



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



CITES

Decisions

**Decisions of the
Conference of the Parties to CITES
in effect after the 12th meeting**

Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in effect after the 12th meeting

Introduction

This document has been produced in accordance with Decision 12.3 of the Conference of the Parties. It contains the Decisions (other than Resolutions) adopted at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (Santiago, Chile, 3-15 November 2002) as well as the Decisions adopted at previous meetings that remain in effect after the 12th meeting.

Contrary to previous practice, the Decisions in the present publication are grouped by subject, in accordance with Decision 12.3.

Moreover the system of numbering is different from that used previously. Every Decision that was adopted at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties has a number starting with 12. Every Decision that was adopted at a previous meeting is included here with its original number, indicating the meeting at which it was adopted.

If the Conference of the Parties amended a Decision at a meeting after the one at which it was adopted, the original number of that Decision is followed by the indication '(Rev. CoPX)', where X represents the number of the meeting at which the amendment was adopted. Thus the Decision numbered 10.2 (Rev. CoP11) was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 10th meeting and amended at its 11th meeting.

Readers of this publication will recall that Decisions of the Conference of the Parties should in principle be valid for only a short term and should be deleted by the Secretariat when they have been implemented or when they become redundant or obsolete. In cases where the Secretariat has deleted part of a Decision that is obsolete or has made a correction, it has annotated the Decision but not changed the number.

Information on Decisions that are no longer valid is available from the Secretariat in Geneva.

In spite of the general principle referred to above, for historical reasons, many of the Decisions listed in this publication have a long-term effect. The Secretariat is continuing to review these and will propose revisions to the Conference of the Parties so that those Decisions are incorporated into Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties.

Contents

Decision	Subject	Page
11.1	Strategic Plan for the Convention	1
9.26	Text of the Convention	1
12.1	Acceptance of the Gaborone Amendment	1
12.2	Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties	1
9.24	Consideration of draft resolutions	2
9.27 & 12.3	Decisions of the Conference of the Parties	2
12.4	Discussion of draft decisions	2
12.5 & 12.6	Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)	2
12.7	Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	3
12.8	Meetings of the Standing Committee	4
12.9 to 12.12	Work programme of the Plants Committee	4
12.13	Regional meetings of the Plants Committee	5
12.14 & 12.15	Regional directories	6
12.16	Materials for Plants Committee members	6
11.119	Work programme of the Nomenclature Committee	6
12.17 & 12.18	Establishment of an Export Quota Working Group	6
12.19 & 12.20	Bushmeat Working Group	7
12.21	Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group	7
12.22	Economic incentives and trade policy	8
12.23 & 12.24	Technical implementation issues	8
12.25, 11.129 & 12.26	Financing of the conservation of and sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora	9
12.27 & 12.28	Bears	10
12.29 to 12.32	Asian big cats	10
10.2 (Rev. CoP11)	Elephants – Conditions for the disposal of ivory stocks and generating resources for conservation in African elephant range States	11
12.33 to 12.35	Elephants – Monitoring of the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)	12
12.36 to 12.39	Elephants – Control of internal ivory trade	12
11.57	Musk deer	13

Decision	Subject	Page
12.40	Tibetan antelope	13
12.41 & 12.42	Tortoises and freshwater turtles	14
12.43	Pancake tortoise	14
12.44 to 12.46	Hawksbill turtle	14
12.47, 11.151, 12.48 & 12.49	Sharks	15
12.50 to 12.52	Sturgeons	16
12.53 to 12.56	Seahorses and other members of the family Syngnathidae	16
12.57 to 12.59	Trade in toothfish	17
12.60 & 12.61	Sea cucumbers	17
12.62	Stony corals	18
9.21, 9.22, 9.34 to 9.36 & 9.38 (Rev. CoP11)	Trade in plants	18
12.63 to 12.65	Harpagophytum species	18
12.66 to 12.71	Aquilaria species	19
11.114 (Rev. CoP12)	Guaiacum species	19
12.72	Management of annual export quotas	20
12.73, 12.74 & 9.33	Review of Significant Trade	20
12.75	Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade	20
9.29, 9.30 & 12.76	CITES permits and certificates	20
9.6 to 9.9	Issuance of permits	21
9.10 & 9.11	Acceptance of permits	21
12.77	Use of CITES certificates with ATA or TIR carnets	21
10.30 & 10.118	Control and checking of shipments of CITES specimens	21
9.12 to 9.14	Illegal trade	22
9.31	Reports on alleged infractions and other implementation problems	22
9.15	Violations of the Convention by diplomats and troops serving under the flag of the United Nations	23
11.102 (Rev. CoP12) & 12.78	Operations that breed Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes	23
12.79	Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens	23

Decision	Subject	Page
11.20 & 12.80 to 12.83	National laws for implementation of the Convention	24
12.84	Compliance with the Convention	25
12.85 & 12.86	Transport of live animals	26
12.87	Reporting requirements	26
11.37 & 11.89	Annual reports	28
9.32	Competent authorities of non-party States	28
9.23	Communication	28
11.124	Sponsorship for attendance at meetings of the Conference of the Parties	28
11.125 & 11.126	Registration of observers at meetings of the Conference of the Parties	29
11.14, 11.70, 11.71, 11.73, 11.127 & 11.128	Contributions by observers at meetings of the Conference of the Parties	29
12.88 & 12.89	Communication of enforcement-related information	30
12.90 to 12.93	Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species	30
11.170	Implementation of the Quito Declaration	31
12.94	Capacity building in the Oceania region	32
12.95	Capacity building in Small Island Developing States	32
12.96	Periodic review of the Appendices	32
12.97	Review of the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II	32
11.120 & 11.167	Nomenclature of amphibian species	33
9.39	Standard reference of Orchidaceae	33
11.118 (Rev. CoP12)	Annotations for medicinal plants in the Appendices	34
10.54, 10.76 & 10.86	Trade in alien species	34
12.98 & 12.99	Rescue of live specimens in special circumstances	35
12.100	Secret ballots	35

	Subject	Page
Annexes		
<u>Annex 1</u>	<u>Strategic Vision through 2005</u>	37
	<u>Action Plan</u>	45
<u>Annex 2</u>	<u>Actions directed to the Plants Committee</u>	57
<u>Annex 3</u>	<u>Recommendations made by the Mahogany Working Group</u>	61
<u>Annex 4</u>	<u>Outline of a strategic plan for the conservation of hawksbill turtles within the wider Caribbean</u>	63
<u>Annex 5</u>	<u>Decisions related to the National Legislation Project</u>	65
<u>Annex 6</u>	<u>Quito Declaration</u>	67

Strategic Plan for the Convention

- 11.1 The Conference of the Parties adopted the Strategic Vision through 2005 and the Action Plan attached as Annex 1 to these Decisions.

Text of the Convention

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.26 Note shall be taken of the following proposals, which should be put on the agenda of the next extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, whenever this may be convened, as amendments to the Convention:
- a) the provisions of Article XVI, regarding the listing of Appendix-III parts and derivatives, should be brought into line with Convention procedures for Appendices I and II (Article XV);
 - b) paragraph 5 of Article XIV should read: "Notwithstanding the provisions of Article IV, any export of a specimen" etc.;
 - c) paragraphs 3 (b) and 5 (b) of Article III should include "either a Management Authority or a Scientific Authority of the State" etc.; and
 - d) correction of errors of an orthographical nature discovered in the text of the Convention.

Acceptance of the Gaborone Amendment

Directed to Parties

- 12.1 All Parties that have not done so, and in particular those that were Parties on 30 April 1983, are urged to accept the Gaborone Amendment to Article XXI of the Convention as soon as possible and well before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.2 The Secretariat shall, when revising its publication of current Resolutions after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, correct the texts of already existing Resolutions to ensure that all references to other Resolutions are accurate.

Consideration of draft resolutions

Directed to the Chairmen of Committees I and II

- 9.24 Unless practical considerations dictate otherwise, draft resolutions should not include:
- a) instructions or requests to Committees, Working Groups or the Secretariat, unless they are part of a long-term procedure;
 - b) decisions on the presentation of the Appendices; and
 - c) recommendations (or other forms of decision) that will be implemented soon after their adoption and will then be obsolete.

Decisions of the Conference of the Parties

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.27 When the Conference of the Parties adopts any draft resolution that is designed merely to add points to the recommendations (or other decisions) in existing Resolutions, or to make a minor amendment thereto, the existing Resolutions shall be replaced by revised versions with the agreed changes.
- 12.3 After each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat shall update the list of Decisions to contain all the recommendations (or other forms of decision) that are not recorded in Resolutions and that remain in effect. The list shall be sorted according to subject, using the subjects of the Resolutions for guidance, and within the section for each subject they shall be divided according to the body to which they are directed. The Secretariat shall distribute to the Parties a copy of the updated document soon after each meeting of the Conference.

Discussion of draft decisions

Directed to the Conference of the Parties

- 12.4 Any draft decision directed to the Plants Committee should be discussed together with an evaluation of the budget that will be required to implement it fully and, if possible, an indication of the available funding.

Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.5 The Standing Committee shall keep under regular review the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the Secretariats of CITES and CMS on 18 September 2002, in particular with a view to:
- a) seeking reports from the CITES Secretariat on steps taken to implement a more detailed work programme to be developed jointly with CMS in early 2003; and

- b) ensuring that CITES initiatives in respect of the following species or taxonomic groups complement, reinforce and, as far as possible, benefit from the regional collaboration already being undertaken or envisaged in the framework of CMS:
 - i) saiga antelope (*Saiga tatarica*), snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*) and west and central African populations of African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*);
 - ii) marine turtles of the Atlantic coast of Africa, the Indian Ocean / Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Ocean;
 - iii) the whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) of South and Southeast Asia; as well as the great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*); and
 - iv) sturgeons (Acipenseriformes).

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.6 In keeping with the spirit of the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the Secretariats of CITES and CMS on 18 September 2002, the CITES Secretariat shall extend invitations to CMS and its related Agreements to participate in meetings pertaining to species and issues of common concern.

Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.7 On the basis of the recognition by the Conference of the Parties of the primary role of FAO and regional fisheries management organizations in fisheries management and the role of CITES in regulating international trade, the Standing Committee shall work with FAO in the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and FAO, to establish a framework for cooperation, to be presented in draft form for consideration at the 25th meeting (February 2003) of COFI and, if possible, the 49th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The following terms of reference should guide the Standing Committee in carrying out this work:

- a) elaborate provisions regarding future FAO involvement in the scientific evaluation of proposals for including exploited aquatic species in the Appendices or for downlisting them (see Appendix F of the Report of COFI: FTVIII);
- b) cooperate with respect to capacity building in developing countries, in particular efforts centred on fisheries law enforcement activities of mutual interest;
- c) append to the MoU annexes consisting of workplans listing issues of common interest to both organizations, including those found in Appendix F of the Report of COFI: FTVIII; and
- d) report on work completed under the MoU at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES and the FAO Committee on Fisheries.

Meetings of the Standing Committee

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.8 The Chairmen of the technical committees shall be invited on a regular basis to the meetings of the Standing Committee, and to the sessions of the Standing Committee working group dealing with strategic planning and the review and prioritization of tasks and budgets.

Work programme of the Plants Committee

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 12.9 a) The following topics shall continue to be given full attention and become high priorities for the Plants Committee:
- i) the periodic review of the Appendices (action point 2.1.2 of the Action Plan of the Strategic Vision);
 - ii) the Review of Significant Trade (action point 2.1.3); and
 - iii) the review of heavily traded non-CITES species (action point 2.1.4).
- b) For each of these priorities, specific activities shall be identified in order to determine the funding, resources and time-frame required to address them successfully. Furthermore, indicators should be identified to monitor the status and evolution of these activities closely.
- c) Annex 2 to these Decisions presents the status of the tasks addressed to the Plants Committee and the order of priorities to carry them out.
- 12.10 The Plants Committee shall, during the period between the 12th and 13th meetings of the Conference of the Parties, develop proposals to amend the Appendices on the basis of the *Contribution to an evaluation of tree species using the new CITES Listing Criteria*, published by the Management Authority of the Netherlands in 1998.
- 12.11 In the period between the 12th and 13th meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Plants Committee shall:
- a) continue with the implementation of the Action Plan of the Plants Committee resulting from the adoption of the Strategic Plan for the Convention at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - b) apply the mechanisms established by the Standing Committee to review the Appendices. These mechanisms should clearly identify who would draft a proposal for presentation at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties once a review has been finalized and is supported by the Plants Committee. Ideally, one or more range States of the taxa in question would undertake to draft and submit proposals to amend the Appendices but, if this does not happen, the Depositary Government, with the support of the Plants Committee members, should be asked to accomplish this task;
 - c) continue the review of the Appendices with the following priorities: timbers, based on 'Contribution to an evaluation of tree species using the new CITES Listing Criteria', the review of tree species in trade by the Netherlands; and artificially propagated plants traded in large quantities;

- d) participate in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 concerning the review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix-II species;
- e) review the Resolutions concerning plants and the plant trade to improve their clarity and to facilitate their understanding through guides or other materials;
- f) support the Secretariat in its work on the development of a programme to assist Scientific Authorities in making non-detriment findings in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of the Convention;
- g) take responsibility for the scientific analysis of problems related to the international trade in plants in order to provide scientifically-based findings for the drafting of proposals to be presented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- h) collaborate, when requested, in the preparation of identification materials for plants for the identification manual;
- i) collaborate with the Nomenclature Committee, when requested, in the preparation of checklists and in addressing taxonomic questions concerning plants;
- j) strengthen the work of the regional representatives regarding the updating of regional directories;
- k) establish links with industry and traders to promote projects on sustainable use of plants and plant resources in collaboration with local communities of exporting countries;
- l) analyse the relationship between *in situ* conservation and *ex situ* production of plants;
- m) explain the role of Appendix II and identify good case studies for a better understanding of listing in this Appendix; and
- n) establish permanent relations with the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) and other issues of interest to the Plants Committee.

12.12 The Plants Committee shall analyse the GSPC adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in detail and links with its activities and collaborations, especially regarding target xi 'No species of wild flora endangered by international trade'.

Regional meetings of the Plants Committee

Directed to the Plants Committee

12.13 If funding is not available for separate regional meetings, they should be organized in conjunction with seminars or other related meetings organized by the Secretariat. One day could be dedicated to deal with regional issues on plants. The regional representatives should prepare the agenda and chair the regional meeting.

