

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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

SUMMARY

THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER
EVENING

48. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)

48.1 Report of the working group

and

48.2 Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 48.1 (Rev. 1) and the complexity of the implementation of CITES trade controls for shark trade, but also the notable successes in the implementation of shark and ray listing.

The Standing Committee noted the need for further discussion on labelling requirements for processed products of sharks and rays, to ensure effective implementation of the convention for such products, and take this into account in other pertinent discussions, e.g. on SC70 Doc.40 on traceability.

The Standing Committee encouraged Parties to evaluate and declare stockpiles of shark fins caught prior to the inclusion of the species in Appendix II, and requested the Secretariat to develop new or disseminate existing guidance on the control and monitoring of such stockpiles.

The Standing Committee noted document SC70 Doc. 48.2 presenting the recommendations adopted by the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee on the matter of sharks and rays, including the invitation to the Secretariat to propose amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP17) on *Conservation and management of sharks*.

The Standing Committee invited the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee, to develop the following recommendations into draft decisions or into revisions to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP17), as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

a) The Secretariat is requested:

1. To facilitate the coordination with RFMO/RFB's and CMS in CITES implementation, including facilitating greater RFMO support for CITES implementation through the provision of catch and landings data, and regional stock assessments.
2. To compile lesson learned and best practices in CITES sharks and rays implementation on NDF development and traceability system.
3. To provide guideline on Legal Acquisitions Finding to address the traceability issues

4. To continue to seek external resources for capacity building on sharks and rays to support Parties, including in the development of NDF
 5. To compile, subject to external funding, for the review of the Animals Committee:
 - a. scientific research on CITES listed sharks and rays to support NDF development;
 - b. Analysis of non-fin shark products in trade, including the level of species mixing in traded products
- b) Parties are encouraged:**
1. To implement measures and regulations under RFMO/ RFB or other multilateral environmental agreements where they are parties of it, including the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), as support to implement CITES measures
 2. To have a better coordination between CITES and RFMO national focal points
 3. To take into consideration requirements that have been developed for the trade in specimens of other Appendix-II species, and their applicability to specimens of CITES-listed sharks and rays in trade; and legislative issues that might be hindering the implementation of the Convention for sharks and rays (at point of landing, processing, trading and distribution)
 4. To develop procedure of Legal Acquisitions Finding for export of specimens of CITES listed sharks and rays, as part of addressing the traceability issue
 5. To identify or develop a robust and low-cost systems to support the implementation of traceability systems for international trade
 6. To improve the collection of shark fisheries and trade data at the species level, especially with respect to CITES-listed species;
 7. To share experiences in:
 - a. The development of NDF under limited or poor data availability
 - b. The determination of legal acquisition for shark and ray products in trade; and
 - c. Knowledge of forensic means to efficiently, reliably and cost effectively identify shark products in trade, traceability implementation
- c) The Animal Committee is requested:**
1. To collate and analyse scientific research on CITES listed sharks and rays to support NDF development.
 2. To analyse non-fin shark products in trade, including the level of species mixing in traded products.
 3. To provide guidance on capacity building material on sharks and rays to support parties in the development of NDF, where requested.
- d) Parties that are members of RFMOs/RFBs are invited to work through the respective mechanisms of these RFMO/RFBs for them:**
1. To update conservation and management measures of shark species such as catch limits or prohibition for heavily fished oceanic sharks considering the species listed on CITES.
 2. To provide data shark catches and landings (to species level where possible) and effort by gear type in accordance with confidential policy of each Organization/Body upon requests by Parties.
 3. To continue the assessment on fishing risk to sharks and rays at regional level.

- e) Parties that are not members of RFMOs/RFBs are invited to provide scientific data to relevant RFMOs/RFBs, such as shark catches and landing (to species level where possible) and effort by gear type.

53. Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]: Report of the Plants Committee

The Standing Committee requested the Plants Committee to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting the draft decisions in paragraph 7 of document SC70 Doc. 53 with the additional draft decision below:

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.DD The Standing Committee shall consider any report prepared in response to Decision 18.AA and identify any implementation and enforcement issues associated with the international trade in rosewood species, particularly those already listed in the Appendices, and develop recommendations for more effective implementation of the Convention for rosewood species. Considerations should include recommended revisions to annotations, identification of terms in annotations that require further clarification, identification of challenges to effective implementation, etc.

55. Quotas for leopard hunting trophies (*Panthera pardus*): Report of the Animals Committee

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) so as to remove quotas for Kenya and Malawi from this resolution.

The Standing Committee noted the evaluation of the Animals Committee concerning the quotas for Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda and Zimbabwe in this Resolution.

The Standing Committee agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.114 to 17.117 for Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia, allowing the Animals Committee to evaluate the information and make appropriate recommendations after the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee invited the Secretariat to propose to the Conference of the Parties draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.21 (Rev. CoP13) concerning approaches to review quotas for Appendix-I species, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Animals Committee in paragraph 5 f) of document SC70 Doc. 55 and opportunities to provide assistance to range States.

57. Illegal trade in the helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*): Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions in paragraph 8 of document SC70 Doc. 57.

58. Saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.): Report of the Secretariat

The Standing Committee noted the successful collaboration between CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) on saiga antelope.

The Standing Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions in Annex 1 to document SC70 Doc. 58 and requested the Secretariat to work with the Chair of the Standing Committee to include another draft decision to address concerns with stockpile management and monitoring in a way similar to Decision 17.271.

The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to work with Parties to ensure that the Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope (MTIWP) 2021-2025 reflect CITES priorities and concerns, namely improved collaboration among saiga range States to implement CITES by further harmonizing their legislation regarding offenses involving illegal trade in saiga parts and derivatives, and strengthening cross-border enforcement teamwork, especially in the context of regional trade and customs cooperation.