



**SUMMARY OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT
THE SEVENTIETH MEETING OF THE
CITES STANDING COMMITTEE
SOCHI, RUSSIA 1-5 OCTOBER 2018**

All meeting documents prepared by the CITES Secretariat unless otherwise indicated.
SC=Standing Committee AC=Animals Committee PC=Plants Committee RC=Resolution Conf. CoP=Conference of the Parties

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
1. Agenda SC70 Doc. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the provisional agenda of the meeting for consideration and adoption. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
2. Working Programme SC70 Doc. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the provisional working programme of the meeting for consideration and adoption. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
3. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure (RoP) and Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Decision 17.2 directs SC to align its RoP as closely as possible with the RoP of the CoP <i>mutatis mutandis</i>. Provides RoP adopted at SC69 with amendments suggested by the Secretariat including, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deleting requirement that observers be approved by the Chair (Rule 4.3); Requiring that only Members shall have the right to make a point of order to call for a vote (Rule 14.4); Clarifying that requests to join Working Groups be made to the Chair of the group rather than Chair of SC (Rule 17.2); Retaining current language as to when decisions of SC come into effect (Rule 19.1); and Amendments to the postal procedure for decision-making (Rule 20). Recommends that SC adopt the revised RoP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
4. Credentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
5. Admission of observers SC70 Doc. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a list of observers to SC70. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
6. Financial matters SC70 Doc. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides highlights of the financial performance of the Secretariat since SC69 (Annexes 1-9) Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>, approve the reports on costed programme of work and approve the proposed amended Terms of Reference for the Finance and Budget Sub-Committee in Annex 9. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.

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7. Report on proposed budget scenarios for 2020-2022 SC70 Doc. 7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides proposed budget scenarios for zero nominal growth, zero real growth and incremental growth. Requests SC to consider this report and provide feedback on the proposed budget scenarios and preparation for budgetary discussions at CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
8. External funding: Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on external funding received by the Secretariat and draft Decisions regarding external funding for CoP18. Requests SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, note the report, welcome the funding and recommend that the Decisions be adopted at CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
9. Administrative matters			
9.1	Administrative matters including host country arrangements for the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on the administrative performance of the Secretariat since SC69. Requests SC to note the report; requests the Secretariat to work with UNEP to get clarity on the programme support allocation, new secretariat services and ensure that this is consistent with the SC/UNEP Memorandum of Understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
9.2	Administrative hosting models for the Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
9.3	Report of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on administrative matters SC70 Doc. 9.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by UNEP. Summarizes information on the administrative and financial management support provided by UNEP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
10. Arrangements for the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18) SC70 Doc. 10.2-10.6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes items 10.1: Preparations for CoP18 (no Doc.); 10.2: Draft agenda (Doc. 10.2); 10.3: Draft working programme (Doc. 10.3); 10.4: Review of the RoP of the CoP: Report of the Working Group (Doc. 10.4); 10.5: Selection of nominees for the chairmanship of the committees (no Doc.); and 10.6: Sponsored Delegates Project (Doc. 10.6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
11. Revision and replacement of the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020: Report of the working group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Decision 17.18 directs SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, submit to CoP18 a proposal for a CITES strategic vision for the period after 2020. Provides revisions to RC 16.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>CITES</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC reject the Decisions directing the Secretariat to identify, in CITES Resolutions and Decisions, those activities that do not support the objectives of the CITES Strategic Vision. Resolutions and Decisions contain “current CITES policies”

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<p>SC70 Doc. 11</p>	<p><i>Strategic Vision: 2008-2020</i> (Annexes 1 and 2); and a series of Decisions that, <i>inter alia</i>, direct the Secretariat to identify, in CITES Resolutions and Decisions, those activities “where the current CITES policies as found in the Resolutions and Decisions do not appear to address activities in support of achieving that objective of the CITES Strategic Vision”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites SC to submit the revision and Decisions to CoP18. 	<p>and these should inform what appears in the CITES Strategic Vision, not the other way around.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Such a review runs the risk of being used by some to change language that that they do not like.
<p>12. Review of RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP17): Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Provides proposed amendments to RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Establishment of Committees</i> (Annexes 1 and 2). Invites SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit the amendments to CoP18; Reflect on whether the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup and/or Terms of Reference for the Finance and Budget Subcommittee should be included in this RC; Consider whether the RC should direct the Secretariat to list active intersessional Working Groups on its website; and Consider whether any template for declarations of conflict of interest should be referenced within the RC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations, including inclusion in the RC of a sentence directing the Secretariat to maintain a list of intersessional Working Groups.
<p>13. Potential conflicts of interest in the Animals and Plants Committees: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a <i>Standard disclosure form for CITES declarations of interest</i> (Annex). Invites SC to approve the form. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC approve the form.
<p>14. Designation and roles of Management Authorities</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a draft resolution (Annex) on <i>Designation and role of Management Authorities</i>. The draft resolution states, in paragraph 7 d) that a duty of a Management Authority is “reporting, where appropriate, on specific issues concerning the implementation of the Convention as requested by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee, the Plants Committee or the Secretariat in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</i> and other relevant Resolutions.” Invites SC to provide input. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC strike a working group to consider the draft resolution. SSN suggests the following changes to the draft resolution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To track language in CITES Articles III through V, insert “not” in paragraph 4(f)(i): “whether trade would <u>not</u> be detrimental to the survival of a species;” Amend paragraph 5 to clarify Management Authority’s discretion in granting, refusing, modifying, and revoking permits must be consistent with CITES; and Delete all words after “Secretariat” (from “in accordance...”) in paragraph 7 d), as these are unnecessary and overly specific. Include a new paragraph 7 e): “<u>In accordance with CITES Article VIII (8), making information referred to in paragraph 7 a)–d) available to the public where this is not inconsistent with the laws of the Party concerned.</u>”
<p>15. Engagement of rural communities in the CITES processes: Report of the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared by the Working Group Chair. Reports on the work of the Group (Annex 1). Provides draft amendments to RC 4.6 (Rev. CoP17) on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN urges SC to reject the recommendations. SSN believes that no additional permanent committee or subcommittee should be established and that no reporting

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<p>working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 15</p>	<p><i>Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the CoPs (Annex 2) that encourage Parties, when submitting or reviewing proposals or working documents to the CoP, to take account of the impact of the measure on rural communities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides draft amendments to RC9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i> (Annex 3) that include, <i>inter alia</i>, that proposals include information on any involvement of rural communities within the range of the species, in use of, trade in and management of, the species; and any consultations with such rural communities. • Provides draft decisions for CoP18 that, <i>inter alia</i>, direct SC to consider establishment of a permanent rural communities committee under RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP17), or a subcommittee of SC on rural communities, and direct the Secretariat to prepare costed options for this. • Recommends that the term “indigenous / local / rural communities” be used in all related RCs. • Requests SC to endorse the recommendations. 	<p>requirements for Parties to consult rural communities should be adopted, as these would undermine national authority and infringe Parties’ sovereignty; it would be inappropriate to require consultation with a particular group of stakeholders, but not others. Organizations may already make their views known by attending CoPs, SC, AC and PC meetings and participating in Working Groups as observers, and by consulting CITES authorities in their home countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions on listing proposals must be scientifically based; the Parties have repeatedly rejected attempts to include socioeconomic aspects in the listing process, and decided these should be dealt with during implementation on a national level. • SSN remains concerned that this Working Group: was constituted without a clear definition of a rural community; includes organizations never recognized as observers at CITES meetings; and remains regionally unbalanced. • SSN is concerned with the budgetary implications of establishment of a new committee or subcommittee; such resources, if available, would be better directed at assisting Parties to enhance CITES implementation and enforcement.
<p>16. Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 17.47 directs SC to assess the need for the development of CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies and make recommendations to CoP18. • Provides a summary of a study of existing demand-reduction strategies (Annex). • Invites SC to consider draft Decisions for CoP18 that, <i>inter alia</i>, direct the Secretariat to produce draft guidance on demand-reduction strategies and SC to make recommendations to CoP19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While SSN strongly supports the use of demand reduction strategies, we recognize that, to succeed, these need to be tailored to specific situations and markets. • SSN is concerned that across-the-board guidelines could limit the ability of Parties to design appropriate and flexible strategies to meet their particular needs.
<p>17. Livelihoods and food security: Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Chair of Working Group. • Reports that the group members have divergent views and more work needs to be done. • Requests that SC recommend Decisions 17.41 to 17.43 be renewed at CoP18 so that the group can continue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that the Decisions on this issue not be renewed. • SSN believes there is no need for a resolution on this issue, and notes that the Working Group was unable to reach consensus. • CITES already conserves food resources for poor communities by reducing unsustainable and illegal international trade in wild species, thereby ensuring populations of wild species may continue to meet human needs for food, cultural and livelihood uses.
<p>18. Community awareness on wildlife trafficking: Report of the Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 17.86 directs the Secretariat to, <i>inter alia</i>, prepare a report on existing strategies or programs to enhance community awareness on wildlife trafficking. • Provides a summary and reports that a final report will be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN stresses that benefit-sharing mechanisms and incentives for local communities can and, where possible, should be based on broader ecosystem values and support for local heritage and traditions rather than only on economic or trade

