

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Animals Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 28 April – 3 May 2014

CONSOLIDATED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Opening of the meeting (No document)

Participants were welcomed by Mr Hesiquio Benitez, on behalf of the Mexican CITES authorities, and H.E. Victor Alvarado Martinez, Minister of Environment of the State of Veracruz.

2. Election of the Chair and Vice-chair..... (No document)

Ms Carolina Caceres (North America) was elected Chair and Mr Vincent Fleming (Europe) was elected Vice-Chair, by acclamation.

The Committee noted that no member present declared any financial interests that he or she considers calls into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the meeting agenda.

3. Rules of Procedure (AC27 Doc. 3 and PC21 Doc. 3)

With the incorporation of the changes detailed in paragraphs 6 and 7 of document AC27 Doc. 3, the Committee adopted the Rules of Procedure in the Annex of that document. There was broad support for the proposed changes to Rule 22 in paragraph 4 of document AC27 Doc.3 and the Committee agreed to consult with the Plants Committee about these prior to AC28.

With regard to the Secretariat's suggestions in paragraph 11 of documents AC27 Doc. 3 and PC21 Doc. 3, the Committees agreed that Rule 13 of their Rules of Procedure should contain provisions for selecting a Chair and a Vice-chair for each Committee shortly after each regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and that this should follow a simpler process than the one proposed by the Secretariat. The Committees further requested the Secretariat to prepare a proposal for amending Rule 13 to that effect for their consideration at their next meetings.

4. Adoption of the agenda and working programme

- 4.1 Agenda (AC27 Doc. 4.1)

With the addition of the consideration of queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) under agenda item 27: Any other business, the Committee adopted the agenda in document AC27 Doc. 4.1.

- 4.2 Working programme..... (AC27 Doc. 4.2)

The Committee adopted the working programme in document AC27 Doc. 4.2.

5. Admission of observers[AC27 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1)]

The Committee noted the list of observers provided in document AC27 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1).

6. Animals Committee strategic planning for 2013-2016 (CoP16-CoP17)
- 6.1 Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Animals Committee..... (AC27 Doc. 6.1)
The Committee noted document AC27 Doc. 6.1.
- 6.2 Animals Committee workplan [AC27 Doc. 6.2 (Rev. 1)]
The Committee noted document AC27 Doc. 6.2 (Rev. 1).
7. Support to Standing Committee work on bushmeat and annotations
[Decisions 14.148 (Rev. Cop16), 16.149 and 16.162]
- 7.1 Report of the Secretariat*..... (AC27/PC21 Doc.7.1)
The Committees designated the following members to consult with the Standing Committee on the revision of Resolution Conf. 13.11 on *Bushmeat* in compliance with Decision 16.149: the AC Chair (Ms Caceres), and the AC representatives of Africa (Mr Kasiki), Asia (Mr Soemorumekso) and Europe (Mr Lörtscher).

The Committees designated the following members and alternate members to join the working group of the Standing Committee on annotations: the AC Chair (Ms Caceres), the PC representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), Europe (Mr Sajeve) and Oceania (Mr Leach), and the PC acting representatives of Africa (Mr Luke) and Asia (Ms Al-Salem).
- 7.2 Annotations for species listed in the CITES Appendices: report of the interim Standing Committee working group* (AC27/PC21 Doc.7.2)
The Committees noted document AC27/PC21 Doc. 7.2.
8. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
- 8.1 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Decision 16.15)* (AC27/PC21 Doc.8.1)
The Committees agreed that the AC and PC Chairs should incorporate information conveyed by the AC representative of Europe (Mr Fleming) into document AC27/PC21 Doc. 8.1 for reporting to the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting, and to furthermore emphasize in their reporting that:
- it would be important to make sure that experts with good knowledge of CITES take part in the forthcoming assessment by the IPBES sustainable use Task Force;
 - in view of the importance given to government candidates in IPBES assessment processes, Parties should nominate CITES experts for participation in the assessment;
 - in proposing candidates, CITES should seek fair regional representation, broad skills and a better gender balance;
 - for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable use, expertise in areas in addition to biology and biodiversity management will be required, such as social and economic sciences, and rural development policies;
 - the Standing Committee and Parties could consider experts who took part in the *International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings* (Cancún, Mexico, 2008) for nominations; and
 - opportunities exist for better and more regular liaison between IPBES and CITES, and for facilitating the nomination of experts with CITES knowledge, through the AC acting

* This item was discussed during a joint session with the Plants Committee.

representative of Africa (Mr Fouda), who is also a member of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel for Africa.

