



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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**REPORT OF THE AFRICA REGIONAL JOINT PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA AND THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE ASSOCIATED MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOLS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

**ADDIS ABABA, 8-12 AUGUST 2016**

1. In line with decisions XII/6 on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives, and XII/29 on Improving the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) jointly implemented, together with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), a project entitled: “Strengthening the capacity of developing countries in multilateral environmental decision-making: enhancing preparations for CITES CoP 17 and CBD COP 13”.
2. The project, initiated by the CITES Secretariat and funded by the European Union, comprised four regional joint preparatory meetings for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP 17) and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 13) and the associated meetings of the Parties to the Protocols on Biosafety (COP-MOP 8) and on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (COP-MOP 2). The meetings were held for Asia, Africa, the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. The report adopted by the regional preparatory meeting for Africa, held in Addis Ababa, from 8 to 12 August 2016, is presented herewith.

## **REPORT OF THE REGIONAL JOINT PREPARATORY MEETING**

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Africa regional joint preparatory meeting for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP 17) and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 13) and the associated meetings of the Parties to the Protocols of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2) was held at the premises of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 12 August 2016. The meeting was convened to assist Parties to the Conventions from the region in preparing for the respective meetings of the CoP/COP and COP MOPs, which would be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 24 September to 5 October 2016 and in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 17 December 2016, respectively.

2. The meeting was made possible by a financial contribution from the European Union. Its organization was supported by the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Regional Office for Africa. Representatives of the following countries participated in the meeting: Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Ethiopia; Gabon; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Liberia; Libya; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Senegal; Seychelles; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Swaziland; Togo; Uganda and Zambia. Representatives of the following organizations also participated in the meeting: African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN); African Union Commission (AUC); Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS); and UNEP.

### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

3. The meeting opened at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 8 August 2016. At the opening session, representatives of the Government of Ethiopia, the European Union and the UNEP Regional Office for Africa, made welcoming statements. Representatives of the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and of the African Union Commission also made statements. Representatives of the Secretariats of CITES and CBD also addressed the meeting and highlighted the main issues before the meeting. A recorded video message of the Secretary-General of CITES was played.

### **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

4. The meeting elected Mr. Ali Laouel Abagana (Niger), who is a regional member of the CITES Standing Committee, and Ms. Nopasika Malta Qwathekana (South Africa) to serve as the co-Chairs of the plenary sessions of the meeting. Both also acted as co-Chairs of the CITES and CBD segments respectively, supported by Mr. Abednico Mache (Botswana) for the CITES segment and Mr. Emmanuel Bayani Ngoyi (Gabon) for the CBD segment of the meeting.

5. The meeting adopted its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda ([UNEP/CBD/CITES/PREP-COP/2016/2/1](#)) and decided to organize its work in a flexible manner based on the proposal for the organization of work as contained in annex I to the annotated provisional agenda ([UNEP/CBD/PREP-COP/2016/1/2/Add.1](#)).

6. In accordance with item 3.1 of the provisional agenda of the meeting, the representative of the CITES Secretariat briefed the meeting on the organization of CITES CoP 17. In accordance with item 4.1 of the provisional agenda, representatives of the CBD Secretariat briefed the meeting on the organization of COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2, including on the arrangements for the concurrent holding of the meetings of COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2 in a two-week period in accordance with CBD COP decision XII/27.

7. The meeting was then divided into two segments, one addressing matters of CITES CoP 17 and the other addressing matters of CBD COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2.

