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



Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

# Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Compliance and enforcement

# NATIONAL REPORTS

- 1. This document has been prepared by the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements<sup>1</sup>, and the Secretariat, and has been approved by the Chair of the Standing Committee for submission to the present meeting. To facilitate its consideration by Parties, the document is presented in four parts:
  - Part 1 provides information on the submission and analysis of annual and biennial reports;
  - Part 2 provides information on implementation of Decision 14.37 (Rev. CoP15) i.e. on special reporting requirements and Strategic Vision indicators<sup>2</sup> as well as the decision taken at the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC61, Geneva, August 2011) to extend the remit of the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements to include the gathering and analysis of data on illegal trade (pursuant to Decisions 15.42 and 15.43) and revised guidelines for the preparation and submission of annual reports;
  - Part 3 provides information on implementation of Decision 14.38 (Rev. CoP15) i.e. on harmonisation of reporting and reduction of the reporting burden, and
  - Part 4 provides information on implementation of Decision 14.39 (Rev. CoP15) i.e. on trade in artificially propagated plants of Appendix-II species.
- 2. This document proposes revisions to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP14) (see Annex 1) and Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP14) (see Annex 2), revision of a number of previous Decisions (see Annex 3) and a number of new draft decisions (see Annex 4) for consideration at the present meeting based on work undertaken so far by the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements and the Secretariat. It also requests comments and policy guidance on a proposal for a new report format (see Annex 5) to <u>replace</u> the existing biennial report.

### Part 1. Submission, analysis and use of annual and biennial reports

3. Somalia has been subject to a recommendation to suspend trade for the non-submission of reports since 2002 (see Notification to the Parties No. 2006/074<sup>3</sup> of 14 December 2006). The Secretariat and relevant authorities in Somalia have exchanged correspondence on this issue. The Secretariat is awaiting the submission of some additional information from Somalia, which would enable it to issue a Notification withdrawing the recommended trade suspension.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/E-SV-indicators.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2006/E074.pdf</u>

- 4. In accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP14)<sup>4</sup>, and on the basis of reports provided by the Secretariat, the Standing Committee has continued to monitor Parties' submission of their national reports. In documents SC61 Doc. 24<sup>5</sup> and SC62 Doc. 24.1<sup>6</sup>, the Secretariat provided information on the late submission and non-submission of annual reports to the 61st and 62nd meetings of the Standing Committee (SC61, Geneva, August 2011 and SC62, Geneva, July 2012). One Party was affected by a Standing Committee recommendation to suspend trade following SC61 and returned to compliance several months later. Following SC62, the Parties that were potentially affected by a Standing Committee recommendation to suspend trade to compliance at the time of writing (October 2012).
- 5. In collaboration with the Secretariat and under its contract with the Secretariat to assist with trade monitoring, UNEP-WCMC is developing an Annual Report Upload Facility which would allow Parties to directly upload their national trade data into the CITES Trade Database<sup>7</sup>. Parties which take advantage of the Facility would be able to view the data they upload but not the data uploaded by other Parties. Nevertheless, all uploaded data would be incorporated into the CITES Trade Database which is accessible and searchable by all Parties. The Facility should assist Parties with their submission of annual reports and has been created to allow for all three CITES working languages. Ongoing work to develop an online prototype of a revised report format, to facilitate the submission of Parties' reports on their implementation of the Convention, is described in Part 2 of this document.
- 6. With external funds provided by the European Commission, the Secretariat contracted UNEP-WCMC to prepare a review and analysis of data extracted from the CITES Trade Database. The review is tentatively entitled "*Recent trends in international trade in Appendix II species*" and is expected to be made available to Parties by the present meeting.
- 7. For the 14th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14, The Hague, 2007 and CoP15, Doha, 2010), the Secretariat used external funds to contract UNEP-WCMC to prepare analyses of the biennial reports submitted by Parties (see documents CoP14 Inf. 15<sup>8</sup> and CoP15 Inf. 43<sup>9</sup>). In view of the current low level of biennial report submission, no such analysis has been sought for the present meeting. Future analyses of the Parties' biennial reports are likely, however, once a revised report format has been agreed.

# Part 2. Implementation of Decision 14.37 (Rev. CoP15)

8. At CoP15, the Conference adopted the following decision regarding reporting under the Convention and the Strategic Vision indicators:

### Directed to the Standing Committee

14.37 The Standing Committee, with the assistance of its Working Group on Special Reporting (Rev. Requirements and the Secretariat, shall:

- CoP15)
  - a) continue its review of the recommendations to Parties to provide special reports under the Convention, assess whether they have been or might be effectively incorporated into the annual and biennial reports, and consider how the biennial report format might be revised to facilitate such incorporation;
  - b) revise the standard biennial report format to gather information from Parties on incentive measures for implementation of the Convention, conservation measures for Appendix-I listed species and case studies on user fees;
  - c) by its 61st meeting (SC61), follow up on how the reporting required in the indicators for the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013 would be undertaken and, by SC62, begin applying the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/res/11/11-17R14C15.php</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-24.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-24-01.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> http://www.unep-wcmc-apps.org/citestrade/trade.cfm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/inf/E14i-15.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> http://www.cites.org/common/cop/15/inf/E15i-43.pdf

#### indicators; and

- d) report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on its conclusions and recommendations.
- 9. Parts (a) and (c) of Decision 14.37 (Rev. CoP15) have been implemented through the work reported below, and the results incorporated into a draft proposed report format, which focuses on collecting information for the Strategic Vision Indicators. Part (b) of the Decision has been implemented by integrating questions on these topics into the draft report format. The latest version of the draft report format is contained in Annex 5 of this paper. The present paper fulfils part (d) of the Decision.
- 10. The Working Group's mandate was extended at SC61 to include work on revising the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* (SC61 Doc 25<sup>10</sup>) and on the gathering and analysis of data on illegal trade (SC61 Doc 31<sup>11</sup>). Work undertaken on these topics was reported at SC62, and is summarised below.
- 11. The Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements began its work later than anticipated because of initial difficulties in agreeing on membership and a chair of the Group. At SC61, the Standing Committee agreed to the recommendation in a discussion document on national reports (document SC61 Doc 24<sup>12</sup>) and re-established the Working Group, chaired by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with the following membership: Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Kenya, Switzerland, UNEP-WCMC, the Species Survival Network, and Secretariat. Germany and the Environmental Investigation Agency joined the Working Group at SC62.
- 12. The Working Group has focused on the need to keep reporting simple and targeted, to ensure the burden on Parties is minimised. It has considered that reports should assist with implementation of and compliance with the Convention, and that they should be used - by Parties, Convention bodies, or the Secretariat - to take forward the Convention's mandate. In particular, reported information should be used to assist decision making at specific meetings of the Conference of the Parties, Standing Committee, Animals Committee or Plants Committee. The Working Group has also recognised linkages with other Working Groups – including the Working Group on Revision of the CITES Strategic Vision, the Working Group on the Gathering and Analysis of Data on Illegal Trade, and the Working Group on Information Technologies and Electronic Systems.
- 13. The Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements had its first meeting in the margins of SC61<sup>13</sup>, and a second meeting in the margins of SC62<sup>14</sup>, followed by a face-to-face and virtual meeting of a subset of the Group on 12 September 2012. These meetings enabled the Group to take forward work and to develop this paper for the present meeting, including the review and identification of ways to revise the report format for biennial reports. The Working Group has also conducted its business by email.
- 14. This paper follows on from the report of the Working Group to SC62 (see SC62 Doc. 24.2<sup>15</sup>, which was supported by six annexes). That report documented findings, recommendations and proposed next steps with respect to each of following four issues:
  - A. Review of reporting requirements and potential for revision of the biennial report format;
  - B. Strategic Vision indicators;
  - C. Reporting on illegal trade;
  - D. Annual report guidelines.
- 15. The same structure is used for this part of this paper, together with two further sections:
  - A. Timing and delivery of CITES reports;
  - B. Next steps for the Working Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-25.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-31.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-24.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/com/E61-Com-03.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/com/E62-Com-04.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-24-02.pdf

# A. Reporting requirements and the format of the biennial report

- 16. In advance of the first meeting of the Working Group, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland developed a spreadsheet of reporting requirements contained within the text of the Convention and associated Resolutions, Decisions and Notifications. This was intended to serve as a resource to help the group see the breadth of requests for information that Parties face and to show the types of special reporting requirements which have arisen over the years. The 42 reporting requirements described in the spreadsheet (e.g. their legal status, level of submission, etc.) were reviewed by the Working Group and presented as Annex 1 of document SC62 Doc. 24.2<sup>16</sup>. Further work since SC62 has identified a few requirements that were missing from the previous version of the spreadsheet the total number identified is now 51. It is anticipated that the Working Group will make available the latest version of the spreadsheet as an information document at the present meeting.
- 17. With respect to reporting requirements and the format of the biennial report, the Working Group made the following recommendations (paragraph 40 of document SC62 Doc 24.2):
  - a) The Plants Committee, Animals Committee, and relevant enforcement authorities, should be asked to review the spreadsheet of reporting requirements developed by the Working Group on special reporting requirements and provide advice on whether any of the requirements have now become outdated or otherwise unnecessary and can be considered for deletion.
  - b) The Secretariat should be requested to consolidate a list of reporting requirements currently valid after each Conference of the Parties (and possibly after each Animals Committee / Plants Committee / Standing Committee). The Secretariat should advise each Standing Committee on options to meet the reporting requirements – for example by:
    - *i.* making them part of the biennial report format;
    - ii. asking for information from specific Parties; or
    - iii. seeking resources for a contract to collate the information requested.
  - c) While recognising the primacy of the Conference of Parties, Standing Committee should consider taking an overview of reporting requirements at each of its meetings and identify if the reports requested are a good use of Convention (Party or Secretariat) resources, including if any of the reporting requirements listed in the spreadsheet of reporting requirements have become outdated or otherwise unnecessary and can be recommended for deletion. Standing Committee should also consider whether it can take a decision or if it should remit the discussion to the following Conference of Parties for decision.
  - d) Standing Committee should consider the opportunities making CITES reports online would offer, including the opportunities that this offers for questions to be focussed to particular Parties, and decide whether further work on this subject should be undertaken by the Working Group on special reporting requirements.
- 18. At SC62, the Standing Committee agreed<sup>17</sup> to the recommendations, noting the need to avoid any unnecessary burden on Parties and the Secretariat. As paragraph 15. f) of document SC62 Doc 24.2 underpinned some of the recommendations, the Standing Committee amended it to read:

When making special reporting requirements, consideration should be given to making those timelimited, where this is appropriate, to avoid the potential for increasing unnecessarily reporting burdens.

