

27th CITES Animals Committee Meeting Summary – 28 April to 2 May, 2014

IUCN assembled a delegation to participate in the 27th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee which took place in Veracruz, Mexico 28 April – 2 May 2014. We would very much like to thank the SSC Specialist Groups for their incredibly helpful work in preparing for and participating in this meeting. The delegation consisted of the following:

Richard Jenkins - Manager UK office, IUCN Global Species Programme, United Kingdom (IUCN Delegation Lead)
 Dena Cator - Programme Officer SSC Network Support, IUCN Global Species Programme, Switzerland (IUCN Delegation Coordinator)
 Amanda Vincent – IUCN / SSC Seahorse, Pipefish and Stickleback Specialist Group, Canada
 Sarah Foster – IUCN / SSC Seahorse, Pipefish and Stickleback Specialist Group, Canada
 Sarah Fowler – IUCN / SSC Shark Specialist Group, United Kingdom
 Tomas Waller – IUCN / SSC Boa & Python Specialist Group, Argentina
 Daniel Natusch – IUCN / SSC Boa & Python Specialist Group, Australia
 Ardith Eudey – IUCN / SSC Primate Specialist Group, USA
 Kristin Nowell – IUCN / SSC Cat Specialist Group, USA
 Christine Lippai – IUCN / SSC Crocodile Specialist Group, South Africa
 Alejandro Larriera, IUCN / SSC Crocodile Specialist Group, Argentina

NOTE: To view more information on this meeting, see: <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/ac/index.php>. For more information on the agenda and related information documents (documents submitted for additional information relating to various agenda items at the meeting but which are not directly considered), see: <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/ac/27/index.php> and <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/AC-PC/AC27-PC21/inf/index.php>.

Agenda items relevant to Specialist Groups (**all other agenda items refer to all or not specific Specialist Groups**):

Specialist Group	Agenda item(s)	Specialist Group	Agenda item(s)
Amphibian	12.2, 12.3, 25	Hippo	12.2, 12.3
Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo	25	Mollusc	12.2, 12.3, 24
Antelope	11	Otter	24
Bat	24	Pangolin	12.5

BirdLife	12.2, 12.4, 12.5, 24, 25	Peccary	12.5
Boa & Python	11, 12.2, 12.4, 17, 19, 24	Pinniped	24
Butterfly	12.5	Polar Bear	12.5
Cat	18, 24	Primate	12.2, 12.4, 24
Cetacean	12.2, 12.3	Seahorse	12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 25
Chameleon	12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 25	Shark	11, 22, 23, 25
Coral	12.2, 12.4, 16, 25	Small carnivore	24
Crane	12.2, 12.3, 24	Sturgeon	12.2, 12.3, 15, 21
Crocodile	11, 17, 19.2, 19.4, 24	Sustainable Use & Livelihoods	7
Freshwater Fish	23	Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle	11, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 17, 20, 24, 25
Galliforme	24	Viper	11, 19
Groupers & Wrasses	13		

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
1. Opening of the meeting	N/A		<i>No document</i>	No action	N/A
2. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	N/A		<i>No document</i>	No action	N/A
3. Rules of procedure	Dena		http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-03.pdf	N/A	N/A
4. Adoption of the agenda and working programme	N/A	4.1 Agenda	http://cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-4-01.pdf	No action	N/A
	N/A	4.2 Working programme	http://cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-4-02.pdf	N/A	N/A
5. Admission of observers	N/A		http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-05.pdf	No action	N/A
6. Animals Committee strategic planning for 2013-2016 (CoP16-CoP17)	Dena	6.1 Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Animals Committee	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-06-01.pdf This is background material for agenda item 6.2 to develop a working programme for the AC for 2013-2016. Annex 1	This document was noted.	All SGs

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			provides the instructions directed to the AC in the Resolutions of the CoP. Annex 2 lists all Decisions of the CoP directed to the AC.		
	Dena	6.2 Animals Committee workplan	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-06-02_0.pdf This is a draft workplan that outlines all Resolutions and Decisions from the CITES CoP that are directed to the AC. AC members (Parties) have been asked to identify a lead person for each one. All members of the AC have also been asked to consider how they could contribute to achieving their effective implementation.	This document was noted.	All SGs
7. Support to Standing Committee work on bushmeat and annotations [Decisions 14.148 (Rev. Cop16),16.149 and 16.162]*	Dena	7.1 Report of the Secretariat*	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-7-01.pdf At CITES CoP16, decisions were taken on bushmeat and annotations which are directed to the Standing Committee, but which envisage consultations or collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees. The CITES Secretariat recommends that the Animals and Plants Committees designate Committee members who might consult with the Standing Committee as it undertakes the review of Resolution Conf. 13.11 and related sources of information envisaged under Decision 16.149 as well as the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations, which is to be formed at the 65 th meeting of the Standing Committee.	The Committees designated the following members to consult with the Standing Committee on the revision of Resolution Conf. 13.11 on Bushmeat in compliance with Decision 16.149: the AC Chair (Ms Caceres), and the AC representatives of Africa (Mr Kasiki), Asia (Mr Soemorumekso) and Europe (Mr Lörtscher). Observers were not invited to participate in the above-mentioned discussions at the present time. See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum01_0.pdf	SULi, other relevant SGs
	Dena	7.2 Annotations for species listed in the CITES Appendixes: report of the interim Standing Committee working group*	http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-07-02.pdf At CITES CoP16, several Decisions related to Annotations were made. Decision 16.162 directs the Standing Committee to establish a working group on annotations, provides an extensive list of tasks for the working group, and instructs the working group to report at the 65 th (SC65; Geneva 2014) and 66 th meetings (SC66; Geneva 2015) of the Standing Committee.	This document was noted. The Committees designated the following members and alternate members to join the working group of the Standing Committee on annotations: the AC Chair (Ms Caceres), the PC representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), Europe (Mr Sajeva) and Oceania (Mr Leach), and the PC acting representatives of Africa (Mr Luke) and	All SGs

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			<p>However, the Standing Committee at its 64th meeting (Bangkok 2013) did not establish the working group. Given the extensive list of tasks directed to the working group, the US asked to convene the working group on an interim basis to address some of the more overarching and straightforward issues contained in the relevant CoP16 Decisions. The Chair of the Standing Committee agreed to the proposal, and the United States, with the United Kingdom as Vice-Chair, convened the working group to work electronically until SC65. At SC65, the Standing Committee will formally convene the Working Group on Annotations as well as determine the membership and chairmanship. This interim Group, which includes several members and alternate members of the Animals and Plants Committees, has been discussing the development of a discussion document on annotations for consideration at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC65, Geneva, July 2014). This document has been provided at the present meeting (see document AC27/PC21 Doc. 7.2) for members of the Animals and Plants Committees to note.</p>	<p>Asia (Ms Al-Salem).</p> <p>Observers were not invited to participate in the above-mentioned discussions at the present time.</p> <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum01_0.pdf</p>	
8. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)	Dena	8.1 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IPBES) (Decision 16.15)*	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-08-01.pdf</p> <p>This is a report of the work that has been done after CITES CoP16 regarding four new decisions there regarding integrating the work of CITES with IPBES. The report is to be noted.</p> <p>Also, the Animals and Plants Committees could establish an AC/PC drafting group to develop a brief set of recommendations for consideration of the Standing Committee Working Group on IPBES on matters such as: a) CITES participation at IPBES meetings; b) the development of and nomination of experts for the assessment on sustainable use of wild species; and c) the pertinence of a draft Resolution on CITES and IPBES collaboration and any other matter relevant to the implementation of Decision 16.14.</p>	<p>A brief discussion took place on IPBES at the joint CITES Animals and Plants Committee meetings – it will be discussed again at the upcoming CITES Standing Committee meeting in July, 2014. It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – it would be important to make sure that experts with good knowledge of CITES take part in the forthcoming assessment by the IPBES sustainable use Task Force; – in view of the importance given to government candidates in IPBES assessment processes, Parties should nominate CITES experts for participation in the assessment; – in proposing candidates, CITES should seek fair regional representation, broad skills and a better gender balance; 	All SGs