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SC70 Doc. 18		<p>available at SC70.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites SC to note the document and encourage Parties to take into account the findings when preparing documents for consideration at CoP18. 	<p>considerations.</p>
19. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions SC70 Doc. 19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on actions taken by the Secretariat to enhance cooperation with other conventions. States that the Secretariat would welcome suggestions to engage with the process to replace the Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets; and reports that the Secretariat will recommend that related CITES Decisions be continued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN urges SC to recommend that, if the Decisions are continued, they be revised to include language stating that "such cooperation must add value and not detract from the core focus of CITES and the work of the Secretariat."
20. Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity SC70 Doc. 20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by PC Chair in consultation with the Secretariat. Reports on implementation of Decisions related to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2011-2020 and provides draft Decisions related to GSPC. Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, request PC to present the draft Decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
21. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES): Report of the Secretariat and of the Chairs of the AC and PC SC70 Doc. 21		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Secretariat and AC/PC Chairs. Reports on implementation of related Decisions, requests to the Secretariat from the Executive Secretariat of IPBES (including re making IPBES assessment more useful to CITES), and a draft RC on <i>Cooperation with IPBES</i> (Annex). Invites SC to address the requests from IPBES, and agree to propose the draft Resolution at CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC instruct the Secretariat that all relevant actions under the proposed draft resolution, not merely those for which external funding is specified, be subject to budgetary, staffing and time considerations with respect to other CITES priorities.
22. Capacity building			
22.1	<p>Capacity-building needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 22.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decision 17.34 on capacity building; related draft Decisions (Annex 1); and Decisions (Annex 2) and Resolutions (Annex 3) with references to capacity-building. Also compares Parties under the main compliance tools (Annex 4); and proposes a capacity-building framework (Annex 5). Invites SC to propose the draft decisions to CoP18, and to frame future discussions on capacity-building on the proposed framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN notes that a number of recent resolutions listed in Annex 3 (e.g. RC 17.11 on <i>Conservation of and trade in helmeted hornbill</i>) do not appear in the framework in Annex 5, and recommends that any consideration of the framework take into account the need to add further resolutions and decisions into its structure in future.
22.2	<p>Proposed framework to facilitate coordination, transparency and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by USA. Reports that the USA is considering developing a draft resolution that will include a framework to more systematically plan, implement, and measure CITES capacity building efforts. Invites feedback from SC on the utility of creating such a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC support these efforts.

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	<p>accountability of CITES capacity-building efforts</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 22.2</p>	<p>framework.</p>	
<p>23. United Nations World Wildlife Day: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 23</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on implementation of Decision 17.27 on youth engagement and provides amendments to RC 17.1 on <i>World Wildlife Day</i> (Annex) that the Secretariat will present to CoP18. Invites SC to comment on the draft amendments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC agree to the draft amendments.
<p>24. Follow-up of the Youth Forum for People and Wildlife and South Africa's Youth Conservation Programme: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 24</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 17.27 directs SC to consider the Secretariat's report on youth engagement and make recommendations to CoP18. Reports on efforts to promote youth engagement. Recommends that SC note this document and submit draft revision (Annex) of RC 17.5 on <i>Youth Engagement</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
<p>25. National laws for implementation of the Convention: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 25</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 17.61 directs SC69 to review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention. Provides an update on the status of Parties under review. Recommends that SC adopt a recommendation to all Parties to suspend commercial trade with Botswana, Comoros, Ecuador, Kazakhstan and Mongolia; and issue a formal warning to the Parties that have not reported legislative progress since CoP17. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
26. National reports			
26.1	<p>Submission of national reports</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 26.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on submission of national reports. Recommends that SC direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification recommending that Parties not authorize any commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with those Parties that do not meet the deadline (31 October 2018) for submitting their annual reports for 2015-2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
26.2	<p>Improving access to annual report data</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 26.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports that, after considering options, the Secretariat will work with UNEP-WCMC to enable users to download the entire CITES Trade Database, including data on a per-shipment basis, but not including confidential permit numbers. Invites SC to note the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC note the document.

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26.3	Annual illegal trade reports: Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 26.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a proposal on <i>A sustainable framework for the storage, management and dissemination of data collected through CITES Annual Illegal Trade Reports</i> (Annex). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, approve the proposal; submit a draft Decision to CoP18 directing the Secretariat to contract United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to host the associated database; and recommend minor amendments to RC 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>National reports</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. SSN is concerned that an overwhelming majority of Parties fail to submit regular annual illegal trade reports. These reports provide a critical opportunity for Parties to assess illegal trade in CITES specimens. Their submission is “mandatory” (Notification 2016/007). SSN recommends that SC70: request the Secretariat to publish a list of Parties that have submitted their annual illegal trade reports in the required format with the date of submission, and update this list on a regular basis; recommend that CoP18 consider an amendment to RC 11.7 noting that failure to submit three annual illegal trade reports could result in compliance measures.
27. Compliance matters			
27.1	Guidance for verifying the legal acquisition of CITES specimens to be exported SC70 Doc. 27.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides: a draft resolution on <i>Verification of legal acquisition of CITES specimens</i> (Annex 1); related draft Decisions for CoP18 (Annex 2); responses to a questionnaire and issues discussed at the international workshop on legal acquisition of CITES specimens held in Brussels in June 2018 (Annex 3); and commentary regarding relevant legal framework (Annex 4). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, submit the draft resolution and Decisions to CoP18 and note the other Annexes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC submit the draft resolution to CoP18 with the following amendment (addition underlined): Paragraph 1(b): “...should take into account the whole series of actions (<u>chain of custody</u>) through which the specimen is brought from its source into the possession of an exporter.” SSN recommends that the resolution: require a Verification of Legal Acquisition in all circumstances; guidance should recommend that the level of scrutiny should depend on the risk of the activity (e.g. give more scrutiny and require more detailed information when the proposed activity poses greater risk); and guidance should provide a list of the type of documents that can be used to assist in verifying legal acquisition. SSN recommends that SC establish an in-session working Group to consider the draft texts.
27.2	Possible establishment of a Compliance Assistance Programme: Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 27.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describes a Compliance Assistance Programme to assist Parties to achieve CITES compliance under mechanisms such as the National Legislation Project, Review of Significant Trade, and annual reporting. Reports that UNEP-WCMC is developing a tool to help the Secretariat to monitor compliance. Invites SC to consider the merits of such a program and instruct the Secretariat to submit proposal to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN prefers that SC adopt the recommendations of SC70 Doc. 29.3 that provide a role for the Committees in improving CITES implementation. SSN urges SC to ensure that the program does not alter or interfere with compliance processes such as the Review of Significant Trade (or resulting recommendations), but merely assists with implementation. SSN notes that the Secretariat reports that the program is expected to save money rather than create an additional financial burden to Parties
27.3	Application of Article XIII		
	27.3.1 Application of Article XIII in the Lao People's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an update on compliance matters regarding Lao PDR, including information from a report from Lao PDR and the Secretariat's comments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the updated recommendations. Suspension of trade in all <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. is necessary; the

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Democratic Republic SC70 Doc. 27.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommends that SC update recommendations regarding Lao PDR, including, <i>inter alia</i>, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parties suspend commercial trade in specimens of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp., including finished products, from Lao PDR until NDFs can be made; ▪ Lao PDR adopt adequate legislative measures to implement the Convention, effectively implement enforcement plans, and investigate and prosecute mid-to-high-profile trafficking cases involving organized or transboundary activities; ▪ Lao PDR finalize the full audit of tigers in captivity and establish an advisory mechanism, with involvement of international organizations, to provide advice on the transformation of tiger farms; and ▪ Lao PDR submit a report by 1 February 2019 on implementation of these recommendations. 	<p>Secretariat reports that trade in <i>D. cochinchinensis</i> appears to have been replaced with trade in <i>D. oliveri</i>. The trade suspension should not be lifted until Lao PDR makes available meaningful NDFs and verifications of legal acquisition. There is a high probability that exports of <i>D. oliveri</i> logs and sawn timber from Lao PDR during 2017 and 2018 were illegal under Laotian law (PM Order 15/2016).¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN is concerned that the Secretariat's report appears to endorse conversion of tiger farms into safari parks or similar facilities before Lao PDR's audit has been completed. • SSN notes that captive tiger facilities in Lao PDR have been implicated in tiger trafficking and other criminal activities.² The Secretariat's report should therefore include new recommendations requesting Lao PDR to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and prosecute individuals and businesses implicated in illegal trade involving captive tiger facilities; • Await completion of the audit before making decisions on managing tigers in captive facilities; • Suspend breeding of tigers in captivity pending the audit; • Explain, in its next report to SC, discrepancies in captive tiger numbers, and address concerns in SC70 Doc. 54.1 regarding trade of lion products into and out of Lao PDR; and • Provide a clear timeframe for enacting key elements of PM Order No. 5/2018 into appropriate legislation and regulations. 	
27.3.2 Application of Article XIII in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) SC70 Doc. 27.3.2.1 SC70 Doc. 27.3.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC70 Doc 27.3.2.1 (submitted by DRC) reports on progress in implementing recommendations regarding quota management and issuance of export permits; management of trade in <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> (grey parrot); illegal trade; trade in <i>Pericopsis elata</i> (afromosia); and financial, technical and logistic support provided to the DRC. • SC70 Doc. 27.3.2.2 (Secretariat) reports on DRC's implementation of SC69 recommendations; notes that management of quotas remains an important challenge; notes concern re: the export quota established for Critically Endangered (IUCN) <i>Cercopithecus dryas</i> (Dryas monkey); and reports that DRC intends to authorize pangolin stockpiles exports in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. • Secretariat invites SC to replace its SC69 recommendations with, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DRC shall build capacity for making NDFs; ▪ Parties maintain suspension of trade in <i>P. erithacus</i> from DRC pending compliance with SC69 recommendations; ▪ Donors are encourage to support DRC in the undertaking of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding SC70 Doc. 27.3.2.2, SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations of the Secretariat and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain its SC69 recommendation for DRC to provide scanned copies of all permits and certificates issued to authorize trade to the Secretariat; ▪ Include, in its recommendations to donors and Parties providing assistance, that <i>P. erithacus</i> is listed in CITES Appendix I and commercial export of wild specimens for commercial purposes is not permitted; ▪ Include a recommendation that DRC report on the national legal status of <i>C. dryas</i> and report a zero annual export quota for this species to the Secretariat; ▪ Recommend that Parties suspend trade in all <i>Manis</i> spp. from DRC until further notice; ▪ Regarding <i>P. elata</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Maintain its recommendations to DRC and incorporate relevant recommendations from PC24 Com.4 (Rev. by Sec.) including that DRC take urgent steps to implement outstanding measures in its NDF report, as well as reviewing 	