Regional directories

Directed to the Plants Committee

12.14 The regional representatives should update the regional directories annually.

Directed to the Secretariat

12.15 The Secretariat shall place the regional directories on the CITES website.

Materials for Plants Committee members

Directed to the Secretariat

12.16 The Secretariat shall provide materials regarding CITES procedures to the new members and alternate members in the Plants Committee, and a general introduction concerning the operation of the Plants Committee, at its first meeting after the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Work programme of the Nomenclature Committee

Directed to the Nomenclature Committee

11.119¹ The Nomenclature Committee shall:

- a) maintain and update the databases from which the orchid checklists were generated, to facilitate publication of updates to these lists as required by the Parties. In addition, all of the databases require work to enable them to be made available in electronic form to the Parties. The most work required is for the upgrade to the Cactus Checklist database. The key databases should be converted and maintained at a level to allow printing 'on demand' for future publications; and
- b) at the same time, CD-ROMs should be developed and searchable checklists should be established on the World Wide Web. It is beyond the scope of the nomenclature programme to fund such projects fully. It is hoped that the provision of limited seed funding will encourage organizations and institutions to develop, host and maintain Web sites and transfer checklists to CD-ROMs.

Establishment of an Export Quota Working Group

Directed to the Standing Committee

12.17 a) The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional Export Quota Working Group with the goal of developing guidelines for Parties to establish, implement, monitor and report national export quotas for CITES-listed taxa. The Standing Committee shall consult extensively with the Animals and Plants Committees to fulfil the following Terms of Reference.

¹ The original paragraph a) was deleted after the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- b) The Terms of Reference of the working group should include the following:
- i) particular issues to be addressed should include the problems identified in Annex 2 of document CoP12 Doc. 50.2 and additional suggestions or submissions from the Parties;
 - ii) representatives with expertise in this issue, particularly from Parties with export quotas and from key importing countries, should be invited to participate. The Secretariat shall be invited to participate in discussions. The Chairman of the Working Group may invite representatives of non-governmental or intergovernmental organizations with particular expertise in this issue to participate in the Working Group;
 - iii) an interim report by the Working Group to the Standing Committee on its progress toward achievement of its goals should be completed by 31 March 2004; and
 - iv) a final report, which may include a draft resolution(s) or decision(s) of the Conference of the Parties, should be submitted by the Working Group to the Standing Committee for consideration at its last meeting before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee shall submit it to the Conference for consideration at that meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.18 The Secretariat shall seek funding for a meeting of the Export Quota Working Group.

Bushmeat Working Group

- 12.19 The Bushmeat Working Group shall be maintained with its current balance of membership and approximate size until the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and shall continue, using external funding, to examine issues raised by the trade in bushmeat and to implement its action plan, with a view to proposing solutions.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.20 The Secretariat shall continue to facilitate and overview the work of the Bushmeat Working Group and shall report on its activities at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group

- 12.21
- a) The *Swietenia macrophylla* Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group shall be maintained.
 - b) The Secretariat shall reconvene the Working Group, subject to the availability of external funding.
 - c) The Working Group shall discuss the capacities needed for the implementation of the Appendix-II listing of *Swietenia macrophylla*, related to sustainable harvest and scientifically based non-detriment findings and shall review the recommendations contained in Annex 3 to these Decisions.

- d) This Working Group shall report to the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting.

Economic incentives and trade policy

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.22 The Secretariat should, contingent on the availability of external funding and in collaboration with the Parties that wish to participate and with CBD, FAO, Fauna and Flora International, ICTSD, IFC, IUCN, OECD, TRAFFIC, UNEP-ETB, UNCTAD-BIOTRADE, the World Resources Institute, the World Bank and WTO:
- a) organize a technical workshop on wildlife trade policies and economic incentives applicable to the management of and trade in CITES-listed species, in particular in order to develop a methodology to review those policies and to make targeted recommendations on the use of those incentives;
 - b) report at the 49th meeting of the Standing Committee the findings and recommendations of the workshop;
 - c) invite Parties to inform the Secretariat, on the basis of the results of the workshop, if they wish to be included in the trade policy review;
 - d) conduct, in cooperation with the Parties, a review of their national policy regarding the use of and trade in CITES-listed species, taking into account economic incentives, production systems, consumption patterns, market access strategies, price structures, certification schemes, CITES-relevant taxation and subsidy schemes, property rights, mechanisms for benefit sharing and reinvestment in conservation, as well as stricter domestic measures that Parties apply or are affected by;
 - e) compile and synthesize the information provided by the Parties, and produce a report analysing the economic impacts of wildlife trade policies in terms of socio-economic and conservation benefits and costs, economic value, levels of legal and illegal trade, improvement of the livelihood of local communities, and the role of the private sector involved in wildlife trade;
 - f) report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made with regard to the implementation of this Decision; and
 - g) prepare and submit a project proposal to the Global Environment Facility, and other funding institutions and development agencies, to seek financial support to prepare the trade-policy reviews in the selected countries, in the context of their national and regional strategies for biodiversity conservation.

Technical implementation issues

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.23 The Standing Committee shall:
- a) identify, in conjunction with the Animals and Plants Committees, the typical categories of technical implementation issues (i.e. operational / administrative / management issues, not matters of a Party's compliance with the Convention) that have proved to be difficult to address under existing Committee structures;

- b) establish and implement a process for the Standing Committee to act as a clearing house to direct technical implementation issues to the appropriate body (permanent committees, Secretariat, Party or, when appropriate, outside experts) so that issues can be handled in a flexible, timely and accountable manner; and
- c) report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the categories of technical implementation issues identified by the permanent committees, development of a process for the Standing Committee to act as clearing house, and recommendations.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 12.24 The Animals and Plants Committees shall:
- a) continue to work on technical implementation issues of a primarily scientific nature;
 - b) develop recommendations on how the Committees could assist the Standing Committee in providing advice on technical implementation issues; and
 - c) report to the Standing Committee by its 50th meeting.

Financing of the conservation of and sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora

Directed to Parties

- 12.25 The Parties and observers are invited to provide to the Secretariat information on best-practice methods for the financing the conservation of species of wild fauna and flora as well as capacity building for developing countries / countries with economies in transition with a view to furthering *inter alia* the implementation of the Convention at the national level as well as sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora as may be appropriate; such methods include but are not limited to conservation trust funds, government budgetary allocations where possible, user fees, taxes and fines, subsidies and compensation programmes, private sector partnerships, international donor aid, and other innovative approaches as may be relevant.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.129 To ensure maximum use of available funds, especially the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Secretariat, in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, shall approach the Secretariat of GEF to determine which projects for the sustainable management of species of wild fauna and flora included in the Appendices of CITES are eligible for financing from GEF.
- 12.26 The Secretariat shall review, depending on the availability of financial resources, existing and innovative mechanisms to finance the conservation of species of wild fauna and flora as well as capacity building for developing countries / countries with economies in transition with a view to furthering *inter alia* the implementation of the Convention at the national level as well as sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora. In its review, to be carried out in consultation with relevant conventions, government bodies and aid and donor agencies, the Secretariat shall look at relevant trust funds, government budgetary allocations, user fees, taxes and fines, subsidies and compensation programmes, private sector partnerships, international donor aid, and other innovative approaches as may be relevant, and compare their usefulness and their potential for benefiting the conservation of CITES-listed species and capacity building for developing

countries / countries with economies in transition to ensure the full implementation of the Convention at the national level. The Secretariat shall present its analysis at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Bears

Directed to Parties

12.27 The Parties that did not report to the Secretariat by 31 July 2001 as required by Decision 11.43, and that are believed to be significant range and consumer States for bear and bear products – namely, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Finland, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam – should submit to the Secretariat by 31 July 2003 reports documenting the actions they have taken to implement Resolution Conf. 10.8 (Rev. CoP12) (Conservation of and trade in bears).

Directed to the Standing Committee

12.28 The Standing Committee shall include the international trade in bear parts and derivatives in the agenda of its 50th meeting with a view to identifying additional legislative and enforcement measures that may be necessary to stop illegal international trade in bears and bear parts and derivatives, drawing upon the information received by the Secretariat pursuant to Decision 12.27.

Asian big cats

Directed to Parties

12.29 Every consumer and range State Party that seizes a significant illegal shipment of Asian big cat parts or derivatives, and any Party that intercepts such a shipment should communicate the details of such actions to each country of origin, export or re-export that can be determined and, in every case, to the Secretariat. Any country so advised, should conduct an appropriate investigation and report the result to the State of seizure and to the Secretariat.

12.30 Each range State Party should consider ways in which local communities might be encouraged to play a part in, and benefit from, the conservation of Asian big cats and their habitats, for example through eco-tourism. Each range State should prepare a report on its approach to this matter for the 49th meeting of the Standing Committee, so that concepts and initiatives can be shared among relevant Parties.

Directed to the Standing Committee

12.31 The Standing Committee shall continue to review the progress in range and consumer States that were earlier subject to CITES Technical and Political Tiger Missions to ensure that recommendations made by the Missions continue to be implemented.

12.32 The Standing Committee shall report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties upon the progress made by the range and consumer States of Asian big cat species. The report may contain recommendations regarding appropriate measures where no progress has been made.

Elephants – Conditions for the disposal of ivory stocks and generating resources for conservation in African elephant range States

- 10.2
(Rev. CoP11)
- a) The African elephant range States recognize:
 - i) the threats that stockpiles pose to sustainable legal trade;
 - ii) that stockpiles are a vital economic resource for them;
 - iii) that various funding commitments were made by donor countries and agencies to offset the loss of assets in the interest of unifying these States regarding the inclusion of African elephant populations in Appendix I;
 - iv) the significance of channelling such assets from ivory into improving conservation and community-based conservation and development programmes;
 - v) the failure of donors to fund elephant conservation action plans drawn up by the range States at the urging of donor countries and conservation organizations; and
 - vi) that, at its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties directed the Standing Committee to review the issue of stockpiles and to report back at the 10th meeting.
 - b) Accordingly, the African elephant range States agree that all revenues from any purchase of stockpiles by donor countries and organizations will be deposited in and managed through conservation trust funds, and that:
 - i) such funds shall be managed by Boards of Trustees (such as representatives of governments, donors, the CITES Secretariat, etc.) set up, as appropriate, in each range State, which would direct the proceeds into enhanced conservation, monitoring, capacity building and local community-based programmes; and
 - ii) these funds must have a positive rather than harmful influence on elephant conservation.
 - c) It is understood that this decision provides for a one-off purchase for non-commercial purposes of government stocks declared by African elephant range States to the CITES Secretariat within the 90-day period before the transfer to Appendix II of certain populations of the African elephant takes effect. The ivory stocks declared should be marked in accordance with the ivory marking system approved by the Conference of the Parties in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12¹). In addition, the source of ivory stocks should be given. The stocks of ivory should be consolidated in a pre-determined number of locations. An independent audit of any declared stocks shall be undertaken under the auspices of TRAFFIC International, in cooperation with the CITES Secretariat.
 - d) The African elephant range States that have not yet been able to register their ivory stocks and develop adequate controls over ivory stocks require priority assistance from donor countries to establish a level of conservation management conducive to the long-term survival of the African elephant.
 - e) The African elephant range States therefore urge that this matter be acted upon urgently since any delays will result in illegal trade and the premature opening of ivory trade in non-proponent range States.

¹ Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly referred to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev.).

- f) This mechanism only applies to those range States wishing to dispose of ivory stocks and agreeing to and participating in:
 - i) an international system for reporting and monitoring legal and illegal international trade, through an international database in the CITES Secretariat and TRAFFIC International; and
 - ii) an international system for reporting and monitoring illegal trade and illegal hunting within or between elephant range States, through an international database in the CITES Secretariat, with support from TRAFFIC International and institutions such as the IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group and the Lusaka Agreement.

Elephants – Monitoring of the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.33 By its 49th meeting, the Standing Committee, in consultation with the MIKE Central Coordinating Unit and IUCN should define the geographical scope and the nature of the data that constitute the baseline information from MIKE that must be provided before any exports can be approved.
- 12.34 The Standing Committee shall determine how it would conclude that a detrimental impact on other elephant populations had occurred as a result of approved trade in ivory.
- 12.35 By its 49th meeting, the Standing Committee is encouraged to recommend measures for improving law enforcement coordination between ivory producing and ivory importing States.

Elephants – Control of internal ivory trade

Directed to Parties, donors and organizations

- 12.36 Parties, donors and organizations are requested to provide urgent financial and technical support to strengthen the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12) regarding control of internal ivory trade in elephant range States for, *inter alia*:
 - a) building capacity for law enforcement within elephant range States;
 - b) improving public awareness of the conservation impacts from unregulated national trade in ivory;
 - c) improving coordination and cooperation amongst national law enforcement agencies;
 - d) registering and marking raw ivory in public and private possession, and registering and licensing all importers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers dealing in raw, semi-worked or worked ivory products;
 - e) introducing recording and inspection procedures as part of a system of comprehensive and compulsory national trade controls; and
 - f) urgently strengthening provisions in their national legislation concerning the regulation of internal ivory markets and the implementation of CITES in general where necessary.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.37 The Standing Committee, at its 50th meeting, shall review the work conducted by the Secretariat and the Parties to comply with Decision 12.39 and shall consider whether additional measures are appropriate. In the case of non-compliance these may include recommendations to restrict the commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species to or from the Parties concerned.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.38 The Secretariat shall assist range States as outlined in Decision 12.36 paragraphs a) to f).
- 12.39 a) Contingent on the availability of funding, the Secretariat shall assess whether countries with currently active internal ivory markets (i.e. Cameroon, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Japan, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda and the United States of America) have established the comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures specified in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12) regarding compliance with control of internal trade.
- b) Where such assessments demonstrate that a Party does not have adequate measures, the Secretariat shall seek from that Party an action plan that is an outline of its programme to adopt measures to enable it to adequately regulate trade in ivory. The purpose of such a plan is to establish and commit to a timeframe for developing, approving, enacting and implementing such measures. The Secretariat shall provide technical assistance in the development of such plans.

Musk deer

Directed to Parties

- 11.57 Parties that authorize export of raw musk should consider reductions in their export quotas, if biologically appropriate, until the Animals Committee has completed its consideration of musk deer in the Review of Significant Trade.

Tibetan antelope

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.40 Subject to available funding, the Secretariat shall undertake an enforcement-needs assessment mission to China to provide technical assistance regarding anti-poaching issues and combating the smuggling of wool, and organize a workshop in China to provide training for enforcement personnel involved in anti-poaching and anti-smuggling of Tibetan antelope wool in 2003.

