

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September - 5 October 2016

**Committee II**

Rules of procedure for the CITES bodies

DRAFT DECISIONS ON THE REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CITES BODIES

*This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, on the basis of document CoP17 Doc. 11 and of paragraph 35 of document CoP17 Doc. 10.2.1, as amended and agreed at the third session of Committee II [see document CoP17 Com. II Rec. 3 (Rev. 1)].*

***Directed to the Standing Committee***

- 17.A The Standing Committee shall review its Rules of Procedure and align them as closely as possible with the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties *mutatis mutandis*.
- 17.B Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) on *Establishment of committees* contains provisions that are relevant for the Rules of Procedure of the Committees. In reviewing the Rules of Procedure, the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting, with input from the Animals and Plants Committees, shall identify possible inconsistencies and overlap and make such suggestions as appropriate to revise Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16), for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

***Directed to the Animals and Plants Committee***

- 17.C Based on a proposal prepared by the Secretariat, the Animals and Plants Committees shall review their respective rules of procedure and align them as closely as possible with the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee, taking into account the unique composition and role of the Scientific Committees.
- 17.D The Animals and Plants Committees shall also identify possible inconsistencies and overlap between Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP 16) on *Establishment of committees* and their own Rules of Procedure and submit to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee any required revisions to the Resolution for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

- 17.E In order to assist the review of the Standing Committee referred to in Decisions 17.A and 17.B, the Secretariat shall prepare draft amendments for aligning the existing Rules of Procedure with the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties in effect after its 17th meeting and recommend revisions, as appropriate, to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) to address possible inconsistencies and overlap between the Resolution and the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee, for consideration at the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee.

- 17.F In order to assist the review of the Animals and Plants Committees referred to in Decision 17.C and 17.D, the Secretariat shall prepare draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Animals and Plants Committees and recommend revisions, as appropriate, to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) to address possible inconsistencies and overlap between the Resolution and the Rules of Procedure of the Animals and Plants Committees for consideration at the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee and 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee respectively.
- 17.G The Secretariat shall maintain and publish on the CITES website a list of active intersessional working groups, established by the Standing Committee, and the Animals and the Plants Committees, including Chairs and members of such groups.

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

- 17.H The Animals and Plants Committee shall review their terms of reference as contained in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) on Establishment of Committees in order to, as necessary: remove redundancies with other activities directed to the Committees by Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties; reflect current practice including provision of scientific advice upon request of Parties; and otherwise clarify the functions of the Committees in their role as science advisory bodies to the Conference of the Parties. The Animals and Plants Committees shall present any proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) arising from their review to the Standing Committee for inclusion into their proposed amendments, as appropriate, pursuant to Decision 17.B, and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.