

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

Twenty-eighth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Tel Aviv (Israel), 31 August-3 September 2015

## SUMMARY RECORD

**Opening of the meeting**1. Opening of the meeting

Participants were welcomed by H. E. Mr. Avi Gabai, Minister of Environmental Protection, and Mr. Simon Nemtsov, on behalf of the Israeli CITES authorities. Opening remarks were also provided by Mr. Shaul Goldstein, Director General of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA), and Mr. Ahraron Leshno-Yaar, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Secretary-General also welcomed everyone and introduced new members of the Secretariat's Scientific Support and GBMS teams (Ms. Berny, Mr. De Meulenaer, Mr. Kachelrieß and Mr. Stahl). He wished the Committee well in its deliberations.

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked participants for their commitment to support CITES Parties and the Standing Committee (SC) with the best possible science-based advice.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16), the Secretariat asked participants to state any conflict of interest. The Committee noted that no member present declared any financial interests that he or she considered calling into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the meeting agenda.

**Administrative matters**2. Rules of Procedure

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 2 (Rev.1) and proposed amending rules 13 (election of Chair and Vice-Chair), 20 (submission of documents) and 22 (dissemination of documents) of the current Rules of Procedure.

On Rule 13, most speakers favoured the proposed option a), wherein the regional representatives or their alternates present at meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) elect a Chair and Vice-Chair immediately following the CoP. On Rule 20, speakers objected to the insertion of the word "normally" on how documents to be considered at a meeting shall be provided to the Secretariat, arguing that the word leads to too much subjectivity.

<sup>1</sup> As the Chair of the Animals Committee and the Secretariat intervened on all items discussed in the meeting, their names are not included in the list of speakers at the end of those items.

The Committee adopted the amendments to Rule 13 proposed in paragraph 7 of document AC28 Doc. 2 (Rev. 1) with the following amendments: in paragraph 1. replace “the regional representatives” with “members and alternate members”, and “among them” with “the Committee”; and in paragraph 2. replace “regional representatives” with “members”, for the rule to read:

### Rule 13

1. Immediately following each regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the members and alternate members of the Committee present shall elect its Chair and Vice-Chair from among the Committee.
2. In the absence of a quorum of the members or their alternates, the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be conducted by the postal procedure contained in Rules 32 to 34, in which case the duties of the Chair shall be discharged by the previous Chair or Vice-Chair *ad interim*.

The Committee adopted the proposed amendments to Rule 20 in paragraph 11 of the same document, with the addition of the words “in one of the working languages” after “by the members of the Committee”, and the changes to Rule 22 as contained in paragraph 13.

With the incorporation of the agreed amendments to Rules 13, 20 and 22, the Animals Committee adopted the Rules of Procedure in the Annex of document AC28 Doc. 2 (Rev. 1).

The Committee agreed to report to the Plants and the Standing Committees that it was supportive of an overall review of the Rules of Procedure for the meetings of the committees.

During the course of discussion, the Animals Committee Chair observed that, in addition to the Rules of Procedure, the terms of reference for the Scientific Committees would benefit from a review to reflect current practise. She pointed to a few examples of ambiguity within the existing terms of reference and proposed the Animals Committee seek agreement of the Plants Committee to jointly undertake such a review, with the approval of the Conference of the Parties.

The Committee agreed to seek a mandate at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to review the Terms of Reference of the Scientific Committees contained in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) on Establishment of committees, and to seek similar agreement for such a review from the Plants Committee.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Africa (Mr. Kasiki), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar), Europe (Mr. Fleming and Ms. Gaynor), North America (Ms. Gnam) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm); Israel, Mexico, Norway, and the United States of America; and the Species Survival Network.

## 3. Adoption of the agenda and working programme

### 3.1 Agenda

The participants had no comment on document AC28 Doc. 3.1 (Rev.1).

The Committee adopted the agenda in document AC28 Doc. 3.1 (Rev. 1).

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

### 3.2 Working programme

The Chair introduced document AC28 Doc. 3.2 (Rev.1).

The Committee adopted the working programme in document AC28 Doc. 3.2 (Rev.1).

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

## 4. Admission of observers

The Chair introduced document AC28 Doc. 4 (Rev.1).

The Committee noted the list of observers provided in document AC28 Doc. 4 (Rev.1).

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

### Strategic matters

#### 5. Preparation of the report of the Chair of the Animals Committee for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Ms. Caceres explained that the preparation of the report of the Chair of the Animals Committee for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties is ongoing and that she will seek input from all Committee members on the report.

The Committee noted that the Chair of the Animals Committee is responsible for preparing a report on the activities of the Committee for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and that she will seek the input from all Committee members in compiling this report.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 6. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

##### 6.1 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Decision 16.15)<sup>2</sup>

The Chair of the Standing Committee working group on IPBES (Mr. Benitez of Mexico) introduced document AC28 Doc. 6.1 reporting on the implementation of the set of decisions on IPBES adopted at CoP16 (Decision 16.13-16.16). Mr. Benitez explained the working group has focused on the adoption and development of the “Thematic assessment on sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and strengthening capacities and tools” and encouraged Parties to consider whether and how the Chairs of CITES scientific advisory bodies could further participate. Noting their roles as observers in the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP), he lamented that no Chairs of the CITES scientific committees have attended any meetings to date. The Chair of the Animals Committee informed the participants that she had received an invitation to participate in the 6th meeting of the MEP and was available to participate, taking into account that results of the e-conference (September 7-25, 2015) and the thematic assessment on sustainable use were priority issues for CITES.

In the following discussion some speakers cautioned to be selective of how the chairs of the CITES scientific committees engage and that such engagement should not detract from the core work of the CITES scientific committees.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 6.1.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and by Colombia, Mexico, Peru and the United States of America.