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				<p>– for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable use, expertise in areas in addition to biology and biodiversity management will be required, such as social and economic sciences, and rural development policies;</p> <p>– the Standing Committee and Parties could consider experts who took part in the International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings (Cancún, Mexico, 2008) for nominations; and</p> <p>– opportunities exist for better and more regular liaison between IPBES and CITES, and for facilitating the nomination of experts with CITES knowledge, through the AC acting representative of Africa (Mr Fouda), who is also a member of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel for Africa.</p> <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum01_0.pdf </p>	
9. Capacity building	Richard	9.1 Report of the Secretariat*	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-09-01.pdf</p> <p>This relates to a number of decisions that were taken at CITES CoP16 which relate to making more training materials on NDFs available to Scientific Authorities, e.g. on the CITES website and through the CITES Virtual College. The document provides an update of the work that the CITES Secretariat has done to increase knowledge on NDFs recently (since CoP16). The CITES Secretariat notes that it has more work to do on providing capacity building on NDFs to Parties (e.g. on the CITES website) and invites advice on how to do this.</p>	<p>A discussion took place regarding what various Parties / observers are doing related to Non-Detriment Finding (NDF) work and how this work could be furthered. An inter-sessional working group was created to address this issue in between CITES meetings, which IUCN is a part of. The mandate of the working group is to provide guidance to the Secretariat on its relevant capacity building activities; review the Secretariat's training materials used in capacity building, such as those on the making of non-detriment findings; and advise on updating, expanding or improving these materials as necessary. The working group will report on its progress at the next meetings of the Committees in 2015.</p> <p>See:</p>	All SGs

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				http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum01_0.pdf	
10. Extinct or possibly extinct species (Decision 16.164)*	Dena		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-10.pdf</p> <p>The AC is advised to undertake the review in Decision 16.164: The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) on Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II as they apply to species that are either extinct or possibly extinct and report to the Standing Committee on their findings. The document notes that a number of assumed to be extinct species were removed from Appendix I at CITES CoP16 but species are supposed to be moved to Appendix II first. There are a number of other aspects of removing species that need to be dealt with as well, including species being removed from Appendix II and III, when to label species as “possibly extinct” and also trade still occurring in species that are extinct (e.g. skins).</p> <p>The Animals and Plants Committees are requested to undertake the review referred to in Decision 16.16 in order to report to the Standing Committee and in doing so are invited to take into account the observations in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of the present document.</p>	<p>An inter-sessional working group was created to address this issue in between CITES meetings, which IUCN is a part of. The mandate of the working group is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) on Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II as they apply to species that are either extinct or possibly extinct and report to the Standing Committee on their findings; 2. develop broad principles that could be applied for treating ‘Extinct’ and ‘Possibly extinct’ species included in Appendices I and II, and address the practical implementation challenges; and 3. report at the next meetings of the CITES Committee meetings in 2015. <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum01_0.pdf</p>	
11. Review of reporting requirements (Decision 16.45)*	Christine and Alejandro for crocodiles Dena for other species		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-11.pdf</p> <p>This is a list of special (regular) reporting that the Parties to CITES are required to deliver for AC / PC / SC meetings. This includes on: ranching, caviar processing/ repackaging plants, introduction from the sea – chartering, personal and household effects, plants, e-commerce, Review of Significant Trade, tortoises, Asian big cats, cetaceans, elephants, elephants and ivory, leopards, pangolins, queen conch, rhinos, Saiga, sharks, snake trade, sturgeon / certificates, Tibetan antelope, tortoises</p>	<p>A working group was formed to discuss this at the meeting which IUCN participated in. The mandate of the working group was to review the relevance of various reporting requirements at CITES meetings or whether they should be removed. A table with the full results is available here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/wg/E-AC27-PC21-WG1.pdf</p> <p>A few selected results are: 11. Ranching (Res. Conf. 11.16 Rev CoP 15) –</p>	Crocodile SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG, Antelope SG, Boa & Python SG, Viper SG, Shark SG

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			<p>and freshwater turtles.</p> <p>It is recommended that the Animals and Plants Committees review each of the reporting requirements identified in Annex 1 as being relevant to them (and others if they consider they are also relevant to the Animals or Plants Committees' remits) and advise in the last column of Annex 1 whether the requirement is:</p> <p>a) still current and valid, or;</p> <p>b) outdated or otherwise unnecessary, and therefore no longer required.</p> <p>The review requested above will aid the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements to report at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC65, Geneva, July 2014).</p>	<p>Maintained, though the CITES Standing Committee should look at whether bi-annual reporting could be implemented instead.</p> <p>27. Tortoise (Notification 2004/44) – Removed, no longer needed.</p> <p>21. Saiga (Decision 14.93, Rev. CoP16) - Maintained</p> <p>68. Saiga (Decision 16.98) - Maintained</p> <p>17. Sharks (Res. Conf. 12.6, Rev. CoP16) - Maintained</p> <p>69. Snake trade (Decision 16.107) - Maintained</p> <p>77. Snake trade (Decision 16.106) - Maintained</p>	
12. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]	Thomasina	12.1 Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)]*	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-12-01.pdf</p> <p>The Committees are invited to examine the outcomes of the Vilm meeting of the Advisory Working Group (2012) (contained in the document), taking careful note of the proposed changes to the existing Review of Significant Trade process and provide their views on these proposed changes. The co-Chairs of the Advisory Working Group propose the Advisory Working Group begin preparing the items proposed in Vilm Recommendation 3 and work inter-sessionally to prepare a first draft of the modifications to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on Review of Significant Trade in Specimens of Appendix-II species required to put the Vilm recommendations into effect. The draft modifications to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) and supporting documents would be submitted to the 28th Meeting of the Animals Committee and the 22nd Meeting of the Plants Committee for their review and approval.</p>	<p>The document for this agenda item was noted and it was agreed that the inter-sessional working group, of which IUCN is a part, would continue working between CITES Animals / Plants Committee meetings. The inter-sessional working group is to submit a draft revision of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species at the next meeting of the Animal and Plants Committees in 2015 for their consideration.</p> <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum02%20.pdf</p>	All SGs

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			<p>The Committees are invited to support this proposed path forward.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>9. The Committees are invited to examine the outcomes of the Vilm meeting of the Advisory Working Group, taking careful note of the proposed changes to the existing Review of Significant Trade process and provide their views on these proposed changes.</p> <p>10. The co-Chairs of the Advisory Working Group note the ambitious nature of the Vilm Recommendations. We propose a stepwise approach towards addressing these Recommendations. As a first step, we propose the Advisory Working Group begin preparing the items proposed in Vilm Recommendation 3. Subsequently, we propose the Advisory Working Group would work intersessionally to prepare a first draft of the modifications to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on Review of Significant Trade in Specimens of Appendix-II species required to put the Vilm recommendations into effect. The draft modifications to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) and supporting documents would be submitted to the 28th Meeting of the Animals Committee and the 22nd Meeting of the Plants Committee for their review and approval. The Committees are invited to support this proposed path forward.</p> <p>11. The Committees are invited to request the Chairs of the Plants and Animals Committee submit the Vilm recommendations, as well as the outcomes of the discussions at the 27th Meeting of the Plants Committee and 21st Meeting of the Plants Committee as part of the progress report to the 65th Meeting of the Standing Committee.</p>		
	Dena	12.2 Overview of the species-based Review of Significant Trade	<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-12-02.pdf</p> <p>This is a list / overview of species that are currently under the Review of Significant Trade process and the state of</p>	This is a list / overview of species that are currently under the Review of Significant Trade process and the state of implementation of various recommendations by relevant Range States. The document was noted.	Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle SG, BirdLife, Amphibian