1 Source: Global Trade Atlas, <https://www.gtis.com/gta/>

2 EIA. 2017. Cultivating Demand: The Growing Threat of Tiger Farms

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	<p>population surveys and management plans for <i>P. erithacus</i>;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parties shall suspend trade in stockpiled specimens of <i>Manis</i> spp. from DRC until further notice; ▪ PC is requested to assess the third revision of the NDF for <i>P. elata</i> submitted by DRC and make appropriate recommendations; and ▪ DRC to report to SC73. 	<p>and revising its quota to ensure that it is non-detrimental.</p> <p>--Maintain its recommendation that an electronic database be made available online, and that, until such a database is finalized, Parties should not accept any CITES export permit or certificate for <i>P. elata</i> issued by DRC unless its authenticity has been confirmed by the Secretariat;</p> <p>--Maintain the SC69 recommendation that DRC update the study on the systematic conversion of volumes of <i>P. elata</i> processed products into round wood equivalent volumes based on sound scientific studies.</p>
27.3.3 Application of Article XIII in Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comment.
<p>27.3.4 Introduction from the sea of sei whale (<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>) by Japan</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 27.3.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a report on technical mission to Japan regarding its introductions from the sea (IFS) of sei whales, conclusions about non-compliance and recommendations. • Determines that the provisions of the Convention are not being effectively implemented re: a) description of IFS specimens by Japan; b) IFS certificates issued by the Management Authority of Japan; and c) use of source codes in Japan's annual reports before 2016. • Advises that SC has grounds to conclude that the Management Authority of Japan should not have been satisfied that certain IFS specimens of sei whales (meat and blubber) were not to be used for primarily commercial purposes. • Recommends that Japan adopt technical remedial actions, as appropriate, and report to SC71. • Determines that Japan has to comply with CITES Article III, paragraph 5(c) regardless of its obligations under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling; • Concludes "that these whale specimens [edible products] are introduced from the sea for an intended use of commercial nature." • Advises that SC may decide to adopt compliance measures in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of the Annex to RC 14.3 on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i>. These may include a recommendation that Japan suspend issuance of IFS certificates for the specimens of sei whales from the North Pacific that are to be used for primarily commercial purposes (e.g. whale meat and blubber)." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 5.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Definition of 'primarily commercial purposes'</i> provides that: "the term 'commercial purposes' should be defined... as broadly as possible so that any transaction which is not wholly 'non-commercial' will be regarded as 'commercial';" and that "all uses whose non-commercial aspects do not clearly predominate shall be considered to be primarily commercial in nature." • Since 2002, Japan has introduced from the sea millions of packages of frozen, vacuum-sealed meat and other edible products, sold to wholesalers for distribution to commercial markets and for promotional purposes, taken from 1,584 Appendix I sei whales (~1,600 tons of meat from 134 whales/year). Although Japan claims the purpose is scientific research, none is conducted on meat separated on the high seas from a small number of research samples. • Commercial use is the primary motivation for introducing IFS specimens of sei whale meat and other edible sei whale specimens into Japan. Their import does not meet the criteria for use of the Article VII scientific exemption to Article III. • SSN urges SC70 to decide: that Japan is in non-compliance regarding the description of its IFS specimens and in violation of Article III(5)(c), and must suspend issuance of IFS certificates for edible specimens of sei whales from the North Pacific; and to apply RC 14.3, paragraph 30, if Japan is not in compliance by SC71.
27.3.5 Application of Article XIII in Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an update on compliance matters regarding Nigeria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> (kosso): reports that traders are moving from state to state to satisfy demand, depleting populations without consideration of sustainability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends adoption of the Secretariat's recommendations, in particular those relating to suspension of trade in <i>P. erinaceus</i>, anti-corruption measures and legislation and law enforcement.

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION	
	<p>SC70 Doc. 27.3.5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pangolin scales: amount seized in or from Nigeria rose from 2,000 kg (2015) to 23,987 kg (Jan-July 2018). ▪ Elephant ivory: ~229 seizures of elephant ivory (approximately 15, 341 kg) were made by Nigeria (2015-2017) or by other countries when Nigeria was part of the trade chain. Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommend that Parties suspend commercial trade in <i>P. erinaceus</i> from Nigeria until NDFs can be made; and request PC to consider including the species in the Review of Significant Trade; ▪ Request that Nigeria: consider implementing a strategy to counter corruption linked to illegal wildlife trade; and establish a national platform for enforcement cooperation and coordination among relevant authorities; ▪ Require Nigeria to ensure adequate control measures are put in place to secure seized stocks of CITES-listed species; and ▪ Recommend that Nigeria report on these efforts at SC73. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN notes the Secretariat’s comment that, “it is likely that Nigeria is being used by criminal networks as a hub in West and Central Africa for the trafficking of elephant ivory, pangolin scales, and other species illegally harvested in neighboring countries” and “the seizures made in Nigeria to date resulted in a limited number of prosecutions, the results of which is unknown.”
<p>27.4</p>	<p>National ivory action plans (NIAP) process: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 27.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.70--17.82; a report on progress ratings of Parties that continue implementation of NIAPs (Annex 1); recommended actions from a May 2018 meeting of Parties concerned with developing and implementing NIAPs (Annex 2); proposed revisions to Annex 3 of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> (Annex 3); and responses of Parties (Annexes 4-26). • Recommends that China, Kenya, the Philippines, Tanzania, Thailand and Uganda should exit the NIAP process. • Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, consider submitting the proposed revisions to RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17), Annex 3, to CoP18; propose to CoP18 including RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) in the footnote to paragraph 30 in the Annex to RC 14.3 on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i>; and consider recommendations to Angola, Cambodia, Cameroon, Congo Gabon, Togo, DRC, Egypt, Lao PDR, Malawi, Malaysia, Nigeria Qatar, Viet Nam, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania, China, Kenya, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda and Hong Kong SAR of China. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN urges SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disagree with the recommendation that China, Kenya, Tanzania, Thailand and Uganda should exit the NIAP process, as these countries continue to play a key role in ivory trafficking;³ ▪ Note that despite progress, response has not been proportionate to levels of poaching, illegal trade, and corruption involved. There are few investigations and prosecutions following seizures. Instead of exiting, these countries should strengthen NIAP implementation and revise their NIAPs as appropriate. ▪ Recommend that Japan (the world’s largest remaining ivory market), Singapore and South Africa develop NIAPs; Japan’s legislation fails to address registration of thousands of tusks without proof of legality and lack of meaningful controls over cut and finished pieces, particularly hanko name seals (80% of the domestic trade). Between 2011 and 2016, 2.4 tons of illegal ivory exports from Japan were seized, primarily in China.⁴ ▪ Recommend that Annex 3 of RC 10.10. (Rev. CoP17) be amended to require the Secretariat to consult ICCWC members, other experts and relevant NGOs to assess progress under the NIAP process. ▪ Reject proposed revisions (‘Step 5’) to Annex 3 of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) that would reduce expert consultation and

³ EIA. 2018. *Taking Stock: An assessment of progress under the National Ivory Action Plan process*.

⁴ https://www.traffic.org/site/assets/files/1715/traffic_report_ivory_towers_web.pdf

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
			weaken independent assessment; and • Support the proposed revision to RC 14.3.
27.5	<p>Malagasy ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.) and palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.)</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 27.5.1 SC70 Doc. 27.5.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC70 Doc. 27.5.1 not available at time of writing. • SC70 Doc. 27.5.2 provides a report on Madagascar's implementation of Decisions 17.203-17.208; text of these Decisions (Annex 1); SC69 recommendations (Annex 2); PC proposed amendments to Decisions 17.204 and 17.206 (Annex 3); and draft decisions for CoP18 (Annex 4). • Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approve Madagascar's use plan (Annex 3 of SC70 Doc. 27.5.1); ▪ Agree to maintain the recommendation for Parties not to accept exports or re-exports for commercial purposes from Madagascar of specimens of <i>Diospyros</i> and <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. until Madagascar has complied with all the provisions in Decision 17.204, paragraphs e) and f), regarding enforcement and an audited inventory; and ▪ Request the Secretariat to forward draft decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC maintain its recommendation to suspend trade in <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i> spp.; reject the proposed business plan; not consider sale or other disposition of stockpiles until the CITES Action Plan has been fully implemented; and request the Secretariat not to facilitate sales of seized stockpiles outside Madagascar until disposal plans are developed that comply with RC 17.8 on <i>Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species</i>, and ensure maximum public transparency. • SSN notes Madagascar's insufficient progress in implementing Decision 17.204, in particular with regard to audit and inventory of stockpiles and strengthened control and enforcement measures. • SSN is concerned about fundamental flaws and risks in the submitted business plan (SC69 Doc.49.1), including sale of stockpiles in the absence of the required inventory, and compensation for alleged owners of illegal timber. • SSN notes that RC 17.8 states that Parties should ensure that any disposal does not stimulate further illegal trade.