#### 7. Capacity-building

##### 7.1 Report of the Secretariat – overview<sup>3</sup>

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc.7.1, highlighting the different capacity-building activities it has supported and presenting recommendations on how best the working group on capacity-building and the working group on the review of identification and guidance materials may communicate, collaborate and align their work with each other.

The United States of America supported the Secretariat's suggestion to combine the two working groups to avoid duplication of work. The United States of America further highlighted its effort to provide funding for a translation of the CITES Master Course at the University of Andalusia and encouraged other Parties to join the initiative.

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<sup>2</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

<sup>3</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 7.1.

The Committee further recommended that the joint intersessional working groups established by the Animals and Plants Committees on capacity-building (pursuant to Decision 16.29) and on identification and guidance material (pursuant to Decision 16.59) work jointly in the future.

The Committee also noted the opportunities and suggestions provided for donors to support capacity-building activities.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by Canada, China and the United States of America.

#### 7.2 Report of the joint working group on capacity-building (Decision 16.29)<sup>4</sup>

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 7.2 on behalf of the co-Chairs of the joint Animals and Plants Committee working group on capacity-building, reporting that the working group has virtually discussed its mandated tasks and agreed to a number of activities it intends to undertake for the period up to CoP17. The document proposed a workplan that provides a roadmap to guide the working group on relevant priority actions with an indicative timetable.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 7.2.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

### **Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention**

#### 8. Extinct or possibly extinct species (Decision 16.164)<sup>5</sup>

The regional representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) introduced document AC28 Doc. 8, containing in its annexes three options concerning the implementation of Decision 16.164.

Different interventions were made in favour of each of the three options. Those speaking on the topic all preferred the term “extinct,” as defined by IUCN, to the term “possibly extinct”.

The Committee recommended the adoption of the term ‘extinct’ and the IUCN Red List definition thereof for use in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 8 (working group on extinct species) with the following mandate:

Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

- a) review the proposals of the working group, the United States of America and Mexico contained in the annexes to document AC28 Doc. 8 concerning the implementation of Decision 16.164;
- b) propose a way forward for the Animals Committee to consider, bearing in mind the consultation with the Plants Committee; and
- c) advise on the reporting by the Animals and Plants Committees on their findings to the Standing Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming);

Parties: Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and United States of America; and

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<sup>4</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

<sup>5</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

IGOs and NGOs: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UNEP-WCMC, Conservation International, Humane Society International and TRAFFIC International.

Later in the meeting, the representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) introduced the working group's report contained document AC28 Com.1.<sup>6</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 1 with the following amendments:

- Recommendation 1: Addition of the words: "for onward transmission to the Plants Committee and subsequently to the Standing Committee".

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming), North America (Ms. Gnam) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm), by Chile, China, Mexico, and the United States of America, by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and by Creative Conservation Solutions and Humane Society International.

## 9. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]

### 9.1 Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)]<sup>7</sup>

Ms. Caceres introduced document AC28 Doc. 9.1, reporting that the Advisory Working Group on the Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade had reviewed the process, attempted to assess its effectiveness, drawn conclusions and revised the process to make it more streamlined.

In the following debate, several speakers thanked the Advisory Working Groups for its work and, while registering general support for the revised Resolution it had drafted, expressed the need for further refinement of the draft of the revised Resolution. Several speakers also highlighted the need for a Review of Significant Trade Tracking and Management database as an essential tool for the effective implementation and transparency of the process.

With regard to draft decision 17.XA in paragraph 24 of document AC28. Doc. 9.1, the Committee agreed to delete the wording "subject to the availability of funds,".

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 9.1 with the following mandate:

1. Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall review:
  - a) the revisions to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*, as proposed in Annex 3 of document AC28 Doc. 9.1;
  - b) the guidance to the Secretariat regarding its initial letter to range States, as found in Annexes 1 and 2 of document AC28 Doc. 9.1; and
  - c) the four draft decisions in paragraphs 24, 27 and 28 of document AC28 Doc. 9.1, taking into account the amendment agreed to draft decision 17.XA.
2. The working group shall make recommendations for the Animals Committee to consider, bearing in mind consultation with the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Chair of Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres);

Parties: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, India, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

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<sup>6</sup> Document AC28 Com. 1 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 1 to the present summary record.

<sup>7</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Animal Welfare Institute, Born Free Foundation, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International and WWF.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Caceres introduced document AC28 Com. 4.<sup>8</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 4 with the following amendment:

- In paragraph d), subparagraph ii) of Annex 3 (page 8): insert “relevant” between “any” and “information”.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming), North America (Ms. Gnam), and Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by China, Colombia, the European Union, Mexico, and the United States of America, and by Humane Society International, Species Survival Network and WWF.

## 9.2 Overview of the species-based Review of Significant Trade

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 9.2, giving an overview of the animal species that are currently included in the Review of Significant Trade process, emphasizing those cases for which the Animals Committee was expected to take action.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 9.2.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

## 9.3 Species selected following CoP13, CoP14 and CoP15

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 9.3 (Rev. 2) highlighting that among the species selected following CoP13, only *Mantella crocea* (yellow mantella) and *M. viridis* (green mantella) remained under review (both endemic species from Madagascar); from those selected following CoP14, 19 taxa remained under review, including *Hippopotamus amphibius* (for Cameroon); and from those selected following CoP15, 17 taxa remained under review.

In the following discussion, several Parties provided clarifications on the distribution status of some of species selected, and the efforts they were undertaking in making non-detriment findings in compliance with relevant provisions in Article IV of the Convention.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by Belgium, Malaysia, Peru, Thailand, United Kingdom and Viet Nam, and by the Wildlife Conservation Society.

## 9.4 Species selected following CoP16

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 9.4 (Rev. 2).