Tortoises and freshwater turtles

Directed to Parties

- 12.41 All Parties that authorize commercial trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles should submit a report, according to an agreed format, to the Secretariat at least six months before the 13th meeting of the Conference of Parties, detailing progress in implementing the recommendations contained in Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP12) on conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.42 The Secretariat shall develop a standard format for these reports, evaluate the reports, as well as any information it has received, and submit a written summary of these for consideration at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Pancake tortoise

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.43 The Animals Committee, particularly its working group on tortoises and freshwater turtles, shall, before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the Management and Scientific Authorities of the known range States of *Malacochersus tornieri* (pancake tortoise):
- a) review the biology, genetic variability, conservation status and distribution of this species in the wild;
 - b) assess the current production systems of this species with the aim of advising on adequate control, management and monitoring practices;
 - c) consider appropriate identification and marking systems for specimens in trade and for breeding stocks in captivity in the range States; and
 - d) advise on training and capacity-building needs to manage and control the trade in this species.

Hawksbill turtle

Directed to Parties

- 12.44 States and territories in the wider Caribbean region should:
- a) develop further a collaborative regional conservation strategy, based on the outline of a strategic plan provided in Annex 4 to these Decisions, to enhance the conservation status of hawksbill turtles and, where appropriate, other marine turtles within the wider Caribbean;
 - b) implement the strategy through the development and implementation of national management plans;
 - c) adopt and implement standard protocols for the monitoring, at recommended and agreed index sites, of populations of nesting and foraging hawksbill turtles and that similar efforts should be made to monitor legal harvests, by-catch in other fisheries and illegal take;

- d) implement measures to reduce illegal catch and illegal trade in hawksbill turtles and parts and derivatives thereof, including measures to improve the control of stocks of hawksbill turtle parts and derivatives by identifying, marking, registering and securing all such stockpiles; and
- e) report on progress with the implementation of the regional conservation strategy and national management plans at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

***Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations,
international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations***

- 12.45 Governments and intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide funds to enable the implementation of the Caribbean regional hawksbill strategy and to support the regional dialogue process.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.46 The Secretariat shall, subject to funding and before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, arrange at least one meeting of the wider Caribbean region on the hawksbill turtle in order to facilitate regional collaboration, planning and information exchange, as well as collaboration with other bodies and multilateral agreements with a mandate concerning the conservation and management of this species in the wider Caribbean region.

Sharks

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.47 The Chairman of the Animals Committee shall maintain the liaison established with the Secretary of the Committee on Fisheries of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, to monitor the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks). The Chairman of the Animals Committee shall report on progress with the implementation of IPOA-Sharks at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.151 The Secretariat shall continue to liaise with the World Customs Organization to promote the establishment and use of specific headings within the standard tariff classifications of the Harmonized System to discriminate between shark meat, fins, leather, cartilage and other products.
- 12.48 The Secretariat shall transmit to FAO the concerns of the Conference of the Parties regarding the lack of progress in implementing the IPOA-Sharks, and urge FAO to take steps to encourage the implementation of the IPOA-Sharks by States and regional fisheries management organizations.
- 12.49 The Secretariat shall encourage CITES authorities of Parties to obtain information on IPOA-Sharks implementation from their national fisheries departments and report on progress at future meetings of the Animals Committee.

Sturgeons

Directed to Parties

- 12.50 When developing regional conservation strategies and action plans, range States of sturgeons in the Eurasian region should take into account the recommendations in document CoP12 Doc. 42.1.
- 12.51 From 1 January 2004, importing countries should not accept shipments of caviar unless they are marked in accordance with the universal labelling system outlined in Annexes 1 and 2 of Resolution Conf. 12.7 on conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.52 In consultation with the Parties and other relevant entities, the Secretariat shall explore the possibility of establishing a clearing-house mechanism for information regarding all permits issued for international trade in caviar to assist in the control of illegal trade and report its findings to the Standing Committee before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Seahorses and other members of the family Syngnathidae

Directed to Parties

- 12.53
- a) Parties are encouraged, where domestic legislation bans fishing of and trade in species listed in the Appendices, as a matter of priority, to allow sustainable trade in specimens of *Hippocampus* species under the provisions of the Convention;
 - b) Parties are encouraged to explore the benefits of trade certification options offered by independent organizations; and
 - c) CITES Management Authorities are requested to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation regarding management of *Hippocampus* species with appropriate fisheries agencies.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.54 The Animals Committee shall identify a minimum size limit for specimens of all *Hippocampus* species in trade as one component of an adaptive management plan, and as a simple precautionary means of making initial non-detriment findings in accordance with Article IV of the Convention.

Directed to the Nomenclature Committee

- 12.55 The Nomenclature Committee shall propose a standard taxonomy for species in the genus *Hippocampus*.

Directed to the World Customs Organization

- 12.56 The World Customs Organization is invited to develop harmonized codes for live seahorses, dried seahorses, live pipefishes (and pipehorses), and dried pipefishes (and pipehorses).

Trade in toothfish

Directed to Parties

- 12.57 Parties should, by the end of 2003, report to the Secretariat their use of the *Dissostichus* Catch Document used by CCAMLR, and their verification requirements for such Catch Documents.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.58 The Secretariat shall compile the information on the use of and verification requirements for *Dissostichus* Catch Documents provided by Parties and send this information to CITES Parties and to CCAMLR yearly, and report on this at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 12.59 The Secretariat shall invite CCAMLR to consider, at its 22nd Commission meeting, how further cooperation between CITES and CCAMLR could be progressed.

Sea cucumbers

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.60 The Animals Committee shall:
- a) review, with the assistance of experts as may be needed, the outcomes of the technical workshop convened by the Secretariat and other available information concerning the biology, catch and bycatch of and trade in sea cucumbers in the families Holothuridae and Stichopodidae and develop appropriate recommendations; and
 - b) prepare, for consideration at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a discussion paper on the biological and trade status of sea cucumbers in the above families to provide scientific guidance on the actions needed to secure their conservation status.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.61 The Secretariat shall:
- a) assist in obtaining funds from interested Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, exporters, importers and other stakeholders, to support a technical workshop of relevant experts on the conservation of sea cucumbers in the families Holothuridae and Stichopodidae;
 - b) contingent on the availability of external funding, cooperate with other relevant bodies, including the fisheries sector, to convene a technical workshop to consider and review biological and trade information that would assist in establishing conservation priorities and actions to secure the conservation status of sea cucumbers in these families; and
 - c) contract the preparation of a document for discussion at the technical workshop. This document should contain all relevant available information concerning the status, catches and bycatches of, and trade in specimens of species in the families Holothuridae and Stichopodidae and on any domestic measures for their conservation and protection, and a review of the adequacy of such measures.

Stony corals

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.62 The Animals Committee shall consider and recommend a practical means of distinguishing fossilized corals from non-fossilized corals in international trade, and provide a report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Trade in plants

Directed to Parties

- 9.21 The Parties should carefully check material in trade in order to improve enforcement and in particular check plants declared to have been artificially propagated, both on import and on export.
- 9.22 Management Authorities should supply to the CITES Secretariat information on nurseries involved in the export of CITES-listed plants, in order to facilitate implementation of CITES for plants.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.34 The attempts to effect a more constructive collaboration with the International Tropical Timber Organization shall be continued.
- 9.35 The Parties shall be notified when any Party confirms that it issues phytosanitary certificates for export of artificially propagated plants of Appendix-II species.
- 9.36 Information provided by the Parties on nurseries involved in the CITES export trade in the major source countries shall be compiled and a directory of this information shall be published.
- 9.38¹
(Rev. CoP11) Arrangements shall be made for the following activities:
- a) a review of the levels of trade in Appendix-I cycads in the family Zamiaceae, i.e. the genera *Ceratozamia*, *Encephalartos* and *Microcycas*; and
 - b) an investigation of the international trade in aloe products including an assessment of the impact on wild populations and methods of improving trade controls.

***Harpagophytum* species**

Directed to Parties

- 12.63 Range States of *Harpagophytum* species that authorize the export of specimens of these species should provide an update on implementation of the policies and management programmes mentioned in the reports submitted in fulfilment of Decision 11.63 (cf. document PC12 Doc. 8.1) for consideration by the Plants Committee at its 14th meeting. Reports on progress with the implementation of this decision should be provided to the Secretariat 90 days before the 14th meeting of the Plants Committee for inclusion by the Secretariat in a report to that meeting.

¹ The original paragraphs a) to c) were deleted following the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- 12.64 Range States and importing States should negotiate with the devil's claw industry to obtain support for management programmes that promote sustainable use and the development of communities that are managing the resource. Assistance in this regard could, if necessary, be requested from the Plants Committee and the Secretariat. Reports on progress with the implementation of this decision should be provided to the Secretariat 90 days before the 14th meeting of the Plants Committee for inclusion by the Secretariat in a report to that meeting.
- 12.65 Range States should explore how processes and mechanisms in other international treaties can be used to provide support for sustainable resource use and fair trade, and should request the CITES Secretariat to provide assistance if required. Reports on progress with the implementation of this decision should be provided to the Secretariat 90 days before the 14th meeting of the Plants Committee for inclusion by the Secretariat in a report to that meeting.

Aquilaria species

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 12.66 The DNA work currently being undertaken by the National Herbarium of the Netherlands under contract with the Secretariat should continue and should be aimed at investigating the options for the development of identification tools based on molecular analysis.
- 12.67 More detailed information on the distribution of species should be compiled and assessed as an aid to better trade reporting, using point-of-origin data.
- 12.68 As the trade is in the readily identifiable product of agarwood, studies should include all known agarwood-producing taxa and not only the CITES-listed species *A. malaccensis*.
- 12.69 IUCN should be invited to re-evaluate the threatened status of all agarwood-producing taxa according to the 2000 IUCN criteria.
- 12.70 A standard method for determining the population status of CITES-listed agarwood-producing taxa should be developed to assist Scientific Authorities in advising that exports will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in compliance with Article IV of the Convention. Such a standard method could be used to verify populations across all agarwood-producing areas, and allow not only the setting of appropriate quotas but also the verification of species being harvested.
- 12.71 Further field research should be conducted on trade dynamics, including in the major import and re-exporting States and territories (Japan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, province of China, and the United Arab Emirates).

Guaiacum species

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 11.114 (Rev. CoP12) The Plants Committee shall assess the status of *Guaiacum* species in the wild, the status in trade and threats to the species.

Management of annual export quotas

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.72 The Standing Committee shall consider the issue of improving the management of annual export quotas, and report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Review of Significant Trade

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 12.73 The review of plants in Madagascar shall be conducted by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (the Scientific Authority for plants of the United Kingdom). The Royal Botanic Gardens is recommended to undertake a workshop in Madagascar, if possible, to discuss the results of the review.
- 12.74 In the period following the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the following taxa shall be reviewed: *Prunus africana*, *Aquilaria malaccensis*, *Pericopsis elata* and *Aloe* species from East Africa used as extracts.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.33 IUCN shall be contracted to coordinate, in collaboration with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the conduct of the field studies required for Appendix-II species identified by the Animals Committee as being subject to significant levels of trade, and to raise the funds necessary for such studies.

Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

- 12.75 The Animals and Plants Committees shall draft terms of reference for an evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade, to be considered at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

CITES permits and certificates

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.29 Practical support in the printing of permits and certificates with adequate security guarantees shall be given to those Parties that request it.
- 9.30 When external funding is available, permit and certificate forms shall be printed on security paper for those Parties requesting it.
- 12.76 The Secretariat shall study and evaluate the possibility of creating a future centralized system that would allow the establishment of a communications network through the CITES website that would make it possible to check the authenticity and veracity of permits and certificates issued and received by each of the Parties.

Issuance of permits

Directed to Parties

- 9.6 The Parties should not issue permits for pre-Convention stocks, except for export to countries having become Parties to the Convention after the date of entry into force of the Convention in the issuing country or for export to States not party to the Convention.
- 9.7 The Parties should verify the origin and the species of specimens for which they issue export permits, in order to avoid permits being issued for specimens of Appendix-I species when the transaction is for primarily commercial purposes and no import permit has been previously issued.
- 9.8 The Parties should be particularly vigilant regarding the issuance of documents for very valuable specimens and specimens of species included in Appendix I.
- 9.9 To avoid abusive or fraudulent use, the Parties should not use forms for their internal-trade certificates that are identical to CITES forms.

Acceptance of permits

Directed to Parties

- 9.10 The Parties should check with the Secretariat when they have doubts about the validity of permits accompanying suspect shipments.
- 9.11 The Parties should ask for the Secretariat's advice before accepting the import of live specimens of Appendix-I species declared as bred in captivity.

Use of CITES certificates with ATA or TIR carnets

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.77 The Standing Committee shall, in consultation with other relevant conventions and organizations, namely the World Customs Organization, ATA and TIR, examine the procedures and conditions for a CITES certificate becoming an annex to an ATA or TIR carnet, on the basis of document CoP12 Doc. 52.2 presented at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Control and checking of shipments of CITES specimens

Directed to Parties

- 10.30 In order to improve enforcement, Parties should take the necessary measures to develop a comprehensive strategy for border controls, audits and investigations, by:
- a) taking into account the different procedures for Customs clearance of goods and Customs procedures such as transit, temporary admission, warehouse storage, etc.;

- b) ensuring that officers in charge of control are aware of and trained in CITES matters regarding, for example, CITES requirements, identification of specimens and the handling of live animals;
- c) implementing document control in order to ensure the authenticity and validity of CITES permits and certificates, especially, if necessary, by requesting the Secretariat to confirm their validity;
- d) conducting physical examination of goods, based on a policy of risk assessment and targeting;
- e) increasing the quality of controls at the time of export and re-export; and
- f) providing the necessary resources in order to reach these objectives.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 10.118 The Secretariat shall cooperate with the World Customs Organization, ICPO-Interpol and competent national authorities to:
- a) prepare and distribute appropriate training material; and
 - b) facilitate the exchange of technical information between the authorities in charge of border controls.

Illegal trade

Directed to Parties

- 9.12 When a Party is presented with a false document, it should do everything in its power to find out where the specimens are and where the false document originated.
- 9.13 When a Party is informed by the Secretariat of the fraudulent use of documents issued by that Party, it should carry out an inquiry to identify the instigators of the crime, calling on ICPO-Interpol where necessary.
- 9.14 When specimens are seized, the Parties concerned should do all they can to identify and convict those responsible.

Reports on alleged infractions and other implementation problems

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.31 Separate reports on infractions shall be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at each regular meeting.

Violations of the Convention by diplomats and troops serving under the flag of the United Nations

Directed to Parties

- 9.15 The Parties are urged to remind their diplomatic missions, their delegates on mission in foreign countries and their troops serving under the flag of the United Nations that they are not exempted from the provisions of the Convention.