The Committees noted document AC27/PC21 Doc. 8.1, and the progress achieved.

9. Capacity building

9.1 Report of the Secretariat*.....(AC27/PC21 Doc.9.1)

The Committees established an intersessional working group with the following mandate:

The intersessional working group shall: provide guidance to the Secretariat on its relevant capacity building activities; review the Secretariat's training materials used in capacity building, such as those on the making of non-detriment findings; and advise on updating, expanding or improving these materials as necessary. It shall report on progress with these activities at the next meetings of the Committees.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: PC Chair (Ms Clemente) and AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Ouboter);

Members: AC representative of Oceania (Mr Robertson), PC representatives of Africa (Ms Khayota), Asia (Mr Fernando) and North America (Mr Benítez), AC acting representatives of Africa (Mr Fouda), North America (Ms Gnam) and Asia (Mr Ishii);

Parties: Chile, China, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

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

10. Extinct or possibly extinct species (Decision 16.164)*.....(AC27/PC21 Doc.10)

The Committees established an intersessional working group with the following mandate:

The intersessional working group shall:

1. review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) on *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II* as they apply to species that are either extinct or possibly extinct and report to the Standing Committee on their findings;
2. develop broad principles that could be applied for treating 'Extinct' and 'Possibly extinct' species included in Appendices I and II, and address the practical implementation challenges; and
3. report at the next meetings of the Committees.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: AC representative of Europe (Mr Fleming) and PC acting representative of Africa (Mr Luke);

Members: AC representatives of Europe (Mr Lörtscher) and Oceania (Mr Robertson), PC representatives of Asia (Mr Fernando) and Europe (Mr Sajeve), AC alternate representatives of Europe (Ms Gaynor) and AC acting representative of North America (Ms Gnam), and AC nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm);

Parties: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Mexico, South Africa and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and

IGOs and NGOs: IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Conservation International, Humane Society International, TRAFFIC and WWF.

11. Review of reporting requirements (Decision 16.45)* (AC27/PC21 Doc.11)

The Committees established a working group (AC27/PC21 WG1) with the following mandate:

Review each of the reporting requirements identified in the Annex as being relevant to them (and others if they consider they are also relevant to the Animals and Plants Committees' remits) and advise in the last column of the Annex whether the requirement is:

- a) still current and valid, or;
- b) outdated or otherwise unnecessary, and therefore no longer required.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: AC representative of Europe (Mr Lörtscher) and PC representative of Oceania (Mr Leach)

Members: PC acting representative of Africa (Mr Luke);

Parties: Australia, Austria, Germany, Mexico, Poland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Defenders of Wildlife and Humane Society International.

The Committees adopted the recommendations in document AC26/PC20 WG1 Doc. 1 on special reporting requirements identified as still current and valid to one or both Committees. In compliance with Decision 16.45, they agreed to advise the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements accordingly.

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

12.1 Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)]* (AC27/PC21 Doc.12.1)

The Committees noted document AC27/PC21 Doc. 12.1.

The Committees decided that the CITES Advisory Working Group on Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade should continue to work intersessionally with the same Co-chairs and members as indicated in paragraph 4 of document AC27/PC21 Doc. 12.1.

The Committees requested the Working Group to take account of the comments and suggestions made during the discussion of document AC27/PC21 Doc. 12.1, and to submit a draft revision of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species* at the next meeting of the Animal and Plants Committees for their consideration.

The Committees agreed to report on progress with the implementation of Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14) at the 65th meeting of Standing Committee.

12.2 Overview of the species-based Review of Significant Trade[(AC27 Doc. 12.2 (Rev.1)]

The Committee noted document AC27 Doc. 12.2 (Rev. 1).