A Committee member expressed concern over the general lack of response from range States. Several Parties provided clarifications on the trade and conservation status of some of species selected.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Ms Gaynor) and Oceania (Mr Robertson) and by Canada, Colombia, Japan, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay.

The Committee established a working group on agenda items 9.3 and 9.4 with the following mandate:

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<sup>8</sup> Document AC28 Com. 4 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 4 to the present summary record.

### Concerning agenda item 9.3

Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

1. Review the information on *Hippopotamus amphibius* provided by Cameroon, and assess its pertinence to the Standing Committee's request for Cameroon to report on a national population survey, and progress with the establishment of science-based quotas and non-detriment findings for the species and prepare comments to be reported to the Standing Committee; and
2. Review the information provided by Cambodia and Viet Nam regarding *Macaca fascicularis*, and provided orally by Peru regarding *Podocnemis unifilis*, in response to recommendations formulated by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and formulate its findings and recommendations for consideration in the context of the implementation of paragraph q) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).

### Concerning agenda item 9.4

3. For the 20 taxa selected by the Animals Committee for its review of Significant Trade following CoP16, the working group shall:
  - a) In accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), review the available information presented in document AC28 Doc. 9.4 (Rev. 2) and the responses from affected range States (which will be made available by the Secretariat to the working group); and
  - b) If satisfied that Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), is correctly implemented, recommend to the Animals Committee to eliminate the species from the review with respect to the range States concerned.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs:	Representative of North America (Ms. Gnam) and Alternate Representative of Europe (Ms. Gaynor);
Parties:	Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cameroon, China, Czech Republic, Colombia, European Union, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and United Republic of Tanzania; and
IGOs and NGOs:	Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Association of Midwest State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Western State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Animal Welfare Institute, American Resource Council, Born Free Foundation, British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Conservation International, Conservation Force, Defenders of Wildlife, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, National Research Defense Council, Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra", Responsible Ecosystems Sourcing Platform, Safari Club International, Safari Club International Foundation, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, Wildlife Impact, Swan International, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

Later in the meeting, the Alternate Representative of Europe (Ms. Gaynor) introduced document AC28 Com. 8.<sup>9</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 8 with the following amendments:

- Correction of the numbering of the paragraphs on page 4.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Document AC28 Com. 8 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 8 to the present summary record.

<sup>10</sup> Note from the Secretariat: the numbering of the paragraphs under "Recommendations" was revised after the meeting.

- In paragraph 1 of the recommendation on *Hippopotamus amphibius* (page 2): replace "presented" by "from the studies referred to", and in the same sentence replace "Animals Committee" by "Secretariat".
- In paragraph 1 of the recommendation on *Macaca fascicularis* (page 2): replace the first "Animals Committee" by "Secretariat".
- In paragraph 5 of the recommendation on *Macaca fascicularis* (page 3): add the words "through the Secretariat" after "Standing Committee".
- In paragraph 3 under the section "Concerning agenda item 9.4" (page 3): replace "Canada" by "polar bear range States".
- After paragraph 4 under the section "Concerning agenda item 9.4" (page 4), add a new paragraph as follows: "The working group noted that trade in *Triocerus montium*, which is an endemic species to Cameroon, has been reported by Equatorial Guinea. Since this may not be an issue related to implementation of Article IV, paragraph 2(a), 3 or 6(a), the working group recommends that the Secretariat brings this issue to the attention of the Standing Committee."
- In the current paragraph 5 under the section "Concerning agenda item 9.4" (page 4): replace "AC" by "Secretariat", and in the same sentence insert "may therefore" after "national legislation and". Add the following last sentence: "The Secretariat shall finalize the selection of range States for a detailed review in consultation with the Animals Committee."
- For *Malayemys subtrijuga* in Annex A (page 6): move "Thailand" from the category 'Range States to be retained' to the category 'Range States to be deleted'.

During discussion of document AC28 Com. 8, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Mr. Ishii), Europe (Ms. Gaynor and Mr. Fleming), North America (Ms. Gnam) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and by Austria, Canada, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam, by UNEP-WCMC, and by Born Free Foundation and Conservation International.

#### 10. Review of identification and guidance material (Decision 16.59)<sup>11</sup>

The representative of Oceania and the Chair of the Animals and Plants Committees' intersessional working group on identification and guidance materials (Mr. Robertson) introduced document AC28 Doc. 10, highlighting the group's mandate to determine the current availability of identification and guidance material to increase accessibility to Parties, and assess the need for additional identification material.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 10.

The Committee further recommended that the joint intersessional working groups established by the Animals and Plants Committees on capacity-building (pursuant to Decision 16.29) and on identification and guidance material (pursuant to Decision 16.59) work jointly in the future.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 11. Identification of sturgeons and paddlefish specimens in trade (Decision 16.137)

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 11 and informed the Committee that a document with the views of an expert on the study requested in Decision 16.136 had been made available on the CITES website.

In the following discussion speakers expressed their hope that funding will be made available to support a study on sturgeons and paddlefish called for in Decision 16.136.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 11.

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<sup>11</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

The Committee noted with regret that funds have not yet been made available to support the study requested in Decision 16.136.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and by the United States of America.

#### 12. Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species (Decision 15.53)<sup>12</sup>

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 12. IUCN then presented the guidance on CITES source codes, contained in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 of that document.

In the following discussion, speakers pointed out a need to further work on the guidance.

To this end, the Committee established a working group on agenda item 12 with the following mandate:

Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

1. Review the draft guides in the Annexes to document AC28 Doc. 12 and provide feedback to the Secretariat towards improving the proposed guide on the appropriate use of source codes.
2. Provide suggestions for incorporating examples of different production and cultivation systems into the guidance without overcomplicating the guide.

