



**SUMMARY OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT
THE SIXTY-FIRST MEETING OF
THE CITES STANDING COMMITTEE**
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND • 15-19 AUGUST 2011

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 ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Opening Remarks by the Chair No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
2. Report of the Secretary-General No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
3. Agenda SC61 Doc. 3	<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.
4. Working Programme SC61 Doc. 4	<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.
5. Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee SC61 Doc. 5 (Rev. 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the current Rules of Procedure as last amended at SC58. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
6. Credentials No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
7. Admission of observers SC61 Doc. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not available at the time this document was prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
8. Rules of Procedure of the Animals and Plants Committees SC61 Doc. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.9 directs the SC to review the need for the Rules of Procedure of the AC and PC to deal with potential conflicts of interest of its members relating to their activities in the Committees, and report to CoP16. Notes that a draft rule which would have required Members who may have a potential conflict of interest on an issue to disclose it, consult with the Secretariat, and participate but not make a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to establish the Working Group and to allow observers to participate. SSN <u>notes</u> that this issue has been raised in the past and agrees that a rule addressing potential conflicts of interest is a basic requirement for the conduct of an impartial, objective and independent advisory body, such as AC and PC.

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		<p>decision on the issue, was rejected at a joint meeting of the AC and PC in 2008.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommends that the SC establish a Working Group to assist it with the implementation of Decision 15.9 and report to SC62. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC approve of the proposed text but require that consultations regarding any potential conflict of interest also should include the SC Chair and the relevant Committee Chair (or Vice-Chair if the Chair should have a conflict of interest).
9. Relationship with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)			
9.1	<p>Report of UNEP</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 9.1 (Rev. 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). • Highlights various aspects of the collaboration between the CITES Secretariat and UNEP since March 2010. • Mentions significant collaboration between the CITES Secretariat and other bodies and organizations working on planning the Rio+20 Conference, including production of documents and comments on other documents by the CITES Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note this report. • For the purposes of transparency and accountability, these documents and comments by the CITES Secretariat should be made available for Party and observer review and comment.
9.2	<p>Report on the Working Group on Revising the Agreement between the CITES Standing Committee and the Executive Director of UNEP</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 9.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Working Group • Annex 2 contains a revised final draft Agreement; reports that, if possible, a new agreement will be concluded at SC61. The Agreement states, <i>inter alia</i>, that the Executive Director of UNEP will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consult with the SC through its Chair on the recruitment, selection, and appointment of the Secretary-General and will make every effort to recommend a Secretary-General who is acceptable to the SC. ▪ Extend or discontinue the contract of the Secretary-General in accordance with the United Nations rules and regulations. To the extent possible within his powers, the Executive Director will consult with the SC through its Chair as appropriate at all stages of this process. ▪ Comply with, and ensure that the Secretary-General complies with, the specific Resolutions established at each meeting of the CoP. • Appraise the performance of the Secretary-General. • Notes informal feedback from UNEP suggesting that some comments received may question a basic agreed principle of the draft Agreement, namely that the relevant rules and regulations of the United Nations and UNEP apply to the operation of the Secretariat. • States that although expectations of some Parties may go beyond what can be addressed by this Agreement and may require a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC defer this issue until SC62, in particular because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pars. 17 and 18 indicate that some Parties have questioned basic principles of the document. These concerns should be answered before the draft agreement is concluded; and ▪ The Secretariat believes that the outcomes of Rio+20 in June 2012 could have implications for this issue; such possible implications should be explained in detail to Parties sufficiently in advance of any commitments or decision-making by the Secretariat. • RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Establishment of committees</i> provides the SC with broad authority to participate in the oversight of the Secretariat, including, <i>inter alia</i>, the provision of "general policy and general operational direction to the Secretariat concerning the implementation of the Convention," Therefore, regarding the draft Agreement, SSN <u>believes</u> that the SC, as far as practical and in consultation with the Executive Director of UNEP, should have power to extend or discontinue the Secretary-General's contract, oversight of the Secretary-General, and the power to ensure that the Secretary-General complies with the Resolutions of CITES. • SSN <u>is also concerned</u> that the Agreement contemplates substantive participation by the Secretary-General and Secretariat beyond the work and authority delegated by the Parties. Based on RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP15), the SC and the CoP should have directional oversight regarding the Secretariat's substantive activities. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that all concerns raised by the Parties

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		<p>more fundamental discussion, an agreement could be concluded in the meantime in the context of the agreed basic principles. The draft Agreement includes a provision that it can be reviewed at any time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States that outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 ('Rio+20') could have implications for UNEP and the MEAs it administers, including CITES. • Recommends that the SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider whether to enter into a new agreement with the Executive Director of UNEP; ▪ Note that issues raised by some Parties may go beyond the scope of the draft Agreement and that the outcomes of Rio+20 could have implications for CITES; and ▪ Consider whether to review possible alternative options for the provision of a Secretariat for CITES and to report at SC62. 	<p>are adequately considered by the SC.</p>
10. Financial Matters			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>is greatly concerned</u> that, ten days prior to the start of SC61, not all documents related to the Costed Work Programme (CPW) or the payment of contributions have been posted in French or in Spanish. This greatly limits the ability of many Parties to participate in discussion of this important agenda item.
10.1	<p>Costed programme of work (CPW) for 2010</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 10.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the CPW of the Secretariat (Annex 1), which lists the Secretariat's activities for 2010 with their expected outputs, methods of implementation, and the corresponding funding from the Trust Fund or external sources. • Reports that the total Trust Fund expenditure for 2010 was USD 5.04 million and expenditure for activities funded by external sources was USD 4.4 million. • Provides the status of contributions as of 31 December 2010 (Annex 2) and the summary of the paid contributions for 2010, which amounts to USD 5,527,704 (Annex 3). • Presents the certified Statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserve and fund balances of the CITES Trust Fund for 2010 (Annex 4), noting that the balance of the Trust Fund reserve as of 31 December 2010 was USD 2.8 million. • Requests the SC to note and accept this report on the CPW for 2010. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note this document.

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10.2	Costed programme of work for 2011 SC61 Doc. 10.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the projected CPW of the Secretariat for 2011. States that the Secretariat may need to draw down from the Trust Fund reserve to cover any over-expenditure. Requests the SC to agree that the staff cost column be removed from the CPW while provision of the total staff costs will be retained. Requests the SC to note and accept the report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note the report. SSN <u>strongly urges</u> the SC to reject the Secretariat's proposal to remove the staff costs column from the CPW, as staff costs comprise a significant portion of the budget (e.g. more than USD 460,000 for low priority activities alone in 2010). It is vital that staff costs are provided for each activity in order for the SC and Parties to evaluate the true and total cost of individual activities, particularly since staff costs are sourced from the CITES Trust Fund.
10.3	Non-payment of contributions SC61 Doc. 10.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.2 directs the SC to monitor the payments of contributions from Parties in arrears and to assist the Secretariat in ensuring that future contributions are paid by the due date. Provides a table of unpaid contributions as of 31 December 2010, with total arrears from 2008 and prior years of USD 217,055 (Annex 1), and a list of Parties in arrears from 2008 and prior years as of 20 May 2011; shows whether countries have responded to the reminders sent by the Secretariat. Notes that the CMS provides that "representatives from countries with contributions in arrears three years or more should be excluded from holding office in Convention bodies and denied the right to vote" and the CBD applies similar measures for Parties in arrears that have not responded to reminders. Suggests that the SC may wish to consider making a recommendation to the CoP16 to introduce further measures, such as those used by CBD and CMS, for the Parties that remain in arrears and have not established a schedule for clearing their arrears before CoP16. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC establish a Working Group open to observers, to develop recommendations on this issue for consideration at SC62. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the Working Group should consider actions taken by other MEAs to address these concerns during their deliberations.
11. Meetings of the Conference of the Parties			
11.1	Structure and length of future meetings SC61 Doc. 11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes three options to shorten the number of days of the CoP and related meetings: making the day of the opening ceremony a full working day; reducing the mid-meeting break to one day rather than two; or reducing the second working week to four days instead of five. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC not to reduce the number of work days for the CoP as the size of the CoP agenda and the complexity of some of the issues discussed are difficult to complete in the time now available. SSN therefore <u>recommends</u> that the SC should, if anything, make the day of the opening ceremony a full work day and/or reduce the mid-meeting break.
11.2	Arrangements for CoP16 No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.

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11.3	<p>Improving transparency of voting during meetings of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 11.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted by Hungary on behalf of the European Union (EU) and its Member States. States that the EU considers that voting during CoP15 “did not occur under conditions allowing sufficient transparency and accountability”, in part due to the inability of Parties to confirm their votes after a vote had been taken and the frequent use of votes by secret ballot. Proposes that the SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruct the Secretariat to provide a report for SC62 which recalls the rationale and history of CoP votes by secret ballot, analyzes how such votes have been used, and, if needed, propose amendments to the CoP Rules of Procedure (RoP). Recommend that CoP16 include a new provision in the CoP RoP: <p><i>“Rule 25 Methods of voting</i></p> <p>1. The Conference shall normally vote through an electronic system or by show of hands, but any Representative may request a roll-call vote. The individual votes of all Parties shall be displayed on a screen for all participants to see immediately after a vote has taken place.”</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to support the proposals. SSN <u>notes</u> that at CoP15, individual Party votes in Committee I were not available for review until several hours, or even days, later. By the time Parties were able to review whether their votes were correctly recorded, the discussion on the agenda item had long been closed. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to develop a mechanism allowing Parties to confirm that their vote has been correctly recorded in the case of a secret ballot, since they will not be shown onscreen. SSN <u>recommends</u> the SC align CITES CoP RoP with RoPs of other U.N. bodies, the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Migratory Species, that conduct votes by secret ballot only when a motion for a secret ballot has been approved by a majority of Parties present and voting. SSN <u>notes</u> that secret ballots: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make it possible for delegates to vote contrary to directions from their own governments; Impede open and informed discussion of certain contentious issues at CoPs; and Deny citizens knowledge of their government’s position.
12. Provision of support for Committee Members	<p>SC61 Doc. 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that RC 11.1 (Rev. CoP15), on <i>Establishment of committees, inter alia</i>, states “to the extent possible, the Secretariat shall make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the Chairs of the SC, AC and PC, for representatives from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing states.” Notes that RC 15.1, on <i>Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the biennium 2012-2013, inter alia</i>, states “the CITES Trust Fund should not be used to cover travel costs and per diem of committee members and other representatives of developed countries.” Requests that the SC endorse a proposal that the Trust Fund support committee members and other representatives only from Parties a) not included in the ‘Very High Human Development’ and ‘High Human Development’ categories of the UNDP HDI; and b) in the UN List of Small Island Developing States. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC support the proposal of the Secretariat.