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			implementation of various recommendations by relevant Range States. The document is only to be noted.		SG, Cetacean SG, Hippo SG, Crane SG, Chameleon SG, Sturgeon SG, Seahorse SG, Mollusc SG, Primate SG, Boa & Python SG, Coral SG
	Dena	12.3 Species selected following CoP13 and CoP14	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-12-03.pdf</p> <p>This is a report on the species put into the Review of Significant Trade process following CITES CoP13 and 14 and the actions that the Animals Committee undertook between CITES CoP15 and 16 to progress the review of these species. The document is to be noted.</p> <p>The document includes an update on the Review of Significant Trade process relating to <i>Tursiops aduncus</i>, <i>Balearica regulorum</i> and <i>Hippopotamus amphibious</i>.</p> <p>With regard to <i>Tridacna</i> spp. from the Solomon Islands, the Animals Committee is requested to consider the information provided by the Solomon Islands. The Committee, and particular its representatives from Africa, may wish to remind Cameroon of its reporting requirements as indicated in paragraph 11.</p>	<p>A working group was formed for this agenda item (12.3) at the meeting as well as 12.4 and 12.5, which IUCN was a part of.</p> <p>Recommendations from the working group which were agreed to at the meeting are:</p> <p>Cameroon needs to report to the 28th Animals Committee meeting (in 2015) on its' national population survey of <i>Hippopotamus amphibious</i> and establish science-based quotas and non-detriment findings for the species.</p> <p>With regard to <i>Tridacna</i> spp. from the Solomon Islands and noting the apparent intention of the Solomon Islands to export "dead clam shells" of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. of wild and, possibly, captive bred sources, the Animals Committee recommends to the CITES Standing Committee (which will next meet in July 2014) that:</p> <p>i. the zero export quota in place for the Solomon Islands be extended to refer to specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp of all source codes and that the Solomon Islands be reminded that the zero export quota for <i>Tridacna</i></p>	Mollusc SG, Cetacean SG, Crane SG, Hippo SG, Amphibian SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG, Chameleon SG, Sturgeon SG, Seahorse SG

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				<p>spp. of wild origin applies to all specimens, including “dead clam shells”;</p> <p>ii. the Solomon Islands, prior to allowing the export of “dead clam shells”, provide information to the CITES Secretariat on: the number of shells of each species to be exported; the source of the shells; the period over which the exports might take place; for wild-sourced specimens, the means by which it was determined that the export would be non-detrimental to the species concerned. The CITES Secretariat should seek the approval of the CITES Standing Committee before any exports take place and amend the information on trade in <i>Tridacna</i> spp from the Solomon Islands on the CITES website.;</p> <p>iii. the Solomon Islands be asked to clarify its future intentions regarding the establishment of captive production systems for <i>Tridacna</i> spp., and if any measures would be put in place to distinguish wild-taken from captive-bred specimens; and</p> <p>iv. the Solomon Islands be asked if it will develop fishery management plans for <i>Tridacna</i> spp.</p> <p>See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-01.pdf </p>	
	Amanda and Sarah Foster – seahorses Ardith – <i>Macaca fascicularis</i> Richard – chameleons Tomas and Dan – boa	12.4 Species selected following CoP15	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-12-04.pdf</p> <p>UNEP-WCMC present conclusions about the effects of international trade on selected species. They provide preliminary categorizations of each species into one of the three Categories: urgent concern, possible concern, least concern. The AC is invited to determine what category each species should be assigned and for urgent and possible concern species, formulate recommendations.</p>	<p>A working group was formed for this agenda item (12.4) at the meeting as well as 12.3 and 12.5, which IUCN was a part of. The species below were placed in the relevant categories re: the CITES Review of Significant Trade process (a process to determine whether levels of international trade of CITES Appendix II listed species are non-detrimental to the species). Those species categorized as Least Concern do not go further through the Review of Significant Trade process. Species marked with an asterisk (*)</p>	Primate SG, Seahorse SG, BirdLife, Chameleon SG, Boa & Python SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG, Coral SG

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	species Peter Paul – freshwater turtles Dena – birds, corals			<p>are those for which other issues were identified – mostly relating to illegal trade - that should be addressed by other provisions of CITES (e.g. at the upcoming CITES Standing Committee meeting).</p> <p>a) <i>Macaca fascicularis</i>: Urgent Concern for Lao PDR*; Possible Concern for Cambodia* and Vietnam*; Least Concern for India, Indonesia*, Mauritius, Palau, Philippines*</p> <p>b) <i>Psittacus erithacus</i>: Possible concern for Central African Republic*; Least concern for Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo*, Uganda</p> <p>c) <i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>: Urgent concern for Togo; Possible concern for Benin*, Ghana; Least concern for Cameroon, Guinea, Uganda</p> <p>d) <i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>: Possible concern for Benin*, Ghana; Least concern for Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone</p> <p>e) <i>Kinyongia fischeri</i>: Urgent concern for United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>f) <i>Kinyongia tavetana</i>: Possible concern for United Republic of Tanzania</p> <p>g) <i>Trioceros melleri</i>: Possible concern for Mozambique*</p> <p>h) <i>Trioceros quadricornis</i>: Possible concern for Cameroon; Least concern for Nigeria</p> <p>i) <i>Ptyas mucosus</i>: Possible concern for Lao PDR; Least concern for Cambodia*</p> <p>j) <i>Naja sputatrix</i>: Least concern - Indonesia</p> <p>k) <i>Python reticulatus</i>: Possible concern for Lao PDR*, Malaysia; Least concern for Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam*</p> <p>l) <i>Podocnemis unifilis</i>: Possible concern for Peru; Least concern for Brazil, Ecuador, Suriname, Venezuela</p>	

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				<p>m) <i>Kinixys homeana</i>: Possible concern for Benin, Togo; Least concern for Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon</p> <p>n) <i>Hippocampus algiricus</i>: Urgent concern for Guinea, Senegal</p> <p>o) <i>Hippocampus barbouri</i>: Least concern for Philippines</p> <p>p) <i>Hippocampus histrix</i>: Least concern for Egypt, Philippines, Vietnam</p> <p>q) <i>Hippocampus trimaculatus</i>: Urgent concern for Thailand; Least concern for Singapore, Vietnam</p> <p>r) <i>Antipatharia</i>: Possible concern for Taiwan, Province of China*; Least concern for Bahamas, Cuba, DPR Korea, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Vanuatu</p> <p>s) <i>Catalaphyllia jardinei</i>: Least concern for Fiji</p> <p>t) <i>Euphyllia cristata</i>: Least concern for Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Vietnam</p> <p>u) <i>Plerogyra simplex</i>: Possible concern for Fiji; Least concern for Solomon Islands</p> <p>v) <i>Plerogyra sinuosa</i>: Possible concern for Fiji; Least concern for Marshall Islands, Palau, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu</p> <p>w) <i>Trachyphyllia geoffroyi</i>: Least concern for Singapore, Solomon Islands</p> <p>Recommendations were drafted for species that were designated as Possible Concern and Urgent Concern – see Annex I of the following: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-01.pdf.</p>	
	Dena	12.5 Selection of species for trade reviews following CoP16	<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-12-05.pdf</p> <p>In Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on Review of Significant</p>	<p>A working group was formed for this agenda item (12.5) at the meeting as well as 12.3 and 12.4, which IUCN was a part of. The working group recommended the following taxa, from all range</p>	Peccary SG, Polar Bear SG, Pangolin SG, BirdLife,