The Membership was decided as follows:

Chair:	Representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher);
Parties:	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and
IGOs and NGOs:	UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Creative Conservation Solutions and Responsible Ecosystems Sourcing Platform.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Caceres introduced document AC28 Com. 7.<sup>13</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 7.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming), and North America (Ms. Gnam) and by Canada and the United States of America.

#### 13. Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens (Decision 16.65)

##### 13.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 13.1, describing the various reports that the Committee was invited to review and noted that the contract for developing draft checklists or guides for inspecting captive-breeding and ranching facilities and reviewing permit applications for captive-bred and ranched specimens had been placed with IUCN, but was not yet completed.

##### 13.2 Report of the intersessional working group

The representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) introduced document AC28 Doc. 13.2 noting, *inter alia*, that the group considered ways to address the misuse of source codes.

In the following discussion of agenda items 13.1 and 13.2, various speakers expressed mixed opinions on the establishment of a captive-breeding database, as considered by the intersessional working group.

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<sup>12</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

<sup>13</sup> Document AC28 Com. 7 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 7 to the present summary record.

A number of speakers favoured developing a new resolution on captive-bred and ranched specimens to be submitted to the Standing Committee and eventually the 17th Conference of the Parties.

The Committee established a working group on agenda items 13.1 and 13.2 with the following mandate:

Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

Concerning agenda item 13.1:

1. Complete the review of the reports mentioned in document AC28 Doc. 13.1, paragraphs 4 and 5, and formulate recommendations;

Concerning agenda item 13.2:

2. Review the suggestions made in document AC28 Doc. 13.2, including options for a possible compliance mechanisms, and formulate recommendations accordingly; and
3. Prepare advice to be reported by the Animals Committee to the Standing Committee in accordance with Decision 16.65.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: Representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar);

Parties: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, European Union, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, International Union on Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Southeastern State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Born Free Foundation, British Union For The Abolition Of Vivisection, CAICSA S.A.S., Conservation International, Defenders of Wildlife, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, International Professional Hunters' Association, Natural Resource Defense Council, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra", Safari Club International, Society for Wildlife and Nature International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

Later in the meeting, the representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming) introduced document AC28 Com. 5.<sup>14</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 5 with the following amendments:

- In the second paragraph of the section “Item 13.1” (page 2), insert “because it is not yet available.” at the end of the sentence.
- In the second paragraph of the section “Item 13.2” (page 2), replace the second sentence with the following text: “The group recommends that the Animals Committee agrees that the provisional resolution in Annex 1 is a good starting point, and to provide the provisional text to the Standing Committee for its consideration.”
- In the fourth paragraph of the section “Item 13.2” (page 2), delete the second “species”.

During discussion of these items, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Fleming), Canada, China, Colombia, the European Union, Mexico, and the United States of America and by CAICSA S.A.S., Humane Society International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

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<sup>14</sup> Document AC28 Com. 5 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 5 to the present summary record.

#### 14. Snake trade and conservation management (Serpentes spp.)

##### 14.1 Review of studies and activities [Decision 16.103, paragraphs a) and d)]

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 14.1. IUCN then presented the studies, contained in Annexes 1, 2, 3 and 4 of that document.

In the following discussion, a number of speakers expressed the opinion that the studies would need further work, particularly the one containing guidance for making non-detriment findings for trade in Appendix-II snake species.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Mr. Giam) and Europe (Mr. Lörtscher); China, the European Union, and Germany, and by the Animal Welfare Institute (on behalf of the Species Survival Network) and Humane Society International.

##### 14.2 Reptile sourcing and traceability systems [Decision 16.103, paragraphs b) to d)]

###### 14.2.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 14.2.1 noting, *inter alia*, the need for harmonizing traceability standards across different CITES-traded products.

In the following discussion, a number of speakers expressed their support for the idea of developing a framework on traceability standards, but also expressed caution about moving forward too quickly.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher), by China, Malaysia, Mexico and the United States of America, and by Creative Conservation Solutions and the Animal Welfare Institute (on behalf of the Species Survival Network).

###### 14.2.2 Identification carrier for a global traceability information system for reptile skins

Mexico introduced document AC28 Doc. 14.2.2, outlining the characteristics of a specific tracing technology to confirm the legal origin of reptile skins.

In the following discussion, a number of speakers expressed their interest in how the system could be implemented and contribute to the traceability of snake skins.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher), by Colombia, by IUCN and by Global Standards 1 (GS1).

##### 14.3 IUCN Red List assessments of Asian snake species (Decision 16.104)]

IUCN introduced document AC28 Doc. 14.3 noting that there is evidence suggesting that international trade is a major threat for four snake species.

In the following discussion, Malaysia, a range State of two of the four species, reported that it is currently working on legislation to increase the level of protection of the two species.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher), by Malaysia and the United States of America, and by the Species Survival Network.

The Committee established a working group on agenda items 14.1, 14.2 and 14.3 with the following mandate:

###### Concerning agenda item 14.1:

1. Review the activities and studies mentioned in document AC28 Doc.14.1, including the four studies commissioned by the Secretariat and their recommendations, and the observations by the Secretariat in paragraphs 15 to 19 of document AC28 Doc.14.1.

2. Based on this review and other information, develop guidance and recommendations that are pertinent to Decision 16.102, paragraphs a) to d), relating to:
  - Production systems for Asian snakes listed in CITES Appendix II (use of source codes; guidance for monitoring and controlling production systems);
  - Guidance for NDFs for Appendix-II snake species in trade;
  - Methodologies to differentiate between wild and captive-bred CITES-listed snakes in trade; and
  - High-value snake species in the pet trade.

