



CITES COMMITTEE II SUMMARY TABLE: COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CoP17 | 2016

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17th Conference of the Parties, Johannesburg, South Africa (24 September - 5 October 2016)

DOCUMENT NUMBER & PROPONENTS	DOCUMENT TITLE	RECOMMENDATIONS
Doc. 4.1 (Secretariat), Doc. 4.2 (South Africa and Botswana), Doc. 4.3 (Israel), Doc. 11.	Rules of Procedure	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT IN PART</p> <p>Doc. 4.1 - Improves clarity around credentialing procedures, among other things. IFAW supports most changes but has concerns about limiting WG membership.</p> <p>Doc. 4.2 - IFAW supports requiring a 2/3 majority vote on amendments to Rules of Procedure.</p> <p>Doc. 4.3 - IFAW believes it is unnecessary to vote on the issue of whether this vote is procedural vs. substantive.</p> <p>Doc. 11 - IFAW supports establishing rules of procedure that are consistent across CITES subsidiary bodies.</p>
Doc. 12 (Standing Committee)	Potential Conflicts of Interest in the Animals and Plants Committees	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW supports the recommendation to extend the deadline for review of the effectiveness of COI process (previously agreed upon at CoP16).</p>
Doc. 14.1 (Standing Committee)	Cooperation with other Biodiversity- related Conventions	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW agrees that governments should do all they can to strengthen synergies at the national level, but the decision should make clear that any action of the Standing Committee should relate directly to implementation of CITES.</p>
Doc. 14.2 (Secretariat),	International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>The draft decisions call on Parties to use ICCWC's outputs for the benefit of enforcement objectives. IFAW is fully supportive.</p>
Doc. 15 (Secretariat),	Capacity Building	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>The draft decisions are comprehensive and support the important role that capacity-building plays in ensuring the robust implementation and enforcement of CITES.</p>
Doc. 20 (United States and South Africa)	Empowering the next generation: CITES and Youth Engagement; Report of the Youth Forum on People and Wildlife	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>This is a commendation of the IFAW-led Youth Forum on People and Wildlife, and of the Youth and Conservation Program initiated by South Africa.</p>
Doc. 22 (Secretariat)	Title: National Laws for Implementation of the Convention	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW supports the proposal to continue the work of the National Legislation Project (NLP), a critical compliance tool that has effectively served the Parties by providing targeted technical and legal support and ensuring the robust implementation of the Convention.</p> <p>We recommend amending Res. Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) to encourage adoption of domestic legislation that mimics aspects of the US Lacey Act.</p>

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Doc. 25 (Secretariat and the Standing Committee)	Enforcement Matters	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>These proposed decisions would build on previous work to address transnational organized crime and corruption, encompassing technical, legislative, and enforcement actions.</p>
Doc. 26 (South Africa)	Illegal International Trade in Wildlife	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Annex 1: Resolution urges Parties to strengthen cooperation relating to enforcement measures. Parties are urged to submit annual reports on illegal international wildlife trade, to be analyzed by the Secretariat and ICCWC (which would then submit a report to the SC and CoP, while establishing an information-sharing mechanism for Parties and a dedicated portal on ICCWC). Parties are urged to increase the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities, and are urged to involve local communities in decision-making, partnerships, and other areas.</p> <p>Annex 2: Directs the SC with Secretariat support to explore strengthening cooperation and collaboration between CITES and the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the UN Convention against Corruption and report back to CoP18. IFAW supports the draft resolution and draft decision.</p>
Doc. 27 (United States)	Actions to Combat Wildlife Trafficking	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW supports the proposed revisions to Res. Conf. 10.10, to urge parties to close domestic ivory markets, and believes that a further decision should be added to close domestic rhino horn markets.</p> <p>IFAW also supports analyzing potential domestic controls for additional species and for bioengineered wildlife products.</p>
Doc. 28 (E.U., Senegal)	Prohibiting, Preventing and Countering Corruption-Facilitating Activities Conducted in Violation of the Convention	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>The proposed resolution calls on Parties to adopt anti-corruption measures and to ratify the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).</p> <p>ICCWC and WENs are recommended to incorporate anti-corruption efforts into their work plans and all Parties are requested to report on activities to counter corruption.</p> <p>The Secretariat is asked to report credible allegations of corrupt practices and the Standing Committee to note these cases and make recommendations as appropriate.</p>
Doc. 29 (Kenya)	Combating Wildlife Cybercrime	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Kenya's proposal seeks support for addressing this growing trend before it becomes a dominant avenue for illegal trade. IFAW supports the further development of the Secretariat's e-portal and of the Secretariat's role in supporting cybercrime enforcement.</p> <p>Additionally, IFAW strongly urges the establishment of a Standing Committee working group to identify and review best practices and make recommendations to the Parties.</p>