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13. Committee Reports			
13.1	Animals Committee No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
13.2	Plants Committee No document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
14. Strategic Vision			
14.1	Progress report on the implementation of the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i> SC61 Doc. 14.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC 14.2 on the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i>, <i>inter alia</i>, instructs the SC to review the progress in implementation of the Strategic Vision and achievement of its Objectives at each of its ordinary meetings during the term of the Vision, as well as to report at CoPs 15 and 16. Highlights selected actions taken under each of the three Goals of the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i>. Recommends changes to the Strategic Vision that include the following edits to Goal 3: “Contribute to significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss <u>globally agreed goals and targets</u> by ensuring that CITES and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually supportive”. Recommends that the SC establish a Strategic Vision Revision Working Group to review the adopted post-2010 biodiversity targets and to make recommendations for SC62 for possible adjustments to the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i>, and for further submission to CoP16. Invites the SC to note the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC establish an intersessional Working Group to review and evaluate progress in implementation of the CITES Strategic Vision (as recommended by RC 14.2) and its indicators. SSN <u>believes</u> it is premature to recommend that a new Strategic Vision be developed until such time that the current Strategic Vision is implemented and that the related indicators are evaluated. SSN <u>strongly urges</u> the SC to oppose the changes to the Strategic Vision proposed by the Secretariat and, in particular, to Goal 3. CITES Parties contribute meaningfully toward achieving biodiversity goals by focusing energy and funding on implementation and enforcement of the Convention itself. An additional goal of contributing to initiatives already carried out by, or in compliance with, other Conventions is duplicative and may draw resources and funding from CITES core objectives. SSN also <u>urges</u> the SC to direct the Secretariat to place greater priority on core programmatic work and high priority activities in fulfillment of the goals of the CITES Strategic Vision. SSN <u>is concerned</u> that the Secretariat spends a disproportionate amount of time on items such as those related to other MEAs, that are of low priority under the CITES Costed Program of Work. SSN <u>is greatly concerned</u> that the Secretariat's significant proposed changes to Goal 3 are not included in the French and Spanish versions of SC61 Doc. 14.1.
14.2	Planning for 2014-2016 SC61 Doc. 14.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that Decision 15.10 directs the SC to review the adopted post-2010 biodiversity targets and, if necessary, make adjustments to the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i>. Recommends that the SC establish a Strategic Vision Revision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>agrees</u> that the SC should recommend that the validity of the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i> be extended to 2016. SSN <u>believes</u> it is premature to recommend that a new Strategic Vision be developed until such time that the current Strategic

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		Working Group to consider whether to recommend to CoP16 to: a) extend the validity of the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2013</i> to 2016; and b) initiate a process for the development of a new Strategic Vision for the post 2016 period.	Vision is implemented and the related indicators are evaluated.
15. Cooperation with Other Organizations			
15.1	Overview SC61 Doc. 15.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the view that “the strategic positioning of the Convention with other organizations, instruments and processes is critical to the successful implementation of the Convention, as reflected in Goal 3 [of the Strategic Vision] and that “CITES has increased its engagement with other biodiversity-related conventions through a variety of means”. States that “a number of States have reacted positively to the conventions’ cooperative efforts, which are aimed at programmatic rather than administrative synergy. If CITES Parties wish to pursue administrative synergy with other conventions, further direction would be needed”. Provides information on activities undertaken by the CITES Secretariat in relation to other organizations. Invites the SC to take note of the information provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note the document, but <u>encourages</u> the SC to direct the Secretariat to focus its efforts on CITES implementation and enforcement as SSN <u>believes</u> that this is the best way to facilitate programmatic cooperation with other MEAs.
15.2	Biodiversity Indicators Partnership SC61 Doc. 15.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
15.3	Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) SC61 Doc. 15.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a list of activities undertaken by the Secretariat in relation to the CBD. Invites the SC to take note of this document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note the document. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC urge eligible Parties to take advantage of GEF funding in order to produce and/or update National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that reflect CITES goals and objectives. Production and implementation of strong NBSAPs could greatly contribute to CITES capacity-building, implementation and enforcement. SSN <u>notes</u> that it is at the national implementation level, as opposed to the international policy-making level, that CITES and CBD provide for the most effective partnership.
15.4	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Not available at the time this document was prepared.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.

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	Animals (CMS) SC61 Doc. 15.4		
15.5	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) SC61 Doc. 15.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.18 directs the SC to “analyse the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CITES and [the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)], determine the cooperative scheme between CITES and FAO on forestry issues, and ensure that future cooperation between FAO and CITES is carried out under the framework of the MoU.” Provides a revised text of a draft memorandum of cooperation (Annex) between CITES and FAO, which takes the form of a broad document with the existing MoU on commercially-exploited aquatic species attached as an annex, with the Secretariat’s comments. Reports that the Secretariat has submitted a request to FAO for CITES to become a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. Invites the SC to take note of the information provided and express its views on the draft memorandum of cooperation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>strongly urges</u> the SC to reject the proposed memorandum of cooperation as the terms of the MOU exceed the mandate provided to the Secretariat by the CoP in Decision 15.8. SSN <u>notes</u> that there has been no directive from the CoP to prepare such a document, to establish a formal role for FAO in the preparation of official CITES documents, or for coherence to be sought with FAO on CITES programmes of work as contained in the draft. SSN <u>is particularly concerned</u> about the role given to FAO in the future revision of the CITES listing criteria (Annex 1 paragraph 3) and <u>notes</u> that the Secretariat does not have the mandate or the capacity to decide which organizations should be involved in the revision of the listing criteria independently from what the Parties decide. SSN <u>further notes</u> that FAO’s mandate, “to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy”, may be incompatible with or contrary to the conservation mandate of the CITES Convention. SSN <u>is alarmed</u> at the level of deference explicitly granted to the results of the FAO review of proposals to amend the Appendices in the MOU, which provides that “In order to ensure maximum coordination of conservation measures, the CITES Secretariat will respect, to the greatest extent possible, the results of the FAO scientific and technical review of proposals to amend the Appendices.” (Annex 1 paragraph 6) SSN <u>notes</u> that the CITES Secretariat and the FAO have conflicting views on the interpretation of the CITES listing criteria and that Parties have not mandated the CITES Secretariat to give prevalence to the views of the FAO. SSN <u>notes</u> that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article III of the document would give an outside organization access to confidential draft documents prepared by the CITES Secretariat that may not be available to Parties; and FAO’s current level of participation as an observer already gives it full access to meetings and working groups. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to establish a Working Group on this issue, with the specific mandate to develop a schedule of activities in order to

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			address the requirements of Decision 15.18, including evaluating the need to develop a cooperative scheme between CITES and FAO on forestry issues only.
15.6	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) SC61 Doc. 15.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPBES is described as an interface between the scientific community and policy makers that aims to build capacity for, and strengthen the use of science in, policy making. • Decision 15.12 requires the AC and PC Chairs and the Secretariat to report to the SC to seek additional guidance on IPBES. • Requests the SC to note the developments detailed in the present document. • Notes that the AC and PC Chairs and the Secretariat will report orally at SC61 and may seek additional guidance from the SC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that the AC and PC, as scientific bodies, have a formal role in CITES participation in development of IPBES and consider in its recommendations, AC25 DG1 Doc. 1.
15.7	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) SC61 Doc. 15.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports that the Executive Secretary of ICCAT provided the Secretariat with proposed guidelines for cooperation between ICCAT and CITES (Annex). • States that the Secretariat will work with the ICCAT Secretariat to develop a revised draft which might be submitted at SC61 for endorsement. • The SC is invited to express its views on the proposed guidelines for cooperation, and to note the information in the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that, if any draft on guidelines for cooperation between CITES and ICCAT submitted at SC61 differs substantially from that presented in the Annex, the SC defer endorsement until SC 62 to allow sufficient time for consideration of its text.
15.8	World Trade Organization (WTO) SC61 Doc. 15.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Secretariat has submitted requests for <i>ad hoc</i> observer status for CITES in the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade to the Chairs of the respective committees. ▪ In May 2011, the Secretariat met with the WTO Director of the Division of Market Development and other officials from International Trade Centre (ITC) to discuss a proposed joint project for undertaking trade surveys of certain sectors of CITES trade. It was also agreed that the two organizations would develop a memorandum of understanding on practical cooperation. • Invites the SC to note the document and consider how CITES Parties who are members of WTO might support the CITES requests for observer status in WTO committees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to consider the need for a memorandum of understanding and joint projects with the WTO and to formulate specific terms of reference on these matters before the Secretariat communicates CITES's commitment on these issues.
16. Access to finance, including GEF funding SC61 Doc. 16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 15.20 directs the Secretariat to investigate ways to establish the means to secure funding to support the provision of technical assistance to CITES Parties in relation to regulating wildlife trade, and report its findings to CoP16. • States that the Parties, at CoP16, may wish to request that the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>supports</u> efforts to make GEF funding available to improve the implementation and enforcement of the Convention. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC Finance and Budget Subcommittee create the recommended Working Group and that the Group, in addition to nominated experts, be open to observers and to any

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	<p>GEF becomes a financial mechanism for CITES, and to make arrangements for a Memorandum of Understanding between GEF and CITES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggests that the SC Finance and Budget Subcommittee create a Working Group on Access to Finance using the draft overview on financial mechanisms in the Annex as a basis to: identify promising financial tools for use in the CITES context, and determine what steps are needed to adapt tools to CITES. • Recommends that members of the Group be government-nominated experts, selected on the basis of their expertise and taking into account the need to ensure regional distribution. • Recommends that the Group report to the Finance and Budget Subcommittee at its next meeting and, based on feedback from SC62, the Chair of the Group, with the assistance of the Secretariat, should finalize and submit recommendations to CoP16. 	<p>Member of the SC Finance and Budget Subcommittee who chooses to participate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to require that, in response to comments from SC62, the Working Group develop recommendations for CoP16 in cooperation with the Chair of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee. SSN believes that it is critical that the SC Finance and Budget Subcommittee, as a fiscal subset of the SC, be intensely involved in this endeavor. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to instruct the Working Group not to pursue efforts to use CITES permits as a certification scheme (as mentioned in the Annex), noting that the Parties at CoP15 rejected a proposed Decision from the Secretariat to establish CITES as a regulatory certification scheme. • SSN <u>notes</u> that the Annex states that the GEF will seek to “increase production of biodiversity-related goods.” SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to instruct the Working Group that CITES’ mission is not to promote trade in wildlife and their parts and products, and it has neither the means nor ability to verify that each CITES permit issued satisfies the requirements of the Convention.
<p>17. Cooperation between Parties and promotion of multilateral measures</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 14.28 states, “Parties with stricter domestic measures and reservations should review them, as and when appropriate, in order to determine whether they are effective and necessary in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention to ensure that trade in wild fauna and flora species is not detrimental to their survival.” • Decision 14.30 (Rev. CoP15) directs the Secretariat to, <i>inter alia</i>, commission a report to assess “whether the Resolutions are implemented by all Parties as consistently as possible and whether there is a need to clarify, revise or repeal them; and whether the scope for multilateral CITES processes that reduce the need by Parties for recourse to stricter domestic measures and reservations should be further developed.” • Decision 14.29 (Rev. CoP15) directs the SC to, <i>inter alia</i>, organize a meeting of the Working Group on Multilateral Measures, review any consultancy report produced under Decision 14.30 (Rev. CoP15); and consider the need to draft, for consideration at CoP16, any revised or new Resolutions. • Reports that Ms. Thea Carroll of South Africa has indicated that she would be willing to serve as its Chair and that she and the Secretariat have been consulting about possible draft terms of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>encourages</u> the SC to invite observers to join the intersessional Working Group. • SSN <u>notes</u> that stricter domestic measures are a sovereign right of the Parties. Exporting countries may enact stricter domestic measures, including export bans, to protect their fauna and flora. Importing Parties may enact stricter domestic measures in response to ineffective CITES implementation and enforcement, or in response to factors outside the control of CITES (such as disease or invasive species issues). • SSN <u>notes</u> that when CITES Resolutions are not implemented, the fault often lies with a lack of available resources rather than the need to revise or repeal a Resolution. • SSN <u>believes</u> the terms of reference for the Working Group and for any analysis should include consideration of ways to improve implementation of existing Resolutions, including methods for providing greater support to Parties for implementation and enforcement with a special focus on Parties from developing countries.