Concerning agenda item 14.2:

3. Review the studies concerning traceability of snake skins mentioned in document AC28 Doc. 14.2.1 paragraphs 3 and 4 [i.e. the UNCTAD/CITES study on *Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South-East Asian Python*; the Annex to document AC27 Doc. 19.4; and the four studies on the snake trade and conservation management that were commissioned by the CITES Secretariat pursuant to Decision 16.102, paragraph a) and the information provided in document AC28 Doc.14.2.2].
4. Examine the findings and recommendations concerning traceability of snake skins in trade in the documents and studies mentioned above.
5. Draft advice for consideration by the Animals Committee (and subsequent reporting to the Standing Committee) on the feasibility and implementation of a traceability and marking system for snake skins in compliance with Decision 16.103.
6. Consider the matters identified in documents AC28 Doc. 14.2.1 and AC28 Doc. 14.2.2 and in the plenary discussion regarding traceability systems more broadly, such as issues of standards and compatibility, and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Concerning agenda item 14.3:

7. Review the information on Asian snake species presented in document AC28 Doc. 14.3, and any additional information, as relevant.
8. Draft recommendations for consideration by the Animals Committee, including recommendations to the Standing Committee, range States, Parties or others as appropriate. Such recommendations may focus on species currently not included in the CITES Appendices, and that are or may be threatened by unregulated international trade.

The membership was decided as follows:

- Chair: Representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher);
- Committee members: Alternate Representative of Asia (Mr. Giam);
- Parties: Austria, China, European Union, Germany, India, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam; and
- IGOs and NGOs: International Trade Center (ITC), UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Animals Exhibitors Alliance, Association of Midwest State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Southeastern State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Creative Conservation Solutions, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Humane Society International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Responsible Ecosystems Sourcing Platform, Species Survival Network, Sustainable User Network and TRAFFIC International.

Later in the meeting, the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher) introduced document AC28 Com. 6.<sup>15</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 6 with the following amendments:

- Under the second “Concerning” (page 2) in paragraph c), add “as necessary” after “this new information”.
- Under the third “Concerning” (top of page 3), replace in the third paragraph “recommends” by “encourages”.
- Under the third “Concerning” (top of page 3), add in the fifth paragraph “improve enforcement of existing laws and” after “invites Indonesia to”.
- Under the third “Concerning” (top of page 3), replace in the sixth paragraph “recommends that” by “invites”, and insert “to” before “report”.
- Under the fourth “Concerning” (page 3), replace in the final sentence “Standing Committee” by “Animals Committee”.
- Under the fifth “Concerning” (page 3), add the following sentence: “The Animals Committee should draw the attention of the Standing Committee to Annex 4 of document AC28 Doc. 14.1, as it may be important from an implementation and enforcement perspective.”
- Under the sixth “Concerning” (page 4), replace “resolution” by “decision”.
- Under the eight “Concerning” (page 4), replace the last paragraph with the following sentence: “The Working Group recommends to the Animals Committee to categorize two species in Table 1, *Acrochordus arafuræ* and *Acrochordus granulatus*, as unlikely to be impacted by international trade, and requests IUCN to revise document AC28 Doc. 14.3 accordingly”.

During discussion of document AC28 Com. 6, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher), and by the European Union, Mexico, Israel, and the United States of America.

#### 15. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (*Testudines spp.*) (Decision 16.111)

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 15. IUCN then presented the study on “Non-Detriment Findings and Trade Management for Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles - a guide for CITES Scientific and Management Authorities,” contained in Annex 2 of that document.

In the following discussion, several speakers expressed their support for the study, emphasizing the helpful guidance and the usefulness of the case study examples.

The Animals Committee welcomed the study contained in Document AC28 Doc. 15 and recommended to the Standing Committee that it be communicated to the Parties.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher and Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam) and by Wildlife Conservation Society.

#### 16. Sturgeons and paddlefish [Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)]

##### 16.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 16.1, informing the Committee that no export quota had been submitted by any range state for shared stocks and that it had therefore published a zero quota for all shared stocks for the period between 1 March 2015 and 29 February 2016. The Secretariat explained that because no commercial harvest or export from shared sturgeon stocks had taken place, the stocks might qualify for the exemption indicated in the relevant footnote in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16).

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<sup>15</sup> Document AC28 Com. 6 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 6 to the present summary record.

During the discussion on document AC28 Doc. 16.1, one speaker emphasized the importance of maintaining the oversight role of the Animals Committee with regard to sturgeon and sturgeon product trade.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 16.1, and the intention of the Secretariat to seek further clarifications from the Parties concerning footnote 2 of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16).

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative from Europe (Mr. Fleming), and by Germany and the United States of America.

#### 16.2 Implementation by the Animals Committee of relevant provisions in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 16.2.

In the following discussion, speakers debated the continued relevance of three year cycle evaluations of assessment and monitoring methodologies used for shared stocks of Acipenseriformes species.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 16.2.

The Committee further agreed to report to the Standing Committee the outcomes of its discussion on the role of the Animals Committee as currently mandated in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), and how it could support the conservation and management of sturgeons and paddlefish in the context of a changing fishery.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative from Europe (Mr. Fleming), and by Germany and the United States of America.

#### 16.3 Sturgeon management in the Russian Federation

The Russian Federation introduced document AC28 Doc. 16.3.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 16.3.

An intervention was made by the Russian Federation during discussion of this item.

### 17. Conservation and management of sharks [Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16)]

#### 17.1 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. Cop16)

##### 17.1.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 17.1.1, informing the Committee about the information submitted by Parties on the implementation of the listings of sharks and rays agreed at CITES CoP16 and its ongoing activities to help Parties implement these listings.

During the discussion of this document, Parties provided further updates on their national efforts to implement the new shark listings that entered into force in September 2014, and expressed interest to hear more about the Secretariat's and the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization's work to assist Parties in implementing the listings. The unprecedented increase in activities on this topic was generally welcomed.

