EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MORNING

1. Opening remarks of the Chair
   The Chair welcomed the participants and gave an opening speech.¹
   
2. Report of the Secretary-General
   The Secretary-General also welcomed the participants and gave an opening address.²
   
3. Agenda
   The Committee adopted the draft agenda in document SC62 Doc. 3 without amendment.
   
4. Working programme
   The Committee adopted the draft working programme in document SC62 Doc. 4 with an amendment to delay discussion of item 8 until Friday 27 July.
   
5. Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee
   The Committee adopted the proposed amendment to Rule 21, paragraph 1, as shown in paragraph 12 of document SC62 Doc. 5, with an amendment to paragraph b), to insert the words “and distribute” after “provide”, and “of the Committee” after “alternate members”.
   The Committee confirmed that visitors should continue to be allowed to attend meetings of the Standing Committee.
   
7. Admission of observers
   The Committee noted the list of organizations that had been invited to attend the meeting as contained in document SC61 Doc. 7.
   
10. Meetings of the Conference of the Parties
    
10.1 Structure and length of future meetings
    The Committee agreed to propose that the second week of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16) be four days only, and that this should be a trial run. It agreed that the operation of CoP16 would be reviewed at its first subsequent regular meeting (SC65), where the Secretariat should present a financial analysis, so that it could be determined whether there had been savings on costs. The Committee also noted the view that the change of structure of meetings of the Conference of the Parties should not result in more work being done in working groups, as this could disadvantage small delegations.

¹ The full text of the Standing Committee Chair’s opening speech is available at: http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/chair_speech.php.
² The full text of the CITES Secretary-General’s opening address is available at: http://www.cites.org/eng/com/SC/62/SG_speech.php.
10.2 Arrangements for the 16th meeting

10.2.1 Preparation for CoP16 ........................................................................................................... No document

The Next Host Country (Thailand) announced that CoP16 would be held in the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre and provided an oral report of progress in planning for the meeting. This was noted with appreciation.

10.2.2 Agenda ................................................................................................................................. SC62 Doc. 10.2.2

The draft provisional agenda for CoP16 annexed to document SC62 Doc. 10.2.2 was approved, without comment.

10.2.3 Working programme ........................................................................................................ SC62 Doc. 10.2.3

The draft provisional working programme for CoP16 annexed to document SC62 Doc. 10.2.3 was approved, without comment.

10.2.4 Rules of Procedure ........................................................................................................ SC62 Doc. 10.2.4

The Committee supported the Secretariat’s suggested amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties indicated in paragraphs 3, 10 and 11 of document SC62 Doc. 10.2.4. With regard to the suggested amendment to Rule 23, paragraph 6, the Committee requested the Secretariat to take account of the interventions that had been made in preparing its document on Rules of Procedure for consideration at CoP16. The Committee also noted that the United States was considering the submission of proposed amendments to Rules 15 and 23.6.