Operations that breed Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 11.102 (Rev. CoP12) The Animals Committee shall continue to examine the complex issues related to the origin of founder breeding stock and the relationship between *ex situ* breeding operations and *in situ* conservation of the species and, in collaboration with the Plants Committee, the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, identify possible strategies and other mechanisms by which registered *ex situ* breeding operations may contribute to enhancing the recovery and/or conservation of the species within the countries of origin, and report its findings at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 12.78 The Animals Committee shall study and evaluate the process for registering operations that breed Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes and report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It shall:
- a) describe and analyse the specific problems that limit the wider use of the registration procedure;
 - b) provide recommendations to resolve those problems; and
 - c) study and evaluate how commercial captive breeding of Appendix-I species and the process for registration of breeding operations contributes to conservation of Appendix-I species.

Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.79 The Secretariat shall develop a brochure that will illustrate the importance of registering scientific institutions under Article VII, paragraph 6, of the Convention and demonstrate how the registration procedures can be applied in a simplified manner.

National laws for implementation of the Convention

Directed to Parties

- 11.20 All Parties referred to in Annex 5 to these Decisions¹ should provide to the Secretariat copies of all relevant new legislation and, where applicable, a translation of this legislation into one of the three working languages of the Convention.
- 12.80 a) Parties and overseas territories identified in Decision 11.17² should submit a "CITES Legislation Plan" to the Secretariat by 31 March 2003.
- b) The CITES Legislation Plan should include the agreed steps needed for each Party to adopt adequate legislation by 30 June 2004. It should specify the entire legislative process from the date the proposed legislation is drafted until the date it is signed, published in the official gazette and sent to the Secretariat in one of the working languages of the Convention. It should include:
- i) the legal form of enactment (legislative or regulatory);
 - ii) the precise scope and content of the proposed legislation;
 - iii) the schedule for transmittal of the draft legislation to the Secretariat for comments;
 - iv) the legislative and administrative steps that must be taken to adopt the legislation; and
 - v) the time in which the Party can achieve the proposed form of enactment in accordance with its own legal system (time-frames for initiating and completing each stage of the law-making process).
- c) Parties that are preparing national legislation to fulfil the requirements of the Convention may request technical assistance from the Secretariat.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.81 With respect to Parties referred to in Decision 12.80 that have not complied with paragraph a), the Standing Committee shall consider appropriate measures, which may include restrictions on the commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species to or from such Parties.
- 12.82 The Standing Committee shall adjust the deadlines for enactment of legislation agreed at its 46th meeting to allow affected Parties that are making good legislative progress additional time in which to complete the legislative process.

¹ Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly indicated Parties referred to in Decisions 11.15 to 11.19.

² Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Cambodia, Dominica, Georgia, Latvia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Swaziland, Uzbekistan and three overseas territories, namely Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena and Dependencies, and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. [A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)].

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.83 The Secretariat shall:
- a) consider the information on specific legislative measures adopted by the Parties to fulfil the requirements laid down in the text of the Convention and the Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties and amend the analyses of national legislation and the categories according to the criteria stated in Resolution Conf. 8.4;
 - b) advise the Parties concerned of any amendments to the analyses of their legislation and to their categories, specifying in the case of legislation in Categories 2 and 3 the requirements that are not yet met;
 - c) provide technical assistance to Parties requesting advice in the formulation of legislative proposals for CITES implementation by providing, to the extent resources are available:
 - i) legal guidance in the preparation of necessary legislative measures;
 - ii) training of CITES authorities and other relevant bodies responsible for the formulation of wildlife trade policies or legislation; and
 - iii) any specific support relevant to the fulfilment of the legislative requirements for the implementation of CITES;
 - d) report to the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in enacting legislation and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures, including suspension of trade pursuant to the decisions taken at the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee (see Annex 5 to these Decisions);
 - e) identify for the Standing Committee any countries that require attention as a priority under the National Legislation Project; and
 - f) report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on:
 - i) the legislation adopted by the Parties to implement the Convention and any recommendations relating to Parties that have not adopted adequate legislation for implementation of the Convention; and
 - ii) any progress concerning technical assistance provided to the Parties in the development of their national legislation for implementation of CITES.

Compliance with the Convention

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.84 On the basis of document CoP12 Doc. 26 and related discussions during the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat shall draft a set of Guidelines on Compliance with the Convention for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 49th meeting.

Transport of live animals

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 12.85 The Animals Committee, in collaboration with interested non-governmental organizations and the Secretariat, should:
- a) develop recommendations regarding transport of live animals by road, rail or ship to supplement, where necessary, the IATA Live Animals Regulations;
 - b) investigate cost-effective options for containers and packing materials that could be recommended for adoption in the IATA Live Animals Regulations;
 - c) assist in identifying model practices concerning the transport and preparation for shipment of live wild animals, and develop recommendations to the Parties regarding the proper handling and transportation of live animals, particularly in exporting countries; and
 - d) report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress with the implementation of paragraphs a) to c) above.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.86 The Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Animals Committee, liaise with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) with a view to concluding a Memorandum of Understanding in order to:
- a) strengthen further collaboration in order to improve transport conditions of live animals;
 - b) establish an official training programme on animal transport; and
 - c) facilitate the exchange of technical information relevant to animal transport, between the Secretariat, the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Boards and the WAZA Executive Office.

Reporting requirements

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.87
- a) The Standing Committee shall undertake a review of the reporting requirements under the Convention with a view to identifying and analysing the causes of non-compliance with those requirements and proposing ways to turn reporting requirements into useful management tools for Parties.
 - b) The review shall consider the:
 - i) various reporting requirements under the Convention and Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties (e.g. annual reports, biennial reports, special reports, etc.);
 - ii) feasibility and desirability of undertaking analyses of Parties' capacity to produce complete, accurate and timely reports;
 - iii) possible inclusion of CITES reports in broader biodiversity or state-of-the-environment reports;
 - iv) experience of other conventions in facilitating Parties' compliance with reporting requirements;

- v) sufficiency of the existing Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports;
 - vi) actions needed to make better use of CITES data through graphic review tools, building on the report on *CITES trade data: an under-utilized wildlife resource*, and to develop the searchability of such data on the CITES website;
 - vii) desirability and feasibility of producing an International Yearbook of Wildlife Trade;
 - viii) work of the Standing Committee related to information management systems;
 - ix) additional financial or technical assistance that might facilitate reporting;
 - x) implications of technological developments such as electronic permitting;
 - xi) desirability and feasibility of a coordinated global system for the issuance and monitoring of CITES permits and certificates;
 - xii) accessibility of annual reports;
 - xiii) consequences of persistent late or non-submission of reports, despite assistance;
 - xiv) possible need to revise or draft relevant resolutions of the Conference of the Parties;
 - xv) necessary funding from the CITES Trust Fund or external sources that would be required to implement actions that are proposed; and
 - xvi) most cost effective measures required to implement these matters.
- c) The review shall include the following terms of reference relevant to biennial reports:
- i) to clarify the purpose and usefulness of biennial reports, especially in relation to annual reports, the submission of biennial reports by Parties with Category 1 legislation under the National Legislation Project and various special reports under the Convention;
 - ii) to assess the need to enhance the use of biennial reports as a means for Parties to communicate implementation problems and possible solutions;
 - iii) to explore whether biennial reports could be thematic in nature and synchronized with special reports for the Conference of the Parties or subsidiary bodies to the Convention;
 - iv) to consider whether biennial reports could be harmonized with national reporting under other biodiversity-related conventions; and
 - v) to identify ways in which biennial reports could be standardized for easier analysis and comparison, including the adoption of guidelines and standard formats for their preparation and submission.
- d) The Standing Committee shall report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annual reports

Directed to Parties

- 11.37 From 1 January 2001, Parties should not authorize any trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any Party that the Standing Committee has determined has failed, without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention for three consecutive years within the deadline established in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP12)¹, or the extended deadline that is provided for in that Resolution.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 11.89 The Standing Committee shall, on the basis of reports presented by the Secretariat, determine which Parties have failed, without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention for three consecutive years within the deadline established in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP12)¹, or the extended deadline that is provided for in that Resolution.

Competent authorities of non-party States

Directed to the Secretariat

- 9.32 An updated list of competent authorities and scientific institutions containing only those authorities and institutions details of which were communicated by the State concerned less than two years previously shall be maintained and communicated at regular intervals to the Parties.

Communication

Directed to Parties

- 9.23 The Parties should carefully check the telexes and telefaxes they receive to confirm the validity of permits; they should ensure that the information that appears on the telexes and telefaxes, including the numbers, corresponds to that in the CITES Directory.

Sponsorship for attendance at meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.124 If the representative of a Party at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties is also an observer for a non-governmental organization, the Secretariat shall not provide sponsorship for that person through the Delegates' Project.

¹ Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly referred to Resolution Conf. 11.17.

Registration of observers at meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.125 Any body or agency that informs the Secretariat of its desire to be represented at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties and that wishes to be considered as an international agency or body in accordance with Article XI, paragraph 7 (a), should be registered by the Secretariat only if it demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Secretariat that it is:
- a) qualified in protection, conservation or management of wild fauna and flora:
and
 - b) an organization in its own right, with a legal persona and an international character, remit and programme of activities.
- 11.126 Rule 3, paragraph 5¹, of the Rules of the Procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties should be interpreted by the Secretariat such that it may not accept any additional names of observers of bodies and agencies (other than the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies) after the one-month deadline, and that it may not accept any changes in the names after this deadline except where a body or agency has registered no more than two observers before the deadline and the Secretariat is satisfied that the person whose name is to be replaced is prevented from attending through *force majeure*.

Contributions by observers at meetings of the Conference of the Parties

Directed to Parties

- 11.14 In selecting venues for future meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Parties should make every effort to ensure that the venues selected have space for observers on the floors of the halls for the plenary sessions, Committee I and Committee II².

Directed to the Chairmen of meetings of the Conference of the Parties and Chairmen of Committees I and II²

- 11.70 The Presiding Officers at plenary sessions, and sessions of Committee I and Committee II² should make every effort to allow observers time in the sessions to speak on issues (make interventions).
- 11.71 Recognizing that conservation of time, in order to complete the agenda for a meeting of the Conference of the Parties in the two-week period, is a valid concern, Presiding Officers should give observers a time limit for speaking if necessary and encourage observers not to be redundant in speaking on a particular issue.
- 11.73 When possible, Presiding Officers should invite knowledgeable observers to participate in working groups of Committee I and Committee II.

¹ Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly referred to paragraph 4.

² Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly referred also to the Budget Committee.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.127 The Secretariat and the host country of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties should make every effort to ensure that each approved observer is provided with at least one seat on the floor in the meeting rooms of the plenary sessions, Committee I and Committee II¹, unless one-third of the Party representatives present and voting object.
- 11.128 The Secretariat should make every effort to ensure that informative documents on the conservation and utilization of natural resources, prepared by observers for distribution at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties and approved by the Secretariat, are distributed to the participants in the meeting.

Communication of enforcement-related information

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.88 The Secretariat shall convene a meeting of experts, including representatives of the CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force, ICPO-Interpol and the World Customs Organization, to: identify measures to improve the flow of enforcement-related data to and from relevant international, regional and national law enforcement organizations, CITES Management Authorities and the CITES Secretariat; to assist the coordination of investigations regarding violations of the Convention; and to help maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality regarding law enforcement information.
- 12.89 The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the outcome of the meeting, so that recommendations may be made for consideration at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species

Directed to Parties

- 12.90 The Parties should seek funding in order to:
- a) assist the Secretariat in implementing its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
 - b) support exporting countries in their efforts to gather information needed to set quotas.

¹ Corrected by the Secretariat: formerly referred also to the Budget Committee.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.91 The Secretariat is encouraged to continue to develop and refine its capacity-building programme dealing with the scientific basis for development, establishment, and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, and shall, as appropriate, consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee on this programme. This consultation may include:
- a) solicitation of input from the Committees regarding materials used in the capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species; and
 - b) a request for new information from the Committees on methods used for establishing quotas and for relevant case studies on the establishment of quotas.
- 12.92 To facilitate the development and refinement of its capacity-building programme for voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, the Secretariat may invite Parties to provide new information regarding the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of such quotas, and regarding the most appropriate ways of disseminating relevant information to the Parties in a timely and cost-effective manner.
- 12.93 The Secretariat shall seek funding to:
- a) continue its capacity-building programme for the scientific basis for establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, and
 - b) support exporting countries in their efforts to gather information needed to set quotas.

Implementation of the Quito Declaration

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.170 The Secretariat shall:
- a) identify a coordinating mechanism to work jointly with UNEP/ROLAC and other multilateral environmental agreements to implement the Quito Declaration (Annex 6 to these Decisions); and
 - b) identify financial resources for the purpose of implementing the actions that derive from the Quito Declaration, especially those referring to:
 - i) organization of regional meetings, at least one regional meeting before each meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
 - ii) support for the different activities to be carried out by the regional representatives regarding CITES implementation.

Capacity building in the Oceania region

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.94 The Secretariat shall seek funding to convene a capacity-building workshop for the Oceania region before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in order to improve implementation of the Convention in the region and to encourage non-Parties to accede to the Convention. Subject to available funds, the Secretariat shall invite the Parties of the Oceania region, Party observers, non-party States, and regional intergovernmental and non-government organizations as may be appropriate.

Capacity building in Small Island Developing States

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.95 The Secretariat shall, in collaboration with Fiji, develop a capacity-building initiative to improve the implementation of the Convention in Fiji. This initiative shall seek to integrate existing initiatives carried out through the Secretariat to improve legislation and the scientific basis for non-detriment findings and, in collaboration with Parties of the Oceania region, importing Parties, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, provide direct assistance to Fiji to improve the administrative, legal and scientific basis for CITES implementation in Fiji. The Secretariat shall assist in obtaining funds from interested Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, exporters, importers and other stakeholders, to support this initiative.

Periodic review of the Appendices

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.96 The Standing Committee shall develop mechanisms to obtain greater involvement of the range States in the periodic review of the Appendices and provide guidance to reach a clear recommendation after the completion of the review.

Review of the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II

Directed to the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees

- 12.97 The Conference of the Parties adopted the following terms of reference for the review of the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II, to be completed by the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- a) The revised version of Annex 4 of document CoP12 Doc. 58 compiled by the Chairman of the Criteria Working Group (CWG) formed by Committee I during the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (the CWG12 Chairman's text) will form a basis for further discussion, in recognition of the substantial and constructive efforts contributed by the Parties, the intersessional Criteria Working Group set up at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, FAO, the Criteria Working Group formed during the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and others.

