

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

Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Santiago (Chile), 3-15 November 2002

Committee II meeting

Thirteenth session: 14 November 2002: 9h05-10h00

Chairwoman: A.-M. Delahunt (Australia)

Secretariat: S. Baker
J. Barzdo
S. Nash
J. Sellar
W. Wijnstekers
M. Yeater

Rapporteurs: H. Gillett
J. Gray

The delegation of Saint Lucia requested inclusion in the second paragraph under item 28 of document CoP12 Com. II Rep. 9 of their remark stressing the need for continued capacity-building in the area of legislation and enforcement in the Caribbean sub-region. With this, and an earlier amendment submitted in writing by the delegation of Monaco, the document was adopted.

The delegation of Argentina noted that, like Brazil, they too had expressed reservations about the application of the new UN scale of assessment to CITES and requested that document CoP12 Com. II Rep. 10 be amended to reflect this. The document was then accepted as amended.

Document CoP12 Com. II Rep. 11 was accepted.

Strategic and administrative matters

9. Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

a) Budget for 2003-2005

The Chairwoman introduced document CoP12 Com. II. 8, noting the following corrections should be made: deletion of the footnote at the bottom of page 1; insertion, in the fifth operative paragraph of the words and the technical committees after "Standing Committee"; deletion of the paragraph beginning "INVITES" on page 3; re-numbering of the Annexes. The delegation of Switzerland strongly objected to the fact that this paragraph had been inserted in the first place and objected, in general, to the incorporation into a document of text referring to a particular Party, without that Party's prior knowledge. The Chairwoman stated that she would raise the issue with the Bureau. The delegation of Argentina proposed insertion of stressing after "and" in the last preambular paragraph, and this was agreed.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade control and marking issue

50. Management of export quotas

- a) Improving the management of annual export quotas and amendment of Resolution Conf. 10.2 (Rev.) Annex 1 on permits and certificates

The delegation of Germany introduced a number of proposed changes to their draft resolution in document CoP12 Doc. 50.1 Annex. The delegation of Israel requested clarification of the term "Parties concerned" in paragraph g). The delegation of Germany confirmed that this referred to Parties that had established a voluntary quota. The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania recommended the document be withdrawn as the issue of quotas in general was to be addressed by a working group of the Standing Committee. The delegation of Denmark on behalf of the Member States of the EU suggested that, if such a working group could not be established owing to budgetary constraints, the Standing Committee itself should be asked to consider the issue. It was the general view of the meeting that the issue should be directed to the Standing Committee, with the request that they report at CoP13. It was agreed that this should be approved as a Decision.

Other themes and issues

63. The rescue of dependent apes from war zones

The delegation of Kenya read out the text of two draft decisions as follows, to address the rescue of endangered species from war zones, explaining that it was not just apes that were affected by war.

Directed to the Secretariat

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.

Directed to the Standing Committee

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

The delegation of Uganda did not support the draft decisions, believing that the proposal could encourage poaching. The delegation of Sierra Leone, who also did not support the draft decisions, suggested that documentation should accompany rescued animals, indicating their country of origin. The delegation of Hungary and the observer from the Fund for Animals strongly supported the draft decisions. The Chairwoman called for a vote, the results being 51 in favour, 10 against and 19 abstentions. The text was therefore accepted.

64. Trade in traditional medicine

The Secretariat introduced document CoP12 Doc. 64, highlighting the final paragraph, which recommended deletion of Decision 11.165. The report and the recommendation were accepted.

65. Publicity materials

The Chairwoman drew attention to document CoP12 Doc. 65, noting that this was provided for information purposes only. The document was noted.

Strategic and administrative matters

16. Cooperation with other organizations

e) Statements from representatives of other conventions and agreements

The delegation of Denmark on behalf of the Member States of the EU introduced document CoP12 Com. II. 7 and added that Monaco was a co-sponsor of the draft decision. The document was accepted by consensus.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Exemptions and special trade provisions

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

The delegation of the United States of America introduced document CoP12 Com. II. 9, announcing an amendment to the draft decision, which should be directed to the Secretariat. The document was accepted.

Species trade and conservation issues

32. Conservation of the leopard, snow leopard and clouded leopard

The Chairwoman noted that the delegation of China had expressed concern at the previous day's decision-making in respect to document CoP12 Doc. 32 (Rev.1) Annex 1 which had been very fast because of time pressure and some points of which had not been well understood. The Chairwoman stated that she had reviewed some suggestions for minor technical changes in wording with the delegation of China, agreed in conjunction with the delegations of Cambodia, India, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, and noted that these changes were not substantive. With the agreement of the Committee she therefore allowed consideration of the following proposed amendments to the draft resolution that had been agreed. Under "URGES", in paragraph d), insert illegal after "from entering" and, in paragraph e) after "stocks", insert but not including pre-Convention specimens. Finally, under the second "RECOMMENDS", in paragraph a) insert gradually reducing and eventually after "develop strategies for".

The changes were agreed.

The session closed at 10h00.