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			<p>Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species, the Conference of the Parties: <i>DIRECTS the Animals and Plants Committees, in cooperation with the Secretariat and experts, and in consultation with range States, to review the biological, trade and other relevant information on Appendix-II species subject to significant levels of trade, to identify problems and solutions concerning the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a)...</i></p> <p>The Secretariat requested UNEP-WCMC to produce a summary from the CITES Trade Database of annual report statistics showing the recorded net level of exports for Appendix-II species over the five most recent years. Its report is attached as Annex 1 (English only) to the present document. The Committee is invited to select species of priority concern for trade reviews.</p>	<p>States, as species of priority concern for review:</p> <p><i>Tayassu pecari</i> <i>Ursus maritimus</i> <i>Manis gigantea</i> <i>Manis tricuspis</i> <i>Amazona festiva</i> <i>Uromastix aegyptia</i> <i>Uromastix ornata</i> <i>Trioceros montium</i> <i>Varanus ornatus</i> <i>Ophiophagus Hannah</i> <i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i> <i>Notochelys platynota</i> <i>Chelonoidis denticulate</i> <i>Geochelone sulcata</i> <i>Testudo graeca</i> <i>Hippocampus erectus</i> <i>Ornithopera Croesus</i> <i>Ornithopera meridionalis</i> <i>Ornithopera rothschildi</i> <i>Hirudo medicinalis</i></p> <p>See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-01.pdf</p>	<p>Chameleon SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG, Seahorse SG, Butterfly SG</p>
13. Transport of live specimens [Resolution Conf. 10.21 (Rev. CoP16)]*	Dena		<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-13.pdf</p> <p>This is an update of the CITES Secretariat's work and relationship with IATA and mentions new regulation for non-air transport of wildlife that were passed at CITES CoP16.</p>	<p>This document was noted.</p> <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum02%20.pdf</p>	<p>Groupers & Wrasses SG</p>
14. Review of identification and guidance material (Decision 16.59)*	Dena		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/E-AC27-PC21-14.pdf</p> <p>This is a report on the progress made with the production of the</p>	<p>An inter-sessional working group was created to work on this issue in between CITES meetings – IUCN is currently not a member of this working group. The mandate is to:</p>	<p>All SGs</p>