19. The concept of making special reporting requirements time limited is to ensure that the list of topics on which Parties are expected to report is kept current, and that the list of requirements is managed. Taking an overview of reporting requirements on a regular basis would allow the biennial report to become a more relevant document, with some issues being deleted and others added each time it is issued. Such an ongoing review and revision process would allow the report to serve the changing needs of the Convention and remain relevant to decision making processes and support the discussions at Standing Committee / Animals Committee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/common/com/SC/62/E62-24-02-A1.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Item 24.2 in <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/sum/E62-ExSum05.pdf</u>

- 20. After SC62, the Working Group discussed further the potential for the biennial report format to be revised to consolidate identified special reporting requirements (see Annex 1 to document SC62 Doc. 24.2) and to provide a link with data collection for the Strategic Vision indicators. This has led to the revised report format presented in Annex 5. The spreadsheet of reporting requirements is being extended to facilitate the review of requirements recommended by the Working Group at SC62, and to identify possible links between individual requirements and the Strategic Vision indicators, though it should be noted that some of these links require more consideration. Based on a preliminary analysis of the 51 reporting requirements, it is suggested that 28 may need to be reviewed by Animals Committee, 11 by Plants Committee, and 22 by Standing Committee. For some of the requirements it is necessary to request more than one of the committees to undertake a review, as the subject matter is relevant to the expertise and mandates of all of the committees. An illustrative set of reporting requirements has been listed under indicator 1.3.1 in the proposed new reporting format in Annex 5 to show the breadth of reporting requirements that Parties have agreed, and to show how the new format can act as a prompt to Parties to provide the information requested.
- 21. Consideration has also been given to how reporting could be facilitated by an online reporting tool. Such a tool could potentially make the links with the Strategic Vision easily accessible via a simple icon that could display the indicator relevant to each question. Equally, there are a number of questions which would benefit from a "help" section, to assist Parties In interpreting the questions and perhaps provide definitions or examples where necessary. This could also be easily achieved through an online system. It is hoped that a demonstration of such a tool will be possible as a side-event at the present meeting.
- 22. Further thought is needed on the potential for streamlining of regional reports to Plants, Animals and Standing Committees, and whether a single standard reporting format (or even a single report) would suffice. Thought could also be given to the necessity for such reports as they do not appear to support any CITES decision making process. It is anticipated that the Working Group will be able to provide further advice on this to the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee in 2014 (SC65).
- 23. It is suggested by the Working Group that the text amended by Standing Committee (see paragraph 18) should be incorporated into the proposed revision of Res. Conf 11.17 (Rev. CoP14) in Annex 2. Draft Decisions to take forward the review of reporting requirements recommended by the Working Group are proposed in Annex 4, together with further work for the Working Group.
- B. Strategic Vision indicators
- 24. With respect to the Strategic Vision indicators, the Working Group made the following recommendations (see paragraph 41 of document SC62 Doc 24.2).
  - a) The biennial report format should be rewritten by the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements to focus more closely on the CITES Strategic Vision and data collection for the Strategic Vision Indicators.
  - b) Standing Committee should recommend to the Conference of the Parties how the Strategic Vision Indicators could be implemented; the Conference of the Parties should allocate appropriate resources for an annual or biennial update and publication process.
- 25. At SC62, the Standing Committee agreed<sup>18</sup> with these recommendations. The Working Group has subsequently rewritten the biennial report format under the structure of the Strategic Vision Indicators and presents it to CoP for consideration and comment (Annex 5 of this document). Note that changes to some of the Strategic Vision indicators have been proposed to make them fit better with circumstances which have changed since they were suggested, and to take account of changes in context such as the development of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit. These changes are highlighted by the use of coloured text and comments in Annex 5.
- 26. In Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP15), the Standing Committee is empowered to agree on changes to formats and guidelines for the preparation and submission of annual and biennial reports. The Working Group is therefore seeking input and policy guidance from the Conference, which will enable it to further develop and improve the outputs it has produced thus far and to submit them for consideration and possible adoption at SC65.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Item 13 in <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/sum/E62-ExSum02.pdf</u>

- 27. At this meeting, the Conference is invited to consider the resources needed by the Secretariat for compilation, analysis and graphic presentation of information on the implementation of the Strategic Vision indicators. There is work to be done to establish what the scale of costs will be to go from the current list of indicators, to graphs and explanations of what those graphs mean. The graphic presentation of the Strategic Vision indicators is likely to involve a number of steps, from countries providing the raw information via their reports, to someone doing the necessary collation and analysis, and then making the results publicly available either in a report or through a dedicated web page on the section on the CITES website dedicated to national reporting. As someone does that work, he or she is likely to come across definitional issues such as how to represent the number of Parties that did not respond. Essentially, for each indicator a recipe to go from the ingredients to the finalised graph and interpretation is needed. The cost of doing this is likely to be greater the first time the indicators are published than subsequently, as not all of the definitional stages will need to be repeated. The Conference will also need to decide how this will be managed, taking account of capacity within the Secretariat and the relative priority of other work.
- 28. Further work is necessary to make linkages to the Aichi Targets within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020<sup>19</sup> (which was adopted at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference to the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya, 2010), and global biodiversity indicators. The Working Group intends to present a paper about this, including further proposals for amendment of the annual or biennial reports, at SC65.
- C. <u>Reporting illegal trade</u>
- 29. At CoP15, the Conference adopted Decisions 15.42 and 15.43 (on gathering and analysis of data on illegal trade) which provide:
  - 15.42 The Secretariat shall establish an illegal trade database working group to:
    - a) design and implement a database to be used by the Parties and the Secretariat for the gathering and analysis of data related to illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species;
    - b) seek external funding to enable the group to conduct its activities, assisted by a relevant consultant if appropriate; and
    - c) report to the Standing Committee at its 61st and 62nd meetings on the progress of the working group.
  - 15.43 The Standing Committee shall consider the reports of the Secretariat and also consider:
    - a) endorsing any relevant recommendation or measure that could be implemented prior to the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16); or
    - b) requesting the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration at CoP16.
- 30. The Working Group on the Gathering and Analysis of Data on Illegal Trade envisaged by Decision 15.42 was established by the Secretariat, under the chairmanship of France. The Secretariat reported to SC61 on the Working Group's implementation of Decision 15.42 (see document SC61 Doc.31<sup>20</sup>). On the basis of this report and related discussions, the Standing Committee agreed that its Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements should consider the issue and that the Secretariat would request the Chair of the Working Group on the Gathering and Analysis of Data on Illegal Trade to postpone its further deliberations.
- 31. With respect to reporting illegal trade, the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements made the following recommendations (see paragraph 42 of SC62 Doc 24.2).
  - a) The annual report format could be used more effectively with respect to illegal trade; Standing Committee should stipulate that illegal trade data should be a mandatory annual reporting requirement for all Parties, rather than optional as it is presently. This will enable analyses to be undertaken on species traded illegally, and potentially will reduce the number of requests for special species specific reports.
  - b) Standing Committee should decide to incorporate a new status code field into the annual report to ensure that captures and seizures are recorded effectively, and this should be consolidated into the revision of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of annual reports.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> <u>http://www.cbd.int/sp/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/61/E61-31.pdf</u>

- c) Increased use of electronic permitting will allow trade data to be submitted to the CITES trade database online in close to real time. The potential scope to include collection of illegal trade information in the data collected through e-permitting should be considered by the Working Group on e-permitting.
- 32. Following clarification from the Chair of the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements at SC62 as to how e-permitting might allow early detection of fraudulent permits and on the timing of collection of illegal trade information, the Standing Committee agreed<sup>21</sup> to the recommendations of the Working Group.
- 33. The Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements agreed at its sub-group meeting in September 2012 that more work was needed to bring forward proposals on how to report illegal trade through the annual report, including how to handle the data collated, and the relationship between the fields of the annual report and the contents of INTERPOL Ecomessages. The Working Group agreed that this work should lead to proposals for consideration at SC65.

