

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

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

**Committee II**

Establishment of the rural communities committee of the Conference of the Parties

DRAFT DECISION ON ENGAGING RURAL COMMUNITIES IN CITES PROCESSES

*This document has been prepared by the Working group on this matter established at the fourth session of Committee II. It is based on matters arising from the discussion of document CoP17 Doc. 13 at the fourth session of Committee II (see document CoP17 Com. II Rec. 4).*

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

- 17.AA The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional working group to consider how to effectively engage rural communities in the CITES processes and to present its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee, for consideration at its 70th meeting.
- 17.BB In establishing the intersessional working group, which shall be comprised of Parties and representatives of rural communities, the Chair of the Standing Committee shall strive to achieve regional balance of Parties, with the number of members of rural communities not exceeding the number of Party delegates.
- 17.CC The Standing Committee shall make recommendations on the engagement of rural communities in CITES processes to the 18th Conference of the Parties.