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 17.1.1 (working group on sharks) with the following mandate:

1. Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:
  - a) consider document AC28 Doc. 17.1.1, including the recommendations made therein;
  - b) examine the information provided by range States in response to Notification No. 2015/027 and other relevant data; and

- c) advise on the reporting by the Animals Committee on progress on shark and ray activities to the 17th Conference of the Parties, which should also contain an analysis of information provided by range States on trade and other available relevant data and information, and if necessary, species-specific recommendations for improving the conservation status of sharks.
2. The working group shall make recommendations accordingly for the Animals Committee to consider.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: Representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and Alternate Representative of Asia (Mr. Ishii);

Parties: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UNEP-WCMC, BLOOM Association, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Manta Trust, Pew Charitable Trusts, Project Aware Foundation, Seamarc Pvt Ltd, Society for Wildlife and Nature (SWAN) International, Stony Brook University Research Foundation, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

Later in the meeting, the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) introduced document AC28 Com. 9.<sup>16</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 9 with the following amendments:

- In the section "Non-detriment findings and conservation issues" (page 2), add in the fourth paragraph: ", and further notes that examples of the application of this methodology are available [e.g. in document AC28 Inf. 27 (Rev.)]."
- In the section "Collaboration with other relevant UN Bodies" (page 2), in the first sentence of the second paragraph, replace "reminds Parties" with "asks the Standing Committee to remind Parties", and insert "normally" before "not be able"; and replace in the following sentence "Furthermore, the Animals Committee reminds Parties" with "The Standing Committee should remind Parties".
- In the section "Species-specific issues" (page 4), replace "CITES CoP17" with "Standing Committee".

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by China, Colombia, the European Union, India, Japan, Mexico, Peru, the United States of America, by the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, and by Pew Charitable Trusts and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

#### 17.1.2 Conservations and management of sharks – species of concern

Israel introduced document AC28 Doc. 17.1.2 which contains a summary of shark and ray species of conservation concern.

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<sup>16</sup> Document AC28 Com. 9 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 9 to the present summary record.

During the discussion on document AC28 Doc. 17.1.2, many speakers suggested that the work within the CITES community should currently focus on the successful implementation of the listings of shark species agreed at the 16th Conference of the Parties (CoP16), before considering to list new species. Speakers also noted the usefulness of the risk-assessment methodology referenced in the document.

The Committee noted the information contained in document 17.1.2, including the information in paragraph 13 on a new method for determining species at risk of overexploitation through examining their intrinsic biological vulnerability and management risk (M-Risk).

The Committee further noted the usefulness of risk assessments to identify challenges and appropriate mitigation measures in the context of the conservation and management of sharks.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam), by China, Chile, the European Union, Israel, Japan, and the United Kingdom and by the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species.

#### 17.2 Guidance for making non-detriment findings for CITES-listed sharks

Germany gave the floor to IUCN to introduce document AC28 Doc. 17.2.

In the discussion on this document, Germany was thanked for its continued work on NDF guidelines. Speakers recognized the need for Parties that are using the NDF guidelines to share feedback with Germany on how they can be improved.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 17.2, encouraging Parties to use the guidance for making non-detriment findings for CITES-listed sharks developed by Germany and to report back to Germany with their experiences and advise for further improvements.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam), by Canada, Germany, and the United States of America, and by Humane Society International, Species Survival Network and WWF.

#### 18. Freshwater stingrays (Family Potamotrygonidae) (Decisions 16.131 and 16.132)

The representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar) introduced document AC28 Doc. 18 and its Annex, which contains options relating to possible proposals to list freshwater stingrays in the CITES Appendices.

During the discussion on document AC28 Doc. 18, there was broad support for the work of the working group. Some speakers emphasized the importance of support for taxonomic research and capacity-building for identification of freshwater stingrays.

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 18 (working group on stingrays) with the following mandate:

1. Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:
  - a) examine the information in the document AC28 Doc. 18 and other relevant information;
  - b) consider how the Animals Committee and its working group should complete the tasks entrusted to it in Decisions 16.131 and 16.132;
  - c) consider and advise on the discussions and conclusions presented in the Annex of document AC28 Doc. 18, including options for the possible inclusion of freshwater stingrays in the CITES Appendices; and

- d) consider the reporting by the Animals Committee to the 17th Conference of the Parties on the progress made by the working group, and its recommendations and conclusions, in accordance with Decision 16.132 c).
2. The working group shall make recommendations accordingly for the Animals Committee to consider.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar);

Parties: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Peru and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International, and Wildlife Conservation Society.

Later in the meeting, the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar) introduced document AC28 Com. 2.<sup>17</sup>

During the discussion of document AC28 Com. 2, Brazil notified the Committee of its intent to list several species of freshwater stingrays on Appendix III.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 2, recognizing that corrections were required in the Spanish version of document AC28 Com. 2, and adding Wildlife Conservation Society among the members of the working group.

During the discussion of this agenda item, interventions were made by the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar), by Brazil, Colombia, Peru, and the United States of America, and by Defenders of Wildlife and Ornamental Fish International.

19. Regional cooperation on the management of and trade in the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)

Colombia introduced document AC28 Doc. 19.

When discussing AC28 Doc. 19, the United States of America commended the efforts of Colombia and Panama to enhance regional cooperation on the management of and trade in queen conch.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 19 and congratulated the range States of queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) for their activities in response to Decision 16.141.

During the discussion of this agenda item, interventions were made by Colombia and the United States of America.

20. Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)]

20.1 Overview of species under review

The Secretariat introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.1.

In the following discussion, several speakers suggested removing species from the Periodic Review in the cases in which a range State did not volunteer to undertake the review.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 20.1 and agreed to remove from the Periodic Review those species which were selected for review between CoP15 and CoP17 and for which no range States had volunteered to undertake the review.

