habitat;, and at the end of paragraph a), sub-paragraph iv), insert: .and recommend cost-effective marking system for the captive-bred products; and
- In draft decision 16.DD, after paragraph b) add a new paragraph as follows: in the case of range States with shared (common) species, developing a comparable, or as far as possible standardized, NDF including in the establishment of quota making system; and after paragraph c), add a new paragraph as follows: establishing export quota and report it to the Secretariat with the understanding that species not included in the list of reported quota shall be interpreted as zero quota for the species;.

The Chair brought the attention of the Committee to paragraph 84 in the report of the Chair of the Animals Committee [document CoP16 Doc. 10.2.1 (Rev. 1)], which contained a draft decision on Asian snake species recommended for adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

The meeting was adjourned at 12h05