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	<p>reference for the Working Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites the Working Group on Multilateral Measures to continue its work and requests that a representative of Asia be identified for the Working Group. 	
<p>18. CITES and livelihoods</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods (Peru) in collaboration with the Secretariat Decision 15.5 directs the SC Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods to continue its Working Group on this issue, in order to: revise the draft Resolution in CoP15 Doc. 14 Annex 1 for CoP16; finalize the toolkit for rapid national assessment of the positive and negative impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor for approval at SC62; and finalize the voluntary guidelines for Parties to address the negative impacts, in order to assist Parties in developing local, national and regional initiatives that take account of the impacts of implementing CITES listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor. Recommends that the SC consider expanding the membership of the Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods to additional Parties, international and regional organizations as well as development cooperation agencies. Recommends that a regional meeting of the Group be organized in order to discuss and revise the draft tools and guidelines. Recommends that the SC approve the revised timetable for the work of the Group provided in the document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that expansion of the Working Group membership to additional international and regional organizations should be based on those organizations' familiarity with, and expertise in, CITES issues. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC approve the revised timetable, with the provision that any revisions to the draft tools and guidelines resulting from the regional meeting(s) be circulated to the Parties for comment via a Notification; any resulting comments from the Parties should be provided to SC62, along with the revisions. With regard to the symposium held on CITES and CBNRM in Vienna (mentioned in § 12 and 13 of the document), SSN <u>is concerned</u> that this meeting neither represented the breadth of scientific information available on this topic, nor was its participation representative of the full range of informed views that have addressed this issue; the meeting was only open to selected participants, few Parties or community representatives attended, and government representatives from developing nations were largely absent. Participants agreed at the meeting that no conclusions or recommendations were to emerge from it, and that no report to SC61 was contemplated. SSN <u>believes</u> that the results therefore must not form the basis for any future policy decisions or debates and that expectations expressed in this regard in SC61 Doc. 18 are inappropriate.
<p>19. Capacity building</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides information on several recent capacity-building activities of the Secretariat, including science-related and enforcement-related capacity-building efforts, regional workshops, and the CITES Virtual College. Reports that the Secretariat has prepared a draft capacity-building framework. Reports that the Secretariat has secured funding of US\$ 3,512,500 from the European Commission for a project to strengthen CITES implementation; notes that small scale in-country activities under the first phase of the project are being supported and project proposals received from 11 other Parties are being considered for funding Encourages Parties to make use of the CITES capacity-building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note the report. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to request the Secretariat to make the CITES-funded activities and proposal requests available for Party and observer review and comment. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that any CITES-funded surveys or field studies of CITES-listed species are scientifically sound and that the technical committees have the opportunity to review and comment on proposals and their results.

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<p>20. CITES logo</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 20</p>	<p>courses, tools and materials, and the CITES Virtual College.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that Notification to the Parties No. 2011/018 of 11 February 2011, reminded Parties of the legal status of the CITES logo and of the policy regarding its use. Provides a summary of results of a survey of Parties on use of the CITES logo, noting that in general, the logo does not seem to be used without authorization. Invites the Parties to review their own usage of the CITES logo and to express their views on the benefits and shortcomings of a less restrictive policy on the use of the logo, including open use of the logo to specimens produced by operations or institutions registered with the Secretariat. Invites the SC to indicate whether it thinks that this issue should be discussed further, and how. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to maintain the current policy regarding use of the CITES logo because the survey indicates that the logo is being used appropriately under this policy. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to oppose the use of the logo as part of any labeling or certification scheme. SSN <u>notes</u> that CITES' mission is not to promote trade in wildlife, including plants, and their parts and products, and it has neither the means nor ability to verify that each CITES permit issued satisfies the requirements of the Convention, including those relevant to non-detriment findings. SSN <u>notes</u> that efforts by the Secretariat to include similar text in the Strategic Vision at CoP14 were rejected by the Parties. Similarly, the Parties at CoP15 rejected a proposed Decision from the Secretariat to establish CITES as a regulatory certification scheme including, <i>inter alia</i>, limited use of the CITES logo by registered companies.
<p>21. Secretary-General's certificates of commendation</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a description of the Secretariat's Certificates of Commendation for law enforcement actions. Recommends that the SC supports expanding the current scope of the Secretariat's certificates of commendation to recognize "exemplary performance in management and science". 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to oppose the proposal to expand the scope of the Secretariat's Certificates of Commendation. While commendation of CITES law enforcement actions can be agreed upon by the full range of views expressed in CITES, assessment of "contributions to the amendment of the Appendices" and "innovative techniques for non-detriment findings" would be subject to political views and would politicize the role of the Secretariat.
<p>22. Review of Resolutions following Decision 14.19</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that Decision 14.19 directs the SC to review proposals from the Secretariat to correct minor errors in current Resolutions and decide whether they should be referred to the CoP. If the SC agrees, it may instruct the Secretariat to republish the Resolutions with the necessary corrections. Provides proposals for edits (Annex), including (changes marked as underlined or strikeout): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i>: "RESOLVES that, <u>by virtue of the precautionary approach and in case of uncertainty regarding the status of a species or the impact of trade on the conservation of a species</u>, when considering proposals to amend Appendix I or II, the Parties shall, by virtue of the precautionary approach and in case of uncertainty, either as regards the status of a species or the impact of trade on the conservation of a species, act in the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC adopt the following change regarding the proposed edits to RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) involving the precautionary principle, in order to maintain clarity that the required actions relate to consideration of proposals to amend the Appendices: <p>RESOLVES that, <u>by virtue of the precautionary approach and in case of uncertainty regarding the status of a species or the impact of trade on the conservation of a species</u>, when considering proposals to amend Appendix I or II, the Parties shall, by virtue of the precautionary approach and in case of uncertainty, either as regards the status of a species or the impact of trade on the conservation of a species, act in the best interest of the conservation of the species concerned and adopt measures that are proportionate to the anticipated risks to the species;"</p> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the review of the Resolutions be

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	<p>best interest of the conservation of the species concerned and, <u>when considering proposals to amend Appendix I or II</u>, adopt measures that are proportionate to the anticipated risks to the species;” Note that these same edits are recommended for similar text in Annex 4 on Precautionary Measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invites the SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review the proposals and to accept, reject, or refer them to the CoP; and ▪ Discuss whether it would be worth continuing the review through a different mechanism after CoP16. 	<p>discontinued due to the staffing concerns raised by the Secretariat and because there does not seem to be any further need for it.</p>
<p>23. National laws for implementation of the Convention</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 8.4 (Rev CoP 15) on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention</i>, “INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to determine which Parties have not adopted appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and to consider appropriate compliance measures, which may include recommendations to suspend trade, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3.” • Decision 15.40 directs SC61 and SC62 to review <i>the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention</i>. • States that an updated legislative status chart will be provided during SC61 in English only. • Provides an update on legislative actions taken by Parties and related activities undertaken by the Secretariat. • Suggests that the SC consider how financing, including Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds, might be accessed for innovative approaches (such as to government-to-government partnership or involvement of local legal experts or organizations) to assist countries in complying with legislative commitments. • Notes that RC 11.3 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Compliance and enforcement, inter alia</i>, urges “Parties to offer secondment of enforcement officers to assist the Secretariat in addressing law-enforcement issues” and that Brazil will second a prosecutor to the Secretariat for one year. • Recommends that the SC consider appropriate compliance measures for those priority countries which have not submitted CITES-implementing legislation for parliamentary, cabinet or ministerial approval by SC62. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations of the Secretariat. • SSN <u>notes</u> that the Secretariat reports that legislation in more than 90 Parties (and 16 dependent territories) is still in Category 2 or 3, and urges the SC to take more aggressive action on this issue. • SSN <u>commends</u> Brazil and Attorney-General of the State of Sao Paulo for seconding a prosecutor to the Secretariat. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat, at future meetings, to make the updated legislative status chart available in advance of the meeting in all three languages of the Convention so that Parties have sufficient opportunity to examine the documents.

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<p>24. National reports</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 24 (Rev. 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the SC Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements. • Reports that records show that eight countries have failed to provide annual reports for the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 and that some 45 countries still had not submitted their annual report for 2009. • Reports that the Secretariat contracted UNEP-WCMC to prepare an analysis of Parties' biennial reports on their implementation of CITES for 2005-2006 and 2007-2008 (available as an Inf document). • Recommends that the SC determine which Parties have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years without having provided adequate justification. If so determined, the Secretariat will issue a Notification recommending that Parties not authorize any trade in specimens of CITES-listed species with these Parties until they have provided the requisite number of reports. • Recommends that the Working Group meet in the margins of SC61 and report to the SC on its discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC adopt the recommendation of the Secretariat to identify Parties that have failed to provide annual reports for three consecutive years. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the Working Group meet and that their recommendations be reported to plenary at SC61.
<p>25. Review of the guidelines for the preparation and submission of annual reports</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invites the SC to note that the Secretariat is planning to work with UNEP-WCMC to prepare a draft revision of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports and will consult with the SC Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements. • States that the Secretariat would be pleased to consult with any Party that expresses an interest in the revision of the Guidelines or to work with an intersessional Working Group of the SC if one is established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC establish an intersessional Working Group on this issue and urges the SC to invite observers to participate.
<p>26. Ranching operations</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes that SC60 agreed to recommend a suspension of trade with Madagascar in <i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> (Nile crocodile) and provided Madagascar a list of actions needed to lift the suspension. • Reports that despite work undertaken to seek lifting of the trade suspension, including a response from Madagascar and a review of the information by the IUCN/SCC Crocodile Specialist Group, actions are not sufficient to recommend that the trade suspension be lifted. • States that Madagascar welcomes a Secretariat mission but that no specific dates for the mission had been agreed • Recommends that the SC58 Working Group on ranching operations for <i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> in Madagascar meet in the margins of this meeting to develop and provide specific 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the Working Group hold a formal meeting at SC61, including observers, and that their recommendations be reported to plenary. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to request the Secretariat to report on this issue at SC62 including the results of an eventual Mission and any additional responses from Madagascar.

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<p>27. Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 27</p>	<p>recommendations for the SC to consider.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by Hungary on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and by the USA • Notes that Parties have been regularly faced with problems relating to trade in specimens declared as captive-bred or ranched, but for which there are serious doubts that they fulfill the CITES conditions for trade in such specimens. • Notes that, unlike trade in wild specimens (including ranched specimens), which may be subject to the Significant Trade Review process, trade in captive-bred specimens is not subject to a specific and systematic monitoring mechanism under CITES. • Invites all Parties to report to the Secretariat on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The various challenges they have been facing in relation to trade in captive-bred or ranched specimens; ▪ Possible solutions to address those challenges. • Recommends that an intersessional Working Group be established that would report to SC62 on the problems encountered and develop recommendations to address them; • Invites the Members of the AC to contribute to the inter-sessional Working Group and to discuss this process at AC26; • Invites the Secretariat to report regularly to the SC on significant cases in which the Secretariat has taken initiatives or entered into a dialogue with Parties on trade in specimens declared as captive-bred or ranched where there is serious doubt whether these are all originating from captive breeding or ranching operations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note that there are problems relating to trade in specimens declared as captive-bred (C), captive-born (F) or ranched (R) that do not appear to meet definitions and requirements for trade in such specimens. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations contained in this document, as the Parties need to explore more practical and effective means to address trade in specimens traded under the F, C, and R codes that do not appear to meet the requirements for the use of these codes. • SSN <u>believes</u> that this is a matter of high priority and that greater attention to these issues will also assist exporting Parties in meeting the CITES requirements for trade in these specimens. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the proposed working group also, <i>inter alia</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify significant cases for which there is serious doubt that the specimens traded under the C, F, and R codes meet requirements for trade in such specimens. ▪ Request the exporting Parties involved to address concerns related to such facilities/projects. ▪ Based on the responses received, consider options for follow-up by the AC or SC regarding these cases and others, including monitoring and compliance measures. ▪ Compile a list of factors that may assist in identifying cases in which these source codes have been misused (e.g. species involved are difficult to breed in captivity, discrepancies exist in the numbers produced or generational time of specimens reportedly bred or ranched, sudden changes appear in trade database records, export is by non-range states without prior recorded imports) in order to assist importing and exporting Parties in identifying trades of concern.
<p>28. Review of Significant Trade</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a history of cases under RC 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i>, a review of recent developments, and recommendations to the SC on further action. • <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> (South Asian box turtle) and <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i> (Indochinese box turtle): Notes that in 2009, trade suspensions were authorized for <i>C. amboinensis</i> with Vietnam and for <i>C. galbinifrons</i> with Vietnam and the Lao PDR for failing to respond to the Review. Reports that the Secretariat will undertake missions to both countries to address these issues. 	<p><i>Cuora amboinensis</i> and <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC approve the Secretariat's missions to these two countries, but advises Parties that it is highly unlikely that populations of the species in these countries can withstand current offtakes for trade. • SSN <u>notes</u> that that <i>C. amboinensis</i> is classified as Vulnerable (IUCN 2011) and is considered Endangered in Vietnam; <i>C. galbinifrons</i> is considered Critically Endangered (IUCN 2011) and has been listed among the top 40 turtles at risk of extinction by the IUCN Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group (TFTSG).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> (Senegal parrot): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Notes that SC58 recommended that Mali establish a quota not exceeding 5,000 specimens per year until a population study is undertaken. ▪ Reports that Mali, together with Senegal and Guinea, have submitted a proposal for a joint population study in the three countries (“Strengthening the CITES implementation capacity of developing countries to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade”), to be funded by the European Commission. ▪ Recommends that the SC take no further action under the Review, but support the request for funding by Mali, together with Senegal and Guinea and request that the results be sent to the AC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>also encourages</u> the SC to request that the Secretariat seek clarification from Lao PDR about the large number of parts and derivatives of Appendix I species seized by the USA from travelers originating in Lao PDR. <p><i>Poicephalus senegalus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to request the Secretariat to make the project proposal available for review before funding is provided, and to require that the design and results of the study be peer reviewed. • SSN <u>notes</u> that a number of population/status surveys of African psittacine species, undertaken in response to the Review, have utilized methodologies to convert counts to national population estimates that are, according to a report to CITES by P. McGowan, unable to withstand rigorous scrutiny.^{1,2} SSN urges the SC to ensure that studies supported by CITES are scientifically sound. <p><i>Psittacus erithacus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>is concerned</u> that exports of <i>P. erithacus</i> (grey parrot) from the Democratic Republic of Congo (8,578 in 2008; 12,158 in 2009) greatly exceed the export quota of 5,000 established in 2006 by AC22. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to establish a trade suspension for DRC for this species until such time DRC can demonstrate that export quotas for this species can be enforced. • SSN <u>also is concerned</u> about illegal trade in this species involving DRC, <u>noting</u> that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 130 specimens smuggled from DRC to Uganda were seized in January 2011 by Ugandan authorities; ▪ 161 specimens from DRC in transit via Mozambique were seized in South Africa in April 2011; ▪ More than 500 specimens were confiscated in the DRC in September 2010 and placed in a rehabilitation center in preparation for release in the wild; these same birds were confiscated again in September 2010 and returned to the original dealer. • SSN <u>notes</u> that Cameroon exported 4,715 grey parrots in 2007, 708 in 2008 and 10 in 2009 and Guinea exported 230 parrots 2007, 1,670 in 2008 and 2,050 in 2009. These exports appear to be in violation of the zero export quotas for <i>P. erithacus</i> established