# D. Guidelines for the annual report

- 34. With respect to the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports*, the Working Group recommended (see paragraph 43 of document SC62 Doc 24.2) that certain issues be considered (e.g. regarding illegal trade and a new source code for specimens of CITES-listed species taken in the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State proposed by the Working Group on Introduction from the Sea), and that the revised guidelines and sample report be presented at the 63rd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC63, Bangkok, 2 March 2013).
- 35. At SC62, the Standing Committee noted<sup>22</sup> that "it had the authority under Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP14) to adopt new formats for annual and biennial reports". It invited Parties to send comments to the Secretariat by 1 September 2012 on the draft amendments to the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* and on the draft sample annual report contained in Annexes 4 and 5 to document SC62 Doc. 24.2, respectively.
- 36. At the meeting of a sub-group of the Working Group in mid-September 2012 the Working Group noted that no more comments had been received by the Secretariat. The Group agreed that UNEP-WCMC would produce a clean version of the revised guidelines by the end of that month taking account of comments provided at SC62. The Working Group was concerned whether Parties had had enough time to review the revised guidelines. It therefore agreed that the Secretariat would issue a Notification to the Parties requesting that Parties review and comment on the revised guidelines with a deadline of early December 2012. Any further comments could then be incorporated into the draft revised guidelines before the document deadline for SC 63, at which time it is hoped that the revised guidelines can be adopted.
- E. Timing and delivery of CITES reports
- 37. Since SC62, the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements has given some thought to the way in which CITES reporting requirements might be implemented. Essentially, there appear to be two main options:
- 38. Option 1 would consist of four reports:
  - a) An annual report (including both legal & illegal trade);
  - b) A very short biennial report (1-2 pages on main legal, regulatory and administrative measures);
  - c) A separate (annual, biennial or triennial) report process to collect information to support the Strategic Vision indicators;
  - d) Separate reminders for special reporting requirements to Plants Committee / Animals Committee / Standing Committee / Conference of the Parties as appropriate.
- 39. The advantages of option 1 would be that it reduces the biennial report to a minimal information requirement, thereby reducing the effort required to complete it; and clarifies very clearly the sorts of reports that now occur under the Convention.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Item 24.2 in <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/sum/E62-ExSum05.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Item 24.2 in <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/sum/E62-ExSum05.pdf</u>

- 40. The disadvantages of option 1 would be that it could be perceived to increase the reporting burden by creating four reporting streams, although in reality they already exist. It also reduces the legally-required biennial report to an irrelevance and it raises questions on whether Parties will respond to requests for information for the Strategic Vision indicators and special reporting requirements if these are outside the legally-mandated reporting processes of the Convention. It would also be more work to manage for the Secretariat.
- 41. Option 2 would be to maintain the current two reports:
  - a) An annual report (including both legal & illegal trade);
  - b) A somewhat longer biennial report including collection of data for the Strategic Vision indicators and a reminder of the special reporting requirements.
- 42. The advantages of option 2 would be that it brings all reporting within the legally mandated reports under the Convention (Art VIII, paragraph 7); it focuses the biennial report on collection of information to support Convention processes; and it would allow the Secretariat to focus work on the deadlines for the annual and biennial reports.
- 43. The disadvantages of option 2 would be a longer biennial report than under option 1, but it would be much more focussed and useful than at present.
- 44. The conclusion of the Working Group is that option 2 (maintaining two reports) is a better way forward, but that reminders for reporting requirements should also be sent to Parties <u>before</u> the reports are due.
- 45. Annual reports are currently due to be delivered by the end of October in the year following that which they refer to, but this seems quite a long time for delivery of the information. Such a late deadline also means that any synthesis or analysis of the trade data will lag significantly behind the trade happening, especially if reports are late. This does not seem to serve the information needs of the Convention well. Given modern technology, it seems possible to move this forward and perhaps make it three or six months after the calendar year end e.g. end of March or end of June. The Working Group considers that the end of June is the preferred option.
- 46. The same deadline; of 31 October in the year following after the second year it covers, applies to the biennial report. This again seems like a long time to deliver what is essentially a tick-box exercise. In addition, the biennial report is out of synchrony with the cycle of meetings of the Conference of the Parties. It might be more useful if these 'implementation reports' were submitted in synchrony with meetings of the CoP so that up-to-date information on implementation of the Convention is gathered in advance of Parties' discussions. A submission date a year in advance of the next meeting of the CoP would be more flexible and follow the approach taken by some of the other biodiversity-related conventions: six months is written into the text of the Convention on Migratory Species (Art. VI (3)<sup>23</sup>); and is the timescale used by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) tends to ask for reports about a year in advance of the relevant CoP (Art. 26<sup>24</sup> allows CBD CoPs to determine the intervals for the reports; they have tended to be on a four year cycle, with CoPs every two years). A year is suggested to allow the information gathered to be analysed and used in the development of papers to Conferences of the Parties via the preceding Standing Committee meeting, and in advance of the deadline for papers for CoP.
- 47. Article VIII, paragraph 7, of the Convention provides for an annual report and a 'biennial report' (i.e. every two years), but similar text for the CoP cycle (Article XI, paragraph 2) has been 'interpreted' to allow a change to a three year CoP cycle. It seems both a good streamlining initiative to move to a three year report cycle to match the CoP, and is also an opportunity to make the reports more useful.
- 48. As a result of these considerations the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements suggests that Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP14) and Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP14) be amended to bring forward the timescale for submission of the annual report, and to align the biennial report with the CoP cycle. Draft Resolutions to do this are presented in Annex 1 and Annex 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> <u>http://www.cms.int/documents/convtxt/cms\_convtxt.htm</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> <u>http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/?a=cbd-26</u>

- F. <u>Next steps for the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements</u>
- 49. At SC62, the Standing Committee agreed the Working Group should continue its work until the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2016). This will allow the Working Group to complete a number of ongoing pieces of work referred to in paragraphs 20-22, 28, 33 and 36 above and in the draft Decisions in Annex 4.

Part 3. Implementation of Decision 14.38 (Rev. CoP15).

50. At CoP15, the Conference adopted the following Decisions regarding harmonisation and streamlining of reporting:

### Directed to the Secretariat

14.38 The Secretariat shall:

(Rev.

- CoP15) a) continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions, UNEP and other bodies in order to facilitate the harmonisation of knowledge management and reporting;
  - b) identify additional ways to reduce the reporting burden on Parties, inter alia, in the context of Party-led initiatives, its ongoing review of the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties, its support to the Standing Committee on electronic permitting and its work with partners to compile and analyse CITES-related reports; and
  - c) report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the results of this work.
- 51. The Secretariat contributed to a report, published in April 2012, entitled *Promoting synergies within the cluster of biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements*<sup>25</sup>, which was prepared by UNEP-WCMC with the support of the Ministry of the Environment of Finland. One of the four key areas identified for the development of practical options to achieve synergies among the biodiversity-related MEAs was national reporting. Several side events were organised in other fora to present and discuss the report, but the Secretariat was unable to participate in them due to limited financial and human resources.
- 52. Partners in the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative (IKM), co-chaired by UNEP and the CITES Secretariat, are examining online platforms, and sharing experience in the development of such platforms, which would allow Parties to report better and more easily. They are also discussing the possible development of tools to 'mine' the reports across all partner MEAs for information. IKM partners have taken a policy decision not to work on the harmonisation of reporting because it is seen as a policy rather than a technical issue, which should be driven by States.
- 53. Parties in the Oceania remain interested in working to harmonise reporting across the biodiversity-related conventions and to reduce the reporting burden on Parties. In this connection, Australia has been an active member of the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements. The ongoing work under Decisions 14.39 (Rev. CoP15) 14.41 (Rev. CoP15) on artificially propagated plants of Appendix-II species is expected to contribute to reducing the burden of reporting on Parties.
- 54. Several discussion documents prepared for the present meeting have proposed that certain special reporting requirements, which are deemed unnecessary, not be continued past the present meeting. The status of work on electronic permitting is described in document CoP16 Doc. 34 and the Secretariat's work with partners to compile and analyse CITES-related reports is described in paragraph 6 above.

# Part 4. Implementation of Decision 14.39 (Rev. CoP15)

55. At CoP15, the Conference adopted the following Decisions regarding reporting on trade in artificially propagated plants of Appendix-II species:

# Directed to the Secretariat

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> <u>http://www.unep-wcmc.org/harmonization-of-national-reporting--key papers.580.html</u>

14.39 The Secretariat shall, subject to available funding, in consultation with the UNEP World (Rev. Conservation Monitoring Centre:

CoP15)

- a) conduct a survey of reporting practices of Parties relating to trade in artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II, e.g. regarding the degree of completeness and detail;
- b identify cases where the compilation of trade data pertaining to artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II has contributed to a significant extent to the detection of illegal trade or to any other analysis related to the conservation of wild flora;
- c) taking into consideration the results of paragraphs a) and b) above, analyse the Convention text and Resolutions in order to identify binding and non-binding elements of reporting, with special emphasis on artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II. The Secretariat shall list options for streamlining such reporting; and
- d) report on its findings to the Plants Committee prior to its 20th meeting.

# Directed to the Plants Committee

14.40 The Plants Committee shall, after considering the report of the Secretariat:

(Rev.

- CoP15) a) determine whether there are any taxa of Appendix-II plants artificially propagated for which detailed reporting is less valuable; and
  - b) report its findings to the Standing Committee at its 62nd meeting.

# Directed to the Standing Committee

14.41 The Standing Committee shall:

(Rev.

- CoP15) a) taking into consideration the findings of the Plants Committee, determine whether it is possible to streamline the reporting of trade in artificially propagated Appendix-II plants; and
  - b) report on its findings at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and submit draft wording to amend Resolutions concerned, where appropriate.
- 56. The Secretariat described its implementation of Decision 14.39 (Rev. CoP15) in an oral report to the 20th meeting of the Plants Committee (Dublin, March 2012) and a written report to SC62 (see document SC62 Doc. 24.3<sup>26</sup>). The latter report states that the Secretariat, with external funds provided by Switzerland, contracted UNEP-WCMC in February 2012 to conduct the study envisaged in the Decision.
- 57. Following completion of the study, UNEP-WCMC produced a draft report which it is reviewing with the Secretariat. In order to allow time for the Plants Committee to consider the report of the study and to formulate its own findings in accordance with Decision 14.40 (Rev. CoP15), the Secretariat requested SC62 to note document SC62 Doc. 24.3 and include the item in its agenda for SC65. The Secretariat pointed out that this timing would not allow the preparation of a document for consideration at the present meeting of the Conference of the Parties, but the Chair of the Standing Committee would be able to report on progress.
- 58. As Decisions 14.39 (Rev. CoP15), 14.40 (Rev. CoP15) and 14.41 (Rev. CoP15) have not been fully implemented yet, the Secretariat and the Chair of the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements suggest that they be continued and updated to reflect new dates for reporting.

# **Recommendations**

- 59. The Standing Committee recommends that the Conference of the Parties:
  - a) Adopt the draft Resolution containing proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP15) contained in Annex 1;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-24-03.pdf

- b) Adopt the draft Resolution containing proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP14) contained in Annex 2;
- c) Adopt the proposed amendments to Decisions 14.39 (Rev. CoP15), 14.40 (Rev. CoP15) and 14.41 (Rev. CoP15), contained in Annex 3;
- d) Adopt the draft Decisions contained in Annex 4;
- e) Provide comments and policy guidance on the proposal for a new CITES national report format under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention, which is based on the structure of the Strategic Vision indicators and contained in Annex 5.

### COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft amendments to existing Resolutions and the draft decisions contained in Annexes 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the present document.
- B. The Secretariat notes that various documents for the present meeting contain suggestions for additional special reporting requirements. Such suggestions should be considered in the context of Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP15) and the present document. They reflect the need for future guidance from the extended Standing Committee's Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements if it is continued after CoP16.
- C. The Secretariat believes that Decisions 14.37 (Rev. CoP15), 14.38 (Rev. CoP15), 15.42 and 15.43 have been implemented and can therefore be deleted.

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 4.6 (REV. COP14)

# SUBMISSION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FOR MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

NB: Text to be deleted is crossed out. Proposed new text is underlined.

•••

# THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

...

# RECOMMENDS that:

•••

 d) when drafting resolutions and decisions which require the gathering of information, a Party consider whether such information could be sought via the annual or biennial reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7, of the Convention, or if a special report is needed, and generally ensure that the reporting burden is kept to a minimum;

• • •

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 11.17 (REV. COP14)

# NATIONAL REPORTS

# NB: Text to be deleted is crossed out. Proposed new text is underlined.

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 9.4 (Rev.), adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (Fort Lauderdale, 1994) and amended at its 10th meeting (Harare, 1997), relating to annual reports and monitoring of trade;

CONSIDERING the obligation of Parties to submit periodic reports <u>on their implementation of the Convention</u> under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7, of the Convention;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the <u>annual national</u> reports <u>and biennial reports</u> as the <u>only available means</u> of <u>a tool for</u> monitoring the implementation of the Convention and the level of <u>legal and illegal</u> international trade in specimens of species included in the Appendices;

ACKNOWLEDGING the necessity for the annual <u>national</u> reports and <u>biennial reports</u> of the Parties to be as complete as possible and to be comparable;

CONSIDERING that the provisions of Article XII, paragraph 2 (d), of the Convention require the Secretariat to study the periodic reports of Parties;

APPRECIATING the valuable assistance in meeting this responsibility provided by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre under contract to the Secretariat;

NOTING that the use of computers can help to ensure that trade statistics and information on Convention implementation are dealt with more effectively;

CONCERNED that many Parties have not followed the recommendations of the Conference of the Parties and of the Secretariat that the annual reports be submitted by 31 October following the year for which they are due and following the guidelines for the preparation of such reports;

FURTHER CONCERNED that many Parties have not regularly submitted biennial reports;

# THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

URGES all Parties to submit their annual reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), by 30 June following the year for which they are due and in accordance with the most recent version of the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* distributed by the Secretariat and as may be amended with the concurrence of the Standing Committee;

URGES all Parties to submit their biennial reports required under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b) one year before each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, beginning with the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, by 31 October following the year for which they are due and in accordance with the *Biennial report format* distributed by the Secretariat, as may be amended by the Secretariat from time to time with the concurrence of the Standing Committee;

ALSO URGES all Parties to submit biennial reports covering the same two-year periods beginning with the period from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2004;

FURTHER <u>ALSO</u> URGES Parties with multiple Management Authorities to submit a coordinated annual and biennial <u>national</u> reports to the extent possible;

ACKNOWLEDGES that the Conference of the Parties may request that Parties provide special reports not required by the Convention, if additional information is needed that cannot be sought via the <u>annual or biennial</u> <u>national</u> reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7, of the Convention;

<u>RECOGNIZES</u> that the Conference of the Parties, when requesting special reports, should give consideration to making those special reports time-limited, where this is appropriate, to avoid the potential for increasing unnecessarily reporting burdens;

RECOMMENDS that each Party to the Convention, if a member of a regional trade agreement within the meaning of Article XIV, paragraph 3, of the Convention, include in its annual reports information on trade in specimens of species included in Appendices I, II and III with other member States of that regional trade agreement, unless the record-keeping and reporting duties of Article VIII are in direct and irreconcilable conflict with the provisions of the regional trade agreement;

RECOMMENDS that, when compiling their annual reports in accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 7, of the Convention and this Resolution, Parties pay particular attention to the reporting of trade in specimens of species subject to annual export quotas. For these species, the report should indicate the level of the quota and the amount actually exported. In cases where trade is authorized in the reporting year in specimens obtained under a quota for the previous year, this should be reflected in the annual report;

URGES every Party to consider whether the preparation of its statistical and implementation <u>national</u> reports could be computerized and the submission of such reports made in electronic format;

FURTHER URGES Parties experiencing problems with the regular preparation and submission of annual or biennial national reports to seek assistance from the Secretariat to produce those reports;

RECOMMENDS that Parties studying or developing computer programmes for licensing and reporting trade as well as managing other information under the Convention consult with each other, and with the Secretariat, in order to ensure optimal harmonization and compatibility of systems;

DECIDES that:

- a) failure to submit an annual report by <del>31 October</del> <u>30 June</u> of the year following the year for which the report was due constitutes a major problem with the implementation of the Convention, which the Secretariat shall refer to the Standing Committee for a solution in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP15)<sup>27</sup>; and
- b) the Secretariat may approve a valid request from a Party for a reasonable extension of time to the <u>31 October</u> deadline for the submission of <u>annual or biennial</u> <u>national</u> reports provided the Party submits to the Secretariat a written request, containing adequate justification, before that deadline;

INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to determine, on the basis of reports presented by the Secretariat, which Parties have failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution;

RECOMMENDS that Parties not authorize trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with any Party that the Standing Committee has determined has failed, for three consecutive years and without having provided adequate justification, to provide the annual reports required under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (a), of the Convention within the deadline (or any extended deadline) provided in the present Resolution;

APPEALS to all Parties, and to <u>intergovernmental organizations and</u> non-governmental organizations interested in furthering the objectives of the Convention, to make financial contributions to the Secretariat to support the trade and other monitoring work of the Secretariat and that of the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre undertaken under contract to the Secretariat; and

REPEALS Resolution Conf. 9.4 (Rev.) (Fort Lauderdale, 1994, as amended at Harare, 1997) – Annual reports and monitoring of trade.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Corrected by the Secretariat following the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties: originally referred to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (*Rev.* CoP14).

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DECISIONS 14.39, 14.40 AND 14.41

# REPORTING ON TRADE IN ARTIFICIALLY PROPAGATED PLANTS

### NB: Text to be deleted is crossed out. Proposed new text is underlined.

### Directed to the Secretariat

#### 14.39 (Rev. CoP15 CoP16)

The Secretariat shall, subject to available funding, in consultation with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre:

- a) conduct a survey of reporting practices of Parties relating to trade in artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II, e.g. regarding the degree of completeness and detail;
- b) identify cases where the compilation of trade data pertaining to artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II has contributed to a significant extent to the detection of illegal trade or to any other analysis related to the conservation of wild flora;
- c) taking into consideration the results of paragraphs a) and b) above, analyse the Convention text and Resolutions in order to identify binding and non-binding elements of reporting, with special emphasis on artificially propagated plants of taxa included in Appendix II. The Secretariat shall list options for streamlining such reporting; and
- d) report on its findings to the Plants Committee prior to its 20th 21st meeting.

### Directed to the Plants Committee

#### 14.40 (Rev. CoP15 CoP16)

The Plants Committee shall, after considering the report of the Secretariat:

- a) determine whether there are any taxa of Appendix-II plants artificially propagated for which detailed reporting is less valuable; and
- b) report its findings to the Standing Committee at its 62nd 65th meeting.

#### Directed to the Standing Committee

#### 14.41 (Rev. CoP15 CoP16)

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) taking into consideration the findings of the Plants Committee, determine whether it is possible to streamline the reporting of trade in artificially propagated Appendix-II plants; and
- b) report on its findings at the 16th 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and submit draft wording to amend Resolutions concerned, where appropriate.

# DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

### Directed to Parties

- 16.AA Parties should:
  - a) Submit the report for 2013-2014 using the revised format agreed at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC65) for reporting under the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention;
  - b) Submit a special report by 30 June 2014, using a format provided by the Secretariat, which provides statistical information for the calendar year 2013 on: administrative measures (e.g. fines, bans, suspensions) imposed for CITES-related violations; significant seizures, confiscations and forfeitures of CITES specimens; criminal prosecutions or other court actions; and disposal of confiscated specimens.

#### Directed to the Standing Committee

- 16.BB The Standing Committee, with the assistance of its Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements and the Secretariat, shall undertake the following actions at its 65th meeting or, if necessary, its 66th meeting (SC65 and SC66):
  - a) adopt a revised format for reporting under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b) and ensure distribution of the revised format through a Notification to the Parties;
  - b) review identified special reporting requirements and the results of related reviews undertaken by the Animals and Plants Committees in accordance with Decision 16.CC;
  - c) assess whether each special reporting requirement identified in paragraph b) above is still current and valid, or whether it is outdated or otherwise unnecessary and can be considered for deletion, taking account of advice from Animals and Plants Committees as appropriate;
  - consider how best to assist Parties with the preparation and submission of national reports, including the opportunities offered for using information technology to capture information using online or electronic report formats;
  - consider appropriate means for collecting statistical information on illegal trade through the annual report, taking into account the data fields contained in the INTERPOL Ecomessage or other relevant reporting formats;
  - f) consider the linkages between the CITES Strategic Vision and its indicators and the Aichi Targets, including how best to report CITES input to achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, its Aichi Targets and related global biodiversity indicators;
  - g) consider whether any CITES Strategic Vision indicators should be amended, deleted or added;
  - h) provide advice to the Secretariat on the publication of the outcomes resulting from implementation of the CITES Strategic Vision Indicators; and
  - i) prepare a report to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the results of this work and its future recommendations, if any.

### Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

16.CC The Animals and Plants Committees, with the assistance of the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements and the Secretariat, shall undertake the following actions at their 27th meeting (AC27) and 21st meeting (PC21), respectively:

- a) review the special reporting requirements identified by the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements which relate to animals and plants, respectively;
- b) assess whether any of these reporting requirements are still current and valid, or whether they are outdated or otherwise unnecessary and can be considered for deletion; and
- c) advise the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements of the results of the review and assessments mentioned in paragraphs a) and b) above, in a timely manner, so it can provide a collated report on valid reporting requirements to the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC65).

### Directed to the Secretariat

- 16.DD The Secretariat shall:
  - a) continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions, UNEP and other bodies in order to facilitate the harmonisation of knowledge management and streamlining of reporting, including ways to reduce the burden of reporting on Parties;
  - b) identify potential financial and other resources for publishing the outcomes resulting from implementation of the CITES Strategic Vision and its indicators;
  - c) support the work of the Standing Committee and the Animals and Plants Committees, including their efforts to ensure that the graphic presentation of information on implementation of the Strategic Vision indicators is published on the CITES website by the end of 2015 and then updated as resources allow, and as new information becomes available;
  - d) develop a special report format for use by Parties, under Decision 16.AA in providing statistical information for the calendar year 2013 on: administrative measures (e.g. fines, bans, suspensions) imposed for CITES-related violations; significant seizures, confiscations and forfeitures of CITES specimens; criminal prosecutions or other court actions; and disposal of confiscated specimens.
  - e) collate for the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee a list of the currently valid reporting requirements under the Convention and advise on appropriate mechanisms for their implementation; and
  - f) report at the 65th and 66th meetings of Standing Committee and at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the results of this work.

# PROPOSAL FOR A NEW NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT UNDER ARTICLE VIII, PARAGRAPH 7 (B)

The following is a proposal for a new CITES national report format under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention developed by the Standing Committee Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements to <u>replace</u> the existing biennial report. The proposed new format has been presented in the structure of the CITES Strategic Vision (as presented in document SC62 Doc 13<sup>28</sup>) to make the input of the report to the Strategic Vision indicators more obvious. If further changes to the CITES Strategic Vision are made as a result of deliberations at CoP16, they will need to be reflected in this document.

Questions in the existing biennial report format that do not seem to contribute to collection of information for the Strategic Vision indicators have not been brought into this new format. The questions which have been transferred from that existing format may have been amended to ask for information more directly linked to the indicators. The 21 questions (of 109) that have been transferred are labelled in parentheses under the new question numbers in this version to help with read-across from old to new. For a majority of the Strategic Vision indicators, new questions were needed to ensure data for the Strategic Vision Indicators are collected. Overall, compared to the current biennial report, the size of the report format has been reduced by just over a quarter.

In a few places, revisions to the Strategic Vision indicators are suggested – these are to take account of changes to the context in which the indicators were proposed – for example, under Strategic Vision Objective 1.7 on enforcement, the development of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, or to make the indicators more focused.

Further changes may be needed when work has been undertaken to look at the potential for CITES to contribute to the Aichi targets within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as measured by the global indicators. In addition, new questions are likely to be needed if new special reporting requirements are agreed by Parties, or existing requirements are deleted (see indicator 1.3.1).

If the report can be implemented as an online format, it may be possible for previous responses to be prepopulated into the form, thereby speeding up the completion of the report by Parties, which would then only need to check previous responses and make changes if circumstances have changed. Whichever way the report is implemented, further work on layout of the questions will be necessary to ensure the format is easy to read and complete, including ensuring that sufficient space is allowed for textual answers to be provided.

Guidance to provide more support on how to interpret the questions may be worth considering. This could be a stand alone document, footnotes in this document, or if an online report format is produced, could be drop-down windows as required.

Explanation of text colours and formatting used:

- Text in green has been used to distinguish the Strategic Vision Indicators from the questions being asked in the report format.
- Text in <u>purple underlined</u> has been used to denote proposals for changes to the Strategic Vision Indicators. The reasons for changes are explained in comments.
- Text in green strikethrough and grey highlight has been used to show deleted text from the previous definition of an indicator.
- Text in *blue italics* has been used to provide comment on where information would be sourced if not from this report format, or to provide comment on issues to be resolved.

The proposed format is 20 pages long, however most of the questions are in check-box format and should therefore be relatively easy for Parties to complete. If Parties feel the format is too long then they are invited to suggest which indicators or questions should be deleted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> <u>http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/E62-13.pdf</u>

# **Draft National Report structure**

The format below follows the structure of the CITES Strategic Vision and aims to collect information to enable the <u>Strategic Vision Indicators</u> to be implemented.

### **CITES vision statement**

Conserve biodiversity and contribute to its sustainable use by ensuring that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade, thereby contributing to the significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss and making a significant contribution towards achieving the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b), of the Convention requires each Party to submit to the CITES Secretariat a report on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the provisions of the Convention.

The report format allows Parties to present information in a standard manner, so that it can be easily computerised, with three main objectives:

- i) To enable monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of the Convention;
- ii) To facilitate the identification of major achievements, significant developments, or trends, gaps or problems and possible solutions; and
- iii) Provide a basis for substantive and procedural decision-making by the Conference of the Parties and various subsidiary bodies.

Information on the nature and extent of CITES trade should be incorporated into the annual report (Article VIII paragraph 7 (a), whereas the report provided under Article VIII paragraph 7 (b) should focus on measures taken to implement the Convention.

The report should cover the period from  $[xx \text{ to } yy^{29}]$ . The report should be submitted to the Secretariat by 30 June of the year following the reporting period.

Reports should be prepared in one of the three working languages of the Convention (English, French, Spanish).

Parties are *strongly* encouraged to prepare and submit their reports in electronic form. This will facilitate timely integration of information from Parties into publication of the Strategic Vision Indicators. If reports are only provided in hard copy resources will be needed at the Secretariat to make an electronic copy, and this is not good use of Secretariat resources.

The completed report should be sent to:

CITES Secretariat International Environment House 11 Chemin des Anémones CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva Switzerland

Email: info@cites.org

Tel: +41-(0)22-917-81-39/40 Fax: +41-(0)22-797-34-17

If a Party requires further guidance on completing their report please contact the CITES Secretariat at the address above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Edit required when report format issued: i.e. from the submission date of the last report, to the submission deadline of the next report.

Party	
Period covered in this report	
Department or agency preparing this report	
Contributing departments, agencies and organisations	

# GOAL 1 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH AND IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONVENTION

# Objective 1.1 Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through appropriate policies, legislation and procedures.

Indicator 1.1.1 The number of Parties that are in category 1 under the national legislation project. Note: Secretariat determines category, in consultation with the concerned Party, and reports regularly to the Standing Committee.

1.1.1a		TES-relevant legislation already been Yes						
(B1)	provided under the CITE	S Nation	al Legisla	tion Project?	Partly	Partly		
					No			
					No infor	mation /	unknown	
1.1.1b	Has any more legislation	Has any more legislation been drafted, enacted, amended or reviewed during this reporting period? Yes $\Box$ No $\Box$						
	If Yes, please submit de	tails to the	e Secretar	iat.				
1.1.1c	Have you adopted or removed any stricter domestic measures within your country since the last biennial report Yes No							
(B5)	If yes, which of the fo domestic measures accordance with Article	adopte	ed for	CITES-listed	species	(in	Tick all applicable	
			The cond	ditions for:	The c	prohibition of:		
	Issue	Yes	No	No information	Yes	No	No information	
	Import							
	Export							
	Taking							
	Possession							
	Transport							
	If you have any other me	easures p	lease spe	cify here				
	Additional comments							

# Indicator 1.1.2 The number of Parties that have designated Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities. Note: Information to be sourced from the CITES directory.

Have any changes in the designations of the Management		
Authority(ies) and Scientific Authority(ies) been communicated	No	
to the Secretariat (Article IX)?	No information / unknown	

1.1.3a	Have steps been taken to obtain the withdrawal of any Yes recommended trade suspension? No No information / u	
	If Yes, please provide a brief summary of action taken:	

# Objective 1.2 Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens.

Indicator 1.2.1 The number of Parties that have adopted standard transparent procedures for the timely issuance of permits in accordance with Article VI of the Convention.

1.2.1a	Do you have transparent procedures in place for the timely issuance of permits in accordance with Article VI of the Convention?				
1.2.1b (D5 Q1)	Have you changed your permit format or security paper during	g this rep	• •	es 🗌 No 🗌	
Q.)	If yes, please provide a copy or confirm that it has already bee	en sent t	to the Secretari	at:	
1.2.1c	Do you use phytosanitary certificates for artificially propagated	d specim	nens?		
			Ye	es 🗌 No 🗌	
1.2.1d	Do you have a computerised permit / certificate system?		Ye	es 🗌 🛛 No 🗌	
	Do you currently have an electronic permitting <sup>30</sup> system?		Ye	es 🗌 🛛 No 🗌	
	If yes, please provide information on challenges faced or issue	es overc	come:		
	If no, do you have any plans to move towards e-permitting?		Ye	es 🗌 🛛 No 🗌	
	Please explain what might help you to move in that direction:				
1.2.1e	Does the Management Authority consult the Scientific Authority on the following activities (as listed in <u>Res. 10.3</u> )?	No	Sometimes	Always	
	The issuance of export permits or of certificates for introduction from the sea for Appendix-I or -II species for them to determine whether or not the proposed trade would be detrimental to the survival of the species in question;				
	The issuance of permits for the import of specimens of Appendix-I species for them to determine whether or not the import will be for purposes not detrimental to the survival of the species;				
	The suitability of the intended recipient to house and care for live specimens of Appendix-I species being imported or introduced from the sea, prior to issuance of permits or certificates;				
	Whether or not scientific institutions seeking registration for the purpose of being issued labels for scientific exchange meet the criteria established in <u>Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev.</u> <u>CoP12</u> ), and other standards or any stricter national requirements;				
	Whether applications submitted for consideration under Article VII, paragraph 4 or 5, meet the criteria for producing specimens considered to be bred in captivity or artificially propagated in accordance with the Convention and relevant Resolutions;				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> e-permitting refers to the electronic (paperless) management of the permit business process, including permit application, MA-SA consultations, permit issuance, notification to customs and reporting.

