Sixty-second meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 23-27 July 2012

Strategic matters

CITES AND LIVELIHOODS

1. This document has been prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods (Peru) in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat.*

Background

2. At its 15th meeting (CoP15, Doha, 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 15.5-15.7 on livelihoods as follows:

Directed to the Standing Committee

Decision 15.5

The Standing Committee shall continue the operation of its Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods so that it can:

a) revise the draft resolution contained in Annex 1 to document CoP15 Doc. 14 and make specific recommendations at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

b) finalize the toolkit for the rapid assessment at the national level of the positive and negative impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor, in conformity with Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13);

c) finalize the voluntary guidelines for Parties to address the negative impacts, in order to assist Parties in developing local, national and regional initiatives that take account of the impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor; and

d) prepare a final version of the tools and guidelines for review and endorsement by the Standing Committee at its 62nd meeting.

The Working Group shall continue to work electronically through a forum available on the CITES website. If funding is available, consideration may be given to holding one or more meetings, if possible in regions more likely to be affected by the outcome.

The process shall not include consideration of the criteria for amendment of the Appendices or the requirement to make non-detriment findings.

* 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.
Decision 15.6

The Standing Committee shall present a report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 15.5.

Directed to the Secretariat

Decision 15.7

On completion of the draft guidelines and toolkit by the Working Group, the Secretariat shall make the draft documents available on its website for comments by Parties, stakeholders and interested organizations, and shall invite such comments via a Notification to the Parties. The comments shall be made available to the Working Group for consideration in the development of revised draft documents to be submitted for approval at the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee.

6. At its 61st meeting (Geneva, August 2011), the Standing Committee approved a revised Working Group timetable and agreed to expand the membership of the Working Group to additional Parties and organizations1.

7. The members of the Working Group are: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, India, Indonesia, Israel, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, South Africa, Suriname, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zimbabwe, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Conservation Force, FAN Bolivia, Humane Society International, IFAW, IWMC – World Conservation Trust, Pro Wildlife, Safari Club International, SSN, TRAFFIC, WWF and the CITES Secretariat.

8. The Management Authority of the Plurinational State of Bolivia requested to become a member of the Working Group to replace FAN Bolivia, which is not longer working on CITES-related matters in that country. This request was accepted by the Chair.

Progress made in the implementation of the revised timetable

9. **September 2011**: translation of the draft tools and guidelines into French and Spanish is completed.
   
   The two documents were translated in October 2011. The Chair sent the documents to all the members of the Working Group in the three official languages of the Convention and also posted them in the electronic forum available on the CITES website.

10. **October 2011**: Parties concerned by cases studies used in the draft guidelines provide their comments on those case studies; Working Group members review the French and Spanish translations of the draft tools and guidelines.

   At the time of writing (June 2012), the Chair had received comments from Austria, Colombia and WWF and incorporated them in a new version of the toolkit and voluntary guidelines mentioned in paragraphs b) and c) of Decision 15.5.

11. **February 2012**: a regional meeting is organized with the assistance of the CITES Secretariat and the ACTO Secretariat to discuss and revise the draft tools and guidelines; participants agree upon a revised draft version of the tools and guidelines.

   Thanks to the financial and technical support provided by the European Commission and the Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), a regional meeting on CITES and livelihoods with members of the Working Group from the Amazonian Region will be held in Lima, Peru, from 11 to 13 July 2012. The meeting was initially scheduled to be held from 26 to 28 June, but it was postponed because those dates were too close to Rio+20, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. All members of the Working Group were informed on 17 May 2012 of the organization of this workshop and a draft agenda was circulated for their comments.

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12. **March 2012:** comments on the revised draft version of the tools and guidelines are invited through a Notification to the Parties.

A Notification to the Parties with the revised draft versions will be published on the CITES website in time for the completion of the Decision by September 2012, together with a summary report of the regional meeting.

13. **May 2012:** with the help of a consultant, the Working Group prepares a final version of the tools and guidelines

In consultation with the Chair, the Secretariat has hired a consultant to assist the Working Group in the revision of the draft resolution contained in Annex 1 to document CoP15 Doc. 14 and the preparation of the final version of the toolkit and voluntary guidelines mentioned in paragraphs b) and c) of Decision 15.5. Mr Alejandro Larriera, from Argentina, has been selected for his vast experience with the implementation of wildlife management programmes in developing countries, including the social aspects that should be addressed by the Working Group. Mr Larriera will also assist in the organization of the meeting to be held in Lima.

14. **July 2012:** the tools and guidelines are submitted at SC62 for endorsement.

The consultant will prepare the revised versions that will be submitted as information documents at the present meeting. The Standing Committee would need to agree on a new timetable between August and 4 October 2012 [deadline for the submission of documents for the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16)] for the completion of the mandate under Decisions 15.5 to 15.7 and instruct the Working Group accordingly.

Livelihoods-related activities: CBNRM

15. The Proceedings of the symposium on community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) held in Vienna on May 2011 have been published and are available at:


Recommendations by the Chair of the Working Group

16. The working group will reconvene in the margins of the present meeting and, if deemed appropriate, make recommendations to the Standing Committee for further action. In the meantime, the Chair of the Working Group invites the Standing Committee to reflect on the best way to continue this work in order to prepare its report for the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made with the implementation of Decision 15.5.

17. The Standing Committee may wish to instruct the Working Group to complete the mandate under Decisions 15.5 and 15.6 and submit a revised draft resolution and the final versions of the toolkit and voluntary guidelines mentioned in paragraphs b) and c) of Decision 15.5 for consideration at CoP16.