12.3 Species selected following CoP13 and CoP14..... (AC27 Doc. 12.3)

The Committee noted document AC27 Doc. 12.3.

12.4 Selection of species for trade reviews following CoP15 (AC27 Doc. 12.4)

12.5 Selection of species for trade reviews following CoP16 (AC27 Doc. 12.5)

The Committee established a working group on agenda items 12.3, 12.4 and 12.5 (AC27 WG1) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 12.3:

1. Review information on *Tridacna* spp. provided by the Solomon Islands concerning the implementation of recommendations of d) and g) (for *Tridacna derasa*) and c) and i) (for *Tridacna crocea*, *T. gigas*, *T. maxima* and *T. squamosa*) contained in Annex 1 of document AC27 Doc. 12.3 and any additional information, and formulate findings for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Concerning agenda item 12.4:

2. For the 23 taxa selected following the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) and retained in the review after the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee:

2.1 In accordance with paragraphs k) and l) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13):

- a) Review the reports in the Annex to document AC27 Doc. 12.4 and the responses received from range States (made available by the Secretariat to the working group) and, if appropriate, revise the preliminary categorizations proposed by UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) for the species/range State concerned; and
- b) Identify and refer to the Secretariat problems that are not related to the implementation of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a); and

2.2 In accordance with paragraphs m) to o) of the same Resolution, formulate recommendations for species of urgent concern and of possible concern with deadlines for their implementation.

Concerning agenda item 12.5:

3. In accordance with paragraph b) of the same Resolution:

3.1 Review the information contained in the Annexes to document AC27 Doc.12.5, as well as information available to the Animals Committee, the Secretariat, Parties or other relevant experts; and

3.2 On the basis of that information, recommend species of priority concern for trade reviews by the Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative of Europe (Mr Fleming) and acting representative of North America (Ms Gnam);

Parties: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Indonesia, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: European Commission, International Trade Centre (ITC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UNEP-WCMC, Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums, Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Conservation Force, Conservation International, Fundación Cethus, Humane Society International, International

Professional Hunter's Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, ProWildlife, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, Swan International, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

The Committee noted the comments made in discussion of document AC27 WG1 Doc. 1, and adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG1 Doc. 1 with the following amendments:

- Replacement of the word "Cambodia" with the word "Viet Nam" in paragraph b) of the entry for Viet Nam under *Macaca fascicularis*; and
- Re-lettering, in alphabetical order, of the paragraphs related to Togo under *Chamaeleo gracilis*, Benin and Ghana under *Chamaeleo senegalensis* and the United Republic of Tanzania under *Kinyongia tavetana*.

13. Transport of live specimens [Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP16)]* (AC27/PC21 Doc.13)

The Committees noted document AC27/PC21 Doc. 13.

14. Review of identification and guidance material (Decision 16.59)* (AC27/PC21 Doc.14)

In compliance with Decisions 16.59, the Committees established an intersessional working group, comprising at least one representative from each region of both Committees, with the following mandate:

- a) assist in identifying CITES-listed taxa, taking account of existing CITES identification and guidance material, as well as other material produced by Parties, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations;
- b) determine, in collaboration with Parties, the current availability of identification and guidance material (printed and electronic) to enhance accessibility to such material;
- c) consult with Parties to assess the need for additional identification material, including material under production by Parties and requested in Decisions;
- d) review, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and, taking into account new Web-based technologies; make recommendations, including amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on Identification Manual; to promote accuracy and availability of identification and guidance material; and
- e) report progress at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 22nd meeting of the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: PC Chair (Ms Clemente) and AC representative of Oceania (Mr Robertson);

Members: AC representatives of Asia (Mr Soemorumekso), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Ouboter) and Europe (Mr Lörtscher); PC representatives of Africa (Ms Khayota), Asia (Mr Fernando), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rauber Coradin), North America (Mr Benítez) and Oceania (Mr Leach); and AC acting representative of North America (Ms Gnam);

Parties: China, Mexico, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre and Humane Society International.