If No to any of the above, please explain why not:

# Indicator 1.2.2 The number of Parties making use of the simplified procedures provided for in <u>Resolution</u> <u>Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15</u>).

1.2.2a (D5	Has your country develop	as your country developed written permit procedures for any of the following?					
Q2)		Tick all applicable					
		Are these				e these	
		Yes	No	No information	procedures available to the public?	simplified procedures as provided for in Resolution 12.3?	
	Permit issuance/acceptance						
	Registration of traders						
	Registration of producers						

# Indicator 1.2.3<sup>31</sup> The number of Parties using incentive measures as part of their implementation of the Convention.

1.2.3a	Do you use incentive measures to implement the Convention?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌
	If yes, please provide a summary or link to further information		

# Objective 1.3 Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

Indicator 1.3.1 The number of Parties that have implemented relevant Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties.

1.3.1	Have you provided information to the Secretariat in accordance with the following special reporting requirements <sup>32</sup> ?			Tick if applicable				
	Reporting Requirement	Subject	Yes	Partly	No	Not Applicable	No Information	
	Res. Conf. 13.2 (Rev. CoP14)	Addis Ababa principles						
	Article XVI Res. Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP15)	Appendix III						
	Res. Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP15) Decision 15.46	Asian big cats						

New indicator proposed to meet the WG SRR mandate on incentive measures. Definition of Incentive Measures needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> This is a preliminary list as the WG SRR are still determining which requirements should be included here, and which have already been picked up elsewhere under other indicators.

1	Res. Conf. 11.4 (Rev. CoP12)	cetaceans				
	Article XIII					
	 Res. Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP15)	compliance				
	Res. Conf. 14.3	•				
	Res. Conf. 11.3	convicted traders				
	Decision 15.57	e-commerce				
	Res. Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP15)	elephants				
	Decision 15.86	humphead wrasse				
	Res. Conf. 11.19	identification manual				
	Res. Conf. 9.20 (Rev. CoP15)	marine turtles				
	Res. Conf. 9.19 (Rev. CoP15)	nurseries				
	Article VII paragraph 3	personal and				
	Notification 2006/041	household effects				
	Res. Conf. 10.20	pets				
	Notification 2006/041	hero				
	Res. Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP14)	plants				
	Res. Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15)	ranching				
	Res. Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15)	regional reports				
	Article VII paragraph 6	registered institutions				
	Res. Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15)	registered operations				
	Article XV paragraph 3	reservations				
	Res. Conf. 9.14 (Rev. Cop15)	rhino				
	Decision14.93 (Rev. CoP15)	saiga				
	Decision 14.95	saiga				
	Res. Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP15)	sharks				
	Res. Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP14)	sturgeon				
	Notification 2010/034	sturgeon certificates				
	Res. Conf. 11.8 (Rev. CoP13)	Tibetan antelope				
	Notification 2004/44	tortoise				
	Decision 15.83	turtles / tortoise				
	Res. Conf. 15.2	wildlife trade policy reviews				
1.3.1b (D8 Q2)	Were any difficulties encountered in imple Resolutions or Decisions adopted by the Parties?					
(D8 Q3)	If Yes, which one(s), and what difficulties	were / are being encount	ered	?		

# **Objective 1.4** The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species.

Indicator 1.4.1 The number and proportion of species that have been found to meet the criteria contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 or its successors. This includes both the periodic review and amendment proposals.

Note: This would include number of proposals that have been adopted to amend the Appendices since CoP10 (when Conf. Res.9.24 would have been implemented) and number of species that have been assessed under the in periodic review since CoP10. Secretariat will have information available in CoP and AC/PC records and reports.

Indicator 1.4.2<sup>33</sup> The number of <u>taxonomic groups subject to systematic reviews to determine which species</u> <u>might qualify for listing on the CITES Appendices</u> <del>unlisted species subject to significant levels</del> of international trade, for which the trade and biological information is evaluated via a transparent mechanism including IUCN Red List and other data to identify species that would benefit from inclusion in the Appendices and the number of such species subsequently included in the Appendices.

1.4.2a	Have you undertaken, or taken part in, any systematic reviews of taxonomic groups to determine if any species qualify for listing on the CITES Appendices?	Yes No No information	
	If Yes, please list the taxonomic group(s) and the outcomes?		

# Objective 1.5 Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings.

Indicator 1.5.1 The number of surveys undertaken by exporting countries of:

- a) the population status as well as the trends and impact of trade upon Appendix-II species; and
- b) the status of and trend in Appendix I species and the impact of any recovery plans.

1.5.1a	Have any surveys been undertaken <u>in your c</u> to:	ountry in relatio	n Yes	No	No Information
	- the population status of Appendix I species				
	- the population status of Appendix II species				
	- the trends and/or impact of trade on Append	dix I species			
	- the trends and/or impact of trade on Append	dix II species			
	If Yes for any of the above, please provide				
	Species Name	population sta	ary of the result atus, decline / s c, or provide lin	table / i	ncrease, off-
	Species Name	Telefence ma	lenal.		
1.5.1b	Does your Scientific Authority monitor the sta Appendix-II species and export data, and rec necessary, suitable remedial measures to lim of specimens in order to maintain each speci throughout its range at a level consistent with the ecosystem and well above the level at wh species might become eligible for inclusion in	ommend, if hit the export es hits role in hich the	Yes Partly No No informatio	on	
	If No or Partly, please explain why:				
1.5.1c	Do you have specific conservation measures	or recovery	Yes		
	plans for Appendix-I listed species?		No		
			No information	on	
	If yes, please provide a brief summary, inclu	ding, if possible	, an evaluation	of their	impact

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Proposed change to indicator to make a clearer distinction from indicator 1.4.1, and to focus on the practical effort likely to have been undertaken by Parties

Indicator 1.5.2<sup>34</sup> The number of Parties that have adopted standard procedures for making non-detriment findings.

1.5.2a	Do you have standard procedures for making non- detriment findings?	Yes No			
		Partly?			
1.5.2b		Yes or Partly, please briefly describe your procedures for making non-detriment findings, or attach an annex to this report, or provide a link to where the information can be found on the internet:			
1.5.2c	How often do you review and/or change your non- detriment findings?	Annually Every two years Less frequently			

# Indicator 1.5.3<sup>35</sup> The number and proportion of annual export quotas based on population surveys.

1.5.3a	Do you use annual export quotas?	Yes (all CITES expo	orts)				
		Yes (some CITES e	exports)				
		No					
	If yes, on what basis are these quotas calculated or decided <sup>36</sup> ? (please tick all that apply)						
		All	Some	None			
	Surveys of species / population abundance						
	Surveys of species extent / distribution						
	Administrative regions / regimes						
	Other: please specify		-				

# Indicator 1.5.4 The number of Appendix-II species for which trade is determined to be non-detrimental to the survival of the species as a result of implementing recommendations from the Review of Significant Trade.

Note: Secretariat will have information on which species / countries are included in the Review of Significant Trade, but a prompt is included for Countries to remind them of action needed, and to allow Parties to indicate if there are problems.

1.5.4a	During this reporting period, have any populations of spe recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade?	ecies in yo		een subject to		
	If yes, were those recommendations implemented to the Committee Chair / Animals Committee Chair? (please recommendations)					
	Species	Yes	Partly	No		
	If Partly or No for any of the species above, please explain why not, or indicate what support is needed from Secretariat or others:					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Depending on how the discussions go at CoP16 on making non-detriment findings it is possible that this indicator, and the questions under it can/should be significantly changed, including asking if Parties follow a set of agreed principles for making NDFs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Proposed deletion as proportion will be difficult to calculate unless a lot of detailed information is collected – which will increase the burden on Parties.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Should these questions be asked on a species by species basis?

# Objective 1.6 Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources.

Indicator 1.6.1 The number of bilateral and multilateral cooperative agreements that specifically provide for comanagement of shared species by range states.

	Is your country a signatory to any bilateral and/or multilateral cooperative agreements for co- management of shared species? Yes Ves No	-
	If yes, please list :	

# Indicator 1.6.2 The number of cooperative management plans including recovery plans in place for shared populations of CITES listed species

1.6.2a	Do you have any cooperative management plans, including recovery plans, populations of CITES listed species?	in place for Yes	shared
	If yes, please list the species for which these plans are in place		

# Indicator 1.6.3 The number of workshops and other capacity-building activities that bring range States together to address the conservation and management needs of shared species.

1.6.3a	Have the CITES authorities <i>received or benefited</i> from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?						
(D6 Q2)	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	What were the external sources <sup>37</sup> ?
	Staff of Management Authority						
	Staff of Scientific Authority						
	Staff of enforcement authorities						
	Traders						
	NGOs						
	Public						
	Other (specify):						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Please provide the names of Parties, and any non-Parties, involved.

1.6.3b	Have the CITES authorities been the to other range States?	e provide	ers of a	ny of the	e follo	wing	capacity-building activities
(D6 Q3)	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	Details
	Staff of Management Authority						
	Staff of Scientific Authority						
	Staff of enforcement authorities						
	Traders						
	NGOs						
	Public						
	Other parties/International meetings						
	Other (specify)						

# Objective 1.7 Parties are enforcing the Convention to reduce illegal wildlife trade.

Indicator 1.7.1<sup>38</sup> The number of Parties that have, are covered by, or engaged with:

- regional supra-national enforcement action plans;
- regional supra-national enforcement networks;
- national or sub-national enforcement action plans; and
- national or sub-national inter-agency enforcement coordination networks.