### ITEM 3. CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA – CONVENTION-SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS

8. The CoP17 agenda items and proposals for amendments to Appendices I and II of CITES that were covered at this meeting were chosen by the Parties participating at the meeting through a consultative process. Some of the topics were “clustered” and presented together. The following documents were covered:

Document	Issue	Presenter(s)
<u>Doc.4</u>	Adoption of the Rules of Procedure	South Africa
<u>Doc.7.3,</u> <u>7.4, 7.5</u> <u>Doc.8</u> <u>Doc.15</u>	Administration, finance and budget  Sponsored Delegates Project Capacity building	South Africa
<u>Doc.10</u>	Committee reports and recommendations (Election of new regional and alternate regional members)	Uganda
<u>Doc.14.2, 25, 26, 27,</u> <u>28, 29, 30</u>	Enforcement related working documents	South Africa
<u>Doc. 18.1</u>  <u>Doc. 18.2</u>	Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species  Development of CITES demand-reduction guidelines	South Africa
<u>Doc. 24,</u> <u>27, 38, 40,</u> <u>57.1-6,</u> <u>84.1-3, 85</u> Prop. 14 Prop. 15  Prop. 16	Elephant-related working documents   Delete annotation for Namibian population of <i>Loxodonta africana</i> Delete annotation for Zimbabwean population of <i>Loxodonta africana</i> Transfer all populations of <i>Loxodonta africana</i> to Appendix I	Kenya Namibia South Africa
<u>Doc 39.1</u> <u>Doc. 39.2</u>	Hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II Trade in hunting trophies of species listed on Appendix II	South Africa
<u>Doc. 55.1,</u> <u>55.2, 62</u> Prop. 53 Prop. 54 Prop. 55 Prop. 56 Prop. 57	Rosewood and look-alike species related working documents Change annotation for <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> Include 13 species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. in Appendix II Include all species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. not on Appendix I in Appendix Include 3 species of <i>Guibourtia</i> spp. in Appendix II Include <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> in Appendix II	Senegal Gabon
<u>Doc.64</u> Prop. 8, 9 Prop. 10 Prop. 11 Prop. 12	Pangolins ( <i>Manis</i> spp.) Transfer <i>Manis crassicaudata</i> to Appendix I Transfer <i>Manis culionensis</i> to Appendix I Transfer <i>Manis javanica</i> and <i>M. pentadactyla</i> to Appendix I Transfer <i>Manis tetradactyla</i> , <i>M. tricuspis</i> , <i>M. gigantea</i> and <i>M. temminckii</i> to Appendix I	Nigeria

Document	Issue	Presenter(s)
<u>Doc. 65</u>	Conservation of and trade in East African sandalwood ( <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> )	Cameroon
<u>Doc. 67</u> <u>Doc. 77</u>	Harvesting of and trade in African cherry ( <i>Prunus africana</i> ) International trade in African tree species	Kenya
<u>Doc. 75.1</u>	Review of Resolution Conf. 13.11 on Bushmeat	Congo
<u>Doc. 75.2</u>	Report of the Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group	
<u>Doc. 79</u>	Implementation of the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020	South Africa
Prop. 4	Transfer all African populations of <i>Panthera leo</i> to Appendix I	Niger
Prop.19	Transfer of <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> (African grey parrot) to Appendix I	Gabon, South Africa

9. As background, the CITES Secretariat gave a presentation on the general overview of the CITES CoP17 agenda items as well as, upon request, a brief overview on the documents related to some of the thematic clusters.

10. For each agenda item, proposal or thematic cluster, the Party that acted as the presenter gave a brief summary, noting the background on the issue as well as the key discussion points of the relevant document, and also provided views on the possible consequences of adopting or rejecting the proposed actions (resolution/decision/proposal), if any. After each presentation, Parties shared relevant information and exchanged views on the issue(s) covered by the document or the proposal.

11. The opportunity for discussion allowed delegations to reach consensus and establish an African common understanding on several items of particular importance to the region, including the African lion (Prop. 4), pangolins (Prop. 8-12), African grey parrot (Prop. 19) and most timber issues (Doc. 65, 67, 77, Prop. 55, 57).

12. Although consensus could not be reached on the listing of African elephant in the CITES Appendices, issues of common concern were identified and a better understanding of the various positions were obtained. It was agreed that the AUC, AMCEN and UNEP secretariats would facilitate continued discussions to identify areas of convergence pre- and post CoP 17.