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		<p>by these countries in compliance with recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade. Therefore, SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to establish trade suspensions for Cameroon and Guinea for this species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat to report on any communication with Cameroon, DRC, and Guinea with respect to this issue at SC62. <p>1. Species Survival Network (2008). Summary of Issues to be Discussed at the Fifty-Seventh Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, 14-18 July 2008. http://www.ssn.org/Meetings/sc/sc57/SSN_Briefing_SC57_EN.pdf</p> <p>2. McGowan, P. (2001). Status, management and conservation of the African Grey Parrot <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> in Nigeria. Unpublished report to CITES.</p>
<p>29. E-commerce of specimens of CITES-listed species</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 29</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by U.K. as Chair of the Working Group on E-commerce of Specimens of CITES-listed Species. • Reports that there was a suggestion that the Working Group should focus on the technical infrastructure of the Internet which offers a variety of different mechanisms to conduct trade; and the legal framework required to ensure sustainable, legal and traceable trade through the Internet. • Reports that Canada completed an e-commerce toolkit that will be made available. • Requests the SC to consider: a) extending the mandate of the Working Group and, holding a brief meeting of the Group during SC61; and b) commissioning an independent report on the impact of e-commerce on trade of specimens of CITES-listed species for consideration at CoP16. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC extend the mandate of the E-commerce Working Group and commission a report on the impact of e-commerce on trade in flora and fauna if external funding is made available. • SSN <u>commends</u> Canada for producing an e-commerce toolkit. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to recommend that Parties ensure that their national CITES legislation also provides coverage for trade undertaken by electronic means.
<p>30. Enforcement matters</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 30</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an update on enforcement-related activities of the Secretariat. • Notes that the Secretariat has created a restricted-access area on the CITES website, which is entitled the 'Enforcement Authorities Forum'. • <i>Reports</i> on a February 2011 meeting of the Senior Experts Group of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC). • Reports on progress made by Nigeria, the only country affected by a recommendation for a suspension of trade because of enforcement issues, including awareness-raising and enforcement efforts, but notes that legislation has yet to be enacted and that this remains the major hurdle before removal of the trade suspension can be recommended. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>commends</u> the CITES Secretariat on its recent work on enforcement matters. • SSN <u>welcomes</u> the advancement of ICCWC and asks that the SC express its full support of its work. • SSN <u>congratulates</u> Nigeria on the progress made in its enforcement and implementation work, and encourages the recently-elected government to enact appropriate legislation as soon as possible. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt a deadline of 31 August 2011 for an invitation for a mission from Guinea, noting that the reported fraudulent trade has been occurring for years and also involves species not native to Guinea, indicating that Guinea is a transit point for illegal trade from other States. In the interim, SSN urges the SC to adopt an immediate suspension on exports of the

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports that for several years there has been fraudulent trade in a range of species, especially birds, from parts of Central and West Africa involving counterfeit documents, documents obtained fraudulently, and false declarations of, for example, captive-breeding. • Notes an increasing numbers of false documents allegedly issued by Guinea; reports that blank, signed and stamped export permits had been taken from the Management Authority offices without permission; and that telephone, fax and email communications to and from the same offices were somehow being intercepted. Suggests that if the Secretariat has not received an invitation for a mission from Guinea by SC61, the SC should establish a deadline by which an invitation should be received and, if one is not forthcoming, that appropriate action be taken in accordance with RC 14.3. • Requests the SC to note this report. 	<p>following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chimpanzee (<i>Pan troglodytes</i>): From 2007-2010, Guinea exported 43 live specimens to UAE and China. All but one specimen were claimed to be captive-bred. ▪ Grey parrot (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> (including <i>P.e. timneh</i>)): Guinea has been required since 2007 to establish a moratorium on exports of the species. Since 2007, Guinea has exported 2,470 <i>P. erithacus</i> and 1,480 <i>P. e. timneh</i>, with many reported as captive-bred. Such exports warrant a suspension of trade in the species in accordance with RC 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i>, as Guinea has failed to establish the required moratorium on exports. ▪ Senegal parrot (<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>): A zero export quota for the species has been established from 2009 to the present as a result of the Review of Significant Trade; nonetheless reported exports totaled 1,190 in 2009, all reported as captive-bred. ▪ Non-native species including <i>Colobus guereza</i>, <i>Cercopithecus mona</i>, <i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>, <i>Agapornis swindernianus</i>, <i>Poicephalus gularis</i>, <i>Chamaeleo cristatus</i>, <i>C. feae</i>, <i>C. quadricornis</i>, and <i>C. wiedersheimi</i>. SSN notes that Guinea should not be exporting non-native species that were not legally imported into the country. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>also recommends</u> that the Secretariat, when conducting its mission to Guinea, be mandated to identify capacity-building activities (e.g. training) that may be necessary to assist Guinea in restoring compliance with CITES, and to include a timeline for the conduct of these activities in the Secretariat's capacity-building workplan. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to direct the Secretariat to conduct the fact-finding missions necessary to assess illegal CITES trade in parts of Central and West Africa and the capacity-building needs of the countries affected, and to provide a detailed report on this trade, with recommended actions, to SC62. • SSN <u>encourages</u> the CITES Secretariat to seek funding for the translation of enforcement-related capacity-building materials currently only available in English into the other official languages of the Convention.
<p>31. Gathering and analysis of data on illegal trade</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports that a Working Group on Gathering and Analysis of Data on Illegal Trade was created at CoP15. • Provides the results of a questionnaire to members of the Group (Annex) regarding the establishment of an illegal trade database 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to make use of existing information management systems, such as INTERPOL's I-24/7 global police communications system, rather than establishing a new system. The INTERPOL system:

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>SC61 Doc. 31</p>	<p>as described in Decision 15.42.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that Decision 15.43 directs the SC to consider this information, whether to endorse any relevant recommendation or measure that could be implemented prior to CoP16; and whether to request the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration at CoP16. Welcomes guidance from the SC on how to progress, recommends that the Working Group on Special Reporting Requirements to consider the issue, and reports that the Secretariat will request the Chair of the Working Group on the Gathering and Analysis of Data on Illegal Trade to postpone its further deliberations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accesses several INTERPOL databases; Allows for the analysis and output of both actionable intelligence for national and transnational enforcement operations (enforcement personnel only), and sanitized analyses for general audiences; Has a standardized format for receiving information (ECOMESSAGE) that mitigates the risk of duplicate entries; Operates across a platform common to many police and customs agencies worldwide (i2); and Allows for information pertaining to wildlife crime to be legally channeled via INTERPOL National Central Bureaus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>believes</u> that limited CITES resources should be put into an existing information management system that maximizes the potential for targeting criminals and criminal networks as well as analyzing trends. SSN <u>notes</u> that the Environmental Crime Resolution adopted at the 2010 INTERPOL General Assembly acknowledges INTERPOL's desire to engage in combating wildlife and other environmental crime, but activating this will require additional resources. SSN <u>therefore recommends</u> that the SC ask INTERPOL for an estimate of costs associated with administering and analyzing wildlife crime information through its system. SSN <u>further recommends</u> that the SC invite the Senior Experts Group of ICCWC (including both INTERPOL and WCO) to share their analysis of why information exchange on wildlife crime and criminals is not as effective as it could be.
<p>32. Introduction from the sea</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 32</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared on behalf of the SC Working Group on Introduction from the Sea. Recommends that the SC consider the discussion document and draft revision of RC. 14.6 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Introduction from the sea</i>, in Annex 1, noting that bracketed text as to whether the chartering State of chartered vessels is the State of introduction is unresolved. Invites the SC to consider whether the Working Group has completed its terms of reference or whether there are specific issues it should address before SC62 (e.g. an Annex containing related definitions and other implementation guidance). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC adopt the new text agreed to by the Working Group. SSN <u>also recommends</u> that the SC adopt the second bracketed text regarding charter vessels, as it creates a clear presumption that the chartering State is the State of introduction, while also maintaining flexibility by allowing the flag State to be the State of introduction provided agreement is reached between the two States. SSN <u>further recommends</u> that, in case the SC should not agree on language on introduction from the sea, it extend the mandate of the Working Group until SC62 to resolve any outstanding issues.
<p>33. Electronic permitting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared by Switzerland as Chair of the Working Group on Information Technologies and Electronic Systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>is concerned</u> that the CITES Secretariat, in its work to assist Parties with procedures for permit issuance, is placing significant