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			<p>Identification Manual. It specifically provides an update on a couple of decisions that were made at CITES CoP16 regarding Parties and organizations providing information to the CITES Secretariat about available identification and guidance materials, particularly those materials used by enforcement and inspections officers – this was required after CoP16. Information is currently being compiled and will go into the CITES Virtual College. There is also a need for identification and guidance materials, including on the use of forensic identification. The CITES Secretariat is investigating others ways to present this information, for example through a wiki-type approach, and related to traceability as well. This document is to be noted.</p>	<p>a) assist in identifying CITES-listed taxa, taking account of existing CITES identification and guidance material, as well as other material produced by Parties, non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations;</p> <p>b) determine, in collaboration with Parties, the current availability of identification and guidance material (printed and electronic) to enhance accessibility to such material;</p> <p>c) consult with Parties to assess the need for additional identification material, including material under production by Parties and requested in Decisions;</p> <p>d) review, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and, taking into account new Web-based technologies; make recommendations, including amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on Identification Manual; to promote accuracy and availability of identification and guidance material;</p> <p>e) report progress at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 22nd meeting of the Plants Committee.</p> <p>See: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/ac-pc/ac27-pc21/sum/E-AC27-PC21-ExSum02%20.pdf </p>	
15. Identification of sturgeons and paddlefish specimens in trade (Decision 16.137)	Dena		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-15.pdf</p> <p>This document relates to a decision that was taken at CITES CoP16 related to developing a system of molecular, DNA-based and other forensic methods that could assist in identifying the species and populations of Acipenseriformes specimens in trade, the origin or age of specimens, and differentiating wild from captive-bred or aquacultured specimens. The CITES Secretariat is interested in involving the IUCN / SSC Sturgeon SG for this</p>	<p>There were no comments on this and no interventions from the floor (e.g. about people participating in this work) but there was mention that the CITES Secretariat had identified people to work with on this. The document was noted.</p>	Sturgeon SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			work but hasn't found funding for it yet, so the document calls upon Parties to fund the work.		
16. Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade (Decision 15.64)	Dena		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-16.pdf</p> <p>At CITES CoP15, several decisions were taken related to identifying existing coral reference materials that could be adopted as standard nomenclatural references for CITES-listed corals and to update the list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible. At CITES CoP16, this work was updated and a proposal from the Animals Committee for a new standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed corals was adopted.</p> <p>The Animals Committee is invited to update the list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible as found in Notification to the Parties No. 2013/035, and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination. The Animals Committee is also invited to identify existing coral reference materials that could be adopted as standard nomenclatural references for CITES-listed corals.</p>	<p>The Committee agreed that the representative of Asia (Mr. Soemorumekso) and the nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm) should work inter-sessionally on the tasks directed to the Committee in Decision 16.137.</p> <p>See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf </p>	Coral SG
17. Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens (Decision 16.65)	Alejandro, Christine, Peter Paul, Tomas and Dan		<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-17.pdf</p> <p>At CITES CoP16, the Parties adopted a suite of Decisions on Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens. The European Union contributed funds and the report on the evaluation of the concerns identified in the examples on trade in specimens claimed to be derived from captive breeding or ranching was undertaken by TRAFFIC and is found in the Annex of this document. The report of the review of CITES annual report data for specimens recorded using source codes C, D, F and R was undertaken by UNEP-WCMC and can be found in Annex 2 to the present document.</p>	<p>It was acknowledged that this discussion related to other Animals Committee agenda items (e.g. snakes, Review of Significant Trade). A working group was formed which included IUCN. There was consensus that making recommendations for this upcoming Standing Committee meeting on this topic was unrealistic so discussion will be extended to the 28th Animals Committee meeting in 2015. It was noted that data on issues related to captive breeding are not included in the Review of Significant Trade process but a method of capturing this is needed – a regular review mechanism to track this would be appropriate. China recommended developing “best practices”</p>	Crocodile SG, Boa & Python SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			<p>The Animals Committee is invited to prepare its recommendations for the Standing Committee regarding these reports. Additional material on this subject will only become available at a later date, so the Committee may therefore wish to advise the Standing Committee that it will make a further submission when this additional material is available.</p>	<p>relating to captive breeding. Colombia made a statement saying that they would like to contribute information to this discussion, in particular on <i>Caiman crocodilus</i> (Alejandro had alerted Colombia earlier in the day that it would be requested to provide further information on this). Canada noted that many problems related to ranching were administrative. The working group developed a long number of recommendations for this agenda item which can be viewed here: http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-02.pdf and further information is here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf</p>	
18. Illegal trade in cheetahs (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>) (Decision 16.72)	Kristin		<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-18.pdf</p> <p>At CITES CoP16, the Parties adopted a number of Decisions on Illegal trade in cheetahs (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>), in particular to contract independent consultants to undertake a study of the legal and illegal trade in wild cheetahs, and to assess the impact of this trade on the species conservation in the wild. The study was undertaken (written by Kristin Nowell of the Cat SG) and the report is appended to the present document. Funding was provided by the European Commission. The CITES Animals Committee is invited to review the report.</p> <p>The Secretariat considers that further research is required, to document the conservation status of cheetahs in northern, western and central Africa and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the impact of illegal trade. Internationally coordinated enforcement efforts to target this particular illegal trade might also be required.</p>	<p>This document was presented in plenary and outlined that this is the first review of cheetahs since the 1970s. The species is VU on the IUCN Red List, with a global population of 10,000 animals. There has been both legal and illegal trade of cheetahs - illegal trade is mostly in live animals. The most significant issue for illegal trade is with live cubs out of the horn of Africa to Arab countries which often don't survive.</p> <p>A working group was formed on this of which IUCN was a member, represented by Kristin Nowell of the Cat Specialist Group. The general mandate of the working group was to put forward recommendations to the CITES Standing Committee for consideration. A number of recommendations were made which include: Parties including cheetahs as a species of priority in their strategies to counter wildlife trafficking; additional information being sought from range States and Parties implicated in the illegal trade in cheetah; a face to face workshop of range States and Parties implicated in the illegal trade in</p>	Cat SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
				<p>cheetah and other relevant organizations taking place; making the list of facilities receiving live confiscated cheetahs public; Standing Committee urging range States and Parties implicated in the illegal trade in cheetah to develop regional or collaborative strategies for the disposal of confiscated live specimens of cheetah that are consistent with the principles in Res. Conf. 10.7 (Rev. CoP 15).</p> <p>The full recommendations are here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-03.pdf with further information here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf.</p>	
19. Snake trade and conservation management (Serpentes spp.)	Tomas and Dan	19.1 Review of studies [Decision 16.103, paragraphs a) and d)]	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-19-01.pdf</p> <p>This relates to decisions taken at CITES CoP16 regarding undertaking studies: of production systems for Asian snakes listed in CITES Appendix II, guidance on making NDFs for snakes, high-value snake species in the pet trade, methodologies to differentiate between wild and captive-bred CITES-listed snakes in trade. Funding for these studies has been provided by Switzerland and the European Union and many of the studies will be undertaken by the Boa & Python SG. Several other studies are referred to in the document, including the ITC study on trade in python snakes in Asia (which was co-written by the BPSG) and the study emanating from UNCTAD Biotrade Initiative's Working Group on reptile skin sourcing (Ashley, D. 2013. Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South East Asian Pythons). The results of the reports described above should be available by the AC28 meeting in 2015.</p>	<p>A working group was created for the discussion of all snake trade and conservation management agenda items, which IUCN (including the SSC Boa & Python Specialist Group - BPSG) took part in.</p> <p>The CITES Secretariat said that the 2014 BPSG study on Asian python farming would contribute to CITES discussion and decisions on snake production systems. Switzerland suggested creating an inter-sessional working group given the time frame of reporting to AC28.</p> <p>Recommendations that were agreed upon for these agenda items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an inter-sessional working group on snake trade and conservation management that will review content and make appropriate recommendations to AC28 (the next Animals 	Boa & Python SG, Crocodile SG, Viper SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			The Animals Committee is invited to review the ITC study on trade in python snakes in Asia and the UNCTAD/CITES study on Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South East Asian Python, and consider the status of the work concerning activities indicated in Decision 16.102, paragraphs a) to c). It should initiate the development of recommendations and guidance for consideration by the Standing Committee, and report on progress at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee.	Committee meeting in 2015) for studies on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production systems for Asian snakes listed in CITES Appendix II, • Guidance on NDFs for Appendix-II snake species in trade, • Methodologies to differentiate between wild and captive-bred CITES-listed snakes in trade, • High-value snake species in the pet trade, • Forensic identification of specimens of CITES-listed snakes in trade. 	
	Tomas and Dan	19.2 Reptile sourcing and traceability systems [Decision 16.103, paragraphs b) to d)]	http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-19-02.pdf This relates to decisions that were taken at the CITES CoP15 meeting and both the ITC and UNCTAD studies mentioned in the agenda item above. It mentions that UNCTAD and CITES jointly organized a meeting on traceability systems for managing international trade in South-East Asian python skins in Geneva on 17 and 18 October 2013 (which the BPSG attended). The Animals Committee is invited to examine the UNCTAD/CITES study on Traceability Systems for a Sustainable International Trade in South East Asian Python with regard to its findings and recommendations concerning traceability of snake skins, as well as any additional relevant information that is available on this subject.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations relating to large stockpiles of Python skins in southeast Asian countries, • Recommendations relating to the CITES Standing Committee implementing a traceability system for snake skins. The Boa & Python Specialist Group will be undertaking a contract with the CITES Secretariat Relating to 19.3, a recommendation was made for the Animals Committee to consider the list of Asian snake species on the IUCN Red List provided by IUCN at the next meeting (AC28 in 2015) for listing on the CITES Appendices, together with additional information that may become available from studies underway on snake species in the pet trade by ITC and analysis of snake species that are traded in high volumes. This will allow the Animals Committee to make recommendations to the Standing Committee based a more complete set of sources.	
	Richard	19.3 IUCN Red List assessments of Asian snake species [Decision 16.104]	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-19-03.pdf This is an update of Asian snakes and their status currently on the IUCN Red List. The Animals Committee is invited to consider the IUCN Red List results for Asian snake species and any additional information that may be available and, as appropriate, formulate recommendations, including to the Standing Committee.	For more information, see: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27	