The Committee further welcomed Bhutan's expression of interest in reviewing *Semnopithecus schistaceus* and *Varanus bengalensis*, but noting its request for financial support for undertaking this review and the lack thereof, agreed to remove both species from the Periodic Review.

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<sup>17</sup> Document AC28 Com. 2 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 2 to the present summary record.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm) and by Australia and the United States of America.

## 20.2 Report of the intersessional working group<sup>18</sup>

Ms. Caceres introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.2, which included proposed revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16) on *Periodic review of species included in Appendices I and II*, including on the format of the review and the process for selection of species.

In the ensuing discussion, several speakers expressed the need for further work on the content of this document.

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 20.2 (working group on the periodic review) with the following mandate:

1. Review document AC28 Doc. 20.2 and the conclusions presented therein.
2. Draft guidance on the questions regarding the format of the Periodic Review (paragraph 11 in document AC28 Doc. 20.2) and the selection of species for Periodic Review (paragraph 15 in the same document).
3. Review the amendments to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16) proposed in the Annex to document AC28 Doc. 20.2, and draft recommendations for the Animals Committee to consider, bearing in mind the consultation with the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres)

Parties: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, India, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Born Free Foundation, Humane Society International, Species Survival Network and TRAFFIC International.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Caceres introduced document AC28 Com. 3.<sup>19</sup>

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 3 with the following amendments:

- Replace the paragraphs numbered “1” and “2” (page 2) by the text: “The Animals Committee agrees to the following modifications to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16) (*Periodic review of species included in Appendices I and II*), and recommends its transmission to the Plants Committee and submission to the 17th Conference of Parties for adoption.”
- Insert a new paragraph between paragraphs e) and f) in the “Proposed revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. Cop16)” (page 4), stating: “f) The Animals or Plants Committees may also evaluate reviews undertaken independently by Parties and submitted for their consideration.”. The following paragraphs should be renumbered accordingly.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming and Mr. Lörtscher) and North America (Ms. Gnam), by the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm), by Brazil, Kenya, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, and by Humane Society International and WWF.

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<sup>18</sup> This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

<sup>19</sup> Document AC28 Com. 3 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 3 to the present summary record.

## 20.3 Species review

### 20.3.1 Periodic review of *Panthera leo*

Namibia, in its own name and on behalf of Kenya, introduced the agenda item for which no document was available and informed the Committee of their intent to submit the review via the postal procedure in time for the sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee.

In the following discussion, several speakers expressed their support for further postal procedure as suggested by Kenya and Namibia.

The Committee noted the work undertaken to date by Kenya and Namibia, as well as their intent to submit a final Periodic Review of *Panthera leo* to the Animals Committee for its decision by postal procedure prior to the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the Representatives of Africa (Mr. Kasiki), by India, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and by the Born Free Foundation and the International Professional Hunters' Association.

### 20.3.2 Periodic review of *Puma concolor coryi* and *Puma concolor cougar*

Canada introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.2 noting that because *P. concolor cougar* is considered extinct and *P. concolor coryi* is protected federally, both subspecies should be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II.

In the ensuing discussion, several speakers supported Canada's recommendation.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review that it would be appropriate to transfer *Puma concolor coryi* and *Puma concolor cougar* to Appendix II.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam), by the nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm) and by Canada, Israel and Mexico and the United States of America.

### 20.3.3 Periodic review of *Lichenostomus melanops cassifix*

Australia introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.3.

In the following discussion, several speakers supported Australia's recommendation to move the species from Appendix I to Appendix II.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to transfer *Lichenostomus melanops cassifix* to Appendix II.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and by Australia and the United States of America.

### 20.3.4 Periodic review of *Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni*

Australia introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.4.

In the ensuing discussion, speakers supported Australia's recommendation to maintain the species in Appendix I.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to maintain *Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni* in Appendix I.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and by Australia and the United States of America.

20.3.5 Periodic review of *Psephotus dissimilis*

Australia introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.5.

In the following discussion, speakers supported Australia's recommendation to maintain the species in Appendix I.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to maintain *Psephotus dissimilis* in Appendix I.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and by Australia and the United States of America.

20.3.6 Periodic review of *Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata*

Australia introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.6.

In the ensuing discussion, speakers supported Australia's recommendation to move the species from Appendix I to Appendix II.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to transfer *Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata* to Appendix II.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and by Australia and the United States of America.

20.3.7 Periodic review of *Sphenodon* spp.

New Zealand introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.7.

In the following discussion, speakers supported New Zealand's recommendation to maintain the species in Appendix I.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to maintain *Sphenodon* spp. in Appendix I.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher) and by New Zealand and the United States of America.

20.3.8 Periodic review of *Cuora galbinifrons*

Viet Nam introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.8.

In the ensuing discussion, several speakers supported Viet Nam's recommendation to move *C. galbinifrons* from Appendix II to Appendix I.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to transfer *Cuora galbinifrons* to Appendix I.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Asia (Mr. Ishii), by the nomenclature expert (Ms. Grimm), by the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Viet Nam, and by Humane Society International and Wildlife Conservation Society.

20.3.9 Periodic review of *Mauremys annamensis*

Viet Nam introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.9.

In the following discussion, several speakers supported Viet Nam's recommendation to move the species from Appendix II to Appendix I.

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in this Periodic Review to transfer *Mauremys annamensis* to Appendix I.

The Committee agreed that the implementation of Decision 16.124 had been concluded with the considerations of Agenda items 20.3.8 and 20.3.9.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Asia (Mr. Ishii), and by the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Viet Nam.

#### 20.3.10 Periodic review of *Epioblasma sampsonii*

The United States introduced document AC28 Doc. 20.3.10, noting that even though the endemic species is considered extinct and could be removed from the appendices, a decision to delist it could be deferred until AC29, after the issue of addressing extinct species is resolved.

