

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



Sixteenth meeting of the Animals Committee
Shepherdstown (United States of America), 11-15 December 2000

Other initiatives (CBD Decision V/8 and GISP) regarding trade in alien invasive species

TRADE IN ALIEN INVASIVE SPECIES

This document was prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Secretariat has been approached by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to identify areas of potential collaboration concerning alien invasive species on the basis of CBD decision V/8 (provided as Inf. AC.16.11), in preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CBD, in 2002. The Secretariat undertook to consult the Animals Committee on this matter, as it was not immediately apparent what role CITES could play. CITES does not provide for a restriction on specimens being exported on the basis of a potential impact on an ecosystem (i.e. to prevent the introduction of an invasive species into another ecosystem), but was designed rather to prevent negative impacts on ecosystems from where a specimen originates, as well as on the populations of the species traded.
2. The Committee is accordingly requested to consider the form of collaboration that could be developed between CITES and CBD concerning alien invasive species in general and CBD decision V/8 in particular.
3. The Committee might also wish to note the development of a comprehensive global strategy for addressing the problem of invasive alien species by the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP). The Secretariat will attempt to obtain the latest draft of this strategy for distribution at the meeting.