

IUCN policy position on selected issues

**Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of
Wild Fauna and Flora
Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP19)
14 – 25 November 2022, Panama City, Panama**

Summary of

Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade (Agenda item 23)

CITES Strategic Vision (Agenda item 10)

IUCN supports the draft decision in Document 10 calling on the Secretariat to undertake a comparative analysis to highlight areas of alignment between the CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030 and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), once adopted.

Ensuring the monitoring frameworks are aligned will enhance coherence between CITES and CBD and reduce the reporting burden on Parties to both. IUCN is a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), which has been contributing to the development of a Sustainable Use of Wild Species

Commission (SSC) and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) Sustainable Use and Livelihoods and Specialist Group (SULi) are building a Sustainable Use of Species database to contribute to this effort.

Engagement of IPLCs (Agenda item 13)

IUCN recognises that Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) have valuable and unique knowledge about wildlife use, management and conservation which could help improve the information base for CITES decision-making. Indigenous Peoples have been recognised as being the most effective stewards of wildlife in many cases (IPBES 2019).

IUCN reiterates its support to Decisions taken at CoP18, and their renewal, to re-establish a working group to examine the issues around engagement of IPLCs and, in particular, to develop guidance to enhance involvement of IPLCs in decision making, including consulting them on proposals to amend the Appendices.

Livelihoods (Agenda item 14)

The IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment highlighted the importance of the sustainable use of wild species to millions of people worldwide. IUCN in its policy statement on Sustainable Use of Living Wild Resources (2000) recognises that sustainable use provides a critical incentive for conserving species.

IUCN thus fully supports the re-establishment of the CITES and Livelihoods Working Group and the proposals to continue to document case studies that provide empirical evidence on the contribution of legal trade in CITES listed species to both conservation and livelihoods. The database on Sustainable Use of Species developed by IUCN SSC/CEESP SULi will also become a key repository for such case studies

and other resources that support evidence-based decision making.

Participatory mechanisms for rural communities in CITES (Agenda item 15)

IUCN continues to strongly support ongoing implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on CITES and Livelihoods that encourages empowerment of indigenous peoples and local communities.

IUCN recognises that there are some good practice examples in other UN MEAs and processes that could further facilitate the meaningful engagement of IPLCs in CITES decision making processes incluG[]b2455(an

conservation management (*Passeriformes* spp.) ([Agenda item 74](#)).

Promoting human, animal and environmental health, and preventing pandemics through the One Health approach and by addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss ([IUCN WCC 2020 Res 135](#)) and One Health and CITES: Human and animal health risks from wildlife trade ([Agenda item 23.2](#)).

Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions (Agenda item 17.1)

IUCN calls on CITES Parties to scale up species conservation action at the national level to ensure that direct and indirect exploitation, use, and trade of wild species is sustainable, legal, and poses no significant risk of pathogen spillover to humans, wildlife, and other animals, and addresses both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products, and thereby support the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

IUCN would like to bring to the attention of Parties the [Global Species Action Plan \(GSAP\)](#), developed in collaboration with the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions to support the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) by setting out all the actions required to achieve the necessary species outcomes under the GBF Goals and Targets. In particular, Target 5, which directly links to CITES through addressing illegal harvesting, use and trade of wild terrestrial freshwater and marine species.

IUCN invites the CITES Secretariat to continue its collaboration with IUCN and other biodiversity-related conventions on this effort to enhance conservation of threatened species and cooperation among conventions.

Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade (Agenda item 23)

IUCN supports the draft activities proposed in Document 23.1 and 23.2 and the role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade. IUCN encourages Parties to contribute to these activities, noting the benefits from such work contribute to the mitigation of zoonotic risk and species conservation.

IUCN encourages Parties to fully adopt One Health approaches through undertaking joint training, and strengthening exchanges and collaborations between wildlife, animal and public health authorities, specifically between CITES and World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) entities.