1.7.1a	Do you have:	Yes	No
	– supra-national enforcement action plans?		
	– supra-national enforcement networks?		
	– national or sub-national enforcement action plans?		
	- national or sub-national interagency enforcement coordination networks?		
	If Yes to any of the above, please specify level of engagement and additional details		

Indicator 1.7.2<sup>39</sup> The number of Parties with designated national CITES enforcement focal points. The number of Parties that have conducted an analysis of enforcement measures related to illegal wildlife trade.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Amendments proposed to make it clearer what the indicator is measuring – regional can be confusing, as it could be countries working together, or regions within a country. Definition of supra-national needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Proposal for a new indicator as the previous one on whether Parties have a national focal point is now redundant as very nearly all parties do.

1.7.2a	Have you used the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit or equivalent tools?	Yes No Under consideration No information	
	If yes, please provide feedback on the parts of the toolkit used and how useful the toolkit or equivalent tools have been. Specify improvements that could be made.		
	If no, please provide feedback on why not or what is needed to make the toolkit or equivalent tools useful to you.		

Indicator 1.7.3<sup>40</sup> The number of Parties that have criminal law and procedures <u>and wildlife forensic capacity</u> in place, <u>and that use specialized investigation techniques</u>, for investigating and penalizing CITES offences.

1700	Do you have ariginal low and precedures in place for investigating. Vec					
1.7.3a	Do you have criminal law and procedures in place for inve and penalising CITES offences?	estigating	Yes			
			No			
			No information	n		
1.7.3b	Do you have forensic capacity to apply to the investigation of	of CITES	Yes			
	offences?		No			
			No information	n 🗌		
	If yes, please provide a brief summary of specific species to provide a brief summary of any wildlife forensic capacity used					
1.7.3c	Did your authorities participate in or initiate any major wil	dlife law	Yes			
	enforcement operation(s) in the past two years?		No			
			No information	n 🗌		
	If yes, please provide a brief summary, including any lesso which might be helpful for other Parties	ns learnt				
1.7.3d				No		
	Do you have:	Yes	No	Information		
	A standard operating procedure among relevant agencies for submitting ECOMESSAGES to INTERPOL?					
	Financial investigation capacity to combat money- laundering?					
	Legislative provisions for asset forfeiture <sup>41</sup> ?					
	Legislative provisions against corruption?					
	Legislative provisions to facilitate international cooperation? (e.g. legislation through which a formal request for mutual legal assistance can be forwarded to another country)					
	Specific legislation to address organised crime?					
	Legal authority to use specialised investigation techniques <sup>42</sup> in the investigation of CITES offences?					
	If yes to any of the above, please explain - for each which related offences? Please provide a brief summary, including a			ed for CITES-		
	Which might be helpful for other Parties					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Revision to indicator proposed to make clearer links with the chain of custody and ICCWC toolkit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Forfeiture is: The seizure of assets obtained from criminal activities to ensure that criminals don't benefit from the proceeds of their crimes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Definition of specialized investigation techniques needed – to include controlled delivery, covert operations, etc.

Indicator 1.7.4<sup>43</sup> The number of Parties using risk assessment in order to better target their CITES enforcement offort.and criminal intelligence to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species.

1.7.4a	Do you use risk assessment to target CITES enforcement effort?	Always	
		Sometimes	
		Not at all	
		No information	
1.7.4b	Do you use criminal intelligence to combat illegal trade in CITES-	Always	
	listed species?	Sometimes	
		Not at all	
		No information	

# Objective 1.8 Parties and the Secretariat have adequate capacity-building programmes in place.

Indicator 1.8.1 The number of Parties with national and regional training programmes and information resources in place to implement CITES including the making of non-detriment findings, issuance of permits and enforcement.

1.8.1a	Do you have resources or training in place to support:						Yes	No
	Permit officers?							
	Enforcement officers?							
	The making of non-detriment findings?							
1.8.1b	Is the CITES Virtual College used as	part of	your ca	apacity b	buildir	ng	Yes	
	work? No						No	
							No information	
1.8.1c	Is the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest						Yes	
	development of capacity-building prog		s, or doe	es it fori	ns pa	art	No	
	of the curriculum of such programmes	?					No information	
1.8.1d	What capacity building needs do you ha	ave?						
	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)		
	Target group	ъО	цщ щ П	ы ты ты ты ты		0	Details	
	Staff of Management Authority							
	Staff of Scientific Authority							
	Staff of enforcement authorities							
	Traders							
	NGOs							
	Public							
	Other (specify)							

<sup>43</sup> Changes proposed to focus on key enforcement techniques. Definitions of risk assessment and criminal intelligence needed.

# Indicator 1.8.2 The number of training and capacity-building programmes conducted or assisted by the Secretariat.

Note: Information to be provided by Secretariat. Question to Parties to allow match-up with Secretariat information.

1.8.2a	How many training and capacity building programmes have you run in the last two years?	Conducted or Assisted by the Secretariat	Without assistance from Secretariat
	None		
	1		
	2-5		
	6-10		
	11-20		
	More than 20		

# Indicator 1.8.3 The proportion of Parties having received capacity building support from the Secretariat on request.

Note: Information to be provided by Secretariat. Question to Parties to check Secretariat support provided as needed.

Have you received support from the Secretariat for capacity building in	Yes	
the last two years?	No	
	No information / unknown	

# GOAL 2 SECURE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MEANS FOR THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

# Objective 2.1 Financial resources are sufficient to ensure operation of the Convention.

Indicator 2.1.1 The number of Parties meeting their obligations with regard to their assessed contributions to the Trust Fund. Note: Information to be provided by Secretariat from the financial management of the Convention.

	Did your country pay its assessed contributions to the CITES Trust	Yes 🗌
	Fund during this reporting period?	No 🗌
	If No, have you agreed a payment plan with the Secretariat?	Yes 🗌
		No 🗌

# Indicator 2.1.2 The percentage of the work programme agreed by the Conference of the Parties that is fully funded.

Note: Information to be provided by Secretariat from the financial management of the Convention.

# Objective 2.2 Sufficient resources are secured at the national/international levels to ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention.

Indicator 2.2.1 The number of Parties with dedicated staff and funding for Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities and wildlife trade enforcement agencies.

2.2.1a (D1 Q5)	How many full-time equivalent (FTE) staff work in your Managem Management Authorities together where appropriate)	nent Authority(ies)?	(add all
2.2.1b	Do you have a shortfall of capacity in your Management	Yes	
	Authority(ies)?	No	
		No information	
	If Yes, is this shortfall a result of:	Yes	No
	<ul> <li>availability of funding?</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>number of staff?</li> </ul>		
(D1	<ul> <li>a shortage of skills in any of the following subjects</li> </ul>	ت Tick if a	ے ipplicable
(D1 Q7)	- Administration		
	-Biology		
	-Economics / Trade		
	-Law / Policy		
	-other skills (specify)		
	- other shortfall (specify):		-
2.2.1c (D2 Q5)	How many full-time equivalent (FTE) staff work in your Scientific Auth (add all Scientific Authorities together where appropriate)	nority(ies) on CITES	S issues?
2.2.1d	Do you have a shortfall of capacity in your Scientific Authority(ies)?	Yes	
		No	
		No information	
	If Yes, is this shortfall a result of:	Yes	No
	<ul> <li>availability of funding?</li> </ul>		
	– number of staff?		
(D2	<ul> <li>a shortage of skills in any of the following subjects</li> </ul>	Tick if a	pplicable
Q7)	-Botany		
	-Ecology		
	-Fisheries		
	-Forestry		
	-Welfare		
	-Zoology		
	-other skills (specify)		
	<ul> <li>other shortfall (specify):</li> </ul>		
2.2.1e	How many full-time equivalent (FTE) enforcement staff work on CITE	S issues? (add sta	ff from all
(D3 Q4)	enforcement agencies together where appropriate)		
2.2.1f	Do you have a shortfall of capacity in your enforcement	Yes	
	authority(ies)?	No	
		No information	
	If Yes, is this shortfall a result of:	Yes	No
	– availability of funding?		
	<ul> <li>number of staff?</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>a shortage of skills in any of the following subjects</li> </ul>	Tick if a	pplicable
	-specialised investigation techniques		
	-specialised forensic techniques		
	-identification of suspicious financial transactions		
	-identification of money laundering		

-using risk assessment	
-using criminal intelligence	
-other skills (specify)	
<ul> <li>other shortfall (specify):</li> </ul>	

Indicator 2.2.2<sup>44</sup> The number of Parties that have undertaken one or more of the following activities in the past two years:

- increased the budget for activities;

- hiring more staff;

development of implementation tools;
 improvement of national networks;

– purchase of technical equipment for <u>implementation</u>, monitoring and <u>or</u> enforcement;
 – computerisation;

2.2.2aHave any of the following activities been undertaken over the past two years to enhance the effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level?Tick					
	Increased budget for activities	Improvement of nationa	al network	٢S	
		Purchase of technic implementation, monitor			
	Development of implementation				
	Other (specify):				
2.2.2b (D8 Q1)	Are any of the following activities needed to e the national level and what is the respective lev		of CITES	implement	ation at
	Activity			Medium	Low
	Increased budget for activities				
	Hiring of more staff				
	Development of implementation tools				
	Improvement of national networks				
	Purchase of new technical equipment monitoring or enforcement	for implementation,			
	Other (specify):				

Indicator 2.2.3<sup>45</sup> The number of Parties raising funds for CITES implementation through user fees or other mechanisms.

2.2.3a (D5	Does the Management Authority charge fees for permit issuance, registration or related CITES activities?	
Q9)	Tick if applica	able
	<ul> <li>Issuance of CITES documents for import, or exports, re-export or introduction from the sea:</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Shipment clearance for the import, or export, re-export or introduction from the sea of CITES listed species:</li> </ul>	
	- Licensing or registration of operations that produce CITES species	
	- Harvesting of CITES-listed species	
	– Use of CITES-listed species	

<sup>44</sup> Minor change proposed to bring computerisation within technical equipment to avoid the question 'computerisation of what?'.

<sup>45</sup> New indicator proposed to meet the financial case studies part of the WG SRR mandate.