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			Related is Inf Doc. 3 on China's New Red List of Reptiles.	/wg/E-AC27-WG-04.pdf	
	Tomas and Dan and Alejandro / Christine	19.4 Requirements for a traceability system for reptile skins	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-19-04.pdf At CITES CoP16, the Parties adopted Decision 16.103 which directed the Animals Committee to, among other issues: b) examine [...] any other relevant available information concerning: i) existing marking and tracing systems and, where relevant, accompanying certification schemes of all kinds (and not necessarily limited to those currently in use for trade in wild species), which could provide best practices that might be applicable to snakes. As a contribution to the work of the Animals Committee outlined in Decision 16.103, the Responsible Ecosystems Sourcing Platform (RESP) – through its International Working Group on Reptile Skins (IWG-RS) – initiated a process to develop the basis of a global traceability information system for reptile skins to complement and strengthen the current CITES permitting system related to this trade. Annex I of this document presents the analytic results and main findings of the consultation process conducted by RESP on system requirements of the global traceability information system for reptile skins. These results provide the technical basis to begin the development of the marking and application technology, databases and information system. The Animals Committee is invited to consider the results of the consultation conducted by RESP on the system requirements of a global traceability information system for reptile skins and to provide its recommendations to the Standing Committee for consideration.		
20. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	Peter Paul		http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-20.pdf At CITES CoP16, a number of decisions were taken regarding	An inter-sessional working group was created to address this work, of which IUCN is a member. For more information see here:	Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
(Decision 16.111)			Tortoises and freshwater turtles (<i>Testudines</i> spp.) regarding a study on NDFs (which the TFTSG will be doing). The CITES Secretariat will provide an update on this work at the AC – this document is to be noted.	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf	
21. Sturgeons and paddlefish [Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)]	Dena	21.1 Secretariat's Report	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-21-01.pdf This is a regular report to AC regarding the activity of the range states relating to sturgeons. Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) further recommends, with regard to catch and export quotas, that Parties not accept the import of caviar and meat of Acipenseriformes species from stocks shared between different range States unless export quotas have been set. By 31 December 2013, none of the range States of Acipenseriformes that are concerned by the provisions outlined in paragraph 3 had established export quotas for caviar or meat from stocks shared with other range States, and no relevant information or data had been submitted to the Secretariat. Consequently, the Secretariat will publish zero export quotas for caviar and meat of wild origin from Acipenseriformes species of all shared stocks applicable for the period between 1 March 2014 and 28 February 2015. This document is to be noted.	The US recommended ways to improve reporting on sturgeon and paddlefish. The representative for Europe said that it is difficult for the Animals Committee (AC) to analyze the information in these documents as there has been a zero export quota for several years, so suggested that the working group do a more fundamental review of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) and how the AC can contribute to conservation of sturgeon through this Resolution. Oceania agreed with this. The US also expressed its frustration with the lack of reporting and lack of progress. They emphasized the need for timelines and deadlines for reporting and other activities. They feel that data analysis is necessary re: stock requirements and a stock re-building programme. Suggestions were made that the amendment of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) should tackle non-responsiveness and non-compliance, and consider punitive measures. A working group was formed which IUCN was a part of to consider this and developed the following recommendations:	Sturgeon SG
	Dena	21.2 Implementation by the Animals Committee of relevant provisions in Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-21-02.pdf The Animals Committee is invited to consider how it wishes to implement its mandates under Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), i.e.: monitoring of progress with relevant provisions in the Resolution; three-year cycle evaluations of assessment and monitoring methodologies used for shared stocks of Acipenseriformes species that are subject of catch quotas and export quotas for caviar and meat; and reporting to the Standing Committee.	1. In light of the lack of response of range states to the reporting requirements under Resolution Conf. 12.7, in order for the Animals Committee (AC) to be able to fulfil its mandate, the AC encourages the Standing Committee (SC) to consider ways to improve the reporting of the range states.	Sturgeon SG
	Dena	21.3 Evaluation of the "Register of licensed exporters and of processing	http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-21-03.pdf This is a review of the current status / need for an update of a	2. With respect to Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), the Animals Committee recommends that the SC provide advice on its implementation and, in doing so, the SC should, amongst others, consider the	Sturgeon SG

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		and repackaging plants for specimens of sturgeon and paddlefish species” established in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP. 16)	registration system for identifying legal caviar in trade. To enhance the quality of information on registered caviar processing and repackaging plants it is proposed to revise Res. Conf. 12.7 (rev. CoP16). A respective proposal is attached as Annex to this document. The Animals Committee is invited to review the draft discussion document prepared by Germany and to provide guidance and advice as appropriate.	<p>following aspects: possible impacts on wild populations of increasing trends of aquaculture facilities, including in range states, and potential (illegal, unreported and unregulated) IUU activities.</p> <p>3. Concerning document AC27 Doc. 21.3 Annex, submitted by Germany, the AC would ask the SC to consider the document and make appropriate recommendations to CoP17.</p> <p>See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-05.pdf </p>	
22. Conservation and management of sharks	Sarah Fowler	22.1 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16)	<p>http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-22-01.pdf</p> <p>This is an update related to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16) on Conservation and management of sharks, which directs the Animals Committee: To examine new information provided by range States on trade and other available relevant data and information; make species-specific recommendations on improving the conservation status of sharks; and To obtain information on implementation of National Plans of Action for the Conservation and Management of Shark Stocks (NPOA-Sharks) or regional plans. Information from range states that responded to this is attached in the Annexes to this document. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) informed the Secretariat that it is in the process of publishing a technical paper on the state of the global market for shark commodities, and that it intended to provide a summary of this paper at the present meeting. Additional new information on the making on non-detriment findings for CITES-listed sharks and manta rays is presented in document AC27 Doc. 22.2 (submitted by Germany), and on the development of a rapid management-risk assessment method for fish species through its application to sharks in document AC27 Doc. 22.4 (submitted</p>	<p>A working group was created at the meeting to discuss all of the shark-related agenda items, which IUCN was a part of. The mandate of the working group was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review information provided by range States on trade in sharks and provide recommendations and guidance related to the implementation of shark species listings agreed at CITES CoP16: in particular regarding making NDFs for these species. • Identify challenges, such as scientific and technical gaps and provide advice regarding approaches for making NDFs and implementing CITES listings for sharks. • Provide advice on documents AC27 Doc. 22.2, 22.3 and 22.4. <p>The working group developed a number of recommendations at the meeting which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CITES Secretariat continuing to work closely with FAO, the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, and 	Shark SG

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			<p>by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).</p> <p>The Committee is invited to examine the available information that is provided on trade in sharks and other relevant data and information, and the implementation of NPOA-Sharks and regional plans. It is also invited to consider species-specific recommendations on improving the conservation status of sharks that could be prepared for CoP17, and to consider its reporting to CoP17 on trade analyses, species-specific recommendations and progress on shark and ray activities.</p>	<p>Regional Fisheries Management Bodies, both with respect to CITES-listed shark species and wider shark conservation issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties continuing to work to improve collection of data at the species level, especially for CITES-listed species. • Parties undertaking further workshops and other capacity building activities to assist implementation of the Appendix II shark listings. 	
	Sarah Fowler	22.2 Non-detriment Findings for CITES-listed sharks and manta rays	<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-22-02.pdf</p> <p>This document has been submitted by Germany and prepared by the European Commission. The document relates to the shark species that were listed on CITES Appendix II at CITES CoP16 and guidance on creating NDFs for these shark species when the listing comes into play 18 months after CITES CoP16. This relates to agenda item 22.3 and the report submitted by Germany (written by IUCN and stemming from the workshop Sarah facilitated in December 2013). This particular document references two studies:</p> <p>a) a study by TRAFFIC “Into the deep: Implementing CITES measures for commercially-valuable sharks and manta rays” – Provides information on the levels of catch and population status of the species; reporting of their trade; assessment and monitoring to determine the impacts of trade on populations; an overview of available resources and capacity building initiatives re: NDFs.</p> <p>b) The 2013 European Commission study “Provision of scientific advice for the purpose of the implementation of the EUPOA sharks”. This project focused on obtaining scientific advice for the purpose of implementing the European Union Plan of Action for Sharks as regards the facilitation of monitoring fisheries and shark stock assessment on a species-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parties that make non-detriment findings for Appendix II-listed shark and ray species are encouraged to share voluntarily. • With regard to Germany’s draft guidelines on making Non-Detriment Findings for sharks, Parties and individual experts submitting: suggestions of stocks for testing the guidelines, experts to attend a workshop in this regard, comments or suggestions on the draft guidelines. • Parties submit new information on shark fishery management measures, in particular relating to species listed at CITES CoP16 on CITES Appendix II. • CITES Standing Committee addressing matters important to the implementation of shark listings on the CITES Appendices, such as: new legislative issues, chain of custody issues, legal acquisition issues, catch documentation and certification schemes, the role of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, etc. <p>The full list of recommendations can be viewed here:</p>	