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
<p>28. Domestic controls in consumer markets for specimens of CITES-listed species for which international trade is predominantly illegal: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides main findings of a phase-1 study (see SC70 Inf. 28) on domestic trade controls on elephant ivory in nine consumer markets (China, EU, Japan, Lao, Malaysia, Philippines, USA, Viet Nam) including, <i>inter alia</i>: ivory trade bans led to decline in market value, “bans (on ivory)...seem to have had the effect of shifting ivory markets to other countries;” there are few prosecutions across most jurisdictions; effectively regulating or restricting online sales remains a challenge; lack of requirements to register privately held ivory is problematic; and Range countries face additional challenges when there is a legal market for ivory from captive elephants. Provides: a proposed amendment to RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> urging countries with bans to enhance border controls and collaboration with neighboring countries (Annex 1); proposed revisions to Decisions 17.87 and 17.88 (Annex 2) directing: a study on non-ivory specimens; Secretariat to provide its own recommendations on this issue; and SC to make recommendations to CoP19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC agree to amend RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) and to revise Decisions 17.87 and 17.88 as proposed; and encourage Parties to close domestic ivory markets on an urgent basis. With regard to the findings of the study on the “unintended effects of ivory bans,” SSN notes that bans play an important role in raising consumer awareness and reducing demand, reduce availability of the product in the market and reduce the burden on enforcement in distinguishing between legal and illegal ivory.^{5 6 7 8 9 10} SSN is concerned that the Japanese ivory control system is not adequately described in the report and may lead to misleading conclusions regarding its effectiveness; see SSN’s comments regarding Japan under SC70 Docs. 27.4 and 49.1.
<p>29. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species (the Review)</p>		
<p>29.1</p> <p>Implementation of recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 29.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a list of fauna (Annex 1) and flora (Annex 2) species/countries currently in the Review; recommendations of the Review post-CoP15 (Annex 3) and recommendations for the Review post CoP16 for fauna (Annex 4) and flora (Annex 5); and problems identified by AC30/PC24 not related to Article IV 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a) (Annex 6). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, adopt the recommendations of the Secretariat in Annexes 3, 4 and 5; and request the Secretariat to address problems in Annex 6. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations with the following exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Amazona festiva</i> (festive parrot)/Guyana: SC should maintain AC recommendation that Guyana provide scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental. <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> (yellow-footed tortoise)/Suriname: The interim conservative quota should be based on exports of recent years rather than quotas established.

5 http://www.unodc.org/res/cld/bibliography/the-globalization-of-crime-a-transnational-organized-crime-threat-assessment_html/TOCTA_Report_2010_low_res.pdf

6 CoP16 Doc. 53.2.1, ¶ 20; SC62 Doc. 46.1 (Rev. 1) at p.12

7 <http://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/8539>

8 <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22314>

9 http://www.savetheelephants.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2017_Decline-in-legal-ivory-trade-China.pdf; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02589346.2016.1201378>

10 <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2013/02/26/the-ivory-trade-thinking-like-a-businessman-to-stop-the-business/>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
29.2	Review of recommendations to suspend trade made more than two years ago SC70 Doc. 29.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a list of all current trade suspensions under the Review, reflecting recent nomenclature changes (Annex 1); and a report on trade suspensions made more than two years ago and related recommendations (Annex 2). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove trade suspensions for: <i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i> (leopard tortoise) and <i>Poicephalus fuscicollis</i> (brown-necked parrot)/DRC; <i>Phelsuma breviceps</i> and <i>P. standingi</i> (Standing's day gecko)/Madagascar; <i>Poicephalus fuscicollis</i>/Mali; <i>Agapornis fischeri</i> (Fischer's lovebird) and <i>Malacochersus tornieri</i> (pancake tortoise)/Tanzania; <i>Hippocampus kuda</i> (spotted seahorse)/Viet Nam; <i>Stangeriaceae</i>, <i>Zamiaceae</i> (cycads)/Mozambique; Maintain suspensions for other species; and Provide feedback on intention of the Secretariat to consult closely with the AC/PC Chairs and range States, in developing a strategic approach to assist those range States that are still subject to suspensions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt most recommendations of the Secretariat, but maintain trade suspensions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>P. fuscicollis</i>: With the Appendix I listing of <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> (grey parrot), DRC bird exporters are shifting trade to other parrot species; prior to the 2001 suspension, exports of <i>P. fuscicollis</i> (<i>robustus</i>) included 20 each in 1999 and 2000.¹¹ <i>P. breviceps</i> and <i>P. standingi</i>: both species are Vulnerable (IUCN 2011/2010); may qualify for listing in Appendix I; decline of <i>P. standingi</i> caused by capture for international pet trade.¹² <i>A. fischeri</i>: The population estimate provided dates from 1995;¹³ population density estimates from 2007¹⁴ were from a survey area of less than 3 km², with no information given as to the extent which the habitats surveyed were represented in its range; the species has experienced a major population decline caused by trapping for trade.¹⁵ <i>M. tornieri</i>: Species may qualify for listing as Critically Endangered;¹⁶ 350 wild specimens traded in 2009. <p>SSN is concerned that the Secretariat recommends removal of trade suspensions for several species although SC has not confirmed that Article IV has been complied with, as required by paragraph (o) of RC 12.8 (Rev. CoP17).</p>
29.3	Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews SC70 Doc. 29.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by AC/PC Chairs and the Secretariat. Recommends development of a country-specific process to support the making of NDFs and addressing wider implementation issues in a country. Invites SC to submit draft decisions for CoP18 directing the Secretariat, AC, PC and SC to make recommendations for such a process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations pertaining to a wider review process. SSN believes that the significant trade review process has too narrow a focus to be useful for a country with broad systemic problems related to wildlife trade. The RST relates only to the making of NDFs, and does not examine CITES administration in the country as a whole including issues related to illegal trade. See SSN Recommendations under SC70 Doc. 27.2.
30. Enforcement			
30.1	Enforcement matters: Report of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on enforcement activities. Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.

11 CITES Trade Database

12 <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/16947/0>

13 <http://datazone.birdlife.org/species/factsheet/fischers-lovebird-agapornis-fischeri/details>

14 <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/sc/57/E57-29-02A3.pdf>

15 <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/full/22685346/0>

16 <http://www.iucn-tftsg.org/checklist/>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
	the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 30.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommend that the Secretariat review the threat assessment report on illegal wildlife trade in West and Central Africa (available November 2018) and prepare recommendations for CoP18; and ▪ Encourage all Parties, particularly bear range and consuming countries, to review their implementation of RC 10.8 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Conservation of and trade in bears</i>, in response to an increasing number of reports about illegal trade in bear parts and derivatives. 	
30.2	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC): Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 30.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an update to Parties on significant activities conducted under auspices of ICCWC. • Invites SC to note this document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC note this document.
30.3	Combating wildlife cybercrime: Report of the Working Group/Secretariat SC70 Doc. 30.3.1 SC70 Doc. 30.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a report of the Working Group (SC70 Doc. 30.3.1) that invites SC to propose to CoP18 revisions to RC 11.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i> including recommendations to Parties to address illegal online trade; and a draft decision directing the Secretariat to include terminology relevant to “illegal online trade in wildlife” in the CITES Glossary and a new webpage on <i>Wildlife crime linked to the Internet</i> on the CITES website. • Provides a report of the Secretariat (SC70 Doc. 30.3.2) including a report on implementation of Decisions 17.92-17.96; and an update on related developments and recommendation that SC recommend the most appropriate terminology including “wildlife cybercrime” or “wildlife crime linked to the Internet.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations of the Working Group. • SSN also urges SC to recommend retaining the Decisions after CoP17 and amending them to direct the Secretariat to report on their implementation at SC73 and SC74.
30.4	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and central Africa SC70 Doc. 30.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Niger, Senegal and Nigeria on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its member States. • Provides a questionnaire (Annex) seeking input for the Wildlife Strategy on Combating Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora in West Africa (West Africa Strategy on Combating Wildlife Crime or WASCWC). • Requests SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, note report and distribute the questionnaire and the <i>Strategic Areas of Intervention and Priority Recommendations to Develop a Counter Wildlife Trafficking Response in West Africa to CITES Parties</i> (SC70 Inf. 2 and 3) via a Notification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
31. Trade in specimens bred in captivity or artificially propagated			

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
<p>31.1</p> <p>Review of ambiguities and inconsistencies in the application of Article VII, paragraphs 4 and 5, and related Resolutions: Report of the Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A draft resolution on application of Article VII, para. 4 and 5 (Annexes 1 and 2), combining current RC text on captive breeding and artificial propagation, including a new paragraph stating ""RECOGNIZING that application of these provisions needs to strike a balance between facilitating trade in specimens which have [OR] will have very little or no impact on the survival of the species concerned and the need to prevent the provisions being used for trade which could prove detrimental to the survival of the species involved." ▪ Draft amendments to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Permits and certificates</i>; ▪ Draft decisions on: an intermediate source code between bred in captivity and artificially propagated; directing SC in consultation with AC/PC to devise an intermediate source code (rather than F, R and new code Y) applying to both plants and animals (Annex 3); definitions of "commercial purposes" and "primarily commercial purposes" (Annex 4); and definition of "bred in captivity" and "artificially propagated" (Annex 5); and ▪ Draft revisions to RC 12.10 (Rev. CoP15), on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes, or of plant species included in Appendix I artificially propagated for commercial purposes</i>, including text of Decision 14.69 regarding captive breeding of tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>) on a commercial scale (Annex 6). <p>Reviews CITES provisions relating to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source (Annexes 7 and 8). Invites SC to propose the draft resolution, amendments and decisions presented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC indicate to the Secretariat that efforts should focus on why current codes are unevenly applied and how to correct this, rather than proposing new principles and policies. • SSN believes that the proposed resolution on Article VII is cumbersome, and recommends that SC: request the Secretariat to prepare a comparison of the resulting changes to existing RCs; and reject inclusion of the RECOGNIZING paragraph, because it creates ambiguity when CITES' focus should be on preventing illegal and detrimental trade. • SSN urges SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support adoption of clear definitions for source codes; ▪ Reject the draft decision (Annex 3) directing SC to devise an intermediate source code between bred in captivity/artificially propagated and wild caught. Such a code, with less restrictive trade requirements for fauna than 'R' (ranching), could create loopholes for laundering wild-caught specimens as produced under controlled conditions, adversely affect wild populations, or create lower standards for NDFs for some wild-caught specimens than for others. Creation of source codes that apply to both animals and plants should be rejected as their biology and trade require different approaches. ▪ Support clarifying that specimens exported as R and F require provision of a NDF (Annex 3). ▪ Strongly support inclusion of text from Decision 14.69 into RC 12.10 (Rev. CoP15), urging Parties to restrict the captive population of tigers to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers and not to breed tigers for trade in their parts and derivatives (Annex 6).
<p>31.2</p> <p>Definition of the term 'artificially propagated': Report of the PC</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 31.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by PC Chair. • Provides the recommendations of PC24 on this issue. • Invites SC to consider amendments to RC 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Regulation of trade in plants</i> (Annex 2) and RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) to include text on 'assisted production' and the new associated source code Y. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends rejecting a new source code for "assisted production" as it may create laundering opportunities and hamper enforcement; code W (wild) should be the default code (with the required accompanying NDF) for specimens that do not meet the requirements of code A (artificially propagated).
<p>31.3</p> <p>Implementation of RC 17.7 on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i>: Report of the Secretariat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the recommendations of AC30 regarding country-species combinations. • Requests SC to review these recommendations, revise if necessary, and endorse the recommendations of AC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain <i>Macaca fascicularis</i> from Cambodia in the review. AC28 Inf. 32 provides details about illegal international trade of <i>M. fascicularis</i> from Cambodia to Lao PDR and Viet Nam, illegal trapping in Cambodia for breeding stock, and misuse of CITES source code C (captive bred); and ▪ Request Cambodia to provide evidence of legal acquisition of all breeding stock for all facilities, including animals used to