- b) The Animals and Plants Committees shall coordinate an open, transparent and broadly consultative process involving all Parties to consider further revision of the CWG12 Chairman's text.
- c) The process should include reviews of selected taxa, to ensure that the applicability of the criteria and guidelines to a broad array of taxa is assessed, and results of these reviews should be made widely available.
- d) The Animals and Plants Committees shall report to the Standing Committee before a date to be established by the Standing Committee.

Nomenclature of amphibian species

Directed to the Nomenclature Committee

11.120 The Nomenclature Committee shall review, for adoption, the standard reference Amphibian Species of the World, by D.R. Frost, printed out by the Secretariat seven months before each second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, starting with the 12th meeting.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 11.167 The Secretariat shall:
- a) make a print-out of the standard reference Amphibian Species of the World, by D.R. Frost, seven months before every second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, starting with the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and submit the print-out for review and adoption by the Nomenclature Committee;
 - b) after adoption of the printed version by the Nomenclature Committee, send a Notification to the Parties to announce the accepted standard reference for amphibians valid as from the date of distribution of the Notification, and with the Notification provide the pertinent pages regarding CITES-listed species of amphibians, either in a printed form or on a CD-ROM, whichever is most cost-effective; and
 - c) make allowance in its annual budget from 2004 onwards for distribution of the information specified in paragraph b).

Standard reference of Orchidaceae

Directed to the Secretariat

9.39 Each standard reference for Orchidaceae shall be made available to the Parties immediately after its completion.

Annotations for medicinal plants in the Appendices

Directed to the Plants Committee

11.118 (Rev. CoP12) The Plants Committee shall consider the annotations in Appendices I and II relating to species of plants used for medicinal purposes and shall make recommendations to clarify the annotations, for consideration at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Trade in alien species

Directed to Parties

10.54 The Parties should:

- a) recognize that non-indigenous species can pose significant threats to biodiversity, and that fauna and flora species in commercial trade are likely to be introduced to new habitat as a result of international trade;
- b) consider the problems of invasive species when developing national legislation and regulations that deal with the trade in live animals or plants;
- c) consult with the Management Authority of a proposed country of import, when possible and when applicable, when considering exports of potentially invasive species, to determine if there are domestic measures regulating such imports; and
- d) consider the opportunities for synergy between CITES and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and explore appropriate cooperation and collaboration between the two Conventions on the issue of introductions of alien (invasive) species.

Directed to the Animals Committee

10.76 Cooperation shall be established with the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group in the implementation of their document "IUCN Guidelines for the Prevention of Biodiversity Loss Due to Biological Invasion", of which parts are related to the trade in and transport of live specimens of species of wildlife.

Directed to the Plants Committee

10.86 Cooperation shall be established with the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group in the implementation of their document "IUCN Guidelines for the Prevention of Biodiversity Loss Due to Biological Invasion", of which parts are related to the trade in and transport of live specimens of species of wildlife.

Rescue of live specimens in special circumstances

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.98 The Standing Committee shall, at its 49th meeting, consider the recommendations prepared by the Secretariat following Decision 12.99 and, if they are acceptable, have them communicated to the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 12.99 The Secretariat shall examine the options available to Parties, and other relevant organizations, to facilitate the rescue and rehabilitation of specimens of CITES-listed species in special circumstances, such as periods of war or civil unrest, when a Party's designated Management Authority's ability to respond is seriously impaired. It should prepare recommendations that can be considered by the Standing Committee at its 49th meeting.

Secret ballots

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.100 The Standing Committee shall examine the general issue of secret ballots and in particular the question of whether secret ballots should be retained in the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and, if so, under what conditions. The Committee should review the way in which the use of secret ballots has been formulated in the Rules of Procedure and establish, to the extent possible, whether and when secret ballots have been used under other biodiversity-related conventions and global, multilateral environmental agreements, and report at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex 1

STRATEGIC VISION THROUGH 2005

Purpose

TO ENSURE THAT NO SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA OR FLORA BECOMES OR REMAINS SUBJECT TO UNSUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION BECAUSE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to improve the working of the Convention so that international trade in wild fauna and flora is increasingly and consistently conducted at sustainable levels. Where uncertainty remains as to whether trade is sustainable, the precautionary principle will prevail as the ultimate safeguard. However, a successful outcome of the implementation of the Strategic Plan will be a reduction in the need to bring the precautionary principle into play. The Strategic Plan confirms the recognition by the Parties that sustainable trade in wild fauna and flora can make a major contribution to securing the broader and not incompatible objectives of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. It also recognizes that the Convention must continue to ensure that proper trade mechanisms are put in place. These depend upon the availability of and access to reliable scientific data and to information generated by effective monitoring systems to counter over-exploitation. But information by itself is not enough and such trade mechanisms also require strong national capacity backed by good cooperation at national, regional and global levels. In order to achieve this purpose, seven goals have been identified as the key components of the Strategic Plan. It is important to realize that the successful achievement of Goal 7, allied to Goal 5, will greatly enhance the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 3 and 4. Securing a strong financial basis must therefore be given a major effort, without overlooking the importance of the other goals.

Introduction

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was signed on 3 March 1973. The Convention resulted from an expression of concern by the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden, concerning the rate at which the world's wild fauna and flora were being threatened by unregulated international trade. Drafts of what became the Washington Convention or CITES were sent to governments by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) in 1967, 1969 and 1971. The final draft, after review by governments, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and others, was discussed at a Plenipotentiary Conference in Washington, DC, United States of America. At its conclusion, 21 of the 80 countries represented at the Conference signed the Convention. The Convention entered into force, after ratification by 10 countries, on 1 July 1975.

In the intervening 25 years, the number of countries that have acceded to the Convention has continued to increase. With more than 150 Parties, CITES is widely regarded as one of the most important legal international conservation instruments. During this period, the Conference of the Parties has shown itself to be capable of adapting to changing circumstances and, through the adoption of Resolutions, has demonstrated an ability to construct practical solutions to increasingly complex wildlife trade problems. For example, the Parties have adopted 'ranching' and other control techniques such as annual quotas for managing the harvesting of some Appendix-I-listed species at levels that do not threaten their conservation status. In 1994 the Conference of the Parties identified the information requirements necessary to extend the ranching concept for specific application to marine turtles.

More recently, proposals to amend the Appendices to the Convention have become increasingly complex and sensitive. As a result, at its eighth meeting (Kyoto, 1992), the Conference of the Parties initiated a process to review the 'Bern Criteria' that had been in place since 1976 and were proving to be too general and inadequate. This resulted in the adoption of new and more objective criteria that are scientifically based to guide amendments to Appendices I and II. In adopting the new criteria, the Parties recognized the increasing acceptance by the international community to apply the precautionary principle to the decision-making process. Accordingly, its application is embraced in considerations involving the transfer of species from Appendix I to

Appendix II. When the new criteria were adopted in 1994, the Parties, as an expression of the need for a flexible approach to CITES implementation, agreed to incorporate a review process into the new criteria. This process has commenced and will strengthen the scientific basis of the decision-making process for amending the Appendices to the Convention.

At its ninth meeting (Fort Lauderdale, 1994), the Conference of the Parties commissioned a review of the Convention's effectiveness. The principal purposes of the review were to evaluate the extent to which the Convention had achieved its objectives and the progress made since CITES came into being and, most importantly, to identify deficiencies and requirements necessary to strengthen the Convention and help plan for the future. At its 10th meeting (Harare, 1997), the Conference agreed to an Action Plan for implementing certain findings and recommendations of the review. A central finding was the need for a strategic plan.

With this Strategic Plan, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention has mapped the Convention's direction as it enters the new millennium. The plan forms the basis for the Convention's participation in the wider international nature conservation arena as developed since the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and includes issues such as:

- stewardship of natural resources and their use at sustainable levels;
- safeguarding of wildlife as integral to the global ecosystem on which all life depends;
- need for deeper understanding of the cultural and economic issues at play in producer and consumer countries; and
- wider involvement of civic society in the development of conservation policies and practices.

Strategic Plan

This Plan presents the Convention's Strategic vision as it enters the new millennium. It clearly focuses on a limited number of priority goals and objectives deemed critical to meeting the Convention's purpose to ensure that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade. If actively pursued, this Plan will bring the Convention's purpose closer to reality by the year 2005.

GOAL 1: ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF EACH PARTY TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION

The effectiveness of the Convention depends on a coordinated process of implementation that guarantees, in the long term, the achievement by all Parties of the Convention's purpose and objectives outlined in this Strategic Plan. The need for a coordinated process has grown as the Convention faces up to trade issues involving species that often fall beyond the direct reach of the Management and Scientific Authorities. It is also recognized that for trade to be carried out in a responsible manner and based on sustainable use, social and economic incentives are needed to bring local communities and local authorities into partnership with government under an appropriate legislative, policy and financial framework.

Enhanced ability at the national level therefore means improving the following:

- organizational capacity and cooperation;
- policy formulation;
- community, local authority and government partnerships;
- direct benefit and revenue derivation;
- availability of information on which decisions are based;
- national legislation and law enforcement capability; and
- better accessibility and understanding of the Convention's requirements.

These improvements, in turn, should enable a better management of wild animals and plants, and thus reduce the need to include species in the CITES Appendices. It is also important to consider the potential of regional coordination and collaboration for national capacity-building

efforts. Finally, strong national and regional participation in the deliberations and implementation of the Convention can only be fully effective if the three working languages are given proper respect and equity.

Objective 1.1

To assist in the development of appropriate domestic legislation and policies that encourage the adoption and implementation of social and economic incentives allied to legal instruments that:

- promote and regulate sustainable management of wild fauna and flora;
- promote and regulate responsible trade in wild fauna and flora; and
- promote the effective enforcement of the Convention.

Objective 1.2

To strengthen the administrative, management and scientific capacity of Parties by improving the coordination between Management and Scientific Authorities and other national agencies responsible for wild animals and plants.

Objective 1.3

To strengthen the enforcement capacity of the Parties and to improve coordination among Management Authorities and other agencies (e.g. police, Customs and veterinary and phytosanitary services).

Objective 1.4

To facilitate development and use of appropriate technologies and information management systems that enhance and expedite the collection, submission and exchange of accurate information.

Objective 1.5

To encourage organizations capable of supporting the Convention to assist the Secretariat and Parties in building national information management capacities through training and other activities, and to facilitate improved access to and management of databases.

Objective 1.6

To ensure that all Parties have at least one designated Scientific Authority with experts in wild fauna and flora.

Objective 1.7

To improve the coordination between CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, and increase the effectiveness of the latter.

Objective 1.8

To encourage Parties to develop and implement effective management programmes for the conservation and recovery of species, so that the species will no longer satisfy the criteria for inclusion in the Appendices.

Objective 1.9

To encourage the proper funding of CITES implementation and enforcement by Parties, and the adoption of national mechanisms that have resource users make a greater contribution to such funding.

Objective 1.10

To use fully the potential of regional coordination and collaboration in capacity-building efforts.

Objective 1.11

To review and simplify, where possible, existing measures, procedures, mechanisms, and recommendations for the implementation of the Convention.

Objective 1.12

To ensure equity of the three working languages.

GOAL 2: STRENGTHEN THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

The work associated with effective implementation of the Convention entails not only the efficient conduct of business at meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its Committees, but also, and perhaps more importantly, the day-to-day implementation activities of Parties. While other factors may come into play in these arenas, they do not override the need for sound, scientifically-based decisions in all areas of the Convention's application and at all levels of its implementation. Increasingly, the Conference of the Parties is required to address and resolve difficult, complex scientific, trade and management issues involving species that are economically important resources. It is vital to ensure that the Convention's Appendices correctly reflect the conservation and management needs of species, and that decisions regarding these Appendices are grounded in sound scientific information. This view was reaffirmed at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Fort Lauderdale, 1994) with the adoption of new criteria for amending Appendices I and II. In this regard, sound scientific activities and practical follow-up action to enhance the conservation and recovery of taxa included in the Appendices are vital elements if the Convention is to be implemented effectively. Within the context of the requirement for non-detriment findings, the Convention is grounded in sound biological principles.

Continued strengthening of the treaty's scientific basis is critical to the continued success of the Convention and its relevance as a major international instrument to ensure that wild animals and plants subject to international trade are used at levels that are sustainable by the wild populations. Vital to this goal is an enhancement of the ability of Scientific Authorities to make the necessary scientific findings and fulfil their other scientific obligations under the Convention.

Objective 2.1

To ensure that the Convention's Appendices correctly reflect the conservation and management needs of species.

Objective 2.2

To ensure that decisions to amend the Convention's Appendices are founded on sound and relevant scientific information and meet agreed biological and trade criteria for such amendments.

Objective 2.3

To improve the scientific basis on which Scientific Authorities make non-detriment findings.

Objective 2.4

To develop innovative technologies and encourage relevant research, including research into CITES implementation and enforcement, and to pursue these objectives, where appropriate, at the regional level.

GOAL 3: CONTRIBUTE TO THE REDUCTION AND ULTIMATE ELIMINATION OF ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

The illegal trade in wild animals and plants is a major factor in the depletion of the world's natural resources in exchange for commercial gain. It undermines the conservation efforts of developing countries, affects the income of rural populations and has driven several species to the brink of extinction.

All countries, whether they are consumers or producers of wild animals and plants, share responsibility to reduce and eventually eliminate illegal trade in wildlife. Successful achievement

of this responsibility entails coordination and cooperation at all levels – local, national, regional and global. Experience has shown that CITES enforcement would greatly benefit from a higher degree of coordination among the authorities and enforcement agencies within party States. Heightened local awareness of and involvement in wildlife protection activities can further national efforts in combating illegal trade. Also, heightened awareness of and understanding by the judiciary of their potential role in deterring illegal activities relating to wild fauna and flora would further strengthen a Party's effort to stem illegal trade. Enforcement of the Convention is primarily a matter of national competence, but bilateral, regional and global cooperation is elementary in combating illegal international trade effectively. As for a number of other CITES goals, the need for regional cooperation to combat wildlife crime is clearly essential. CITES implementation and enforcement depends to a large degree on efficient border and trade controls. Consequently, the involvement of WCO and ICPO-Interpol in enforcement questions is critical.

Objective 3.1

To promote a high degree of cooperation, coordination and collaboration between national and international law enforcement agencies.

Objective 3.2

To stimulate and participate in bilateral, regional and global efforts to combat illegal trade in wild fauna and flora.

Objective 3.3

To encourage mutual technical assistance, including the exchange of information, in enforcement matters.

Objective 3.4

To develop appropriate management strategies and incentives for promoting a change from illegal to legal use of wild fauna and flora.

Objective 3.5

To promote awareness of CITES issues and a greater understanding by the judiciary of the social and economic significance of conservation threats posed by illegal trade in wild fauna and flora.