Agenda item	Lead	Agenda detail	Brief Summary	IUCN position / info	Relevant SG
			<p>specific level in the high seas.</p> <p>The Animals Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) note the information and related documents referred to above and recognise the contribution they make to the future implementation by Parties, RFMOs and others of the CITES listings of sharks and manta rays, and to the European Union Plan of Action for Sharks;</p> <p>b) review the information contained in the two studies and advise on their use for the realization of NDFs for trade in CITES-listed sharks and manta rays;</p> <p>c) request the Secretariat to make the EC study available to the Parties through the CITES website.</p>	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-07.pdf	
	Sarah Fowler	22.3 Guidance for making Non-detriment findings for CITES-listed sharks	<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-22-03.pdf</p> <p>This document was submitted by Germany and relates to the full report found in Inf Doc. 1 “CITES Non-Detriment Findings Guidance for Shark Species: a Framework to assist Authorities in making Non-detriment Findings (NDFs) for species listed in CITES Appendix II” (branded as BfN and TRAFFIC). This relates to the Shark NDF workshop that Sarah convened in IUCN HQ in December 2013.</p> <p>The NDF procedures set out in the report will be tested on selected stocks of Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>) and other listed shark species, and the results analyzed during a small expert workshop that will be hosted by the German government in Berlin during August 2014.</p> <p>The procedures and guidance notes will be revised following testing and discussions at the Berlin workshop. The aim is for the framework to be ready for practical implementation by the time that the Appendix II listings adopted by CoP16 in March 2013 come into force, in September 2014. The revised guidance</p>		

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			<p>report will be finally submitted to the CITES Secretariat to be placed on the CITES homepage section for sharks and mantas (http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/shark/index.php).</p> <p>The Animals Committee is invited</p> <p>(a) to note and comment upon this report in the context of Res. Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16), as representing new information on the sustainable regulation of trade in listed shark species,</p> <p>(b) to provide advice on how the procedures and guidance might be improved.</p>		
	Sarah Fowler	22.4 Report on the development of a rapid management-risk assessment method for fish species through its application to sharks	<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-22-04.pdf</p> <p>The document provides in Annex 1 a summary of a draft report (see document AC27 Inf. 1) which was commissioned by the UK Government Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to TRAFFIC. A final version of the report entitled ‘Fish and Multilateral Environmental Agreements – Further developing a framework for fisheries species, and application of the framework to fished shark species’ will be published on the Defra website in due course (http://randd.defra.gov.uk/).</p> <p>The Animals Committee is invited to discuss this report ‘to examine new information provided by range States on trade and other available relevant data and information’. The Committee is invited to endorse, in principle, the approach of using risk assessment frameworks such as the one reported here, derived from fisheries science, to identify those shark species and/or stocks most in need of management interventions. Such interventions might include actions by an MEA such as CITES.</p> <p>The Committee is also invited to advise in ways in which such risk management frameworks might be improved, especially with respect to whether the attributes used for the assessment (as</p>		

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			indicators of responsible management), and the weightings given to each, are the most appropriate. The Committee may wish to consider how risk-assessment frameworks might contribute to guidance on making non-detriment findings for commercially exploited aquatic organisms (see document AC27 Doc. 22.2).		
23. Freshwater stingrays (Family Potamotrygonidae) (Decisions 16.131 and 16.132)	Sarah Fowler		<p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-23.pdf</p> <p>A number of decisions on freshwater stingrays were taken at CITES CoP16 including 16.30 requesting range States of freshwater stingrays to report on the conservation status and management of, and domestic and international trade in the species. The Animals Committee shall establish a working group comprising the range States of freshwater stingrays in order to evaluate and duly prioritize the species for inclusion in CITES Appendix II. The Secretariat issued a Notification to the Parties 6 December 2013, inviting range States of freshwater stingrays to report on the conservation status and management of and domestic and international trade in these species. The Secretariat requested that these reports be submitted by 31 January 2014 in order to have sufficient time to collate and summarize the information for consideration by the Animals Committee. However, at the time of writing (February 2014), no reports had been received. The Animals Committee is invited to establish a working group in compliance with Decision 16.131, and initiate the implementation of Decision 16.132.</p> <p>Also, a decision was taken for Parties, the CITES Secretariat and other interested organizations to organize activities, including regional workshops, to facilitate the exchange of trade, conservation and management data on freshwater stingray species – no funding has been found for this yet though.</p>	<p>The CITES Animals Committee established an inter-sessional working group with the following mandate: Consider all information submitted on freshwater stingrays in response to the request made under Decision 16.130, and:</p> <p>a) identify species of priority concern, including those species that meet the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II of the Convention; and</p> <p>b) draft specific recommendations to the range States of freshwater stingrays.</p> <p>IUCN is a member of this working group.</p> <p>See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-02_1.pdf</p>	Shark SG, Freshwater Fish SG
24. Periodic Review of species included in	Dena	24.1 Overview of species under	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-01.pdf	A working group was formed to discuss the Periodic Review agenda items which IUCN was a part of. The	Cat SG, Tortoise &

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Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)]		review	The record of animal species selected for review between the 13th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok; 2004, and CoP15, Doha, 2010) is shown in Annex 1. The record of animal species to be reviewed between CoP15 and the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, 2016) is shown in Annex 2. The Animals Committee is invited to take note of this information.	mandate of the working group was to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify lessons learnt in the Periodic review to date and advise on its implementation (Resolution Conf. 14.8);Draft advice on species selected for review between CoP15 and CoP17 regarding if the reviews should be stopped or proceed and the review of Felidae;Make recommendations concerning the implementation of the Periodic Review process for <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i>, <i>Mauremys annamensis</i> and <i>Chelodina mccordi</i> in agenda items 24.2 and 24.3;4. Review the information and reviews presented in documents 24.3.3 to 24.3.7, and make recommendations to the Committee regarding listing in the Appendices of the species concerned. Regarding 24.1, The Animals Committee recommended an inter-sessional working group be formed to consider the periodic review process and possible revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (rev. CoP16) and invited the Plants Committee to participate in such a working group. The Co-Chair of this working group from the Animals Committee will be the Chair of the Animals Committee, Ms. Caceres. The Plants Committee later agreed to participate in the working group, co-Chaired by the representative of North America (Mr. Benitez). IUCN is a member of this working group. See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27	Freshwater Turtle SG, Pinniped SG, Crane SG, Bat SG, Mollusc SG, Primate SG, BirdLife, Otter SG, Small Carnivore SG, Crocodile SG, Boa & Python SG, Galliforme SG
	Dena	24.2 Selection of species for the Periodic Review	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-02.pdf The Animals Committee is invited to consider the selection of species for the Periodic Review including <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i> , <i>Mauremys annamensis</i> , <i>Chelodina mccordi</i> and Felidae.		
	Peter Paul	24.3 Species reviews	24.3.1 Periodic review of <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i> , <i>Mauremys annamensis</i> and <i>Chelodina mccordi</i> (Decisions 16.124, 16.125 and 16.126) http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-01.pdf This relates to the decision taken at CITES CoP16 to include <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i> , <i>Mauremys annamensis</i> , <i>Chelodina mccordi</i> in the Periodic Review, as per above in 24.2.		
	Kristin		24.3.2 Periodic review of Felidae [Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP16)] http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-02.pdf This relates to the Animals Committee needing to complete its Review of the Appendices for Felidae and relates to 24.2. Three reviews on the following Felidae taxa are currently ongoing: <i>Panthera leo</i> , <i>Puma concolor couguar</i> and <i>P. concolor coryi</i> . The review of <i>Panthera leo</i> is being undertaken by Kenya and		