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
SC61 Doc. 33		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an update on related activities including: the Joint Project to exchange CITES export permit data electronically; updating the toolkit: efforts to work with World Customs Organization (WCO) and the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT); Promoting the development and use of electronic permitting systems among Parties; and examining how electronic permitting can contribute to ensuring legal electronic commerce in specimens of CITES-listed species Requests the SC to consider how to facilitate participation by Parties from developing countries. Suggests that the SC may extend the mandate of the Group at CoP16 to, <i>inter alia</i>, : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Secretariat to draft funding proposals regarding CITES e-permitting systems; Work to ensure that CITES e-permits are aligned with international trade standards and norms; Collaborate with UNEP-WCMC to further develop Electronic Permit Information eXchange (EPIX) to act as a clearing-house of CITES e-permits and certificates and to offer Parties in developing regions a ready-to-use virtual CITES permitting system. 	<p>emphasis on promoting e-permitting, which may not be practical or possible for all Parties, particularly developing countries, to utilize.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification requesting Parties to provide feedback on the full range of their needs regarding procedures for permit issuance, including e-permitting, databases, equipment, security concerns, Internet access, marking, tagging, etc... so that assistance provided is targeted to meet the needs of the Parties. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the results of the Notification be reported to SC62 and that based on these results, the SC consider the need to extend the Working Group and/or make changes to its mandate at that time.
34. Purpose codes on CITES permits and certificates SC61 Doc. 34		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 14.54 (Rev. CoP15) directs the SC to re-establish an Intersessional Working Group to review the use of purpose-of-transaction codes by Parties and provides terms of reference for the Group's work that includes, <i>inter alia</i>, clearly defining purpose-of-transaction codes to encourage their consistent use, considering the possible elimination of current codes or the inclusion of new ones, and reporting to SC62. Invites the SC to re-establish the Working Group on Purpose Codes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC support the re-establishment of the Working Group and invite the participation of observers.
35. Physical inspection of timber shipments No document		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
36. Use of taxonomic serial numbers			
36.1	Report of the Secretariat SC61 Doc. 36.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.68 directs SC61 to establish a Working Group, in consultation with the nomenclature experts of the AC and PC and UNEP WCMC, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the usefulness and feasibility of incorporating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> the SC establish the Working Group and invite observers to participate.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<p>taxonomic serial numbers as an element of CITES data sets;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report its findings at SC62; and ▪ If necessary, prepare a draft Resolution for CoP16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invites the SC to establish the Working Group in accordance with Decision 15.68. 	
36.2	<p>Proposed terms of reference for Standing Committee discussions on use of taxonomic serial numbers (Canada)</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 36.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by Canada. • States the view that incorporation of Taxonomic Serial Numbers (permanent and unique numeric codes assigned to an individual taxonomic name) as an element of CITES data sets is a feasible means of accurately recording and tracking wildlife species in trade. • States that if the Working Group agrees that the idea of incorporating TSNs into CITES data sets has merit, it also suggests that the Group investigate if an existing system, such as the Integrated Taxonomic Information System, could best provide a source of TSNs, in consideration of dynamic and hierarchical needs associated with CITES-agreed nomenclature. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Working Group to note this document.
	<p>37. Identification manual</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 37</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an update on the first year of use of the CITES Wiki Identification Manual. • Invites Parties, organizations and experts to contribute content to the CITES Wiki Identification Manual. • Invites the SC to note this report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note this report. • SSN <u>remains concerned</u> that many Parties may not have regular, reliable access to the Internet and <u>urges</u> the SC to recommend that the Secretariat ensure that paper copies of the identification manual are available and distributed in sufficient number in developing countries where availability of computers and the Internet is problematic. • SSN <u>is concerned</u> that the Manual remains very difficult for non-experts to use: a better search engine is required, allowing searches by range State and higher taxon; an option to print pages or save them as documents or PDF files should be provided as well as better illustrations and between-species comparisons to facilitate identification, particularly when the specimen to be identified is a part or derivative. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat to explore ways to improve the manual, and report to SC62.
	<p>38. Personal and household effects</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 38</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 14.64 (Rev. CoP15) directs the SC to extend the operation of the Working Group on Personal and Household Effects until CoP16 and provides Terms of Reference for the Group's work including: clarifying the relationship between 'tourist souvenirs', 'hunting trophies' and 'personal and household effects'; clarifying the interpretation of Article VII, paragraph 3 (b), of the Convention; and reporting to SC62, SC63, and CoP16. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC extend the operation of the Working Group and invite the participation of observers.

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invites the SC to extend formally the operation of its Working Group on Personal and Household Effects until CoP16. 	
<p>39. Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 39</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared by the Philippines. Provides an application to register a breeding facility (Birds International) for the following Appendix I species: <i>Cacatua sulphurea abboti</i>, <i>C. s. citrinocristata</i>, <i>C. s. sulphurea</i> and <i>C. moluccensis</i>. Requests favorable consideration/approval of the facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>strongly urges</u> the SC to instruct the Philippines that RC 2.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i> requires that an operation may only be registered according to the procedure contained in that Resolution. RC 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) requires that, prior to being considered by the SC, the application first must be communicated to the Parties via a Notification, an objection must be received from a Party, the AC must review the objection, and the Secretariat must submit the application to the SC. This application does not comply with the Resolution. The same application was rejected by the Parties at CoP15. The entire species <i>Cacatua sulphurea</i>, including the three subspecies that are the subject of this proposal, are classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN.
<p>40. Great apes</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 40</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.44 directs the Secretariat to undertake technical missions to a limited number of gorilla range States and report on these to the SC. Funding for the organization of the technical missions has been secured but the Secretariat has not organized the missions to date. Decision 15.45 directs the SC to consider the report of the Secretariat and also to consider: a) endorsing any relevant recommendation or measure that could be implemented prior to CoP16; and b) requesting the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration at CoP16. States that the lack of Party reporting requirements in RC 13.4 on <i>Conservation of and trade in great apes</i> places a “potentially significant burden on the Secretariat”. Notes that the First Technical Meeting of the CMS Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats was held in March 2011 in Kigali, Rwanda. Asks the SC to note this report and provide guidance in relation to future reporting by the Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note this report. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat, prior to the SC, to issue a Notification to the Parties transmitting reporting requests on various SC issues. SSN <u>recommends</u> that, with regard to gorillas, the SC adopt a timeline by which the Secretariat must undertake the missions required in Decision 15.44, in time to prepare a report for SC62 in consultation with the range States. SSN <u>recommends</u> that, with regard to RC 13.4, the SC consider if there is value in recommending to CoP16 that the RC be amended to include reporting requirements. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to address the fraudulent trade in chimpanzees from Guinea, mentioned in SC61 Doc. 30, under this agenda item.
<p>41. Asian big cats</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 41</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decisions 15.47 and 15.48 direct the Secretariat to prepare two reports (one public and one for law enforcement agencies) on analysis of information provided by Parties on incidents of poaching of and illegal trade in tigers, and to organize a seminar involving senior-level Customs and police officers from tiger range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC invite the Secretariat to clarify the insufficiencies in data provided under Decision 15.46 during discussion of this agenda item, and set a new deadline by which Parties need to provide the details required in order for INTERPOL to conduct a full analysis of tiger (and other Asian big cat) trade.

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	<p>States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.49 directs SC61 to consider the report and determine what actions are necessary as a result of the analysis and the seminar. This could include instructing the Secretariat to convene the CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force or CITES Enforcement Expert Group to consider further action. Provides the public report in Annex 1 and states that the seminar may be organized prior to autumn 2011. Provides an update on work of the Global Tiger Initiative. States that the Secretariat does not believe there is a need to convene the CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force or CITES Enforcement Expert Group at this time with regard to illegal trade in Asian big cats. Regarding Decision 15.70, recommends that SC establish a Working Group to review and update the form and guidance contained in Annexes 1 to 3 in RC 12.5 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species</i> and report to CoP16. Alternatively, the SC may wish to request the Senior Experts Group of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime to conduct the review. Asks the SC to note this report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ask China for evidence of enforcement action in Gansu & Qinghai Provinces and the Tibet Autonomous Region, where illegal trade in Asian big cat parts and derivatives has been well documented. (SSN <u>is concerned</u> that while there has been enforcement action in other parts of the country, SC61 Doc. 41 Annex 2, provides no evidence of enforcement action in major trade locations). SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to seek clarification from China on the registration and domestic sale of tiger and other Asian big cat skins, and on the purpose of stockpiling skins and bones of captive bred Asian big cats (SC61 Doc 41 Annex 2, pars. 14 and 16). SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC invite relevant Parties (defined in Notification 2008/059), to provide a verbal report to SC61 on implementation of Decision 14.69 (“Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives”), and a written report to SC62 (acknowledging the points raised by the Secretariat in SC61 Doc 41, par. 20). SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC assign the review and update under Decision 15.70 to the Senior Experts Group of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime.
<p>42. Bushmeat SC61 Doc. 42</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 14.74 (Rev. CoP15) directs the Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group to, <i>inter alia</i>, report to the SC on progress made in implementing national action plans relating to the trade in bushmeat and other initiatives, and to submit a report to CoP16 on bushmeat. Provides an update on the activities of the Working Group, including a June 2011 meeting (report in the Annex) and, a joint meeting with the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat. Invites the SC to review the progress made, and consider further guidance to the Working Group (e.g. amendments to RC 13.11 on <i>Bushmeat</i>, and the identification of actions based on the outcomes of the joint meeting of the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat and the CITES Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group that are pertinent to CITES). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC establish a Working Group at this meeting to discuss further guidance to the Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group, including the need for additional species-specific studies. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to invite observers to participate in the Working Group.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
43. Tibetan antelope SC61 Doc. 43		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 11.8 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Conservation of and control of trade in the Tibetan antelope, inter alia</i>, directs the SC to undertake a regular review of the enforcement measures taken by the Parties in eliminating the illicit trade in Tibetan antelope products on the basis of the Secretariat's report, and to report the results at each CoP. • States that the lack of reporting requirements for Parties in RC 11.8 (Rev. CoP13) places a potentially significant burden on the Secretariat. • States that whilst poaching of Tibetan antelope in western China continues to occur, it is considerably reduced from the serious levels of the late 1990s and early 2000s. Although products made from Tibetan antelope wool (shahtoosh) can still be found, seizure rates have slowed considerably and it is some time since the Secretariat was advised of any significant seizure. • Asks the SC to note this report and to provide guidance to the Secretariat in relation to future reporting by the Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note this report. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat, prior to the SC, to issue a Notification transmitting reporting requests to the Parties on various SC issues. • SSN <u>recommends</u>, with regard to RC 11.8 (Rev. CoP13), that the SC: a) consider if there is value in recommending to CoP16 that this RC be amended to include reporting requirements; and b) adopt a methodology and timeline by which the Secretariat must prepare the report in time to be considered at SC62.
44. Elephants			
44.1	Control of trade in elephant specimens SC61 Doc. 44.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At CoP14, the Parties adopted an <i>Action plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory</i>. • Proposes withdrawal of the recommendation to suspend trade with Gabon and Somalia for failure to submit the ivory questionnaire as directed in the <i>Action Plan</i>. • Notes that the majority of interceptions of ivory smuggled out of Africa continue to occur in Europe and Asia. • Expresses concern about unregulated domestic markets in Central and West Africa. Guinea is highlighted as a country of particular concern, and the Secretariat hopes to conduct <i>in situ</i> assessment work in Guinea in due course. • States that "Citizens of China, their baggage, or packages sent by them through the post, continue to feature prominently among seizures." • Recognizes the efforts made by Nigerian authorities to implement CITES and the work led by Rwandan authorities to prevent illegal ivory trade. • Identifies Thailand as significantly affected by illicit trade in ivory and notes that domestic trade in Thailand is legal, but only if ivory is obtained from registered domesticated elephants; notes that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>supports</u> the view of the Secretariat that Thailand should urgently introduce comprehensive controls to crack down on illegal trade in ivory, and that a deadline of 1 January 2012 be set by the SC for the introduction of such measures. Since 2010, Thailand has been implicated in seizures amounting to more than 7.9 tonnes of ivory. • SSN <u>urges</u> Parties to use trained sniffer dogs for ivory detection, and recognizes their significant success rate in Kenya. • SSN <u>congratulates</u> Nigeria and Rwanda for their efforts to enforce and implement the CITES convention with regard to illicit trade in ivory. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC encourage the Secretariat and Guinea to cooperate on setting-up the <i>in situ</i> assessment as quickly as possible. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that an update be provided to the SC regarding scientific techniques being used to assess the age of ivory. Specifically, SSN <u>is concerned</u> that the isotope analysis method for ageing ivory may not be refined enough to produce scientifically robust data for reliable use by the Parties. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the use of any such system for enforcement in the future be subject to peer review.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<p>current regulations are unable to meet the provisions required in RC 10.10 (Rev CoP15) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i>; notes that Thailand has drafted new legislation, but this is yet to be enacted by Government; and, recommends that the SC consider setting a deadline for Thailand to introduce comprehensive internal trade controls and legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that the Ivory and Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force met from 17-19 May 2011, and that, <i>inter alia</i>, it recognized the effectiveness of Kenya Wildlife Service sniffer dogs; acknowledged the benefit of scientific analysis of seizures to determine age and origin of the ivory; and agreed that enforcement agencies should delay releasing news of significant seizures to enhance possible further actions and arrests down the 'chain' of criminal activity before potential targets are alerted by media. Notes that at their meeting in November 2010, African elephant range States were advised of a project, supported by Germany, designed to determine the age and geographical origin of African elephant ivory. Notes that significant quantities of ivory continue to be intercepted on a regular basis, and hopes that the Controlled Delivery project being implemented by the Senior Experts Group of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), will build capacity to combat ivory smuggling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>notes</u> that a reliable and refined system has already been successfully developed by the Center for Conservation Biology of Washington University to determine the geographical origin of ivory through DNA analysis, and urges the German management authority to avoid the duplication of efforts. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC encourage all Parties to provide samples of seized ivory to appropriate sources for DNA analysis to determine their geographical origin. SSN <u>commends</u> the wildlife law enforcement actions being undertaken in Central Africa. SSN <u>understands</u> the need for delay in reporting seizures to media for the purposes of enhancing enforcement effort. However, SSN <u>notes</u> the importance of media in alerting the international community, and therefore encourages Parties to continue reporting seizures through media at the earliest appropriate opportunity.
44.2	<p>Elephant management and conservation</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In compliance with Decision 14.78 (Rev. CoP15) and in preparation for the present meeting, the Secretariat has integrated into a single report (Annexes 1 and 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated analysis of MIKE data. Analysis and information from TRAFFIC, UNEP-WCMC and the IUCN/SSC African and Asian Elephant Specialist Groups on ETIS data, elephant trade data and conservation status and management of elephants. Information on the status of the African Elephant Fund. The Secretariat invited African elephant range States to provide information on progress made in the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan for communication at the present meeting. Regarding the African Elephant Fund, the report states that "The Secretariat will soon be writing to African elephant range and (anticipated) donor State members of the steering committee to obtain written comments on the latest draft interim terms of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding the analyses of MIKE and ETIS data: Given the importance of this information for range States, SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to recommend that, for future SC meetings, range States be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the analyses prepared before they are submitted to the SC. Regarding the African Elephant Fund: Although Decisions 14.76 and 14.79 regarding the African Elephant Fund were adopted at CoP14, and the Fund was established in February 2011, the Secretariat has yet to distribute draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Steering Committee. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek clarification on this significant delay; Set a short-term deadline for distribution of the draft ToR so that the Steering Committee can start its work as a matter of urgency; Seek details of deposits to the Fund account, Establish whether there have been any withdrawals from the Fund for administration or other costs.