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
	SC70 Doc. 31.3		<p>augment the breeding stock; provide details on efforts to stop poaching and illegal trade in the species; and explain significant fluctuations in the number of animals exported annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the remaining recommendations.
31.4	<p>Observations and recommendations regarding the first iteration of RC 17.7 on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i></p> <p>SC70 Doc. 31.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by AC Chair. • Provides the observations of AC (Annex 1) and the Secretariat (Annex 2); provides recommended amendments to RC 17.7 (Annex 3). • Invites SC to propose to CoP18, the amendments and Decisions directing AC and SC to make recommendations to improve RC 17.7. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. • SSN continues to be concerned that much of the misuse of source codes for the species selected may be deliberate on the part of both countries and exporters, and reaffirms our belief that the process in RC 17.7 is significant and important. • SSN encourages Parties to provide longer-term funding for this important review, as recommended by the Secretariat in Annex 2.
	<p>32. Disposal of confiscated specimens: Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 32</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Working Group Chairs. • Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form an in-session Working Group at SC70 to see if consensus can be reached on some issues, and if so, propose draft decisions for CoP18 to continue the work of this Group; • Invite the Secretariat to support Parties in the development and implementation of effective mechanisms to recover costs of confiscation, custody, and disposal of confiscated specimens; and • Propose that the CITES Secretariat evaluate the aim and purpose of a list of rescue centers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. • SSN notes that proposals prepared by some members of the Working Group address the creation of a list of rescue centers, guidelines on the designation and operation of suitable rescue centers, and the humane handling of confiscated specimens. • As some issues will request a more in-depth discussion, SSN recommends that SC submit draft Decisions for consideration at CoP18 to: extend the mandate of this Working Group; and direct the Secretariat to cooperate with the Working Group to develop a draft protocol on how Parties should work with rescue centers, with reference to CoP17 Inf. 74.
	<p>33. Specimens produced from synthetic or cultured DNA: Report of the Secretariat and of the Chair of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 33</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Secretariat and Chair of the Working Group. • Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A report on implementation of Decisions 17.89-17.91; ▪ Draft Decisions for CoP18 (Annex 1); ▪ Terms of reference for the study on wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA (Annex 2); ▪ Responses to a related Notification on this issue (Annex 3); ▪ Overview of different techniques/biotechnologies and their potential (Annex 4); ▪ Types of parts/derivatives that could be produced through biotechnology (Annex 5); and ▪ A study on wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA (Annex 6). • Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, note this report; use the expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN is disappointed that SC is not making recommendations for revisions to existing resolutions for CoP18 as directed by Decision 17.92. • SSN notes that several Working Group members expressed concerns that the study (Annex 6) was not appropriately focused or fully objective, and was overly technical. • Because products produced through biotechnology may reach the market within a year or two, and given the mixed responses to Notification No. 2018/013, SSN suggests that, in the interim, SC urge Parties to interpret RC 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives</i> as applying to specimens produced through biotechnology.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
		<p>“specimens produced through biotechnology” instead of “specimens produced from synthetic or cultured DNA;” analyze the need for creating a new source code for specimens produced through biotechnology; and revise the draft Decisions provided.</p>	
<p>34. Introduction from the sea: Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 34</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a report on implementation of Decision 16.48 (Rev. CoP17) on introduction from the sea; a related questionnaire provided to the Parties (Annex 1); related draft decisions (Annex 2); and Party responses (Annex 3). • Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, consider whether adding specific guidance regarding introduction from the sea certificates to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> would be appropriate; and consider the draft Decisions provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. 	
<p>35. Purpose codes on CITES permits and certificates: Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 35</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the Working Group Chair. • Reports on the discussions of the Group, and draft amendments to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17), on <i>Permits and certificates</i>, to explain how purpose codes are to be determined. • Invites SC to submit the amendments to CoP18 and strike an in-session working group to “clearly defining purpose-of-transaction codes to encourage their consistent use, and consider the possible elimination of current codes or the inclusion of new ones,” with the aim of adding codes/definitions to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) at CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC agree to the amendments and strike the in-session group. 	
<p>36. Simplified procedure for permits and certificates: Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 36</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. • Proposes amendments to RC 11.15 on <i>Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens</i> (Annex 1) and RC 12.3 on <i>Permits and certificates</i> (Annex 2) regarding trade in biological specimens and regarding registration of forensic research institutions. • Invites SC to propose these amendments to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. 	
<p>37. Physical endorsement of permits and certificates (missing proposed amendments to sample CITES standard form)</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 37 (Rev. 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Australia and Switzerland. • Provides proposed amendments RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> (Annex) in order to align with electronic permitting, including to, <i>inter alia</i>, allow exporters or their agents to endorse details of the actual shipment, including providing evidence they have presented their permit or certificate to border authorities prior to shipment. • Recommends that SC consider the amendments through its Working Group on Information Technologies and Electronic Systems and make recommendations to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN appreciates the summary of current CITES clearance methodologies contained in this document, agrees that CITES must keep pace with current customs practice, and recommends that SC endorse the proposed changes to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17). • However, SSN is concerned about potential security issues that could arise with increased use of electronic permitting, and recommends that such risks and potential countermeasures be included in the remit of the Working Group. 	
38. Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'			
38.1	Report of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Secretariat and AC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
	Secretariat and of the Animals Committee SC70 Doc. 38.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides: a report on implementation of Decisions 17.178-17.180; non-binding guidance for determining whether recipients of living specimens of CITES Appendix-I species are suitably equipped to house and care for them; and responses to a related Notification (Annexes 1 and 2). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, consider and agree to the non-binding guidance and the set of draft Decisions. 	
38.2	Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 38.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.178-17.180 and recommends that SC agree to the non-binding guidance and draft Decisions provided by AC. Draft Decision 18.DD directs SC to make recommendations for possible revision of RC11.20 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. Regarding draft Decision 18.DD, SSN urges SC to consider the merits of transferring generic and species-specific guidance into the Resolution in the form of an Annex.
38.3	Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations': Trade in live elephants SC70 Doc. 38.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by Burkina Faso and Niger. References SC69 Inf. 36 relating to trade in live, wild-caught African elephants; outlines concerns regarding capture and trade of wild-caught African elephants for captive use. Recommends that SC take account of these concerns, and develop decisions requiring the Secretariat to engage with Parties that have exported wild-caught elephants to non-range States regarding their implementation of RC 11.20 (Rev. CoP17) and report to SC73. Recommends SC: consider revising RC11.20 (Rev. CoP17) to restrict trade in live wild-caught elephants (and southern white rhinos) to <i>in situ</i> conservation programs within their wild natural range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations, taking into consideration the information in SC70 Doc. 38.3, and in SC69 Inf. 36.
39. Electronic systems and information technologies: Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 39		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Provides a note from the Working Group (Annex 1) on electronic signatures; proposed amendments to RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> regarding electronic signatures (Annex 2); and draft Decisions (Annex 3) establishing a Working Group on electronic permit processing and efficient control procedures. Recommends that SC propose the amendments and draft Decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
40. Traceability: Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 40		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by Chairs of the Working Group. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.152-17.155 on traceability; a working definition of traceability in the CITES context; and best practice guidelines for planning and implementing CITES traceability systems (Annex). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, review the definition of traceability; amend or draft decisions for consideration for CoP18; and request the Secretariat to report on implementation of a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTION	SSN RECOMMENDATION
		traceability system.	
41. Stocks and stockpiles of specimens of CITES-listed species: Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 41		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decision 17.170, review of existing provisions (Annex 1) and comments by technical experts (Annex 2). Reviews general conclusions of the Working Group but notes lack of agreement, particularly on details of recommendations. Requests SC to propose revised draft Decision to CoP18 extending the Working Group's mandate to CoP19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC propose the draft Decision to CoP18. SSN recommends that SC reject any proposal to define the term 'stockpiles' as only stocks formally declared in writing by Parties. There is a lack of reporting on stockpiles of CITES specimens even when requested by the CoP (e.g. under RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17)); adopting this definition would result in even less regulation and monitoring of such stockpiles.
42. Identification of specimens in trade			
42.1	Identification Manual and identification of tiger skins: Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 42.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.164 and 17.165. Reports that, since no external funding has been secured and there is limited information on photographic identification of tiger skins, it would not be not feasible to develop a central repository of photographs of wild tigers and seized tiger skins. Provides a list of Decisions containing references to identification materials or methods (Annex); and reports that the Secretariat will propose to draft a new resolution on identification of specimens of CITES-listed species for CoP18. Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, to provide input for the new resolution and consider Decisions 17.164 and 17.165 completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SC70 Doc. 51 identifies as 'best practice' the development of national tiger identification databases and sharing of tiger stripe pattern seizure photos. India manages a National Repository of Camera Trap Photographs of Tigers with images of over 2000 wild tigers from India, Nepal and Bangladesh, yet the Secretariat reports that there is "very limited data source available on photographic identification of tiger skins". SSN recommends that SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct the Secretariat to continue to seek funding to implement Decision 17.164, and communicate with range States that have photographic identification databases for tigers about developing a central repository of photographs of wild tigers and seized tiger skins; and Direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification requesting Parties that have seized tiger skins or carcasses to share images of these with India and Thailand (or the CITES Secretariat) by end of February 2019.
42.2	Identification of CITES-listed tree species: Report of the PC SC70 Doc. 42.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by PC Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.166-17.168 related to timber identification and related draft decisions to be submitted by PC to CoP18. Invites SC to note progress made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC note the progress made.
43. Illegal trade in cheetahs (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>): Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 43		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.124-17.130 on illegal trade in cheetahs, SC66 recommendations on cheetahs (Annex 1), and results of a related questionnaire (Annex 2). Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>, extend the mandate of the related Working Group to SC71 and encourage Parties affected by illegal trade of cheetahs to develop a plan of action in the event that live specimens are seized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations. SSN notes that the Secretariat's conclusion that cheetah trafficking 'remains limited' was based on a very narrow dataset, whereas additional verified seizure information and other indicators suggest that the extensive problem identified in SC65 Doc.39 (Rev. 2) Annex 1 and 2 is ongoing. SSN therefore urges SC to take this into consideration in formulating its recommendations for CoP18.
44. Sturgeons and paddlefish (<i>Acipenseriformes</i> spp.)			