The Committees agreed that the activity directed to them in paragraph d) of Decision 16.59 had been completed by the Secretariat, as presented in Annexes 1 and 2 of document AC27/PC21 Doc.14.

The Committees requested the Secretariat to assist the intersessional working group as appropriate, *inter alia*, by circulating Notifications to the Parties, if necessary.

15. Identification of sturgeons and paddlefish specimens in trade (Decision 16.137)..... (AC27 Doc. 15)

The Committee noted document AC27 Doc. 15.

16. Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade (Decision 15.64) (AC27 Doc. 16)

The Committee agreed that the representative of Asia (Mr Soemorumekso) and the nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm) should work inter-sessionally on the tasks directed to the Committee in Decision 16.137.

17. Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens (Decision 16.65) [AC27 Doc. 17 (Rev. 1)]

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 17 (AC27 WG2) with the following mandate:

Taking account of discussions in plenary and using information in document AC27 Doc. 17, and recognizing: a) that not all of the outputs requested under Decision 16.63.a) are yet available; and b) that discussions under other AC agenda items are relevant, the working group shall:

1. Identify common themes, difficulties and challenges with respect to the trade in specimens [claimed to be] derived from captive breeding, captive production or ranching (source codes D, C, R & F);
2. Review and consider the factors that result in these difficulties and challenges and elucidate any conservation implications arising from the concerns identified;
3. Suggest mechanisms which may help to mitigate the issues identified; and
4. Draft recommendations for consideration by the Committee and submission to the Standing Committee in accordance with Decision 16.63.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative of Europe (Mr Fleming) and the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Calvar Agrelo);

Parties: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, South Africa and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: European Commission, IUCN, Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Colombian Agroindustrial Company, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Conservation International, Defenders of Wildlife, Eurogroup for Animals, Fundación Cethus, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, International Professional Hunter's Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, ProWildlife, Responsible Ecosystems Resourcing Platform, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG2 Doc. 1 with the following amendments:

- Recommendation 1: Replacement of the words “these reports” with “the reports of both TRAFFIC and UNEP-WCMC”.
- Under Directed to the Standing Committee: Insertion of new paragraph v) containing the following text “agrees that, with respect to Decision 15.52, there is no need to seek to modify the number or definition of the source codes currently available”.

18. Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) (Decision 16.72)..... (AC27 Doc. 18)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 18 (AC27 WG3) with the following mandate:

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

1. Review the study contained in the Annex to document AC27 Doc. 18, undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.71, make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Committee; and
2. Focus its recommendations on the impacts of the legal and illegal trade on the species conservation in the wild, and on measures concerning the disposal of confiscated live specimens.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: The AC Chair (Ms Caceres);

Parties: Austria, Kuwait, Namibia, South Africa and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: IUCN, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free USA, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG3 Doc. 1 with the following amendments:

- Recommendation 1: Addition of the words “and calls for greater enforcement and capacity-building in the region” at the end of the recommendation.
- Recommendation 2: Addition of the words “and strategies for reducing demand for illegally sourced specimens” after the words “addressing the illegal trade in cheetah”.
- Recommendation 3: Addition of the words “and strongly encourages it to be convened before AC28” after the words “related to the illegal take and trade of cheetah”.

19. Snake trade and conservation management (Serpentes spp.)

19.1 Review of studies [Decision 16.103, paragraph a) and d)]..... (AC27 Doc. 19.1)

19.2 Reptile sourcing and traceability systems [Decision 16.103, paragraph b) to d)] (AC27 Doc. 19.2)

19.3 IUCN Red List assessments of Asian snake species (Decision 16.104)..... (AC27 Doc. 19.3)

19.4 Requirements for a traceability system for reptile skins..... (AC27 Doc. 19.4)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 19 (AC27 WG4), with the following mandate:

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

Concerning agenda item 19.1:

1. Review results of studies commissioned, when available, as well as the ITC study on python snakes in Asia, the UNCTAD/CITES study on Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South-East Asian Python, and other relevant studies and information; formulate guidance and recommendations that are pertinent to Decision 16.102, paragraphs a) to d), i.e. relating to:
 - Production systems for Asian snakes listed in CITES Appendix II (use of source codes; guidance for monitoring and controlling production systems);
 - Guidance for NDFs for Appendix-II snake species in trade;
 - Methodologies to differentiate between wild and captive-bred CITES-listed snakes in trade;

- High-value snake species in the pet trade; and
- Forensic identification of specimens of CITES-listed snakes in trade.