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			Namibia. At CoP16, these two countries stated that they intended to submit a report at AC27. Ethiopia also expressed its willingness to contribute to this report. The preparation of the review of <i>Panthera concolor</i> is being led by Canada and the US.	/sum/E-AC27-Exec-Sum-04_0.pdf and A number of other recommendations were agreed upon, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The United States agreed to review <i>Epioblasma sampsonii</i>, Brazil will review <i>Cacajao melanocephalus</i>, <i>Saguinus martinsi</i> and <i>Pionopsitta pileata</i>. A remaining 11 species have no reviewer (<i>Aonyx capensis microdon</i>, <i>Prionodon pardicolor</i>, <i>Semnopithecus dussumieri</i>, <i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>, <i>Semnopithecus schistaceus</i>, <i>Phaner pallescens</i>, <i>Dryocopus javensis richardsi</i>, <i>Caiman crocodilus apaporiensis</i>, <i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>, <i>Varanus bengalensis</i>, <i>Varanus flavescens</i>) – the CITES Secretariat and relevant Regional Representatives will write a letter to the relevant range States about this, to encourage the reviews to be done. The Animals Committee recommended that <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i> and <i>Mauremys annamensis</i> be included in the Periodic Review process with range States to undertake the review, with an offer of support from the IUCN SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group to assist in this regard. Indonesia will undertake the Periodic Review for <i>Chelodina mccordi</i>. Regarding <i>Panthera leo</i>, the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group communicated that it will re-assess the status of the species in 2015 - Namibia and Kenya were requested to 	
	Kristin		24.3.3 <i>Panthera leo</i> – Report of Kenya and Namibia http://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-03.pdf This is the report relating to 24.3.2 of Kenya and Namibian who are leading the Periodic Review process of <i>Panthera leo</i> .		
	Dena		24.3.4 <i>Monachus tropicalis</i> (Caribbean monk seal) – Report of the United States of America http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-04.pdf After the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, Switzerland, July 2011) and in response to Notification No. 2011/ 038, the United States of America committed to the evaluation of <i>Monachus tropicalis</i> as part of the Periodic review of the species included in the CITES Appendices. This species occurred throughout islands of the wider Caribbean Sea, and has been determined by some to be extinct. During the review, they consulted with national authorities for the countries within the former range of this species; however, previous research determined that the last confirmed sighting of this species occurred in 1952 at Seranilla Bank, an area between Jamaica and the Yucatan Peninsula. Following the review of the status of this species, the United States recommends removal of the extinct Caribbean monk seal, <i>Monachus tropicalis</i> , from Appendix I in accordance with the Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16). The document includes the draft proposal to remove the species from Appendix I.		
	Dena		24.3.5 <i>Pteropus tokudae</i> (Guam flying fox) - Report of the		

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			<p>United States of America</p> <p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-05.pdf</p> <p>After the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, Switzerland, July 2011) the United States of America committed to the evaluation of <i>Pteropus tokudae</i> as part of the Periodic review of the species included in the CITES Appendices. This species occurred in Guam, in the western Pacific, and is possibly extinct. During our review, we consulted with species experts, as well as current and former representatives of the Government of Guam.</p> <p>A proposal is included to retain <i>Pteropus tokudae</i> in Appendix II of CITES in accordance with Article II 2 (b) of the Convention and Annex 2b [Criteria for inclusion of species in Appendix II in accordance with Article II, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention] of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16), with the annotation “possibly extinct” for information purposes only in accordance with the “possibly extinct” criterion of Annex 5 (Definitions, explanations and guidelines) of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).</p>	<p>incorporate this information into the Periodic Review process for the species for the next CITES Animals Committee meeting (AC28) in 2015. The species assessment for <i>Puma concolor</i> should also be complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding document 24.3.4, <i>Monachus tropicalis</i>, the Animals Committee agreed with the recommendation to delete this extinct species from Appendix I. • Regarding document 24.3.5, <i>Pteropus tokudae</i>, the Animals Committee decided to defer a decision on this until the next CITES Animals Committee meeting (AC28) 2015. • Regarding with document 24.3.6, <i>Grus canadensis pulla</i>, the Animals Committee agreed with the recommendation to retain this species in Appendix I. • Regarding document 24.3.7, <i>Epicrates inornatus</i>, the Animals Committee agreed with the recommendation to transfer this species to CITES Appendix II. 	
	Dena		<p>24.3.6 <i>Grus canadensis pulla</i> (Mississippi Sandhill Crane) - Report of the United States of America</p> <p>http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-24-03-6.pdf</p> <p>After the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, Switzerland, July 2011) the United States of America committed to the evaluation of <i>Grus canadensis pulla</i> as part of the Periodic review of the species included in the CITES Appendices. This subspecies is endemic to the United States of America and does not occur elsewhere in the wild.</p>	<p>The full report of the working group is here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-08.pdf</p> <p>Also see here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf and here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-Exec-Sum-04_0.pdf</p> <p>Brazil offered to conduct periodic reviews for <i>Leopardus braccatus</i>, <i>Leopardus geoffroyi</i>,</p>	

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			A proposal is included in this document to retain <i>Grus canadensis pulla</i> (Mississippi sandhill crane) in CITES Appendix I.	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i> , <i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> , <i>Leopardus wiedii</i> and <i>Puma yagouaroundi</i> . During the discussion on Periodic Review, there were a number of comments from countries regarding the model of range States volunteering to fund and undertake Periodic Review which can be hampered by resource constraints. The US suggested that including the IUCN status of species would be helpful for all future selection of species for the Periodic Review process. Several countries said that there should be a focus on completing current species in the Periodic Review process rather than selecting new species. Both the US and South Africa said that they would like to see the IUCN conservation status of species inform the prioritization process for species in the Periodic Review process (e.g. threatened species being considered as a priority for the Periodic Review process), though there are issues with this for plant species (many of which have not been assessed yet on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species).	
	Tomas and Dan		24.3.7 <i>Epicrates inornatus</i> (Puerto Rican boa) - Report of the United States of America http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/E-AC27-24-03-07.pdf At the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva July 2011), the United States of America, committed to review <i>Epicrates inornatus</i> as part of the Periodic review of the species included in the CITES Appendices. This species is indigenous to Puerto Rico. A proposal is included in the document to transfer <i>Epicrates inornatus</i> from CITES Appendix I to II. [The species does not meet the threatened with extinction criteria (Annex 1) established in Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) and does not appear to fit the “affected by trade” criteria (Annex 5)].		
25. Standard nomenclature [Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP16)]	Dena	25.1 Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-25-01.pdf There are a number of nomenclature and taxonomy issues that are addressed by this document relating to seahorses, corals, sloths, turtles, chameleons, sharks and amphibians, among other species – corresponding recommendations are provided.	A working group was formed at the meeting to address this agenda item – IUCN was a part of it. A number of recommendations were agreed upon that can be seen here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/wg/E-AC27-WG-06.pdf and here: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/sum/E-AC27-ExSum-03_0.pdf	Seahorse SG, Coral SG, Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo SG, Tortoise & Freshwater Turtle SG, Chameleon SG, Shark SG, Amphibian SG, BirdLife
	Dena	25.2 Revised nomenclature for <i>Poicephalus robustus</i> and <i>Cordylus</i>	http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-25-02.pdf		
26. Regional reports	Dena	26.1 Africa	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs

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			AC27-26-01.pdf		
	Dena	26.2 Asia	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-26-02.pdf	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs
	Dena	26.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-26-03.pdf	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs
	Dena	26.4 Europe	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-26-04.pdf	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs
	Dena	26.5 North America	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-26-05.pdf	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs
	Dena	26.6 Oceania	See: http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/ac/27/E-AC27-26-06.pdf	This document was noted.	Relevant SGs
27. Any other business	N/A		<i>No document</i>	N/A	N/A
28. Time and venue of the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee	N/A		<i>No document</i>	The next meeting of the CITES Animals Committee has been proposed to be held in Israel in the spring of 2015.	All SGs
29. Closing remarks	N/A		<i>No document</i>	N/A	N/A

* This agenda item was discussed during the joint Animals and Plants Committee meeting May 2 - 3