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44.1	Definition of country of origin of caviar: Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 44.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Provides details about the issue and <i>Examples for the frequent movement of sturgeon specimens to produce caviar</i> (Annex). Invites SC to note the document and to propose a Decision to CoP18 to continue the work of the group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
44.2	Identification of sturgeons and paddlefish specimens in trade: Report of the Animals Committee SC70 Doc. 44.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by AC. Reports on implementation of Decisions 16.136-16.138 (Rev.) on sturgeons and paddlefish. Invites SC to recommend that the Secretariat submit renewed Decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
45. European eels (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>): Report of the Secretariat and of the Animals Committee SC70 Doc. 45		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Secretariat and AC Chair. Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.186-17.189 on eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.), <i>Illegal trade in Anguilla anguilla</i> (Annex 1), and an international workshop on eels (Annex 2). Invites SC to recommend that the Secretariat amend guidance from AC30 and present this to SC71, and develop draft decisions on trade in European eels for CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
46. Review of precious corals in international trade [Order Antipatharia/Family Coralliidae]: Report of the Animals Committee SC70 Doc. 46		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by AC Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.190-17.193 on precious corals. Invites SC to propose that CoP18 extend Decisions 17.192 and 17.193; and take into account the lack of customs codes for precious corals when considering the FAO report on these species and making recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
47. Humphead wrasse (<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>): Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 47		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a draft decision directing the Secretariat to support major exporting and importing countries of <i>C. undulatus</i> to address CITES implementation (Annex 1); and responses received to a Notification on management of and trade in humphead wrasse (Annex 2). Invites SC to propose the draft decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC propose the draft decision to CoP18.
48. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)			
48.1	Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 48.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group. Reports on the work of the Group regarding the making of NDFs and the role of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and Bodies (RFMOs/RFBs) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) in implementation of CITES. Makes a series of recommendations to the Secretariat, Parties, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN notes that some information may need additional detail or clarification, and recommends continuation of this Working Group. SSN recommends that Table 1 on RFMO/RFB measures be checked and updated as necessary, encourages better communication between CITES and RFMOs/RFBs, and urges

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	<p>AC and RFMOs/RFBs; and requests the Secretariat to review this document and prepare a report to CoP18.</p>	<p>SC to request the CITES Secretariat to be proactive on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re: Recommendation 9 (d), SC should clarify that developing Legal Acquisition Findings is mandatory and should be required rather than encouraged. • Recommends that SC adopt the recommendations and consider using them to develop Decisions for CoP18.
<p>48.2</p> <p>Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 48.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.209-17.216. • Invites SC to: consider this document and SC70 Doc. 48.1 when making recommendations to CoP18; and provide input on possible revisions to RC 12.6 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Conservation and management of sharks</i> for CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations and agree that RC 12.6 (Rev. CoP17) should be revised to better reflect the current situation re implementation of shark and ray listings. • SSN urges SC to support AC's request to consider look-alike issues for listed hammerhead species and to make recommendations to CoP18. • SSN notes the importance of expanding and harmonizing customs codes for these species and is deeply disappointed that the World Customs Organization has not yet done so.
49. Elephants (Elephantidae spp.)		
<p>49.1</p> <p>Elephant conservation, illegal killing and ivory trade</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 49.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an update on implementation of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) and Decisions related to elephants (Annexes 1, 2). • Notes concerns re: high levels of poaching in Africa; lack of implementation of MIKE in Asia; lack of reporting to ETIS; and lack of forensic testing of large-scale ivory seizures. • Reports that few Parties are reporting on stockpiles as per RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17); and the Secretariat intends to complete and disseminate guidance on management and disposal of ivory stockpiles in time to report to SC71 • Regarding Asian elephants, reports that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a study on management and registration of captive Asian elephants will be available as an Inf. Doc; and ▪ Asian elephant range States should consider Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG) Guidelines for 'registration of captive Asian elephants' and for 'captive Asian elephant management' (Recommendation 57(g)). <p>States that guidelines for management of ivory stockpiles will be available at SC71.</p> • Encourages Parties to inform the Secretariat of the legal status of, and efforts to close, domestic ivory markets that contribute to poaching or illegal trade as per RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17). • Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, request the Secretariat to draft a report re: SC determinations regarding the elements of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) for CoP18. • Provides Status of Elephant Populations, Levels of Illegal Killing and The Trade in Ivory (Annex 1) and reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proportion of Illegally Killed Elephants (PIKE) levels remain of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support all recommendations except paragraph 57(g), ("encourage Asian elephant range States to consider the AsESG Guidelines for registration of captive Asian elephants and the AsESG guidelines for captive Asian elephant management for their management of captive Asian elephants") as these guidelines are outdated and inconsistent with recent range State discussions. ▪ Regarding Asian elephants, urge full implementation of Decisions 17.217 and 17.218, their application to all parts and derivatives, and strengthen provisions for reporting on implementation. Asian elephants face increased poaching and a growing threat from the skin trade and ongoing illegal trade in live elephants. ▪ Request all Parties with stockpiles to adopt urgent measures to prevent theft and illegal trade, including routinely destroying seized ivory when no longer required for enforcement purposes and considering appropriate disposal of other stockpiles. ▪ Consider appropriate compliance measures to address lack of progress by NIAP Parties implicated in increased poaching and illegal trade, lack of reporting to MIKE and ETIS, and failure in conducting forensic analysis of large-scale seizures. ▪ Direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification identifying Parties in whose jurisdictions large-scale ivory seizures have taken place, requesting these Parties to conduct forensic examinations of the seized ivory in accordance with RC 10.10

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	<p>concern, and have increased in southern Africa;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Asian elephant poaching has increased in Myanmar and Viet Nam; and trade of live Asian elephants is reported in Myanmar, Cambodia, India and Lao PDR. ▪ No MIKE analysis could be provided for Asian elephants due to lack of funding and implementation. ▪ Lack of reporting of ivory seizures by most Parties is a “major concern;” illegal trade in ivory 2011-2016 was at the highest level in nearly three decades; number of ivory seizures globally has nearly doubled; estimated weight of ivory seized has tripled in 10 years (590 seizures/10,200kg in 2007; 1,008/38,600kg in 2017). ▪ ETIS analysis cannot interpret trends because of inherent bias in the raw data, including lack of reporting. ▪ Although RC 10.10 mandates forensic examination of large-scale ivory seizures to identify their origin, only 6 of 52 seizures were tested in 2015-2017; and ▪ Notes an “intensification” of ivory processing operations in Africa for export of finished products to Asian markets. <p>Provides a report on implementation of provisions relating to domestic ivory markets contained in RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) (Annex 2) including responses of 12 Parties to Notification No. 2017/077</p>	<p>(Rev. CoP17) and report to the Secretariat on progress made by December 31, 2018.</p> <p>In response to information on domestic ivory markets, see SSN’s recommendations regarding Japan’s ivory market under SC70 Doc. 27.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC request that the Secretariat encourage additional Parties to provide information on their domestic ivory markets. • SSN recommends that: the Secretariat implement paragraph 9 of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) on an urgent basis; include Japan in its list of Parties with an unregulated internal ivory market and significant levels of illegal ivory trade pursuant to subparagraph 9 (a); and urge Japan to close its domestic ivory market pursuant to paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP17).
<p>49.2</p>	<p>Implementing aspects of Decisions 17.171 to 17.172 on Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 49.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Ethiopia and Malawi. • Provides an update on tools and initiatives for ivory stockpile management per Decisions 17.171 and 17.172. • Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>, consider progress on the preparation of guidance and make any further recommendations that would address the high, continuing risks and impacts of ivory theft or losses from government-held stockpiles and circulation into trade.
<p>49.3</p>	<p>Terms of reference for a review of the ETIS programme: Report of the Secretariat to the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 49.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides terms of reference for a review of the ETIS program (Annex 1); an assessment of options for carrying out this review (Annex 2); and comments from the Secretariat regarding external funding, options, and the timeframe for and oversight of the review. • Invites SC to refer the two documents to the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup for consideration; and request the Subgroup to report its recommendations to SC70.
<p>50. Hawksbill turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on implementation of Decision 17.22 on hawksbill and other marine turtles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.