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	<p>reference and to facilitate the transfer of pledged money into the African Elephant Fund.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report notes, <i>inter alia</i>, that: elephants “are in crisis” in Central Africa; “levels of poaching appear to be escalating across the continent”; while the proportion of illegally killed elephants (PIKE) remains highest in Central Africa, it escalated markedly in the southern African subregion and increased in West Africa; ETIS data point to an increase in illicit ivory trade from southern Africa, owing to the emerging role of Mozambique as a source and exit country for illicit ivory to Asian markets. • The report in Annex 1 recommends that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MIKE and ETIS, together with those programmes that track legal elephant product trade under CITES and compile and analyze elephant numbers and distribution, be adequately funded to continue their work. 2. a) Range States (especially from Central Africa and Asia) conduct regular elephant surveys using standardized methodologies such as those recommended by MIKE. 2. b) Range States (especially from West Africa and Asia) improve quantity and quality of elephant mortality data reporting. 2. c) Range States be encouraged to provide adequate law enforcement coverage and to regularly submit both elephant mortality and patrol effort data to MIKE. 2. d) Range States be urged to report elephant product seizures to ETIS in a timely manner and to investigate and prosecute cases involving large-scale ivory seizures. 3) CITES Parties consider whether the MIKE system currently meets its informational needs, or whether additional studies should be undertaken to explore the feasibility of integrating an early warning system within MIKE. 4) The feasibility of mandatory sample collection from ivory seizures for analysis by accredited, independent forensic research laboratories be evaluated. 5) An international registration system be developed and standardized across Asia for international trade in live Asian elephants. 6) The Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Thailand be urged to take firm steps to close down the large retail ivory markets that contribute significantly to illicit trade in ivory. 7) Authorities from Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Cameroon, Gabon and Nigeria increase their law enforcement efforts and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage donors to contribute to the African Elephant Fund. • Regarding funding of MIKE, ETIS and associated programs (Recommendation 1): SSN <u>notes</u> that, to date, no comprehensive financial reports on MIKE have been made available to Parties, rendering it impossible to assess its long-term financial viability. As fewer than 10% of MIKE sites have adequate funding (CoP15, Doc. 44.2), and as inadequate funding may be affecting the regular collection (or acquisition) and quality of its data, SSN <u>believes</u> the financial viability and operations of MIKE require urgent analysis. SSN <u>therefore recommends</u> that the SC instruct the Secretariat to commission a comprehensive independent evaluation of MIKE, including financial reports, to be undertaken before SC62. • Regarding the conduct of surveys by range States (Recommendation 2) and enforcement (Recommendations 2.c), 2.d) and 7): Implementation of activities included in the African Elephant Action Plan, including priority actions, is contingent upon the establishment of ToR for the Steering Committee of the African Elephant Fund (see recommendation above). Regarding Recommendation 2.d): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SSN <u>notes</u> that focusing on large-scale seizures may encourage criminal syndicates, who have shown an ability to adapt their methods to avoid detection, to smuggle ivory in smaller quantities in the expectation that such shipments will be ignored by enforcement authorities. SSN <u>therefore recommends</u> that the SC delete the words "large-scale" from the recommendation. ▪ SSN <u>suggests</u> that the SC add a further recommendation emphasizing the need, at all stages in the supply chain, for thorough investigation and prosecution by range, transit and consuming countries acting in collaboration. This can include the proactive development of intelligence needed to plan and undertake directed operations. • Regarding the assessment of whether MIKE meets its informational needs (Recommendation 3): There is currently no peer review to ensure that MIKE data are scientifically robust. SSN <u>believes</u> that such a review is necessary to provide CITES Parties with confidence in the data produced. SSN <u>therefore urges</u> the SC to reject the proposed recommendation and to ensure that any analyses produced by MIKE are subject to peer review. • Regarding the evaluation of the feasibility of mandatory sample collection from ivory seizures (Recommendation 4):

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		<p>improve their strategies to detect illegal ivory trade.8) China's internal ivory trade protocol be reviewed to determine whether there are possibilities for illicitly sourced ivory to leak into the legal ivory trade system, and that a more aggressive and comprehensive public relations campaign be undertaken to inform Chinese citizens, especially those in Africa, about the illegal trade in ivory and its negative conservation impacts. The document states: "Once again, China remains the key to a diminishing illicit trade in elephant ivory" and "...China has overtaken Japan as the world's largest consumer market for illegal ivory products, and that countries such as Malaysia, the Philippines and Viet Nam are entrepôts in the trade route to China." On <u>China</u> the report also notes that "certain officially authorized retail ivory outlets are no longer openly displaying registration cards with legal ivory products" and that Chinese nationals continue to be involved in illicit ivory trade throughout the African continent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommends that the SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review the actions proposed in Annex 1 and consider their adoption; and ▪ Consider any proposals that the African elephant range States may wish to make concerning the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan. 	<p>SSN <u>supports</u> mandatory sample collection from ivory seizures, but notes that the isotope analysis techniques being used to determine the age of ivory may not yet be scientifically robust. SSN <u>therefore urges</u> the SC to direct the Secretariat to report on the effectiveness of existing techniques, and to provide Parties with regular updates on further scientific developments. SSN <u>urges</u> continuing analysis of seized samples using already-refined systems (such as DNA analysis to determine geographic origin of ivory samples).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding China's role in illegal trade (Recommendation 8): SSN <u>is concerned</u> that China remains the key destination country for illegal ivory trade and that certain officially authorized retail ivory outlets do not openly display registration cards with legal ivory products. SSN <u>therefore recommends</u> that the SC remove the designation of China as an approved trading partner under RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP15), and <u>urges</u> the SC to initiate follow-up missions to China to assess progress being made to resolve this ongoing problem.
44.3	<p>MIKE-ETIS Subgroup</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 10.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> states, <i>inter alia</i>, that, "...technical oversight will be provided to both MIKE and ETIS through an independent technical advisory group to be established by the Secretariat." • Regarding the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup, provides the existing Terms of Reference (Annex 1) and the outcomes of their latest meeting. • Proposes that the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt a draft work program to include, <i>inter alia</i>: reviewing and updating its existing Terms of Reference, contributing to the implementation of Decision 15.74, evaluating and commenting on the work of the TAG, reviewing MIKE and ETIS documents submitted to the SC, and presenting its findings and observations to the SC. ▪ Review and consider taking action on the MIKE TAG statement. ▪ Convene during the present meeting and report to the SC. • Invites the SC to consider the report of the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup at its present meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>supports</u> the recommendation that the Terms of Reference of the MIKE-ETIS subgroup be reviewed. Specifically, SSN <u>recommends</u> that SC consider approving expanding the Subgroup to enable greater range State representation. • SSN <u>encourages</u> the SC to approve observer participation in the MIKE-ETIS subgroup meetings. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup report on the recent evaluation of MIKE, and indicate whether it is supportive of the various recommendations contained within the evaluation.

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44.4	<p>Decision-making mechanism for authorizing ivory trade</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 14.77 directs the SC to "...propose for approval at the latest at CoP16, a decision-making mechanism for a process of trade in ivory under the auspices of the CoP." Notes that SC57 agreed that an independent study be conducted on the development of a decision-making mechanism for review by the SC. Reports that the Secretariat intends to contract, in accordance with UN rules, a firm or expert(s) to undertake the study and prepare the report. Invites the SC to agree to the proposal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to postpone the study on the development of a decision-making mechanism; such a study would be premature before the impacts of the previous one-off sale have been transparently assessed through an agreed CITES process. If the study goes forward, SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that recommendations on the development of a decision-making mechanism are not made until baseline information on the impacts of the previous one-off sale is made available. Without such information, it will be impossible to recommend appropriate and accurate criteria for the decision-making mechanism. Ensure that all range States are fully consulted in drafting the Terms of the Reference for the study, are fully consulted as part of the study, and that the consultant(s) be fluent in both French and English in order to enable full participation. Recommend that the consultant's draft report be distributed to all range States in English and in French upon completion in February 2012, to allow time to comment before it is submitted to the SC. SSN <u>also recommends</u> that the SC instruct the consultant(s) to consult widely with all sources having information relevant to the study, including NGOs, scientists and other relevant stakeholders.
44.5	<p>Review of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP15)</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision 15.74 directs the SC to evaluate the need to revise RC 10.10 (Rev CoP15) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> and present its consultations and proposals to CoP16. Highlights that there is some similarity between the <i>Action Plan for the Control of Trade in Elephant Ivory</i> and RC 10.10 (Rev CoP15) and recommends the SC evaluate whether the Action plan could be integrated, fully or in part, into RC10.10 (Rev CoP15). Notes that Annex 2 of RC10.10 (Rev CoP15) does not clearly articulate the responsibilities of those involved in running the MIKE program. Reminds the SC that RC10.10 (Rev CoP15) states that both MIKE and ETIS are established under the supervision of the SC, which continues to oversee both programs. Notes that MIKE and ETIS are both reliant on external funding, and that both TRAFFIC and the Secretariat are required to provide reports. States that the instruction to TRAFFIC is exceptional given that the Convention has no authority over it. Reminds Parties that although TRAFFIC manages and co-ordinates ETIS, there is no written agreement between TRAFFIC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>agrees</u> with the Secretariat and African elephant range States that there is a need for a comprehensive review of RC 10.10 (Rev CoP15). SSN <u>agrees</u> with the need to clearly define roles and responsibilities and the ownership and use of data in particular. SSN <u>recommends</u> that a Working Group, which should include representatives of elephant range States from all sub-regions, be established to conduct this review by the deadline for document submission to SC62 and that observers be invited to participate. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that all African and Asian elephant range States continue to be consulted in line with Decision 15.74. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that the Working Group operates in both French and English to enable proper consultation with all range States and stakeholders.