Concerning agenda items 19.2 and 19.4:

2. Examine the findings and recommendations concerning traceability of snake skins presented in the UNCTAD/CITES study on Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South-East Asian Python and in the Annex to document AC27 Doc. 19.4.
3. Examine any additional relevant information that is available concerning existing marking and tracing systems for snakes, accompanying certification schemes, and current technologies to implement such traceability and marking systems.
4. Based on these examinations, initiate the drafting of advice on the feasibility, development and implementation of a traceability system for snakes for the Committee to consider and report to the Standing Committee (SC65: progress reporting; SC66: final reporting).

Concerning agenda item 19.3:

5. Review the information on Asian snake species presented in the Annex to document AC27 Doc. 19.3, and any additional information, as relevant, on the IUCN Red List assessments for Asian snake species.
6. Formulate appropriate recommendations for consideration by the Committee, and communication to the Standing Committee, Parties or others as appropriate. Such recommendations may focus on species currently not included in the CITES Appendices, and that are or may be threatened by unregulated international trade.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative of Europe (Mr Lörtscher) and the representative of Asia (Mr Soemorumekso);

Parties: Brazil, Czech Republic, France, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Thailand and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: European Commission, International Trade Centre, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC and Development Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Humane Society International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, ProWildlife, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network and TRAFFIC International.

With the addition of the words “as a template” at the end of the first bullet point of recommendation 3, the Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG4 Doc. 1.

20. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.) (Decision 16.111) (AC27 Doc. 20)

The Committee established an inter-sessional working group to work on tasks directed to the Committee in Decision 16.111.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: AC Chair (Ms Caceres) and the representative of Asia (Mr Soemorumekso);

Parties: Canada, Indonesia and the United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature, Conservation International, Humane Society International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Species Survival Network, Swan International and TRAFFIC International.

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

- 21.1 Report of the Secretariat (AC27 Doc. 21.1)
- 21.2 Implementation by the Animals Committee of relevant provisions in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) (AC27 Doc. 21.2)
- 21.3 Evaluation of the “Register of licensed exporters and of processing and repackaging plants for specimens of sturgeon and paddlefish species” established in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)..... (AC27 Doc. 21.3)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 21 (AC27 WG5), with the following mandate:

1. Identify key challenges and needs in order for the Committee to implement its mandates under Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), including any resources required to address those needs.
2. Review the requirements of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) in the light of changes in trade, taking into account the issues raised in document AC27 Doc. 21.3, and provide advice on the revision of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) that may be required.
3. In doing so, identify aspects which may require input or consideration from the Standing Committee, particularly in relation to administrative and compliance matters.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: representative of Europe (Mr Lörtscher);

Parties: Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Poland, Republic of Korea and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, ITC, IUCN, Association of Northeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies, International Caviar Association, TRAFFIC International and WWF.

With the addition of the following words at the start of recommendation 2 “With respect to Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), the Animals Committee recommends that the Standing Committee provide advice on its implementation and”, the Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG5 Doc. 1.

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

- 22.1 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16) (AC27 Doc. 22.1)
- 22.2 Non-detriment Findings for CITES-listed sharks and manta rays..... (AC27 Doc. 22.2)
- 22.3 Guidance for making Non-detriment Findings for CITES-listed sharks (AC27 Doc. 22.3)
- 22.4 Report on the development of a Rapid Management-Risk assessment method for fish species through its application to sharks (AC27 Doc. 22.4)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 22 (AC27 WG7), with the following mandate:

1. In support of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16), the working group shall review the information provided by range States on trade in sharks and provide recommendations and guidance on issues related to the implementation of the shark species listings agreed at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), and in particular on making Non-detriment Findings (NDFs) for these species. In carrying out this work, the working group shall take into account information provided in documents AC27 Doc. 22.1, 22.2, 22.3 and 22.4 and other relevant information, as appropriate;
2. Identify challenges, such as scientific and technical gaps, and provide advice on approaches to making NDFs and implementing the CITES listings for sharks; and

3. Provide advice to Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as requested in documents AC27 Doc. 22.2, 22.3 and 22.4.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the representative of Oceania (Mr Robertson) and the acting representative of Asia (Mr Ishii);

Parties: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Japan Mexico, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Convention on Migratory Species, UNEP-WCMC, European Union, IUCN, Centre for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Fundación Cethus, Humane Society International, Korea Overseas Fisheries Association, Pew Charitable Trust, Swan International, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation

With the addition of the words “and related” after the word “fisheries” in recommendation 9 a), the Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC27 WG7 Doc. 1.

23. Freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae spp.) (Decisions 16.131 and 16.132) (AC27 Doc. 23)

The Committee established an inter-sessional working group with the following mandate:

Consider all information submitted on freshwater stingrays in response to the request made under Decision 16.130, and:

- a) identify species of priority concern, including those species that meet the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II of the Convention; and
- b) draft specific recommendations to the range States of freshwater stingrays.

The membership was decided as follows:

Parties: range States of freshwater stingrays (Argentina, Brazil, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), the United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: FAO, IUCN, Conservation of Nature, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, Fundación Cethus, Ornamental Fish International, Species Survival Network and Wildlife Conservation Society.

The Committee invited those members of the working group present at AC27 to meet informally.

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

24.1 Overview of species under review (AC27 Doc. 24.1)

24.2 Selection of species for the Periodic Review (AC27 Doc. 24.2)

24.3 Species reviews

24.3.1 Periodic Review of *Cuora galbinifrons*, *Mauremys annamensis* and *Chelodina mccordi* (Decisions 16.124 and 16.125) (AC27 Doc. 24.3.1)

24.3.2 Periodic Review of Felidae [Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP16)] (AC27 Doc. 24.3.2)

24.3.3 *Panthera leo* – Report of Kenya and Namibia (AC27 Doc. 24.3.3)

- 24.3.4 *Monachus tropicalis* – Report of the United States of America (AC27 Doc. 24.3.4)
- 24.3.5 *Pteropus tokudae* – Report of the United States of America..... (AC27 Doc. 24.3.5)
- 24.3.6 *Grus canadensis pulla* – Report of the United States of America (AC27 Doc. 24.3.6)
- 24.3.7 *Epicrates inornatus* – Report of the United States of America (AC27 Doc. 24.3.7)

Concerning recommendation 2 in document AC27 WG8 Doc. 1, the Committee agreed that if the Plants Committee agreed to the proposed intersessional working group to consider the periodic review process and possible revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16), it would propose the following membership:

Co-Chair: The AC chair (Ms Caceres);

Members: The representative, of Africa (Mr Kasiki), Asia (Mr Soemorumekso), Europe (Mr Lörtscher), Oceania (Mr Robertson), the Nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm) and the alternate member of Europe (Ms Gaynor).

Parties: Canada, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature, Humane Society International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International and WWF.

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 24 (AC27 WG8), with the following mandate:

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

1. Identify lessons learnt in the Periodic Review and provide advice on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16);
2. Based on information provided in document AC27 Doc. 24.1, the working group shall draft advice on the review of Felidae under Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP16) and the species selected for review between CoP15 and CoP17 for which reviews are ongoing, but for which a reviewer is required. The working group shall also evaluate if these reviews should be stopped, or otherwise provide guidance on how information, participation and support from range States could be obtained in compliance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16);
3. Make recommendations on the implementation of Decisions 16.124, 16.125 and 16.126 for the Committee to consider; and
4. Review the information and reviews presented in documents 24.3.3 to 24.3.7, and make recommendations to the Committee on the listing in the Appendices of the species concerned, clearly specifying the reference to the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the AC Chair (Ms Caceres) and representative of Africa (Mr Kasiki);

Parties: Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Chile, Czech Republic, Indonesia, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Trade Centre, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Born Free USA, Conservation Force, Conservation International, Humane Society International, IFAW, International Professional Hunter's Association, Safari Club International, Sustainable Users Network, Swan International, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

The Committee adopted recommendations in document AC27 WG8 Doc. 1 with the following amendments:

- Recommendation 7: Insert the words “for *Chelodina mccordi*” after word “review”.
- Recommendation 9: Insert the word “possible” before the words “changes in the nomenclature”.

