

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

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

TORTOISES AND FRESHWATER TURTLES (TESTUDINES SPP.) (DECISION 16.111)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted the following interconnected Decisions concerning *Tortoises and freshwater turtles* (Testudines spp.):

Directed to the Secretariat

16.109 *Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall contract independent consultants to undertake a study, taking into account the findings of the Cancun workshop on non-detriment findings and other pertinent sources of information, to identify and discuss factors that are of particular relevance to make non-detriment findings for tortoises and freshwater turtles. These factors should include, but not be limited to, tortoise and turtle population status and dynamics, trade dynamics, production systems, and trade in parts and derivatives. This study should provide guidance to make non-detriment findings for tortoises and freshwater turtles.*

16.110 *The Secretariat shall make the results of the study referred to in Decision 16.109 available to the Animals Committee for consideration, if possible, at its 27th meeting.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

16.111 *The Animals Committee shall review the study undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.109 and make recommendations, as appropriate and, if possible, at its 27th meeting for consideration by the Standing Committee and the Parties.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

16.112 *The Standing Committee shall review the study undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.109 and the Animals Committee recommendations, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to the Parties or for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

3. The Secretariat has received very limited funding to carry out the study referred to in Decision 16.109. However, consultations have taken place with independent consultants to ascertain what work can be carried out with existing resources. Efforts are ongoing to raise additional funding for this work.
4. The Secretariat will provide an update on progress with the implementation of Decision 16.109 at the 27th meeting of the Animal Committee at the present meeting.

Recommendation

5. The Animals Committee is invited to take note of this document.