13. On the topic of budget and capacity-building, the participants requested that the African representative participating in the budget committee stress the importance of the availability of sufficient financial resources for capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention.

14. On the Sponsored Delegates Project (Doc. 8), the participants expressed concern regarding the memorandum sent to a number of Parties, regarding the possible unavailability of funds to support their participation at CoP 17, which would likely result in their absence from the meeting. The participants requested the Secretariat to provide clarification for individual Parties from the region that had not qualified for sponsorship through the Sponsored Delegates Project, for attendance at CoP 17, as to why they did not qualify.

15. On the election of new regional and alternate regional members (Doc. 10 on Committee reports and recommendations), the participants were reminded that there were a number of members of the Standing Committee (SC), Animals Committee (AC) and the Plants Committee (PC) whose terms would end at CoP 17, and that new members would therefore need to be elected in accordance with the guidelines for the election of representatives in the Animals and Plants Committees as laid out in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16).

16. Parties considered that the meeting represented an important opportunity for the region to share information and exchange opinions before CoP 17, and encouraged the organization of similar meetings before each CoP.

#### ITEM 4. CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE PROTOCOLS TO THE CONVENTION – CONVENTION-SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS

17. Under this item, participants considered matters of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols that would be addressed by COP 13, COP MOP 8 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and COP MOP 2 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing as shown in the provisional agendas of those meetings (respectively [UNEP/CBD/COP/13/1](#), [UNEP/CBD/BS/MOP/8/1](#) and [UNEP/CBD/ABS/MOP/2/1](#)). During the afternoon session of the first day of the meeting, participants considered and agreed on the items of the agenda of the three meetings to address during the remainder of the regional preparatory meeting. Those items were selected according to proposed areas of attention submitted by Parties in response to Notifications 2016-077 and 2016-084 contained in annex III to the annotated provisional agenda of the meeting and items identified by the Secretariat as needing particular attention. The items selected are listed in the table below in the order they were taken up by the meeting. As background, the CBD Secretariat presented a general overview of the concurrent meetings of the COP and COP MOPs.

Agenda Item*	Issue
11	Resource mobilization and financial mechanism. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resource mobilization, including the resource mobilization targets (SBI 1/6)</li> <li>- Guidance to the financial mechanism (to be developed on basis of SBI 1/7(5))</li> <li>- GEF 7 needs-assessment questionnaire</li> <li>- Financial Reporting Framework</li> </ul>
All	Nagoya Protocol COP MOP 2
12	Other means of implementation: enhancement of capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and other initiatives to assist implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets</li> </ul>
All	Cartagena Protocol COP MOP 8
15	Marine and coastal biodiversity: ecologically or biologically significant marine areas; specific work plan on biodiversity and acidification in cold-water areas; addressing impacts of marine debris and anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity; and marine spatial planning and training initiatives
16	Invasive alien species: addressing risks associated with trade; experiences in the use of biological control agents; and decision support tools
17	Other scientific and technical issues, including synthetic biology, implications of the assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on pollinators, and sustainable wildlife management
14	Article 8(j) and related provisions: guidelines for the repatriation of traditional knowledge; guidelines for the development of legislation or other mechanisms; and recommendations from the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
10	Strategic actions to enhance the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including with respect to mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sector
*Note: Agenda item of CBD COP 13 unless otherwise specified.	

18. The meeting also had preliminary discussions on COP 13 agenda item 3, election of officers, particularly with regard to a possible nomination by Africa of a Chair for the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and on COP 13 agenda item 6, date and venue of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

19. Items were generally addressed on the basis of an introductory presentation followed by a general discussion and closed meetings to develop common African positions.