The Committee noted that in relation to recommendations 10 and 13, the Secretariat, on behalf of the Committee, will provide copies of the proposals to the range States or former range States, and request that one or more of the States should submit the proposals for consideration at CoP17.

The Committee gratefully accepted the offer of Brazil to conduct periodic reviews for *Leopardus braccatus*, *Leopardus geoffroyi*, *Leopardus pardalis*, *Leopardus tigrinus*, *Leopardus wiedii* and *Puma yagouaroundi*.

25. Standard nomenclature [Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP16)]

25.1 Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature..... (AC27 Doc. 25.1)

The Committee agreed that the Nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm) should meet the CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species Secretariats to discuss the nomenclature and taxonomy of *Ovis ammon*.

25.2 Revised nomenclature for *Poicephalus robustus* and *Cordylus* (AC27 Doc. 25.2)

The Committee established a working group on agenda item 25 (AC27 WG6), with the following mandate:

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

1. Draft recommendations on nomenclature-related issues contained in paragraphs 2, 4, 5, 7-8 and 10-12 of document AC27 Doc. 25.1;
2. Draft recommendations on the implementation of Decision 15.64, a);
3. Provide guidance and advice on developments outlined in paragraphs 13 to 19 of document AC27 Doc. 25.1; and
4. Review document AC27 Doc. 25.2, and draft recommendations on the nomenclature of *Poicephalus robustus* and *Cordylus* spp.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm);

Parties: Australia, Chile, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa and the United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Convention on Migratory Species, UNEP-WCMC, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Conservation Force, Conservation International and Humane Society International.

The Committee adopted recommendations in document AC27 WG6 Doc. 1 with the following amendments:

- In paragraph 2 of the recommendation related to AC27 Doc. 25.1, replace the words “As there are considerable concerns by the IUCN/SSC Seahorse, Pipefish & Stickleback Specialist Group” with the words “The IUCN/SSC Seahorse, Pipefish & Stickleback Specialist Group has raised concerns” and delete the words “if regarded necessary”.
- Regarding the recommendation related to AC27 Doc.25.1 Paragraph 5: Replace the word “snapshot” with the words “time-specific version”.
- Regarding the recommendation related to AC27 Doc.25.1 Paragraph 12: Replace the words “also include the adoption” with the words “result in the acceptance”.

26. Regional reports

26.1 Africa (No document)

The Committee noted the oral report by the representative of Africa (Mr Kasiki).

26.2 Asia (AC27 Doc. 26.2)

The Committee noted the report in document AC27 Doc. 26.2.

26.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean [AC27 Doc. 26.3 (Rev.1)]

The Committee noted the report in document AC27 Doc. 26.3 (Rev.1).

26.4 Europe (AC27 Doc. 26.4)

The Committee noted the report in document AC27 Doc. 26.4.

26.5 North America (AC27 Doc. 26.5)

The Committee noted the report in document AC27 Doc. 26.5.

26.6 Oceania (AC27 Doc. 26.6)

The Committee noted the report in document AC27 Doc. 26.6.

27. Any other business (No document)

The Committee noted that the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission had requested the Committee, as related in a Secretariat report, to include the topic of queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) in its work.

28. Time and venue of the 28nd meeting of the Animals Committee (No document)

The Committee noted that the Chair had received an invitation from Israel to host AC28 in 2015 and that she looked forward to accepting this offer to host subject to the successful conclusion of the Host Country Agreement between Israel and the Secretariat.

29. Closing remarks (No document)

The Chair thanked the Committee members and her Vice-chair, Party observers, IGO and NGO observers, the interpreters, Mexico and the Secretariat, and closed the meeting.