	<ul> <li>Assignment of quotas for CITES-listed species</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Other (specify):</li> </ul>		
		Year 1	Year 2
	If Yes, please provide the amounts of such fees for each year (converted to US\$)		
	Were charges applied by:		
	species/ taxonomic group		
	volume or number of specimens		
	number of shipments		
	CITES Appendix		
	permit type		
	value of the specimens		
	purpose of the transaction		
	description of the specimens (e.g. live/dead)		
	Other (please specify below		
2.2.3b (D5 Q11)	Have revenues from fees been used for the implementation of CITES of	or wildlife conserv	vation?
		Entirely	
		Partly	
		Not at all	
		Not relevant	
	Comments:		
2.2.3c		Yes	No
	Do you raise funds for CITES management through charging user fees?		
	Do your fees recover the full economic cost of issuing permits?		
	Do you have case studies on charging or using fees? If yes, please provide details in an annex to this form.		
	Do you use innovative financial mechanisms to raise funds for CITES implementation? If yes, please provide details in an appendix.		

# Objective 2.3 Sufficient resources are secured at the national/international levels to implement capacity-building programmes.

Indicator 2.3.1 The number of capacity building activities mandated by Resolutions and Decisions that are fully funded.

2.3.1a	How many capacity building activities have you run in the last two years which were mandated by specific Resolutions or Decisions?						
	None						
	1						
	2-5						
	6-10						
	11-20						
	More than 20						
	Please list the Resolutions or Decisions involved						

GOAL 3 CONTRIBUTE TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THE RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND TO ACHIEVING GLOBALLY AGREED GOALS AND TARGETS BY ENSURING THAT CITES AND OTHER MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS AND PROCESSES ARE COHERENT AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE

Objective 3.1 Cooperation between CITES and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support CITES-related conservation and sustainable development projects, without diminishing funding for currently prioritized activities.

Indicator 3.1.1 The number of Parties funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

3.1.1a	Has funding from international financial mechanisms and other related institutions been used to develop activities that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements	Yes No Not applicable No information	
3.1.1b	Did use of the CITES guidance on accessing GEF funds help your work?	Yes No No information	

Indicator 3.1.2<sup>46</sup> The number of international projects funded by international financial mechanisms and other related institutions that include CITES-related conservation and sustainable development elements.

Note: More thought needed on how to source this information.

Indicator 3.1.3 The number of countries and institutions that have provided additional funding for conservation and sustainable development projects in order to further the objectives of the Convention.

3.1.3a (D7 Q9)	Have you provided technical or finance or countries in relation to CITES?	cial assi	stance to	o anoti	her co	untry	Yes No No i	information
	If Yes, please tick boxes to indicate type of assistance provided Country	Species Conservation <sup>47</sup>	Habitat Conservation <sup>48</sup>	Implementation	Enforcement	Livelihoods	Other (specify)	Details (provide more information in an Appendix if necessary)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Query whether indicator 3.1.2 should be deleted as impractical to implement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Suggest use species conservation column for work directly related to species – e.g. population surveys, education programmes, conflict resolution etc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Suggest use habitat conservation column for work that will indirectly support species conservation – e.g. habitat management, development of policy frameworks for how land is managed etc.

# **Objective 3.2** Awareness of the role and purpose of CITES is increased globally.

Indicator 3.2.1 The number of Parties that have been involved in CITES awareness raising campaigns to bring about better accessibility to and understanding by the wider public of the Convention requirements.

3.2.1a (D4	Have CITES authorities been involved in any of the following activities to bring about better accessibility to and understanding of	
Q10)	the Convention's requirements to the wider public?	Tick if applicable
	<ul> <li>Press releases/conferences</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Newspaper articles, radio/television appearances</li> </ul>	
	– Brochures, leaflets	
	- Presentations	
	<ul> <li>Public consultations / meetings</li> </ul>	
	– Displays	
	<ul> <li>Information at border crossing points</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Telephone hotline</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Other (specify):</li> </ul>	
	Please attach copies of any items.	

# Indicator 3.2.2<sup>49</sup> The number of Parties that have undertaken market surveys indicating the public's understanding of the role and purpose of CITES by relevant user groups.

3.2.2a	Have you undertaken market surveys to assess understanding of CITES by	Yes	No	No Information		
	Traders (both domestic and international)					
	Specialist Interest Groups (e.g. harvesters, processors, artisans, circuses, antique dealers, musicians, reptile keepers, gardeners, etc.)					
	Tourists					
	Others (please specify)					
	If yes to any of the above, please provide details of the surveys and results					

# Indicator 3.2.3<sup>50</sup> The number of visits to en the Secretariat's website.

3.2.3a	How regularly do your Authorities consult the CITES website?					
	Please tick boxes to indicate the most frequent usage (decide on an average amongst staff if necessary). Target group	Every day	At least once a week	At least once a month	At least once every three months	Less frequently
	Staff of Management Authority					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Proposed change to indicator to focus it on those for whom CITES is important, rather than the general public.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Minor wording change proposed to focus on action by Parties.

	Staff of Scientific Authority Staff of enforcement authorities					
3.2.3b	What has been your experience with using useful aspects, any difficulties encountered)		s website (	Goo Ave Poo	erage	
	Any further comments on the CITES Websi most useful, what is missing etc)	te? (e.g. w	hich autho	rities find	which func	tions/tools

# Indicator 3.2.4 The number of Parties with web pages on CITES and its requirements.

3.2.4a	Is there a government website with information on CITES and	Yes	
(D4 Q9)	national CITES implementation?	No	
Q9)		No information	
	If Yes, please give the URL:		

# Objective 3.3 Cooperation with relevant international environmental, trade and development organisations is enhanced.

Indicator 3.3.1<sup>51</sup> The number of <u>Parties which have achieved synergies in their implementation of biodiversity-related conventions and other</u> biodiversity conservation goals, objectives and principles of CITES and those of relevant multilateral environmental, trade and development agreements and conventions that are identified and implemented in an integrated manner.

3.3.1a	Has CITES been incorporated into your country's National	Yes	
	Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)?	No	
		No information	
	Was the guidance produced by CITES on incorporating CITES into	Yes	
	NBSAPs useful?	No	
		Did not use	
	If No, or Did not use, please explain why		
3.3.1b	Have measures been taken to achieve coordination and reduce	Yes	
(D7 Q13)	duplication of activities between the national authorities or focal points for CITES and national focal points for other multilateral	No	
Q13)	environmental agreements (e.g. the biodiversity-related conventions – CBD, CMS, ITPGR, Ramsar, WHC etc.)?	No information	
(D7 Q14)	If Yes, please give a brief description.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Proposed changes to indicator to provide simplification and focus.

Indicator 3.3.2<sup>52</sup> The number of additional biodiversity conservation <u>projects</u>, trade and development goals, <u>or</u> scientific and technical programmes that integrate CITES requirements agreed between environmental and trade agreements and programmes and international financial mechanisms.

3.3.2a (D7 Q4)	At the national level have there been any efforts to collaborate with:	Tick if applicable	Details if available
	Agencies for development and trade		
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities		
	Local authorities or communities		
	Indigenous peoples		
	Trade or other private sector associations		
	NGOs		
	Other (specify)		

# Indicator 3.3.3<sup>53</sup> The number of <u>Parties co-operating</u> / <u>collaborating with</u> intergovernmental and nongovernmental organisations <del>participating in and/or funding</del> to participate in and/or fund CITES workshops and other training and capacity-building activities.

3.3.3a	Has funding been provided or received to facilitate CITES workshops, training or other capacity building activities to / from:	Tick if applicable	Which organisations?
	Inter-governmental organisations?		
	Non-governmental organisations?		

**Objective 3.4** The contribution of CITES to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the *relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets* and the relevant outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels.

The following indicators apply to this objective: 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.5.4, 1.6.1, 1.6.2, 2.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.5.1 and 3.5.2.

Note: More thought on how to measure this objective is needed. Links with the relevant Aichi Targets and global biodiversity indicators may be the best way forward.

Indicator 3.4.1<sup>54</sup> Improved Improving conservation status of CITES-listed species as shown by <u>national data</u> tools such as the IUCN Red List Index.

Note: Information to be extracted from the Red List Index website.

3.4.1a	Does your country's biodiversity data system show that the status of	Yes	
	CITES-listed species has improved during this reporting period?	No	
		No information	

# Objective 3.5 Parties and the Secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organisations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Proposed changes to simplify the indicator.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Rewording of indicator proposed to provide a clearer focus on work by Parties (who are those doing the report).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Proposed change to focus indicator on national action and information.

Indicator 3.5.1<sup>55</sup> The number of cooperative actions taken to prevent species from being becoming threatened by unsustainably exploited through international unsustainable trade.

Note: Some information available from Secretariat, but more thought is needed on how to source this information. "Actions" could be taken very broadly. Are the actions specific to those taken under established bilateral or multilateral agreements? More focus in the indicator may be needed.

Indicator 3.5.2 The number of times other relevant international organisations and agreements dealing with natural resources are consulted on issues relevant to species subject to unsustainable trade.

3.5.2a	Number of times per year that international organisations or agreements have been consulted by CITES focal points	Once	2-5 times	6-20 times	More than 20 times	No consultation	Optional comment about which organisations and issues consulted on
	Year 1						
	Year 2						

### **General feedback**

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make, including comments on this format.

Item		
Copy of full text of CITES-relevant legislation	Enclosed	
Web link(s)	Not available	
	Previously provided	
Details of nationally produced brochures or leaflets on CITES produced	Enclosed	
for educational or public awareness purposes	Not available	
Please provide web link(s)	Not relevant	
Have any constraints to implementation of the Convention arisen in	Yes	
your country requiring attention or assistance?	No	
	No Information	
If Yes, please describe the constraint and the type of attention or assistant	nce that is required.	
Are there examples of good practice you would like to share with other	Yes	
Parties?	No	
	No Information	
If so please provide details / links:		
How could this report format be improved?		

Thank you for completing the Report. Please remember to include relevant attachments referred to in the report when it is submitted to the Secretariat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Proposed change to focus indicator on international trade.