GOAL 4: PROMOTE GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONVENTION

To ensure better implementation of CITES, public support and participation must be enhanced through continuous educational processes that not only raise the profile of the Convention but also recognize its beneficial contribution to conservation through sustainable trade management. Involvement of local communities, NGOs, relevant trade associations, the scientific community, media and the general public is essential to heighten an understanding of the Convention. Efforts are necessary at the regional, national and international levels to provide and disseminate accurate information about the aims and functioning of the Convention in order to heighten awareness and improve its implementation. Special attention also needs to be given to public understanding of issues relating to plants.

Objective 4.1

To strengthen communication and collaboration with national and international NGOs.

Objective 4.2

To strengthen alliances with relevant local communities, consumer groups and traders.

Objective 4.3

To promote greater awareness among and cooperation with the scientific community.

Objective 4.4

To produce and disseminate informative materials to a broad public at a local, national and regional levels.

Objective 4.5

To improve communication and collaboration with the media.

Objective 4.6

To strengthen knowledge, promote awareness and facilitate enforcement of flora issues in CITES.

GOAL 5: INCREASE COOPERATION AND CONCLUDE STRATEGIC ALLIANCES WITH INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

The Convention states that the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) shall provide a Secretariat. Therefore, the maintenance of an optimal working relationship with UNEP is critical to the proper administration of the Convention. Additionally, the Governing Council of UNEP, at its 20th session (Nairobi, 1999), noted the importance of promoting interlinkages among multilateral environmental conventions and international processes in an effort to achieve a better focus on international policy-making. It calls upon Parties to give due consideration to ways and means to strengthen coherent interlinkages among relevant conventions. Numerous linkages also exist between the aims of CITES and those of other multilateral environmental agreements. Specifically, the missions of CBD and CITES are closely related, thus necessitating a high degree of cooperation and synergy. Cooperation and coordination with species management conventions and agreements are equally important. A number of international organizations such as IUCN and UNEP-WCMC have a wealth of scientific and technical information at their disposal and continue to increase this knowledge through research programmes as well as the updating and maintenance of extensive databases. Again, close cooperation with these organizations is essential for an efficient distribution of responsibilities.

Finally, as CITES achieves its conservation objectives mainly through trade measures, it is important to ensure the continuing recognition and acceptance of CITES measures by WTO and to ensure the mutual supportiveness of the decision-making processes between these bodies.

Objective 5.1

To ensure an optimal working relationship with UNEP, as well as close coordination and synergy with CBD and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

Objective 5.2

To ensure close cooperation and coordination with related conventions, agreements and associations.

Objective 5.3

To ensure greater coordination of scientific and technical programmes and, where appropriate, more efficient distribution of responsibilities with relevant technical partners such as IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, TRAFFIC and others.

Objective 5.4

To ensure continuing recognition and acceptance of CITES measures by WTO and to ensure the 'mutual supportiveness' of the decision-making processes between these bodies.

GOAL 6: PROGRESS TOWARD GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP

In order for the Convention to achieve its mission, as many countries as possible that are engaged in trade in wild animals and plants should become Parties. Although membership has grown steadily to more than 150 Parties, there are still countries that have not yet become party to CITES.

The 1983 Gaborone amendment to Article XXI of the Convention envisions accession to the Convention of regional economic integration organizations to which Parties have transferred competence in areas of CITES implementation. To bring such organizations within the Convention, acceptance of the amendment should progress.

Objective 6.1

To secure at least 20 more Parties to the Convention by 2005 with a special focus on range countries of species subject to significant trade and important consumer countries of wild plants and animals, as well as countries located in regions with relatively low representation.

Objective 6.2

To encourage acceptance of the 1983 Amendment to Article XXI of the Convention and the subsequent accession by eligible regional economic integration organizations.

GOAL 7: PROVIDE THE CONVENTION WITH AN IMPROVED AND SECURE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BASIS

Successful implementation and enforcement of the Convention requires an appropriate level of funding as well as efficient fiscal management and a strong and professional Convention Secretariat. In addition to the need for adequate support at the national level, there is continuing financial need to meet the requirements of operational effectiveness of the Convention and to provide a platform for international coordination and cooperation. Present funding barely covers the Convention's primary expenditures. Programme expenditure on capacity building, scientific research and other projects in support of the aims of the Convention largely depend on voluntary contributions by donors. This financial support is welcome but, if CITES is to continue to play a major role in species conservation, a more stable flow of financial resources is required.

Objective 7.1

To resolve the problem of late and inadequate contributions to the CITES Trust Fund.

Objective 7.2

To ensure that the decisions of the Conference of the Parties take full account of financial implications for the CITES Trust Fund.

Objective 7.3

To secure additional funding for actions under the Convention.

Objective 7.4

To encourage additional voluntary contributions and to seek new ways of securing financial assistance from the donor community.

Objective 7.5

To increase the level of realistic planning and forecasting, and to improve financial and implementation reporting.

Delivering the Strategic Plan through the Action Plan

This Strategic Plan presents a cogent overview of the specific aims of the Convention through 2005. It outlines seven specific goals to meet the Convention's mission, and identifies specific objectives to be achieved to meet those goals. This broad framework is designed to provide a unified focus to the Parties in their implementation of the Convention, and as guidance to the Conference of the Parties, its committees and the Secretariat.

The Strategic Plan also serves as an effective outreach and educational tool to provide a context for the Convention to others. It should be recognized that in order for the strategic planning to contribute successfully to the achievement of the Convention objectives, that process must be able to respond to an ever-changing world. The Strategic Plan is not a static document.

Therefore, the Parties must continue to evaluate progress toward these goals and modify the Strategic Plan over time.

Measurable performance indicators should be established for each of the seven major goals to help identify progress toward their successful implementation.

While the Strategic Plan presents an effective framework to focus the Convention through 2005, delivery of that framework requires detailed actions by the Parties, the Secretariat and the three Permanent Committees at meetings of the Conference of the Parties. In order to focus these actions and coordinate their implementation, an Action Plan has been prepared. The Action Plan consists of a matrix of action items by responsible entities to indicate what must be done and by whom to help achieve each objective.

As action points are successfully completed, progress toward achievement of the objective must be evaluated and the Action Plan modified accordingly, with the addition or deletion of action points as required.

Procedures should be developed for periodic review and evaluation of ongoing progress toward completion and revision of the Action Plan, for review of the status of the goal performance indicators, and to evaluate the subsequent achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan. Between meetings of the Conference of the Parties, this responsibility should be assigned to the Standing Committee.

Acronyms and abbreviations

CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IATA	International Air Transport Association
ICPO-Interpol	International Criminal Police Organization
IUCN	World Conservation Union
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-WCMC	UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WCO	World Customs Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

ACTION PLAN

The goals and objectives laid down in the Strategic Plan determine the pathway that must be followed. To move along that pathway requires actions and these have been set out in this Action Plan.

Action points		Action by
<p>Objective 1.1</p> <p>To assist in the development of appropriate domestic legislation and policies that encourage the adoption and implementation of social and economic incentives allied to legal instruments that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – promote and regulate sustainable management of wild fauna and flora; – promote and regulate responsible trade in wild fauna and flora; and – promote the effective enforcement of the convention. 		
1.1.1	Develop templates of best practice policy and legislative provisions, including several forms recognizing differences in language/culture/legal system.	Secretariat
1.1.2	Develop a planning guide to policy and legislation provisions, including a scientific basis for decision making which is woven into the legislation (to enhance capacity building).	Secretariat
1.1.3	Exchange experience on provisions that work well or not well.	Parties, Secretariat
1.1.4	Ensure adequate review and adoption of policies and legislation (e.g. land tenure; access to natural resources; harvesting; transporting, handling and housing of live specimens; and effective seizures, fines and penalties) which may be having a significant impact on the conservation status of species or implementation of the Convention.	Parties, Secretariat, Animals Committee
1.1.5	Enhance compliance with implementation of recommendations and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties.	Parties, Secretariat
1.1.6	Develop further regulations to prevent unnecessary loss during catching, storage and transportation of live animals.	Parties, Secretariat, Animals Committee
<p>Objective 1.2</p> <p>To strengthen the administrative, management and scientific capacity of Parties by improving the coordination between Management and Scientific Authorities and other national agencies responsible for wild animals and plants.</p>		
1.2.1	Convene regional and within-Party workshops to identify functional roles and train all levels of administration and related agencies.	Parties, Secretariat
1.2.2	Develop a national directory of government officials responsible for CITES issues.	Parties
1.2.3	Improve coordination between Scientific Authorities and other agencies (e.g. universities, museums) to maximize transfer of knowledge and skills.	Scientific Authorities, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
1.2.4	Collate and make accessible lists of specialists (national and regional).	Scientific and Management Authorities
Objective 1.3		
To strengthen the enforcement capacity of the Parties and to improve coordination among Management Authorities and other agencies (e.g. Police, Customs and veterinary and phytosanitary services).		
1.3.1	Convene regional and within-Party workshops to identify functional roles and train all levels of administration and related agencies responsible for CITES enforcement.	Parties, Secretariat
1.3.2	Produce modular procedural manuals pertaining to enforcement that can be customized for national and regional differences.	Parties, Secretariat
1.3.3	Develop a national directory of government officials responsible for CITES enforcement issues.	Parties
1.3.4	Collate and make accessible lists of taxonomic, forensic and identification experts.	Scientific and Management Authorities
1.3.5	Identify focal points in agencies (e.g. Police, Customs, veterinary and phytosanitary services) responsible for assisting CITES enforcement.	Parties
1.3.6	Provide training for staffs of enforcement agencies, and improve the distribution of existing public awareness tools for enforcement purposes.	Parties
Objective 1.4		
To facilitate development and use of appropriate technologies and information management systems that enhance and expedite the collection, submission and exchange of accurate information.		
1.4.1	On the basis of information from Parties, evaluate needs, capabilities and opportunities related to information technologies and management.	Secretariat, with three permanent Committees
1.4.2	Encourage use of technology such as the Internet and CD-ROM for data and information exchange and training.	Secretariat, Parties
1.4.3	Develop and implement an information management strategy and training programmes based on 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.	Secretariat, Parties
1.4.4	Develop a simple guide to the Review of Significant Trade.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
1.4.5	Develop and enhance databases that include information related to species in trade, CITES Decisions and procedures.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
Objective 1.5		
To encourage organizations capable of supporting the Convention to assist the Secretariat and Parties in building national information management capacities through training and other activities, and to facilitate improved access to and management of databases.		
1.5.1	On the basis of information from Parties, evaluate national capacity and training needs.	Secretariat

Action points		Action by
1.5.2	Identify organizations with potential for assisting in training and capacity building.	Secretariat
1.5.3	Develop a list of available databases and information sources consistent with Objective 1.4.	Secretariat
1.5.4	Make relevant databases user-friendly.	Secretariat
1.5.5	Enhance compliance with implementation of recommendations and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 1.6		
To ensure that all Parties have at least one designated Scientific Authority with experts in wild fauna and flora.		
1.6.1	Advise and assist Parties in exploring options and models for establishing Scientific Authorities.	Secretariat
1.6.2	Pursue on a regular basis progress toward the designation of Scientific Authorities by all Parties.	Secretariat
Objective 1.7		
To improve the coordination between CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, and increase the effectiveness of the latter.		
1.7.1	Develop a manual specifying the obligations and procedures of the Scientific Authorities in order to encourage the development of specific training courses for them.	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees
1.7.2	Develop regional directories that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species.	Plants Committee, Animals Committee
1.7.3	Communicate to the Parties the importance and advisability of including plants experts within the structure of the Scientific Authorities.	Plants Committee
1.7.4	Facilitate workshops and training programmes in issuance of non-detriment findings.	Secretariat
1.7.5	Ensure that Management Authorities consult with Scientific Authorities on all permits to be issued that require Scientific Authority findings, and that those findings are independent and cannot be overridden.	Parties
Objective 1.8		
To encourage Parties to develop and implement effective management programmes for the conservation and recovery of species, so that the species will no longer satisfy the criteria for inclusion in the Appendices.		
1.8.1	Share experience gained by different countries in conservation, management and the recovery of species with other countries.	Parties, Secretariat
1.8.2	Promote establishment of effective programmes for species conservation, management and recovery.	Parties, Secretariat
1.8.3	Establish national and regional networked rescue centres for animals and plants.	Parties

Action points		Action by
1.8.4	Develop and incorporate scientific baselines in management plans for traded Appendix-II species, designed to ensure that any trade is sustainable.	Parties
1.8.5	Report biennially on progress related to this objective.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 1.9		
To encourage the proper funding of CITES implementation and enforcement by Parties, and the adoption of national mechanisms that have resource users make a greater contribution to such funding.		
1.9.1	On the basis of information from Parties, evaluate existing mechanisms for obtaining funds from resource users for conservation benefit, and share this information to encourage other Parties to adopt such mechanisms.	Parties, Secretariat
1.9.2	Ensure adequate funding for necessary research and investigation on CITES species.	Parties
Objective 1.10		
To use fully the potential of regional coordination and collaboration in capacity-building efforts.		
1.10.1	Identify and make available information on existing regional entities that could be used to assist with information sharing, capacity building and funding.	Secretariat, Standing Committee
1.10.2	Interact with existing regional networks, organizations and focal points.	Secretariat, Standing Committee, Parties
1.10.3	Ensure that representatives on all committees are enabled by their Governments to carry out their responsibilities.	Secretariat, Parties
Objective 1.11		
To review and simplify, where possible, existing measures, procedures, mechanisms, and recommendations for the implementation of the Convention.		
1.11.1	On the basis of information from Parties, identify those measures, procedures and mechanisms that would benefit from review and simplification.	Parties, Secretariat
1.11.2	Make recommendations on possible review, modification and consolidation.	Secretariat
1.11.3	Continue consolidation process of Resolutions and recommendations as appropriate.	Secretariat
1.11.4	Produce modular procedural manuals for CITES implementation that can be customized for national and regional differences.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 1.12		
To ensure equity of the three working languages.		
1.12.1	Continue to ensure that all meetings of the permanent Committees are interpreted in all three working languages, and endeavour to ensure that all documents are made available in all three working languages.	Parties, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
1.12.2	Review current translation systems and recommend cost-effective alternatives to improve efficiency and cut costs.	Secretariat
1.12.3	Ensure that the three permanent Committees and the Conference of the Parties do not discuss any document not made available in advance in all three languages.	Secretariat, Conference of the Parties
Objective 2.1		
To ensure that the Convention's Appendices correctly reflect the conservation and management needs of species.		
2.1.1	Ensure periodic review and refinement of the listing criteria to ensure their applicability to broad taxonomic groups, scientific validity and utility.	Parties
2.1.2	Regularly review the Appendices to ensure that listed taxa satisfy the relevant criteria.	Animals and Plants Committees
2.1.3	Continue the Review of Significant Trade as initiated by the Parties in Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.) ¹ .	Animals and Plants Committees
2.1.4	Evaluate trade and biological information on currently unlisted species subject to significant international trade to determine whether they would qualify for and benefit from CITES listing.	Animals and Plants Committees
Objective 2.2		
To ensure that decisions to amend the Convention's Appendices are founded on sound and relevant scientific information and meet agreed biological and trade criteria for such amendments.		
2.2.1	All proposals to amend the Appendices should conform to the relevant criteria.	Parties
2.2.2	Encourage Parties to consult with the Animals and Plants Committees as appropriate to assist in the preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
2.2.3	For identified commodities, develop standardized units of measure for permits, trade analysis and reporting.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
2.2.4	Encourage the analysis of annual report information in the development of proposals to amend the Appendices.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 2.3		
To improve the scientific basis on which Scientific Authorities make non-detriment findings.		
2.3.1	Develop practical guidance for making non-detriment findings, including a manual and checklist, and samples of non-detriment findings and case studies.	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees
2.3.2	Facilitate national and regional training for Scientific Authorities in the issuance of scientifically based non-detriment findings; include the use of the aforementioned guidance on non-detriment findings.	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees

¹ Replaced by Resolution Conf. 12.8.