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Doc. 31 (Standing Committee)	Implementation and Enforcement of the Convention as It Relates to the Trade in Species Listed in Appendix I	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>A new fit-for-purpose mechanism is desirable and beneficial and IFAW also believes that much of the possibly unsustainable trade may be addressed with the addition of the preambular language regarding trade under reservations to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) and the suggested amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16), clarifying that major compliance matters should be handled expeditiously in consultation with the Standing Committee.</p>
Doc. 32 (Standing Committee)	Implementation of the Convention relating to Captive-Bred Specimens	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>The resolution includes a process (modelled on the Review of Significant Trade) for reviewing trade in specimens claimed to have been bred in captivity. IFAW strongly supports this draft resolution and most of the changes proposed by the Secretariat, which help clarify the process.</p>
Doc. 34 (Standing Committee)	Disposal of Illegally-traded and Confiscated Specimens	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW supports this attempt to consolidate and simplify three previous resolutions that address the disposal of confiscated specimens. Further, IFAW fully supports the proposed decisions (to develop a questionnaire on the issue of live specimens and analyze results) and to continue the Working Group.</p>
Doc. 38 (Israel)	Identification of Elephant and Mammoth Ivory in Trade	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>This document proposes regulation of trade in mammoth ivory because of the difficulty in distinguishing mammoth and elephant ivory, and because this similarity is being exploited by illegal elephant ivory traders to avoid trade restrictions under the CITES Convention and domestic laws.</p> <p>IFAW supports this proposal, particularly those measures urging public education campaigns, measures to improve identification techniques and to establish penalties for mislabeling of specimens.</p>
Doc. 39.1 (E.U.) and Doc. 39.2 (South Africa)	Hunting Trophies	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT IN PART</p> <p>Doc. 39.1 - Most of the EU's proposals reflect current implementation of CITES as it applies to trade in hunting trophies, and the remaining proposals strengthen CITES' guarantee that species will not be overexploited due to trade. IFAW supports this resolution.</p> <p>Doc 39.2 - Much of this is aligned with the E.U's proposal, but IFAW is concerned that a few of South Africa's proposals, including recommendations regarding deference to an exporting countries' non-detriment finding and consideration of the potential conservation and socio-economic benefits of trophy hunting, are intended to obfuscate importing Parties' abilities to take stricter domestic measures or otherwise ensure the sustainability and legality of the import of hunting trophies.</p>

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Doc. 40 (United States)	International trade in live Appendix II animals to appropriate and acceptable destinations	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>Doc. 40 - proposes to amend the definition of “appropriate and acceptable destinations” for live rhino exports to mean destinations where both SA’s are satisfied that the trade would support in situ conservation. The proposal would also prohibit the offspring of elephants and rhinos traded to “appropriate and acceptable destinations” from entering commercial trade or being sport hunted.</p>
Doc. 45 (Secretariat on behalf of SC)	Traceability	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT AS PROPOSED BY THE SC</p> <p>IFAW supports the creation of a working group that will include individuals with expertise and a general interest in the subject of traceability. The WG will recommend a working definition of traceability systems in the CITES context and provide guidance on a governance structure to coordinate and oversee the development of traceability systems, among other things.</p>
Doc. 49 (Standing Committee)	Illegal trade in Cheetahs (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>)	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>A workshop, co-funded by IFAW, was convened in Kuwait in November 2015 with range States and Parties implicated in illegal trade and other relevant experts. At SC66, a set of recommendations from the workshop were adopted regarding public awareness and education, enforcement, cooperation and information exchange, and disposal of confiscated live cheetahs.</p> <p>The proposed decisions call on the Secretariat to (among other things) commission a CITES cheetah trade resources kit.</p> <p>IFAW supports the proposed amendment to broaden the scope of paragraph 17.C to CITES listed species, not only cheetahs. This decision requests the Secretariat to engage with social media platforms, search engines and E-commerce platforms on illegal Internet trade in CITES-listed species.</p>
Doc. 56.1 and 56.2 (Secretariat and Animals Committee)	Sharks and rays (<i>Elasmobranchii</i> spp.)	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>IFAW supports the Secretariat recommendation that introduction from the sea be addressed as a matter of urgency at the present meeting of the CoP, or by the Standing Committee and will continue to leverage its expertise and experience on species identification to support Parties’ capacity development efforts.</p>
Doc. 60.1 (Secretariat)	Species-specific Matters - Asian Big Cats: Report of the Secretariat	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>This document recommends deleting the already-implemented Decisions 16.68 to 16.70, and adoption of draft decisions agreed by the SC at SC66 and draft decision 17.L. These recommendations include continued progress reports to be developed by the Secretariat and reported to the SC. IFAW supports this proposed decision to ensure continued oversight of Parties’ captive tiger populations to ensure that no leakage to the black market occurs.</p>