In view of the discussions on extinct or possibly extinct species in the context of the implementation of Decision 16.164, the Committee agreed to defer a decision regarding the recommendations contained in document AC28 Doc. 20.3.10 until the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee.

An intervention was made by the United States of America during discussion of this item.

### 21. Standard nomenclature [Resolution 12.11 (Rev. CoP16)]

#### 21.1 Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature

and

#### 21.2 Revised nomenclature for four species of birds of paradise (Paradisaeidae)

The nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm) introduced document AC28 Doc. 21.1.

The United States introduced document AC28 Doc. 21.2.

During the discussion on the two agenda items, the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species noted their support for the adoption of the third edition of Wilson & Reeder as taxonomic reference for *Ovis ammon*.

The Committee established a working group on agenda items 21.1 and 21.2 (working group on nomenclature) with the following mandate:

##### Concerning agenda item 21.1:

1. Review document AC28 Doc. 21.1 and its annexes, and the proposals made therein, and make recommendations for the Animals Committee to consider.

##### Concerning agenda item 21.2:

2. Evaluate the nomenclature changes recommended by the Ornithological Council in document AC28 Doc, 21.2, and provide guidance to the Animals Committee on this nomenclature matter.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: The specialist on zoological nomenclature (Ms. Grimm);

Parties: China, India, Mexico, South Africa, Switzerland and United States of America;  
and

IGOs and NGOs: Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Conservation International, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International and World Parrot Trust.

Later during the meeting, the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm) introduced document AC28 Com. 10.<sup>20</sup>

During the discussion of document AC28 Com. 10, speakers expressed their appreciation for the work of the nomenclature specialist. The representative of the Europe (Mr. Lörtscher) also shared his concern about the amount of changes that would ensure should the standard taxonomic reference for non-passerine birds be changed.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 10.

On this agenda item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr Lörtscher), the nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm), by Chile, by the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species and by Humane Society International.

## 22. Proposals for possible consideration at CoP17

### 22.1 Assessment of three bird species included in Appendix III (*Crax rubra*, *Meleagris ocellata* and *Penelope purpurascens*) based on the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16)

Mexico introduced document AC28 Doc. 22.1, noting that while some criteria are met for listing these species, the level of international trade does not justify inclusion on CITES Appendix I or II and recommending not drafting an amendment proposal to change listing of these species.

In the following discussion, several speakers commended Mexico for its work.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 22.1.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Europe (Mr. Lörtscher), by Canada and Mexico, and by Wildlife Impact.

### 22.2 Draft proposal to remove the zero quota for trade in wild specimens of the Mexican population of Morelet's crocodile (*Crocodylus moreletii*) for commercial purposes

Mexico introduced document AC28 Doc. 22.2 presenting a draft proposal to remove the zero quota for trade in wild specimens for commercial purposes of the Mexican population of *C. moreletii*.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 22.2.

In the ensuing discussion, several speakers encouraged Mexico to submit the proposal to CoP17.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Lemus), by Germany, Israel, Mexico, Namibia and South Africa and by IUCN.

### 22.3 Proposal for the transfer from Appendices I to II of *Crocodylus porosus* in Malaysia

Malaysia introduced document AC28 Doc. 22.3.

In the following discussion, speakers made suggestions on ways to strengthen the proposal.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 22.3.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm), by Australia, Malaysia, and the United States of America and by IUCN.

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<sup>20</sup> Document AC28 Com. 10 in its final adopted form as revised by the Secretariat is contained in Annex 10 to the present summary record.

#### 22.4 Status of conservation, use, management of and trade in the species of the genus *Abronia*

Mexico introduced document AC28 Doc. 22.4 and requested advice from the Committee on a proposal to include the *Abronia* genus on Appendix II for consideration at CoP17.

In the following discussion, speakers noted the need for better protection of the *Abronia* genus.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 22.4.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the Representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by Israel and Mexico, and by the Species Survival Network.

#### 22.5 Proposal to list *Lanthanotus borneensis* in Appendix I in Malaysia

Malaysia introduced document AC28 Doc. 22.5.

In the ensuing discussion, several speakers registered their support of the proposal.

The Committee noted document AC28 Doc. 22.5.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Mr. Kasiki), Europe (Mr. Lörtscher) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson), by the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Grimm), by Malaysia and the United States of America and by Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Humane Society International and the Species Survival Network.

### 23. Regional reports

#### 23.1 Africa

The Committee noted that, upon its completion, the representative of Africa (Mr. Kasiki) had agreed to send the regional report of Africa to the Secretariat for publication on the CITES website.

#### 23.2 Asia

The Committee noted the report in document AC28 Doc. 23.2.

#### 23.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean

The Committee noted the report in document AC28 Doc. 23.3.

#### 23.4 Europe

The Committee noted the report in document AC28 Doc. 23.4.

#### 23.5 North America

The Committee noted the report in document AC28 Doc. 23.5.

#### 23.6 Oceania

The Committee noted the report in document AC28 Doc. 23.6.

The Animals Committee noted that the recent appointment of Dr. Rod Hay, Alternate Representative of Oceania, as lead of the Management Authority of New Zealand, did not constitute a conflict of interest in the context of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16).

No other intervention was made during discussion of these items.

24. Any other business

Mexico informed the Committee that it intended to submit a document on vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*) and totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*) for consideration at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee.

25. Time and venue of the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee

The Committee noted that the Secretariat had provisionally booked a venue to hold back-to-back meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees (their 29th and 23rd meetings respectively) from 24 July to 3 August 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.

26. Closing remarks

Ms. Caceres thanked the Committee members, and in particular the nomenclature specialist, Party observers, IGO and NGO observers, the interpreters, Israel and the Secretariat, and closed the meeting.