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<p>and other marine turtles (Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae): Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 50</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a preliminary study on legal and illegal trade of marine turtles (Annex 2) and provisional recommendations from the study (Annex 1). Invites SC to: provide the Secretariat with feedback regarding the study and recommendations; and request the Secretariat to provide revised Decisions on sea turtles for CoP18. 	
<p>51. Asian big cats (Felidae spp.): Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 51</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.224-17.231; responses to Notification 2018/002 on Asian big cat facilities (Annex 1); Review of facilities keeping Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) in captivity (Annex 2); Executive summary of "Implementation CITES Decision 17.228: Review of implementation of RC 12.5 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species</i> (Annex 3); and the Secretariat's report on RC 12.5 (Rev. CoP17) (Annex 4). Reports on the number and location of facilities keeping Asian big cat species in captivity including those which may be of concern. The greatest number of facilities (36) is reported in China. Identifies China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, the USA and Viet Nam as the ten key Parties to engage with for the review of the implementation of RC 12.5 (Rev. CoP17). Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, encourage all Parties to utilize the information in Annex 4; request Parties, in particular Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal and Viet Nam, to take note of concerns regarding illegal trade in leopard parts and derivatives; encourage Parties with facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity to be vigilant in their implementation of Decision 17.226 on management and control of these facilities. Key findings of Annex 4 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> China and Viet Nam, are primary destinations for illegal tiger trade via trans-Himalayan and southeast Asian trade routes, and were most frequently identified as origins for illegal products of Asian big cats imported into the USA. China, Lao PDR and Myanmar allow some internal (for Lao PDR, perhaps international) trade that appears to meet the definition of primarily commercial (RC 5.10 (Rev. CoP15)). China and Lao PDR have issued permits allowing internal trade in both Asian and non-native big cat parts and products. China does not regulate possession of protected species (apart from licensing requirements for captive breeding). Lao and Myanmar border towns continue to act as hotspots of "wildlife trade tourism," particularly for Chinese tourists. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN notes with concern that only five of the ten focal Parties for the review in SC70 Doc. 51 responded. SSN recommends that SC direct the Secretariat to complete the missions on an urgent basis, and to issue a report of findings and draft decisions for CoP18 containing time-bound, country-specific recommendations and seek comments from Parties, ICCWC members and other stakeholders by the end of February 2019. SSN recommends that SC request the seven Parties (China, Czech Republic, Laos, Thailand, South Africa, USA and Vietnam) identified as having facilities of concern, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosecute offenders implicated in illegal trade in captive Asian big cat specimens. Prohibit private possession and breeding of Asian big cats other than for scientific or conservation purposes. Work with organizations with relevant scientific and technical expertise to phase out tiger farms. Suspend export of tigers for commercial purposes. <p>SSN recommends that SC direct the Secretariat to conduct a mission concerning the movement of tigers within the EU to Czech Republic (i.e. for entertainment, including travelling circuses).</p> <p>Regarding Annex 4, SSN urges SC to adopt targeted recommendations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> China, Lao PDR and Myanmar to urgently amend relevant national laws and regulations to close domestic markets for commercial trade in Asian big cat parts and products, including those derived from captive specimens. All Parties to extend protection to non-native Asian big cats and to incorporate the definition of "readily recognizable" from RC 9.6 into appropriate legislation. China to improve intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation with source and transit countries. China, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Thailand and Myanmar to demonstrate progress in stopping the manufacture and sale of products labeled as, marketed as, or claiming to contain Asian big cat parts. China and Viet Nam to conduct targeted behavior change initiatives, along with appropriate legislative and enforcement

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only Thailand has recently targeted law enforcement activity at captive facilities, despite increasing evidence that other countries are affected. ▪ There are increasing indications that big cat demand in Asia is affecting species and Parties outside the region (leopards and lions in Africa, jaguars in Latin America). ▪ Digital platforms (internet and social media) are increasingly involved in trading big cat parts and derivatives. ▪ Efforts in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan (Province of China) show that reducing supply can be a major factor in reducing demand. Continued availability of seemingly legal big cat products, including from tiger farms and unpoliced “wildlife trade tourism” markets, is likely to counteract demand reduction messaging. Use of other big cats marketed as tiger threatens these species and increases demand for tiger products. ▪ There is an increase in organized Asian big cat poaching, largely driven by escalating illegal international trade. 	measures.
<p>52. Great apes (Hominidae spp.): Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 52</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a Great Apes Status Report (Annex). • Invites SC to: review the report; consider recommendations for further action; and request the Secretariat, with Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) and SC Chair, to propose appropriate amendments to RC 13.4 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Conservation of and trade in great apes</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN notes that all but one subspecies of great ape are in decline, some are in ‘drastic decline,’ and that their biological characteristics render them highly vulnerable to over-exploitation even at low levels of offtake. Poaching for domestic and international trade, facilitated by increasing conversion of, and encroachment into, great ape habitats, is highly significant but under-reported for most populations. • Criminal syndicates are known to traffic great apes using fraudulent CITES permits. Few arrests or convictions have been made; weak enforcement, lenient sentencing and corruption present serious obstacles to tackling this. • SSN recommends that SC support the recommendations in the GRASP/IUCN report, and establish an in-session working group to draft amendments to RC13.4 (Rev. CoP16) and any associated Decisions on great apes.
<p>53. Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]: Report of the Plants Committee</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 53</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by PC Chair. • Provides a report on implementation of Decision 17.234 and provides draft Decisions regarding a study on rosewood species (listed and unlisted). • Invites SC to consider the draft Decisions and request PC Chair to submit them to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
54. African lion (<i>Panthera leo</i>)		
<p>54.1</p> <p>Report of the Secretariat and of the AC</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 54.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by the Secretariat in consultation with AC Chair. • Provides: a report on implementation of Decision 17.242; a TRAFFIC report on <i>The Legal and Illegal Trade in African Lions</i> (Annex); recommendations of AC and the Secretariat; and suggests that the Secretariat prepare a document on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN recommends that SC agree to the recommendations of AC and the Secretariat, including the reporting mechanism (See also SSN comments on Doc 54.2). • SSN recommends that SC consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations in SC70 Doc 54.2; and

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	<p>African lion for CoP18 after the African Carnivores Initiative range States meeting due to take place in November 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites SC to consider these recommendations and agree on the reporting mechanism to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues identified in the TRAFFIC report including: organized criminal group involvement in lion bone trade; significant trade in lion skeletons to countries and companies associated with wildlife trafficking; potential for trade in lion specimens from captive-bred sources to impact poaching of lions and other big cats; and difficulties in differentiating processed products derived from big cats.
<p>54.2</p> <p>Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 54.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group Chair. Reports on implementation of Decision 17.243; and provides the recommendations of the Group (Annex). Invites SC to note the document; mandate the Group to meet during SC70 in order to refine the recommendations, including one for a draft resolution on lions; and mandate Secretariat to guide the development of terms of reference and <i>modus operandi</i> for the CITES Task Force on African lions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations, including a proposed draft resolution on the African lion, and establishment of a multi-donor technical trust fund and a CITES Task Force. SSN recommends that a draft resolution and associated Decisions be prepared for consideration by African lion range States at the African Carnivores Initiative range State meeting in early November 2018. Given the association between trade in specimens derived from African lions and other big cats¹⁷, SSN urges SC to recommend Parties adopt a zero quota for international trade in lion bones and products from any source for commercial purposes.
<p>55. Quotas for leopard hunting trophies (<i>Panthera pardus</i>): Report of the Animals Committee</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 55</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by AC Chair. Provides responses from Central African Republic and Ethiopia regarding their leopard quotas (Annex). Provides AC recommendations in response to Decision 17.115 that include, <i>inter alia</i>, that quotas for leopards in RC 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use</i>, for Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda and Zimbabwe, are considered by AC to be non-detrimental. Requests SC to consider establishing a process to review, and if necessary revise, quotas for Appendix I species which have been established by the CoP. Invites SC to make recommendations to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In sub-Saharan Africa, leopards have declined by >30% over three generations (22.3 years); poorly managed trophy hunting is a major threat (IUCN 2016). Current quotas for 12 Parties under RC 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), totaling 2,648 leopards, are not routinely reviewed to ensure they are non-detrimental. Decisions 17.114-17.117 provide an opportunity for such a review. Information provided to AC did not include relevant data on population trends, threats, or management. Independent scientific review of these quotas is needed. SSN urges SC to recommend to CoP18 amendment of RC 9.21 (Rev. CoP13), on <i>Implementation and application of quotas for species included in Appendix I</i>, to establish a routine review and revision process for quotas of Appendix I species (called for at AC30), based on independent scientific analysis and including evidence that any trophy hunting of Appendix I species produces conservation benefits for the species concerned (RC17.9). SSN notes that information from Central African Republic and Ethiopia does not address how it was established that their quotas are non-detrimental. SSN recommends that SC recommend that RC 10.14 (CoP16) be revised to remove quotas for Kenya and Malawi,