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		<p>and the Parties / Secretariat regarding ownership of the data submitted by the Parties and how the system should be managed in the long-term, or what TRAFFIC may (or may not) do with the data they are provided with.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States that the Secretariat believes there is scope for a revision of RC10.10 (Rev CoP15) in order to better define roles and responsibilities of those implementing the programmes / clarify use and ownership of data and its analysis / re-examine scope and organizational set up of MIKE and ETIS and in order to consider resource implications of both programmes. • Recommends that the SC consider whether Decision 14.76 (regarding funding for the AEAP and MIKE) could be integrated into RC10.10 (Rev CoP15). • Notes the results of the African Elephant Range States meeting, and that overall there was a desire from Range States to revise certain parts of RC 10.10. • Invites the SC to agree on a process and timetable for further implementation of Decision 15.74. 	
44.6	<p>Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 10.9 on <i>Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II</i> states that, <i>inter alia</i>, “all proposals to transfer populations of the African elephant from Appendix I to Appendix II shall be subject to a review by a Panel of Experts...” and that the SC...”shall nominate the members of the Panel of Experts, which should not exceed six in number”. • Notes that the process of conducting a review is lengthy and that the resulting report may be available only a very short time before the start of the meeting at which it is to be considered. • Recommends that, if any Party intends to submit a proposal to transfer an African elephant population from Appendix I to II, for consideration at CoP16, it should do so as far in advance as possible. • Welcomes any suggestion from the SC as to how to accelerate the process for establishing a panel if it should be necessary to do so. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>understands</u> the time concerns expressed by the Secretariat, and <u>agrees</u> that modifications to the existing system may be required. These could include measures such as the appointment of representatives from the four African subregions in advance as permanent members of the Panel, in order to ensure that the entire Panel can be convened in a timely fashion once a proposal is received. • SSN <u>notes</u> that changes of this sort may require amendment of RC 10.9, and that African elephant range States should have an opportunity to submit their own views on any possible changes to the current system. • SSN <u>recommends</u>, therefore, that the SC appoint a Working Group, including the SC representatives from the African Region, Parties and observers, to consider proposed changes to the existing system, including any changes that could be made immediately (i.e., without revising RC 10.9 on <i>Consideration of proposals for the transfer of African elephant populations from Appendix I to Appendix II</i>) so that they could apply to proposals submitted to the next CoP, and prepare a report for SC62 including draft revisions to RC 10.9 as required. The SC should also direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties requesting input on this subject and to forward any

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			<p>comments received to the Working Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>strongly believes</u>, however, that the basic elements of the existing process are vital safeguards for the conservation of African elephants, and therefore urges the SC, in considering this item, to reject any attempts to weaken it. Discussions should be limited to improving the efficiency and transparency of the existing process.
44.7	<p>First technical exchange meeting between producing, consuming, and transiting nations to reduce the illegal trade in African elephant ivory</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 44.7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the USA. • Reports that the IUCN AfESG, in collaboration with China, Thailand and USA, has developed a concept for a set of technical exchanges among producing, consuming and transiting nations. • Provides an overview and recommendations resulting from the first technical exchange, which took place in China, 11–13 November, 2010. • Notes a number of activities since this meeting which are taking place, including media and awareness-raising initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>welcomes</u> the activities that have taken place as a result of the technical exchange meeting. • SSN <u>urges</u> the organizers of future meetings to ensure that they are conducted in both French and English. • SSN <u>notes</u> that awareness-raising activities have already been flagged as necessary by African elephant range States in the African Elephant Action Plan, and recommends that the organizers of this and similar meetings channel future activities through the implementation of the Action Plan to avoid a duplication of efforts and to ensure that their activities correspond with activities identified as priorities by the African elephant range States.
45. Rhinoceroses			
45.1	<p>Implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) and Decisions from CoP15</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 45.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States that the lack of reporting requirements for Parties in RC 9.14 (Rev CoP15) on <i>Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses</i> places a “potentially significant burden on the Secretariat”. • Reports that, in response to Decisions 15.71 and 15.72, an enforcement workshop was held in Vietnam in December 2010 that allowed an exchange between law enforcement officials in Vietnam and South Africa; a mission to Nepal was conducted; missions to Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe were arranged for early June 2011; and a meeting of the CITES Ivory and Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force was convened 17-19 May 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya. • States that demand for the horns of rhinoceroses is what apparently continues to drive poaching of these animals, the unscrupulous exploitation of potential loopholes in legal hunting and the acquisition of pre-Convention rhinoceros horns. • States that the Secretariat encourages all Parties that issue permits or certificates authorizing the movement of specimens of rhinos, including pre-Convention certificates, to advise countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC request the Parties to CoP16 to: include reporting requirements in RC 9.14 (Rev. CoP15); impose further requirements on rhino importing Parties to ensure imports are not used for commercial trade in rhino horn; and to recommend that Parties not trade internationally in rhino horn for any purpose other than for bona fide scientific research. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC encourage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued bilateral cooperation between Parties with regard to trade in rhino horn; SSN <u>suggests</u> that Interpol and the ICCWC be invited to participate. ▪ Wider participation in the Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn Enforcement Task Force from rhino range States and importing Parties. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request South Africa to clarify its procedures for evaluating applicants for export permits for rhino horn trophies and live animals to ensure exports are not for commercial rhino horn trade;

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		<p>of destination so that the true nature of the trade can be scrutinized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States that, regarding trade in live animals, some importers of live rhinos have subsequently cut or trimmed the horns of such animals and entered them into illicit trade, and that authorities in South Africa are alert to this potential exploitation and are doing all they can to lessen its occurrence. • Notes that emerging intelligence which suggests that organized crime groups in Europe may be playing an increasing role in relation to illegal trade in rhinos. • Invites the SC to note this report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Request China to clarify its procedures for certifying that live rhinos are not imported for commercial rhino horn trade purposes; and to clarify what it considers to be “appropriate and acceptable destinations”; ▪ Recommend to the CoP that Parties that have imported, or plan to import: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ For live animals: have in place a system of recording the number and location of each rhino, incorporating births and deaths as well as domestic transfers; inspect these on a frequent and regular basis to ensure that they are not being used for rhino horn trade; ensure that the locations remain “appropriate and acceptable”; put in place marking, securing and recording procedures for horns from animals that have died; and report on these measures to the SC and CoP. ◦ For hunting trophies: have in place controls to ensure that trophies are imported solely for this purpose and not for commercial purposes, and a system to record the number and weight of all horns in the country, including a scientific determination of the age of these horns.
45.2	<p>Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 45.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted by Hungary on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. • Notes the recent significant increase in the number of applications for the export and re-export of rhino horn from the EU and the apparent correlation with the increase in the level of rhino poaching. • Proposes that the SC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urge Parties to urgently introduce precautionary measures to control the trade in rhino horn; ▪ Agree to establish a Working Group to identify measures that can be taken by CITES Parties to reduce the impact of illegal trade and to enhance existing controls on trade in rhino horn products; ▪ Request Parties to provide information on trade in rhinos and their parts or derivatives to IUCN and TRAFFIC; and ▪ Invite the Secretariat and Asian medicine consuming States to launch awareness campaigns about claims that rhino horn has certain medicinal properties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC establish the Working Group and invite the participation of observers. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that SC urges all Parties to identify, mark, register and secure their stocks of rhinoceros horn in accordance with RC 9.14 (Rev. CoP15), and to declare these stocks at SC62 and subsequent SC meetings and CoPs.
46. Snake trade and conservation management			
46.1	<p>Report of the Secretariat</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 46.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the findings and recommendations of a CITES Asian snake trade workshop, held in Guangzhou, China, 11 to 14 April 2011. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See <i>SSN recommendations</i> for SC61 Doc. 46.2.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Workshop conclusions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The commercialized trade in Asian snakes is not sustainable and follows the Asian turtle crisis.” “The research base on dynamic populations, which is the most pertinent to NDFs (how snake populations respond to harvesting), is virtually non-existent.” “The illegal trade in snakes and their products is thriving...” “Overall, the number of non-CITES species affected by trade is alarming.” The Workshop recommendations include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution of nomenclature issues Conduct of NDF case studies Investigation of the venom trade Identification of species of snakes for CITES listing Study of production systems Study of the nature of trade in snake parts and products Issuance of an Alert to law enforcement agencies on Illegal trade in snakes in Asia, and Collation of snake identification and training materials. 	
46.2	<p>Report of the Animals Committee</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 46.2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared by the Chair of the AC. Decision 15.77 requires the SC to consider the recommendations by the AC on the workshop and make its own recommendations to CoP16 Recommends that the AC, <i>inter alia</i>,: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a study of production systems for Asian snake species listed and the use of CITES source codes; develop guidance on their use; and conduct workshops on the use of this guidance. Review the output of the IUCN Red Listing process for Asian snakes and make recommendations on amending the Appendices. Encourage Parties, via a Notification, to establish conservative annual catch and export quotas for CITES-listed snake species in trade and communicate those quotas to the CITES Secretariat. Engage consultants to prepare non-detriment findings for one or more high-value snake species in the pet trade and to investigate methodologies to differentiate between wild and captive-bred CITES-listed snakes, including parts and derivatives, in trade; Collate and evaluate existing identification materials for live 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations of the AC. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat to prepare an Alert on “Illegal trade in snakes in Asia”, as recommended by the workshop SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification requesting Parties to establish conservative quotas for snakes in trade and to provide information to the Secretariat on existing snake identification and training materials. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC encourage Parties to establish conservative export quotas for non-listed snake species. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC, subject to the availability of funds, to direct the Secretariat to hire a consultant to prepare a report on the extent of the trade in Asian snakes, both listed and unlisted, including the trade in their parts and derivatives, including venom and other frequently unreported products. SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to submit a draft Resolution regarding the trade in snakes for consideration at CoP16. The Resolution should urge Parties to, <i>inter alia</i>: enhance and increase enforcement efforts with regard to the national and international trade in snakes; establish science-based annual export quotas for traded snake

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<p>47. Tortoises and freshwater turtles</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 47</p>	<p>snakes, parts and derivatives, through an inter-sessional Working Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports that the AC encourages the SC to examine the trade, including the trade in venom and other frequently unreported specimens. • Requests the SC to consider these recommendations and make its own recommendations to CoP16. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the Chair of the AC. • Decision 15.80 directs the SC, taking into account the recommendations of the AC, to review the pertinent sections, conclusions, and recommendations of the final study mentioned in Decision 14.128 and make its own recommendations to CoP16. • Recommends that the AC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage consultants to undertake a study on the making of non-detriment findings for tortoises and freshwater turtles. ▪ Review, at AC26, the results of the North American Turtle Trade Workshop held in St. Louis in September 2010 and the Asian Turtle Conservation Workshop held in Singapore in February 2011, and make recommendations for amendments to the Appendices. • Requests the Secretariat to prepare a Notification regarding disposal options for confiscated live turtles, in order to maximize the conservation value of confiscated specimens of rare tortoises and freshwater turtles. • Requests the SC, in its recommendations, to place particular emphasis on the fact that the ability of Parties to make accurate NDFs is undermined by the often undocumented trade in parts and derivatives, and by the sometimes questionable use of source codes C, F and R. • Requests the SC to propose a Decision at CoP16 directing Parties to report on enforcement and compliance recommendations contained in the Annex to AC25 Doc. 19. • Requests the SC to consider these recommendations and, the recommendations of the study in the Annex to document AC25 Doc. 19, and make recommendations to CoP16. 	<p>species; support and undertake research on the ecological and biological attributes of wild snake populations subject to trade; update legislation identifying protected snake species; institute protocols for monitoring and enforcement regarding snake farms, and ranching and captive-breeding operations; and improve management strategies for native snakes; and adopt domestic legislation and/or standards of care to ensure the humane handling, care, slaughter, and transport of snakes in trade from capture through delivery to final destination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations of the AC. • SSN <u>recommends</u> the SC to propose Decisions at CoP16 directing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Secretariat to engage a consultant to undertake a study on the trade in shells, bones, and cartilage of tortoises and freshwater turtles and trade in medicinal preparations and other parts and derivatives from tortoises and turtles. The objective of the study would be to provide recommendations to the Parties to address this trade, including measures for training and enforcement. ▪ The AC to select case studies of tortoises and turtles for which the use of source codes C, F or R are questionable and develop recommendations to the exporting Parties to address such trade. ▪ Parties to report on enforcement and compliance recommendations contained in the Annex to AC25 Doc. 19.