Action points		Action by
2.3.3	Ensure that the necessary scientific information is taken into consideration when making non-detriment findings (e.g. life history, ecological adaptability, distribution, abundance, population trends and management programme).	Parties
2.3.4	Ensure that management plans involve periodic research, monitoring, testing, evaluation and opportunities for improvement (including adaptive management).	Parties
2.3.5	Provide opportunities for Scientific Authorities to exchange information and data (e.g. sharing of non-detriment findings; sharing of data, management plans and case studies; postings to a website; and communication through a listserver).	Parties, Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
Objective 2.4		
To develop innovative technologies and encourage relevant research, including research into CITES implementation and enforcement, and to pursue these objectives, where appropriate, at the regional level.		
2.4.1	In collaboration with enforcement agencies, identify the needs for and potential benefits of innovative technologies.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees, Parties
2.4.2	In collaboration with Parties, international agencies, and relevant research entities, identify the available technologies (e.g. digital technology, microchips, barcodes, holograms, DNA testing) relevant to assisting the better implementation of the Convention.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
2.4.3	Encourage the adoption and use of such technologies in CITES processes and procedures (e.g. licensing, verification, enforcement, communication).	Secretariat, Parties
2.4.4	Develop with relevant institutions collaborative research projects for testing the appropriateness of new and forthcoming technologies.	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees
2.4.5	Assess progress on a regional basis.	Standing, Animals and Plants Committees
Objective 3.1		
To promote a high degree of cooperation, coordination and collaboration between national and international law enforcement agencies.		
3.1.1	Establish, communicate and agree on international priorities for enforcement.	Parties, Secretariat
3.1.2	Encourage each enforcement agency to identify suitable contacts for WCO, Interpol, and other relevant international enforcement entities.	Parties
3.1.3	Share information on illegal trade, seizures and ongoing investigations with other relevant Parties.	Parties
3.1.4	Liase with Interpol and WCO working groups on environmental crime.	Parties, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
Objective 3.2		
To stimulate and participate in bilateral, regional and global efforts to combat illegal trade in wild fauna and flora.		
3.2.1	Develop and expand effective regional cooperative efforts, particularly among countries with common borders.	Parties, Secretariat
3.2.2	Initiate and expand regional enforcement contact networks.	Parties
3.2.3	Convene regional enforcement training workshops.	Parties, Secretariat
3.2.4	Facilitate exchange of intelligence information.	Parties, Secretariat
3.2.5	Formally recognize and award exemplary enforcement actions.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 3.3		
To encourage mutual technical assistance, including the exchange of information, in enforcement matters.		
3.3.1	Encourage enforcement agencies to share technology (e.g. forensic).	Parties
3.3.2	Collaborate in the production of pertinent identification materials.	Parties, Secretariat
3.3.3	Promote development of new technologies for the identification of specimens in trade.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 3.4		
To develop appropriate management strategies and incentives for promoting a change from illegal to legal use of wild fauna and flora.		
3.4.1	Develop and implement appropriate economic, education, and awareness programmes that lead to greater local involvement in wildlife management, and stimulate participation in combating illegal trade within and from producer countries.	Parties
3.4.2	Develop and implement targeted awareness programmes that promote voluntary compliance with wildlife trade regulations by user groups in consumer countries.	Parties
3.4.3	On the basis of information from Parties, develop templates of best practice in regard to the strategies and incentives concerned, and encourage Parties to adopt them.	Secretariat
Objective 3.5		
To promote awareness of CITES issues and a greater understanding by the judiciary of the social and economic significance of conservation threats posed by illegal trade in wild fauna and flora.		
3.5.1	Contribute papers and articles to law journals and other publications.	Parties, Secretariat
3.5.2	Attend and contribute to legal conferences.	Parties, Secretariat
3.5.3	Provide training to raise awareness of judges and prosecutors.	Parties, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
3.5.4	Encourage the judiciary to apply more appropriate penalties when dealing with wildlife crime.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 4.1 To strengthen communication and collaboration with national and international NGOs.		
4.1.1	Recognize the significant contributions of NGOs to CITES process and encourage greater NGO participation in CITES outreach.	Parties, Secretariat
4.1.2	Encourage Parties to enhance communication and collaboration with local and national NGOs.	Secretariat
4.1.3	Improve availability of CITES information to a broad spectrum of NGOs.	Parties, Secretariat
4.1.4	Collaborate with NGOs in public education and outreach campaigns.	Parties, Secretariat
4.1.5	Meet regularly with local and national NGOs.	Parties
4.1.6	Meet regularly with international NGOs.	Secretariat
Objective 4.2 To strengthen alliances with relevant local communities, consumer groups and traders.		
4.2.1	Identify audiences to be targeted and their needs.	Parties, Secretariat
4.2.2	Develop campaigns and materials for the distribution of information to targeted groups, with a specific focus on Appendix II.	Parties, Secretariat
4.2.3	Promote awareness of the impacts of consumption patterns and demands on species conservation.	Parties, Secretariat
4.2.4	Meet regularly with targeted groups and encourage their active participation.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 4.3 To promote greater awareness among and cooperation with the scientific community.		
4.3.1	Identify audiences to be targeted within the scientific community (e.g. specialist groups, universities, scientific societies, museums, academic institutions).	Parties, Secretariat
4.3.2	Participate actively at scientific meetings and conferences, and encourage participation in CITES issues by the scientific community.	Secretariat, Scientific Authorities, Animals and Plants Committees
4.3.3	Encourage the scientific community to focus their efforts on national CITES priorities.	Parties
Objective 4.4 To produce and disseminate informative materials to a broad public at a local, national and regional levels.		
4.4.1	Develop information that is culturally and locally relevant, as well as technically accurate.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 4.5 To improve communication and collaboration with the media.		
4.5.1	Inform media about CITES-related activities and its regional and global achievements.	Parties, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
4.5.2	Identify national media outlets and contacts for dissemination of CITES information.	Parties, Secretariat
4.5.3	Develop factual media packets on relevant CITES issues (e.g. fact sheets, CD-ROMs, videos).	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 4.6		
To strengthen knowledge, promote awareness and facilitate enforcement of flora issues in CITES.		
4.6.1	Ensure that adequate attention is given to plant conservation in all activities related to the implementation of this Plan.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 5.1		
To ensure an optimal working relationship with UNEP, as well as close coordination and synergy with CBD and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements.		
5.1.1	Enhance national liaison between CITES and national MEA focal points.	Parties
5.1.2	Enhance regional and international liaison between CITES and MEA focal points.	Parties, Secretariat
5.1.3	Develop and implement joint projects with other MEAs (e.g. capacity building, trade controls, enforcement, scientific and technical coordination, project development and implementation).	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 5.2		
To ensure close cooperation and coordination with related conventions, agreements and associations.		
5.2.1	Develop a mechanism to ensure transfer and exchange of information between CITES and relevant conventions, agreements and associations for species of concern.	Parties, Secretariat
5.2.2	Consider the criteria and Decisions of other Conventions, agreements and associations when considering the proposals to amend the Appendices, draft resolutions and decisions.	Parties, Secretariat
5.2.3	Encourage other Conventions, agreements and associations, when making their decisions, to consider the criteria designed and Decisions made by CITES Parties.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 5.3		
To ensure greater coordination of scientific and technical programmes and, where appropriate, more efficient distribution of responsibilities with relevant technical partners such as IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, TRAFFIC and others.		
5.3.1	Identify responsibilities of relevant technical partners and ensure adequate coordination and mutual awareness of work programmes to avoid duplication.	Parties, Secretariat
5.3.2	Develop mechanisms to disseminate information to Parties on actions of relevant technical partners and furtherance of the Convention.	Secretariat
5.3.3	Inform Secretariat of Parties' projects with technical partners.	Parties

Action points		Action by
Objective 5.4		
To ensure continuing recognition and acceptance of CITES measures by WTO and to ensure the 'mutual supportiveness' of the decision-making processes between these bodies.		
5.4.1	Enhance national liaison between CITES and WTO focal points.	Parties
5.4.2	Enhance regional and international liaison between CITES and WTO.	Secretariat
Objective 6.1		
To secure at least 20 more Parties to the Convention by 2005 with a special focus on range countries of species subject to significant trade and important consumer countries of wild plants and animals, as well as countries located in regions with relatively low representation.		
6.1.1	Identify priority non-Party countries and pursue their accession.	Secretariat
6.1.2	Engage in bilateral discussions with non-Parties to encourage their accession and adoption of appropriate implementing legislation.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 6.2		
To encourage acceptance of the 1983 Amendment to Article XXI of the Convention and the subsequent accession by eligible regional economic integration organizations.		
6.2.1	Identify which additional countries are needed to accept the 1983 Amendment to Article XXI, so that it can enter into force.	Secretariat
6.2.2	Meet with appropriate officials of those countries.	Secretariat, relevant Parties
Objective 7.1		
To resolve the problem of late and inadequate contributions to the CITES Trust Fund.		
7.1.1	Analyse the budgeting process of the Secretariat in context of budgeting and financial management of different countries and pursue appropriate remedies (e.g. computation of financial year, dealing with currency conversion).	Standing Committee, Secretariat
7.1.2	Encourage Parties to pay their contributions in a timely manner.	Secretariat
7.1.3	Recommend incentives and remedies to ensure payment of contributions.	Standing Committee, Secretariat
Objective 7.2		
To ensure that the decisions of the Conference of the Parties take full account of financial implications for the CITES Trust Fund.		
7.2.1	Ensure that the work programmes of meetings of the Conference of the Parties are designed to consider the financial implications of all decisions prior to adopting a final budget.	Parties, Secretariat
7.2.2	Comply with relevant Resolutions requesting information on budgetary implications when presenting proposals and draft resolutions to the Conference of the Parties.	Parties, Secretariat

Action points		Action by
7.2.3	Evaluate the budgetary implications for the Trust Fund and potential for donor funding for proposals with substantive impact, prior to adoption of such proposals.	Conference of the Parties
7.2.4	In the budgeting process, identify priorities for projects and actions under the Trust Fund and for donor funding.	Conference of the Parties
Objective 7.3		
To secure additional funding for actions under the Convention.		
7.3.1	Establish a fund-raising strategy.	Parties, Secretariat
7.3.2	Create a position within the Secretariat that focuses on acquisition of funding.	Parties, Secretariat
7.3.3	Encourage development of new funding mechanisms.	Parties, Secretariat
7.3.4	Encourage additional voluntary contributions.	Parties, Secretariat
7.3.5	Enhance fund-raising efforts with foundations and corporations.	Parties, Secretariat
7.3.6	Establish funding mechanisms that access funding from resource users in importing and exporting countries.	Parties, Secretariat, Standing Committee
7.3.7	Develop a marketing strategy for the Convention.	Secretariat
Objective 7.4		
To encourage additional voluntary contributions and to seek new ways of securing financial assistance from the donor community.		
7.4.1	Initiate dialogue through UNEP to explore mechanisms for accessing Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding for CITES priorities.	Parties, Secretariat
7.4.2	Establish a fund-raising strategy linking with the strategy in 7.3.	Parties, Secretariat
Objective 7.5		
To increase the level of realistic planning and forecasting, and to improve financial and implementation reporting.		
7.5.1	Analyse the current budgeting and planning process to improve forecasting.	Parties, Secretariat
7.5.2	Explore opportunities for refining the budgeting process and presentation to maximize efficiency and transparency, leading to improved reporting, decision-making and accountability.	Parties, Secretariat, Standing Committee
7.5.3	Ensure that all meetings of the Standing Committee include meetings of the Finance Subcommittee.	Standing Committee

Annex 2

ACTIONS DIRECTED TO THE PLANTS COMMITTEE
pursuant to the CITES Action Plan and Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12)
concerning the establishment of Committees

Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12) Annex 2	Action point number	Description	Status
CURRENT ACTIONS DIRECTED TO THE PLANTS COMMITTEE (PC) WITH HIGH PRIORITY AND POTENTIAL FUTURE PRIORITY ACTIONS <i>(indicated in bold and italics)</i>			
a)		Provide advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the other committees, working groups and the Secretariat, on all matters relevant to international trade in plant species included in the Appendices, which may include proposals to amend the Appendices.	Ongoing work of the PC.
	4.6.1	<i>As part of Objective 4.6 to strengthen knowledge, promote awareness and facilitate enforcement on flora issues in CITES:</i> <i>Ensure that adequate attention is given to plant conservation in all activities related to the implementation of this Plan.</i>	<i>Identify the activities.</i>
f)	2.1.3	Continue the Review of Significant Trade as initiated by the Parties in Resolution Conf. 8.9. (Rev.) ¹ .	<u>Taxon based:</u> – Cycads – <i>Prunus africana</i> – <i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> – <i>Aloe</i> spp. for extract from Eastern Africa – <i>Pericopsis alata</i> <u>Country based:</u> – Madagascar
h)	2.1.2	Regularly review the Appendices to ensure that listed taxa satisfy the relevant criteria.	<u>Done for:</u> – Orchidaceae <u>Ongoing for:</u> – Appendix-I Cactaceae

¹ Replaced by Resolution Conf. 12.8.

Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12) Annex 2	Action point number	Description	Status
g)	2.1.4	Evaluate trade and biological information on currently unlisted species subject to significant international trade to determine whether they would qualify for and benefit from CITES listing.	Parties have started to look at the following unlisted taxa: – <i>Harpagophytum</i> spp. – <i>Guaiacum</i> spp. – <i>Taxus</i> spp. other than <i>T. wallichiana</i> – Tree species
e)	1.7.2	Develop regional directories that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species.	Done for all regions. Future activities: find mechanisms for coordinated update and improvement, and for dissemination on the CITES website of the Secretariat.
FOR THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WITH LOWER PRIORITY, NO ORDER WAS SET (potential future actions indicated in bold and italics)			
b)		Assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardized list of species names.	Lead with Nomenclature Committee. Ongoing work of the PC.
c)		Assist the Secretariat with the implementation of the Resolution on the Identification Manual and Decisions related to it and, upon request of the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices with regard to possible identification problems.	Lead with the Secretariat. Ongoing work of the PC.
d)	1.7.1	Develop a manual specifying the obligations and procedures of the Scientific Authorities in order to encourage the development of specific training courses for them.	Lead with the Secretariat. Cooperate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities. Regional workshops organized by the Secretariat with participation of the regional representatives of the PC, when possible.
e)	1.7.3	Communicate to the Parties the importance and advisability of including plants experts within the structure of the Scientific Authorities.	To establish mechanisms with the SC.
i)		Make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range States requesting such assistance.	To establish mechanisms with the SC.

Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP12) Annex 2	Action point number	Description	Status
j)		Draft resolutions on matters related to animals or plants, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.	Ongoing work of the PC.
k)		Perform any other functions that may be entrusted to them by the CoP or the SC.	Chairman and/or members selected by Chairman of PC to attend technical meetings as experts such as in the Criteria Working Group.
l)		Report to the CoP and, if so requested, to the SC, on the activities they have carried out or supervised between meetings of the CoP.	PC Chairman report to SC meetings.
	1.1.6 (new for PC)	<i>Develop further regulations to prevent unnecessary loss during harvesting, storage and transportation of live [...] plants.</i>	<i>PC working group preparing guidelines to improve chances of survival of live specimens during transportation.</i>
	2.2.2	Encourage Parties to consult with the Animals Committee and Plants Committee as appropriate to assist in the preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices.	To establish mechanisms with the SC. Ongoing work of the PC.
	2.2.3	For identified commodities, develop standardized units of measure for permits, trade analysis and reporting.	Ongoing work of the PC.
	4.3.2	Participate actively at scientific meetings and conferences, and encourage participation in CITES issues by the scientific community.	PC members and observers at PC meetings attend scientific meetings and explain CITES issues.

Annex 3

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE MAHOGANY WORKING GROUP

1. Noting the discrepancies in the trade data when comparing information provided by importing and exporting countries, the range States concerned should ask UNEP-WCMC to provide annually comparative tabulations so that each can evaluate these for its own trade regulation purposes.
2. Importing countries, detecting illegal or suspicious shipments should immediately inform the country of origin about this.
3. In order to combat illegal trade, countries of export or re-export could consider directly informing the country of destination concerned about permits or certificates issued, or could consider including in their website basic information included in these (e.g. permit number, date of issuance, country of destination, species and volume).
4. Considering that there is not enough information available to estimate the levels of illegal trade between range States and other countries, the Working Group recommends that efforts be made to obtain this information and that the Secretariat looks into the possibility to contract TRAFFIC International to conduct the study.
5. Aware that a non-detriment finding is not required for the export of *Swietenia macrophylla* specimens, the Working Group believes that population studies are needed to ensure sustainable utilization of the resource and that such studies require substantial financial support. It encourages range States to seek financial assistance actively for such studies through established organizations such as FAO or ITTO.
6. In spite of the great efforts and progress made in countries in the region concerning the management of *Swietenia macrophylla*, the Working Group requests the Secretariat to investigate the possibility of obtaining funds for facilitating the implementation of CITES in range States with regard to mahogany and other CITES-listed timber species.
7. Range States that have developed forest management techniques for forests containing *Swietenia macrophylla* (e.g. silviculture techniques, regeneration programmes) as well as regulations of harvest, internal transport control and export, should distribute this information as soon as possible to the other range States.
8. Management and Scientific Authorities should work closely together with national and international forestry experts for the purpose of developing procedures or mechanisms to improve trade controls (e.g. training, timber identification, etc.).
9. When specific border control problems exist between neighbouring countries, these should be resolved bilaterally, involving external experts as appropriate, including joint capacity building.

Annex 4

OUTLINE OF A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CONSERVATION OF HAWKSBILL TURTLES WITHIN THE WIDER CARIBBEAN

Vision

To enhance the conservation status of hawksbill turtles so that the Caribbean regional population is no longer considered to be threatened.

General objectives¹

- a) To achieve the recovery of depleted populations;
- b) to ensure that recovered populations are maintained at a stable level;
- c) to identify recovery levels for all genetically discrete nesting populations; and
- d) to ensure that any use of the regional population is sustainable.

Mechanisms

- a) Promote and strengthen existing management measures, by:
 - i) ensuring that adequate national legislation is in place to implement a strategy or national plan;
 - ii) ensuring that legal provisions are available for the conservation of hawksbill turtles and their habitats, and for the regulation of trade and of any harvests;
 - iii) seeking to harmonize and standardize regional legislation, programmes and policies whilst recognizing the diversity of views and approaches within the region; and
 - iv) increasing synergy and collaboration with other regional and international agreements including, amongst others, the UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles.
- b) Undertake research and monitoring necessary to implement the plan, by:
 - i) seeking to identify and target for further study those topics in which significant gaps in knowledge remain;
 - ii) implementing standard monitoring protocols for foraging and nesting populations at agreed and defined index sites;
 - iii) monitoring take and mortality of hawksbill turtles from legal harvests (including catch-per-unit effort), by-catch in other fisheries and illegal catch;
 - iv) assessing the levels of legal and illegal trade within the region; and
 - v) undertaking studies into the genetic composition of nesting and foraging populations, the migratory movements of hawksbills and the definition of potential management units.
- c) Improve communication and information sharing within the region by:
 - i) establishing and maintaining, through UNEP-WCMC, a clearing house of information on hawksbill turtles within the region;
 - ii) continuing the regional dialogue process as a means of bringing the relevant states and territories together;

¹ *Definitions of what constitutes a 'recovered' population and indicators and targets for recovery will need to be established at the regional and national levels.*

- iii) ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders in the region in strategy development and implementation;
 - iv) ensuring that decisions are based on the best scientific and traditional knowledge available; and
 - v) undertaking public awareness and education campaigns concerning, *inter alia*, relevant legal mechanisms and the conservation and management needs for the species.
- d) Ensure the availability of adequate resources for implementation, by:
- i) seeking to ensure adequate funding through allocation of in-house resources, external fund-raising and the provision of other resources;
 - ii) increasing the capacity of Governments, organizations and individuals in the region to implement relevant elements of the strategy; and
 - iii) sharing relevant expertise, technology and resources within the region.

Sub-regional meetings

- a) In the light of the usefulness of the dialogue meetings held under the auspices of the CITES Secretariat to facilitate collaboration, planning and information exchange on the management of hawksbill turtles within the wider Caribbean, such meetings shall be continued, and:
- i) subject to the availability of funding, before the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, at least one dialogue meeting of the wider Caribbean regional on hawksbill turtles shall be arranged in order to facilitate further regional collaboration, planning and information exchange;
 - ii) the participation of relevant regional and international Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other relevant bodies, such as UNEP-CEP and the IAC in dialogue meetings to promote joint collaboration shall be sought; and
 - iii) a full report, *inter alia* for presentation at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES shall be compiled on the outcome of the dialogue meeting.
- b) Parties in the wider Caribbean shall report progress on the implementation of their national plan at each dialogue meeting and, where appropriate, develop actions and share relevant information between dialogue meetings, through *ad hoc* working groups. Non-Parties will be invited to do the same.
- c) Parties agree to the following terms of reference for the wider Caribbean hawksbill turtle sub-regional meetings:

The regional dialogue process has the following goals:

- i) to encourage the development and implementation of a sub-regional strategy and national management plans for the conservation of hawksbill turtles and, where appropriate, other marine turtles;
- ii) to report on the implementation of national management plans as a contribution to regional goals and to establish priorities for collaborative action;
- iii) to enable discussion and information sharing relating to the conservation and management of hawksbill turtles;
- iv) to share the results of research and monitoring activities;
- v) to focus on specific issues of interest or concern to the region;
- vi) to encourage capacity building within the region and to raise awareness of issues relating to hawksbill turtle conservation and management; and
- vii) to stimulate participation by States and territories within the region in the process and in the implementation of a sub-regional strategy.

Annex 5

DECISIONS RELATED TO THE NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROJECT adopted at the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee Geneva (Switzerland), 12-15 March 2002

Parties identified in Decision 11.18

The Standing Committee agreed:

- a) For Parties in Category 3, that:
 - i) The Dominican Republic and Mozambique should submit a CITES Legislation Plan to the Secretariat by 31 May 2002. Such a Plan should include the agreed steps needed for each Party to adopt adequate legislation by 31 October 2002.
 - ii) The Secretariat shall issue a notification recommending a suspension of commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any of these Parties that fails to submit a CITES Legislation Plan by 31 May 2002 or to adopt adequate legislation by 31 October 2002. The Secretariat may withhold action on this instruction if good legislative progress has been made by a Party but shall implement the instruction immediately if adequate legislation has not been adopted by 31 March 2003.
- b) For Parties in Category 2, that:
 - i) Cameroon, Panama, Poland, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Thailand should submit a CITES Legislation Plan to the Secretariat by 31 May 2002. Such a Plan should include the agreed steps needed for each Party to adopt adequate legislation by 31 January 2003.
 - ii) The Secretariat shall issue a notification recommending a suspension of commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any of these Parties that fails to submit a CITES Legislation Plan by 31 May 2002 or to adopt adequate legislation by 31 January 2003. The Secretariat may withhold action on this instruction if good legislative progress has been made by a Party but shall implement the instruction immediately if adequate legislation has not been adopted by 31 March 2003.¹

Parties identified in Decision 11.19

The Standing Committee agreed that:

- a) Parties listed in paragraphs 22, 23, 24 and 25 of document SC46 Doc. 11.1² should submit a CITES Legislation Plan to the Secretariat by 31 May 2002. Such a plan should include the agreed steps needed for each Party to adopt adequate legislation by 31 December 2003.

¹ Since the adoption of the above decisions at the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee, adequate legislation has been adopted by Greece, Poland and Thailand. The Secretariat has amended the analyses of national legislation and the categories accordingly and advised these Parties that Decisions 11.18 and 11.19 no longer applied to them. The same will be done as other Parties adopt adequate legislation.

² Afghanistan, Algeria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei-Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia [list added by the Secretariat].

- b) the Secretariat shall issue a notification recommending the following compliance measures: if an affected Party fails to submit a CITES Legislation Plan by 31 May 2002, the Standing Committee shall consider further action at its 47th meeting. The Standing Committee expects the affected Parties to meet the above deadlines so that further measures, which may include restrictions on commercial trade, will not be required. If an affected Party fails to adopt adequate legislation by 31 December 2003, the Standing Committee shall recommend restrictions on commercial trade at its first meeting after that date unless a Party can show good cause for its lack of adequate progress.¹

¹ Since the adoption of the above decisions at the 46th meeting of the Standing Committee, adequate legislation has been adopted by Greece, Poland and Thailand. The Secretariat has amended the analyses of national legislation and the categories accordingly and advised these Parties that Decisions 11.18 and 11.19 no longer applied to them. The same will be done as other Parties adopt adequate legislation.

Annex 6

QUITO DECLARATION

The representatives of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) of the Region of Central and South America and the Caribbean, having met in Quito, Ecuador, from 29 February to 2 March 2000;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the Convention as a valuable instrument to protect the species of wild fauna and flora in the region and to guarantee their sustainable use;

CONSIDERING that, from 10 to 20 April 2000, the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention will be held in Nairobi, Kenya;

CONCLUDE AND RECOMMEND to:

- a) emphasize the need to enhance cooperation amongst neighbouring countries or countries belonging to the same sub-region in order to coordinate the efforts against illegal trade, recognizing that one of the threats that affect wildlife species of the region is the illicit trade;
- b) promote, when appropriate, the adoption or enhancement in each country of effective legislation. The purpose of this legislation is to regulate the trade in CITES-listed species and to penalize offenders engaging in illicit activities. To this end, the Parties commit themselves to review their legislation and, if necessary, proceed to its amendment, in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention;
- c) promote the development of exchange programmes to share well-founded scientific information, in order to conserve the species protected under CITES. This information will be compiled by competent regional institutions, with the help, if necessary, of international experts. The Parties recognize that up-to-date and accurate information is essential to arrive at non-detriment findings regarding the survival of species, at the same time recognizing the benefits derived from management plans or pilot projects of an experimental nature;
- d) promote capacity building programmes at a national and regional level, aimed at officials responsible for the implementation of the Convention, at different levels and institutions;
- e) promote the creation of a regional fund for the purpose of financing programmes for compilation and exchange of scientific data, population studies and management plans for wild species. The Parties commit themselves to collaborate closely with the CITES Secretariat, as well as with international and regional organizations, in fund-raising activities that will allow them to carry out such studies and programmes;
- f) consider regional cooperation as a special priority for the protection of wildlife. For this reason, the Parties commit themselves to strengthening the existing mechanisms of regional cooperation with the purpose of establishing harmonized policies and coordinating mechanisms to carry out activities related to the application within CITES in the region;
- g) establish or, where appropriate, improve coordination mechanisms among relevant government agencies. In this sense, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure permanent consultations amongst institutions responsible for the environment, for external trade, for foreign affairs, for agriculture, as well as Customs and Police agencies, the judiciary and other competent authorities; and
- h) recommend that all efforts be made to ensure the continuity and periodicity of regional meetings.

The representatives of the Parties to CITES at the First CITES Regional Meeting for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Quito, March 2000) wish to express their special thanks to the Ecuadorian Government for its important contribution in organizing and hosting this regional meeting, as well as to the CITES Secretariat for its support throughout the whole process. Financial support from the Netherlands and Spain is gratefully acknowledged.

Adopted in San Francisco de Quito (Ecuador), 2 March 2000, in two identical copies, in Spanish and in English.

Victoria Lichtschein
ARGENTINA
Regional Representative

Dimas Botello
PANAMA
Regional Representative

Danilo Silva
ECUADOR
Chairman of the Meeting