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Doc. 60.2 (India)	Species-specific Matters: Asian Big Cats	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>Proposal would direct countries that currently have a tiger photo identification database to disclose that information to the Secretariat, and encourages tiger range states to develop an international photo database share images and speed identification of seized illegal tiger skins. IFAW supports the proposal and recommends Parties work with NGOs to populate national databases where they exist.</p>
Doc. 78 (Australia)	Sharing existing written science-based rationales and scientific information for non-detriment findings made for trade in CITES-listed species	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>This would amend Res. Conf. 16.7 to encourage Parties to make the scientific basis of their NDFs available for other Parties and stakeholders to review, learn from, and model future NDFs on.</p>
Doc. 16 (Standing Committee)	CITES and Livelihoods	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT IN PART</p> <p>This document proposes that Parties continue to develop programs that account for the impact of CITES decisions on rural communities. The draft decision invites Parties to promote the use of the CITES and Livelihoods Toolkit and “incorporate issues related to CITES and livelihoods into their national socio-economic and development plans.” With respect to national development planning, IFAW believes that the link between species and landscape conservation and development planning is critical for achieving multiple benefits and international conservation and development goals. As a result, IFAW supports the Secretariat’s recommendation to link this objective to GEF funding. However, IFAW believes that it should be made clear that the link between species conservation and livelihoods issues reflects also the benefits of species conservation to livelihoods in terms of ecosystem services and large-scale landscape health. IFAW is not supportive of the Secretariat’s recommendation for new case studies as it is unclear how these studies support the objectives of CITES.</p>
Doc. 17 (Antigua and Barbuda, Cote d’Ivoire, Namibia)	Livelihoods and Food Security	<p style="text-align: center;">OPPOSE</p> <p>CITES has long served the international food security agenda by ensuring that international market demand for certain species is not unsustainable and thus does not interfere with local needs, as well as ensuring that trade in species with commercial value as food commodities does not amount to overexploitation. The proposal is therefore unnecessary.</p>
Doc. 18.1 (United States)	Demand Reduction Strategies to Combat Illegal Trade in CITES-Listed Species	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPPORT</p> <p>This is a broad endorsement of DR strategies, including those on which IFAW staff possess considerable expertise. IFAW also encourages Parties to strengthen DR strategies by partnering with organizations such as IFAW.</p>

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Doc. 18.2 and Doc. 30 Annex (Gabon, Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo)	Wildlife Crime Enforcement Support in West and Central Africa and Development of CITES Demand-Reduction Guidelines	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Additional support for DR and LE in West and Central Africa is necessary, including information gathering and analysis, funding for capacity-building and technical assistance. IFAW encourages Parties to strengthen DR efforts through partnership with organizations such as IFAW.</p>
Doc. 47 (Secretariat)	Stocks and Stockpiles of Specimens of CITES-Listed Species	<p>SUPPORT IN PART / OPPOSE IN PART</p> <p>The Secretariat recommends a decision directing the SC to review any resolutions pertaining to stocks and stockpiles in light of their objectives, implementation, and resource implications. IFAW urges amendments that highlight the benefits of monitoring, management, and reporting on stocks and stockpiles—the review should not just focus on the downsides.</p> <p>Additionally, IFAW believes that it is important to further define terms (stock vs. stockpile) and encourages Parties to establish a SC WG to tackle this issue.</p>
Doc. 64 (Standing Committee)	Pangolins (<i>Manis spp.</i>)	<p>SUPPORT WITH QUALIFICATIONS</p> <p>Annex 1: IFAW supports outcomes of this resolution that focus on better deterrence and enforcement of pangolin trafficking violations. We oppose characterizing captive breeding as a potential solution.</p> <p>Annex 2: IFAW supports a decision directing the Secretariat to liaise with ICCWC and other partners to incorporate pangolin concerns into their work programs; and compile a report on conservation status, trade figures, enforcement actions taken, inventories of captive specimens, and demand management/ education/ awareness raising efforts.</p>