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<p>56. Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.): Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 56</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group Chair. Provides responses from Parties to a questionnaire (Annexes 1-20), a summary of these responses, and recommendations of the Group. Recommends that SC, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite Countries for Priority Attention to provide further reports; Agree that China and Namibia continue to be included in Countries for Priority Attention; Consider whether a standardized template for a National Rhino and Ivory Action Plan would be useful; Consider whether the form for collection and sharing of data on rhinoceros horn seizures and on samples for forensic analysis in the Annex to RC 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses</i>, is achieving the intended objectives; and Consider making recommendations to Parties, including rhino range States and countries with illegal markets for rhino horn. 	<p>as per these Parties' requests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN urges SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the recommendations and agree that the six identified Countries for Priority Attention should continue to be prioritized for further action; Develop mechanisms to evaluate impacts of measures adopted and implemented by Parties, and charge the Secretariat with this task; Urge Parties to develop demand-reduction strategies in line with RC17.4 and other relevant Resolutions, and to share methods and outcomes; Encourage South Africa, China, and Viet Nam to prioritize rapid prosecution of high-level perpetrators of rhino-related crimes and to use relevant law enforcement and financial mechanisms to investigate associated money flow both within and beyond these countries; Extend the mandate of the SC Rhino Working Group so that it can continue to monitor progress by Parties in implementing of RC 9.14 (Rev. CoP17), and to consider and develop revisions to the RC and associated Decisions for CoP18; and Urge all Parties to refrain from seeking or supporting the re-establishment of legal international trade in rhino horn.
<p>57. Illegal trade in the helmeted hornbill (Rhinoplax vigil): Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 57</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.264-266 on helmeted hornbill, the action plan for conservation of the species (Annex), and draft Decisions for CoP18 drawing attention to the action plan. Invites SC to submit the draft Decisions provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC revise the draft Decisions to ensure that they reflect the recommendations of the action plan.
<p>58. Saiga antelope (Saiga spp.): Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 58</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides: draft decisions directing the Secretariat to prepare a report on trade and conservation of saiga (Annex 1) and directing SC to make recommendations as necessary; and an <i>Overview of trade in Saiga species 2007-2016</i> (Annex 2). Invites SC to submit the draft decisions to CoP18 and request the Secretariat to assist SC in preparing its report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the recommendations. Direct the Secretariat to request responses from Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Turkmenistan (non-Party); and Direct the Secretariat to request range States not exporting <i>Saiga</i> spp. to report a zero export quota to the Secretariat.
<p>59. Snakes (Serpentes spp.): Report of the Secretariat and of the Animals Committee</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 59</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Secretariat and AC Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.276-17.284 on snakes and a report from Bangladesh on exports and seizures. Invites SC to consider the information submitted, make recommendations as appropriate; and consider reporting to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
<p>60. Queen conch (Strombus gigas): Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.285-17.290 on queen conch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.

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of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 60		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites SC to note the document and note that the Secretariat intends to recommend that Decisions 17.286 and 17.289 be extended. 	
61. Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.): Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 61		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.294-17.298 on tortoises and freshwater turtles. Provides: <i>Recommendations of the CITES Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles Task Force</i> (Annex 1); responses to a related Notification from China, Thailand and the USA (Annexes 2-4); draft revision of RC 11.9 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles</i> (Annex 5); and a guide to photographing live turtles and tortoises (Annex 6). Invites SC to request other Parties to respond to the Notification; submit revised RC to CoP18; and encourage feedback to the guide to photography in Annex 6. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
62. Totoaba (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i>): Report of the Secretariat			
62.1	Report of the Secretariat SC70 Doc. 62.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports on implementation of Decision 17.149 directing the Secretariat to commission a report on totoaba trade and totoaba and vaquita (<i>Phocoena sinus</i>) status, conservation efforts, and recommendations (outline of the study in Annex 2); provides update on implementation of Decisions 17.145-17.151 on totoaba (Annex 1). Reports that the study would be mostly desk-based with results presented at SC71, as resources are insufficient for a comprehensive study described in Decision 17.149. Notes that the high-level mission proposed by Mexico at SC69¹⁸ did not occur. Invites SC to encourage donors to make co-funding available and to provide comments on the outline and Secretariat's comments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As few as 15 vaquita remain in the wild; at the current rate of decline due to entanglement in gillnet gear, including totoaba nets, the vaquita will be extinct by 2021 (before CoP19). Illegal fishing and international trade of totoaba, primarily of its swim bladder, is the major threat to the survival of both species. SSN recommends that SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct the Secretariat to conduct a high-level mission to meet with the newly-elected administration in Mexico; Regarding the study, prioritize the totoaba status analysis, analysis of illegal trade and markets, and recommendations; and Ensure that other transit countries, including South Korea are included in the study.
62.2	Report of Mexico SC70 Doc. 62.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by Mexico. Reports on implementation of Decisions 17.146-17.148. Provides a report on state of conservation of the islands and protected areas of the Gulf of California (Annex 1); modifications to the vaquita refuge (Annex 2); evaluation of the totoaba population in Gulf of California (Annex 3); marking requirements for totoaba specimens in trade and notes Mexico's proposed captive breeding registration for totoaba. Invites SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, note the report, consider amending Decisions 17.148 and 17.150, and requesting Mexico to report to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite Mexico's efforts, illegal totoaba fishing and trade continues. In 2018, experts concluded that Mexico's "[e]nforcement thus far has failed to prevent illegal fishing and the survival of the vaquita depends on a gillnet-free habitat."¹⁹ SSN strongly urges Mexico, China, USA, and other relevant countries to increase enforcement efforts and implement demand reduction programmes in order to combat illegal totoaba fishing (Mexico) and trade, possession or sale of totoaba parts. See SSN recommendations under SC70 Doc. 62.1. SSN strongly discourages registration of totoaba breeding

18 <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/69/sum/E-SC69-SR.pdf>

19 http://www.iucn-csg.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CIRVA-10_final-report-2018.pdf

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		<p>facilities, which will perpetuate demand for swim bladders and drive illegal fishing. Legal trade could increase demand and provide criminal networks with a cover for continued illegal trade.</p>
<p>63. Possible amendments to RC 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on Implementation of the Convention for timber species: Recommendations of the Plants Committee</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 63</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by PC Chair and the Secretariat. Provides draft amendments to RC 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) (Annex 1 and 2) that include, <i>inter alia</i>, changing “timber” to “tree” species and including text regarding identification and forensics for tree species. Invites SC to submit the amendments to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendations.
<p>64. Appendix III listings: Report of the working group</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 64</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Chair of the Working Group. Provides recommendations to amend RC 9.25 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Inclusion of species in Appendix III</i>, including guidance on biological and trade characteristics for listing. Recommends that SC direct the Secretariat with the Working Group, to prepare draft amendments to RC.9.25 (Rev. CoP17) for CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CITES Article XVI (1) states: "Any Party may at any time submit to the Secretariat a list of species which it identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose mentioned in paragraph 3 of Article II," namely, "preventing or restricting exploitation, and as needing the co-operation of other Parties in the control of trade." SSN is concerned that the increasing complexity of RC 9.25 (Rev. CoP17) may unduly restrict the use of App. III. SSN is also concerned that some of the proposed measures for future guidance are unduly burdensome and more restrictive than the Convention text, and should be deleted, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 10 b): "Listing Parties to make available the reason for a listing and its relevance to all Parties"; and Paragraph 10 c) "Listing Parties to be made accountable for any annotations or de-listing proposals."
<p>65. Guidance on the application of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) when preparing to list commercially exploited aquatic species in the Appendices</p> <p>SC70 Doc. 65</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by Israel. Provides guidance for developing estimates of historical-extent-of-decline and recent-rate-of-decline for commercially-exploited aquatic species (Annex). Provides draft decisions directing: Parties and observers to develop tools and associated guidance for estimating historical-extent-of-decline from baseline and recent-rate-of-decline for data-poor fish stocks; the FAO expert panel to develop and/or clarify estimates of declines if proponents have been unable to determine these in sufficient detail. Invites SC to submit these draft decisions to CoP18. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that Parties note the Guidance presented in this document when developing proposals to list commercially exploited aquatic species in the Appendices. SSN recommends that SC submit the draft decisions to CoP18.
<p>66. Periodic review of the Appendices: Report of the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by AC and PC Chairs. Provides a report on progress in implementing RC 14.8 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC note this report.

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SC70 Doc. 66		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites SC to note this report. 	
67. Annotations			
67.1	Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 67.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the Working Group Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decision 16.162 and 16.163; amendments to RC 11.21 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Use of Annotations in Appendices I and II</i> (Annex 1); Revision to the CITES Appendices, Interpretation Section, Paragraph 7 (Annex 2); and Descriptions of Cited Harmonized System Codes (Annex 3). Invites SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the revisions in Annexes 1 and 2; Recommend that CoP adopt a mechanism to conduct a periodic review of existing annotations and a screening process for annotations to be proposed at future CoPs; Consider developing an information system to process all relevant data related to trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species; Consider the two options identified for the revision or replacement of Annotation #15; and Discuss proposed amendment to Annotation #5 for <i>Pericopsis elata</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC endorse the proposed revisions to RC 11.21 (Rev. CoP17) and the interpretative section to the CITES Appendices. Re: Annotation #5, SSN believes it may warrant further discussion.
67.2	Appendix II orchids: Report of the Plants Committee SC70 Doc. 67.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by PC Chair. Provides a report on implementation of Decisions 17.318 and 17.319; draft Decisions to continue work on trade in orchids (including parts and derivatives); related exemptions; and a draft definition for “cosmetics”. Invites SC to consider draft Decisions for submission to CoP18 and consider the draft definition for “cosmetics” presented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
68. Review of RC 10.9 on Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II: Report of the working group SC70 Doc. 68		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by the working group Chair. Decision 16.160 (Rev. CoP17) directs SC to review RC 10.9 on <i>Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II</i>. Invites SC to endorse the Group’s recommendation to repeal RC 10.9. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN recommends that SC adopt the recommendation. RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i> provides sufficient and adequate guidance for dealing with amendments to CITES Appendices I and II; RC 10.9 is no longer necessary.
69. Reports of regional representatives SC70 Doc. 69.5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional report submitted by Canada, North America representative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN commends the North America region for submitting a report.

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70. Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
71. Determination of the time and venue of the 71st and 72nd meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
72. Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.



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