20. Regarding resource mobilization, the African group agreed on the importance of submitting the financial reporting framework in time for COP 13 and, in the longer term, using it as a basis for domestic resource mobilization. Recognizing the need to consider context, the group asked for the number of countries in the UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) to be expanded in order to help develop the capacity to mobilize resources. The group also favoured more multi-focal area projects to be submitted for the next window in the sixth replenishment cycle of the Global Environment Facility, as that would help mainstream biodiversity targets into the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. It was also agreed that integration of biodiversity into cross-cutting issues, such as climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and impact assessments, needed to be facilitated and scaled up.

21. The African group identified the need to scale up capacity-building support for the implementation of CBD national biodiversity strategies and action plans, attaining other Aichi targets and ABS negotiations. Additional capacities were also needed to advance access and benefit-sharing mechanisms, facilitate the ratification or accession to the Nagoya Protocol by countries that have not yet done so and to operationalize the Protocol at national level. The need for measures to aid the protection of traditional knowledge and capacity-building for indigenous peoples and local communities was also recognized.

22. Representatives expressed concern at the lack of any firm and timely indication to ensure the full and effective participation of African representatives at the concurrent meetings of COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2.

#### **ITEM 5. SYNERGIES AMONG THE BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON CITES AND CBD**

23. Co-chaired by Ms. Qwathekana (South Africa) and Mr. Abagana (Niger), the meeting convened in plenary on the third day and considered synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. In particular, this included: consideration of issues of common interest to CBD and CITES being addressed both by CITES COP 17 and CBD COP 13; enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, including work undertaken in response to CBD COP decision XII/6; and tools for supporting Parties in the synergistic implementation of the conventions.

24. Following introductory presentations by the CITES Secretariat on COP 17 and by the CBD Secretariat on the concurrent meetings of COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2 respectively, decisions, initiatives and processes relevant to synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions were introduced on behalf of CITES, CBD and CMS. The Joint Programme Officer for CITES and CMS introduced the concrete activities, including the recently held Joint CITES-CMS African Lion Range State Meeting, undertaken between CITES and CMS to advance implementation and policy in a synergistic manner between the two conventions. A representative from UNEP provided a brief summary of the outcomes of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, with particular reference to synergies.

25. A representative of the CBD Secretariat provided an overview of the intersessional work conducted in response to CBD decision XII/6 on options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions that would be considered at COP 13 under agenda item 13, based on the outcomes of the Workshop on enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions, held in Geneva in February 2016, with representation from Parties to each of the seven global biodiversity-related conventions.

26. Representatives of the Niger, South Africa and Uganda reported on their experiences in advancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level. A representative of Cameroon also outlined briefly the experiences in his country. A representative of the African Union Commission summarized the activities of the Commission in supporting synergies within and across countries in Africa.

27. A representative of UNEP introduced the *Sourcebook of Opportunities for Enhancing Synergies among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at National and Regional Levels* and highlighted the usefulness of practical case studies contained therein.
28. A representative of UNEP briefly summarized the main findings of the regional report *State of Biodiversity in Africa – A Mid-term Review of Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*.
29. An overview of several themes common to the forthcoming meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CBD and to CITES was provided as a lead-in to discussions. That was followed by presentations of the CBD Secretariat on the national reporting process and the needs assessment for the seventh replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility.
30. The meeting then considered capacity-building and resource mobilization as two of the common items on the agendas of CITES CoP 17 and CBD COP 13.

#### **ITEM 6. SYNTHESIS AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

31. On the afternoon of the fifth day, the meeting reconvened in plenary. The meeting made observations on the draft report and requested the Secretariats to finalize the draft for review by participants. Closing remarks were made by the CITES Secretariat, CBD Secretariat, UNEP and AMCEN Secretariat and the African Union Commission. Closing remarks were also made by a representative of Uganda on behalf of CITES national focal points, a representative of Senegal on behalf of CBD national focal points and a representative of South Africa as host of CITES CoP 17, as well as by Mr. Laouel Abagana as co-Chair of the meeting. Following that, the representative of the Government of Ethiopia, Mr. Dawud Mume Ali, Director-General of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, made remarks and closed the meeting at 5 p.m. on Friday, 12 August 2016.

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