

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



Sixty-first meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 August 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MORNING

1. Opening remarks by the Chair No document

The Chair welcomed the participants, thanked the outgoing Chair of the Standing Committee for his good service and thanked the Committee for electing Norway as the new Chair. He also welcomed the new Secretary-General. He delivered a speech¹.
2. Report of the Secretary-General No document

The Secretary-General outlined the main work done by the Secretariat since his appointment, the development of cooperation with other organizations, and the successes of CITES as well as the challenges faced by the Parties and the Secretariat. He concluded that CITES was more relevant now than it had ever been.
3. Agenda SC61 Doc. 3 (Rev. 2)

The Committee adopted the draft agenda in document SC61 Doc. 3 (Rev. 2) without amendment.
4. Working programme SC61 Doc. 4 (Rev. 1)

The Committee adopted the draft working programme in document SC61 Doc. 4 (Rev. 1) without amendment.
5. Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee SC61 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1)

The Committee noted the current Rules of Procedure in document SC61 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1).
6. Credentials No document

It was noted that the Secretariat would report at a later session on the credentials submitted.
7. Admission of observers SC61 Doc. 7

The Committee noted the list of organizations that had been invited to attend the meeting and the list of other non-Party observers attending and not requiring an invitation, as contained in document SC61 Doc. 7.

¹ Available at http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/61/chair_speech.php.

9. Relationship with the United Nations Environment Programme

9.1 Report of UNEPSC61 Doc. 9.1 (Rev. 1)

The representative of UNEP presented document SC61 Doc. 9.1 (Rev. 1) and this was noted. The Secretary-General agreed to enquire with the UNEP Executive Director about posting the *Delegation of authority on administrative and financial matters* on the CITES website.

9.2 Report on the Working Group on Revising the Agreement between the CITES Standing Committee and the Executive Director of UNEP SC61 Doc. 9.2

The Secretary-General introduced document SC61 Doc. 9.2. After a short discussion, a contact group was established, comprising Australia, China, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and UNEP. The group was requested to discuss the issues that had been raised and to report at a later session.

11. Meetings of the Conference of the Parties

11.2 Arrangements for the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties No document

The representative of Thailand, as the Next Host Country, reported on the progress in the arrangements made for the organization of CoP16.