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48. Sturgeons			
48.1	Caviar trade database SC61 Doc. 48.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 12.7 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish</i> recommends that the Secretariat submit a report at each SC meeting on the UNEP-WCMC caviar trade database. • Reports that, as export quotas for caviar from wild sources have been limited recently, input to the database has been similarly limited. Also notes that several of the major sturgeon range States are still failing to submit copies of permits in a timely fashion. • Asks the SC to note this report. • Suggests that the SC consider whether it is necessary for reports to each SC meeting and, if it is not, the Secretariat will propose to CoP16 that this requirement be deleted from RC 12.7 (Rev. CoP14). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC note the report.
48.2	Monitoring of progress SC61 Doc. 48.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the Chair of the AC. • Provides recommendations of AC25 on actions regarding progress on the relevant provisions of RC 12.7 (Rev. CoP14) and its evaluation of the assessment and the monitoring methodologies used for shared stocks of Acipenseriformes species, for the consideration of the SC. • The recommendations include the establishment of a regional sturgeon stock assessment committee by Caspian Sea range States that will be responsible for data analysis, stock assessment and development of management recommendations. Tasks for the committee are included. • Requests the SC to consider these recommendations and act upon them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations of the AC.
49. Humphead wrasse			
	SC61 Doc. 49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision 15.87, <i>inter alia</i>, directs the SC to establish a Humphead Wrasse Working Group to: review actions taken by relevant Parties to implement this decision; develop and recommend to the SC further options for improving control and enforcement of trade in the species; and recommend appropriate follow-up actions at CoP16. • Includes a report provided by the USA (Annex) on a humphead wrasse and CITES implementation workshop conducted in Indonesia in June 2010 in response to a February 2011 Notification to the Parties. • Invites the SC to establish the Working Group, suggesting the first task could be to review the workshop report and prepare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to establish the Working Group and to invite the participation of observers. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to direct the Working Group, based on the workshop outcomes, to develop recommendations (and associated deadlines for implementation) regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The making of non-detriment findings for legal exports; ▪ Transport of humphead wrasse in international trade by air only; ▪ Illegal trade in both exporting and importing States, including inspection and enforcement needs in individual countries; ▪ Illegal fishing; and ▪ The possibility of a temporary international trade ban in order to identify gaps in control.

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		recommendations for SC62.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC communicate these recommendations to the Parties involved, report on progress at SC62, and prepare a report on this issue for CoP16. • SSN <u>notes</u> that the humphead wrasse (<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>) is classified as Endangered by IUCN (2010) and may qualify for listing in CITES Appendix I.
50. Bigleaf mahogany			
50.1	Overview SC61 Doc. 50.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides background information on management of bigleaf mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) by CITES and, in particular, Recommendations 5 and 7 adopted at SC57/58 that exporting Parties include information on concessions where timber is harvested on their permits in box 5 and that importers should also report on their mahogany imports, permit number, volume and quota year. Notes that use of these recommendations has been helpful in monitoring legal trade. • Recommends that the SC consider the merits of incorporating Recommendation 5 into RC. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> or another appropriate Resolution. • Recommends that the SC identify areas of work under the Convention (e.g. electronic permitting) which might offer means for improving the regular exchange of information between importing and exporting countries. • Recommends that the SC (perhaps through a draft decision for consideration at CoP16) undertake a comparative study about the lessons that have been learned to date in relation to bigleaf mahogany (e.g. regarding policy, harvest, management, tracking systems) and how those lessons might be used to assist range States of bigleaf mahogany or other CITES-listed timber species. • Recommends that the SC consider whether the results of any study on the lessons learned with bigleaf mahogany might be incorporated into any second phase of the ITTO-CITES programme or other relevant activities under the Convention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to propose to CoP16 that both Recommendations 5 and 7 be incorporated into RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP15), as the Recommendations are complimentary. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to strongly encourage the major exporting (Guatemala, Bolivia and Mexico) and importing (Dominican Republic) Parties that did not respond to the Secretariat on the Recommendations to report to SC62. • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC consult with PC20 regarding a comparative study on mahogany and the possibility of incorporating the results into any second phase of the ITTO-CITES programme or other activities involving CITES-listed timber species.
50.2	Management of bigleaf mahogany in Peru SC61 Doc. 50.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes that SC59 agreed that Peru would have until 30 September 2010 to fulfill three indicators for achieving compliance with CITES in relation to its mahogany trade or be subject to a suspension of trade in bigleaf mahogany. • The indicators included, in relation to mahogany trade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Installation of an information system which is operational; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC determine that Peru has partially implemented the three indicators and, set a firm deadline of SC63 for the following activities, at which time, if they have not been implemented, the SC should recommend that a suspension of trade in mahogany be imposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activation of the pilot application of Project SNIC; and ▪ Detailed information on implementation of the Supreme Decree

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alignment of the forestry and CITES legislation and the work of relevant institutions; and ▪ The Government's purchase of the additional timber authorized for harvest in 2008. • Provides an update on actions taken by Peru, noting that Peru has adopted a Supreme Decree related to CITES implementation and, that the timeline for operation of Project SNIC (the timber tracking system) has been pushed to July 2014 with a pilot application scheduled for December 2013. • Recommends that the SC determine whether Peru has fulfilled the three SC59 indicators, decide whether to recommend a suspension of trade, and consider whether Peru has internalized (and institutionalized) the means to ensure effective and sustainable implementation of the Convention with regard to bigleaf mahogany 	<p>and other actions taken on the ground in relation to quota determination and authorization for exports of mahogany.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>is concerned</u> that, as noted by the Secretariat in this document, a number of countries designate their Ministry of Foreign Affairs as their focal point for communication for CITES authorities and that, in such cases, all authorities may not be receiving all communications. Therefore, SSN <u>recommends</u> that the SC request the Secretariat to compile a list of all such Parties and request that they provide information on their communication and coordination procedures.
51. Ramin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comment.
No document			
52. Periodic Review of the Appendices		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comment.
No document			
53. Time-bound listings of species in the Appendices		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes that some Parties are concerned that species that are listed in the Appendices tend to remain there indefinitely. • Suggests that SC61 consider the usefulness of “time-bound listings” that expire after a period of time. • Notes that concern has been raised that time-bound listings would be inconsistent with the Convention and with the principle that amendments to the Appendices are to be based upon agreed biological and trade criteria; notes however that the Secretariat does not share this concern. • Notes that the CoP has previously introduced a time-bound element into its decisions by deferring the entry into force of amendments to the Appendices beyond the 90 days prescribed in Article XV. • Proposes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A time-bound listing could be considered where there is a proposal for listing: a species in Appendix I; a commercially exploited aquatic species; and a species under which another intergovernmental body has a management function. ▪ A time-bound listing could lapse: at a designated meeting of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>strongly urges</u> the SC to reject this proposal, as SSN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Notes</u> that Parties already considered and rejected establishment of time-bound listings (or “sunset clauses”) at CoP12. ▪ <u>Opposes</u> the use of time-bound listings as they violate the objectives and spirit of the Convention, ▪ <u>Notes</u> that time-bound listings could encourage stockpiling of wildlife parts or products (e.g. timber, ivory, rhino horn, dried shark fins) in anticipation of a likely downlisting and, in the case of time-bound Appendix I listings, could cause prices to rise in anticipation of renewed trade. ▪ <u>Observes</u> that species remain in the Appendices because their conservation status has not improved to the point that listing is no longer necessary, or for necessary look-alike reasons. ▪ <u>Believes</u> that species should be listed in accordance with the criteria and the relevant precautionary safeguards in RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i> and that these criteria and safeguards should not be modified to introduce
SC61 Doc. 53			

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
	<p>CoP, unless it were reaffirmed by the Parties through a vote with two-thirds majority; or at a designated time if certain pre-conditions, determined by the CoP, were met with verification of compliance by the SC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invites the SC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate a policy dialogue on measures that may be available to the Parties to enhance the complementarity of CITES with other management regimes, including through making use of time-bound listings; and ▪ Establish a Working Group for this purpose, to report at SC62. 	<p>time-bound listings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Believes</u> that making it easier to remove species from the Appendices is unlikely to encourage Parties reluctant to list marine species to support listings of such species, as their objections appear to be based on broad objections to any CITES regulation of fisheries rather than to the conservation requirements of specific species or the conditions surrounding the listing. • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to invite observers to participate if a Working Group on this issue is formed.
<p>54. Development and application of annotations</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 54</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared by the USA, as the North American Regional Representative to the SC, in consultation with the Secretariat and at the request of the PC. • Notes that fewer than 20 of the plant taxa listed in Appendices II and III are unannotated and that the Appendices contain 17 substantive, plant-specific annotations. • States that it would be useful for the Parties to evaluate how annotations are developed and applied to listings in the Appendices, and to consider whether there is a better way to develop them to ensure that they are consistent with the Convention, value-added, and enforceable. • Recommends that SC61 establish a Working Group to explore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The shared understanding among Parties of annotations, both their meaning and function; and ▪ The adoption of appropriate and reasonable procedures for crafting plant annotations, which may include: recommending that annotations be developed in consultation with the PC; revising the discussion of annotations in the listing proposal format in Annex 6 to RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i>; and providing guidance in Resolution (e.g., RC 11.21 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Use of annotations in Appendices I and II</i>) or other appropriate location, including in identification materials as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>urges</u> the SC to adopt the recommendations and invite observers to participate in the Working Group.
<p>55. Dialogue meetings</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 55</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC 14.5 on <i>Dialogue meetings</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defines 'dialogue meetings' as "consultative meetings between range States of a certain species or group of species, with the aim of seeking consensus in relation to a proposal submitted for amendment of the CITES Appendices when there are strong divisions between those States". ▪ States, <i>inter alia</i>, that: a) a dialogue meeting may be called for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSN <u>recognizes</u> that dialogue meetings can play a role in facilitating discussions over divisive issues. However, SSN <u>believes</u> it must be the affected Parties (range States) that decide whether or not a dialogue meeting is required. SSN therefore <u>urges</u> the SC to ensure that a simple majority of range States of a species are in support of such a dialogue meeting before it is approved by the SC.

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	<p>by the CoP or the SC; ...c) if a Party intends to submit a proposal to amend the Appendices and, as a result of seeking the comments of the other range States, becomes aware that there is a need for an exchange of views between them, it may ask the SC to instruct the Secretariat to organize a dialogue meeting, subject to the availability of external funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages Parties that intend to submit proposals to amend the Appendices at CoP16 to consult other range States as early as possible, especially if they are likely to be contentious and, recommends that SC62 be informed of any such proposals, so that it can consider whether a dialogue meeting is necessary or desirable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSN <u>notes</u> that it may not be possible for Parties to submit a proposal in advance of the submission deadline, and that a decision to hold a dialogue meeting prior to CoP16 does not necessarily need to be made at SC62. SSN <u>further notes</u> that SC decisions on dialogue meetings can, if necessary, be made electronically, after the Proposal submission deadline. SSN <u>recommends</u> a revision of RC14.5 to ensure that interpretation is provided, enabling dialogue meetings to operate in all the working languages of the Convention that are relevant to participants. SSN <u>further recommends</u> that RC 14.5 is revised in order to ensure that the Chair of dialogue meetings is elected by the affected Parties (range States).
<p>56. Reports of regional representatives</p> <p>SC61 Doc. 56.1-56.6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regional reports for Asia, North America, and Oceania were available at the time this document was prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
<p>57. Any other business</p> <p>No document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
<p>58. Determination of the time and venue of the 62th meeting</p> <p>No document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.
<p>59. Closing remarks</p> <p>No document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment.



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