

DRAFT DECISIONS ON SEAHORSES

Directed to the Secretariat

18. AA The Secretariat shall include available materials to support CITES implementation for seahorses (NDF guidance, identification materials, etc.) on the CITES website.
19. BB The Secretariat shall:
- a) issue a Notification to the Parties inviting them to inform the Secretariat of any national management measures that regulate or restrict international trade in seahorses, and on how they are implementing and enforcing such measures for seahorses;
 - b) compile the responses received to the Notification issued as per paragraph a) of the present Decision and communicate them to CITES Authorities through a Notification to the Parties and through its website; and
 - c) subject to external funding:
 - i) commission a study on trade in *Hippocampus* spp., including applicable regulations, to understand shifts in international trade patterns since the inclusion of seahorses in Appendix II and the Review of Significant Trade of *Hippocampus* spp., as well as the implementation challenges and possible solutions; and
 - ii) organize an expert workshop to discuss the implementation and enforcement of CITES for trade in *Hippocampus* spp., including the recommendations and outcomes of the Review of Significant Trade process, and propose practical steps to address implementation and enforcement challenges; and
 - d) report on the implementation of paragraphs a) through c) of the present Decision to the Animals and Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

18. CC To support the effective implementation of Appendix II of CITES for seahorses, Parties are invited to:
- a) inform the Secretariat of any national management measures that regulate or restrict international trade in seahorses and how they are implementing and enforcing measures for seahorses;
 - b) share copies of their NDFs with the CITES Secretariat for posting on the CITES website to assist other CITES Parties; and
 - c) inform seahorse traders within their jurisdiction of any quotas, including any zero quotas, and any trade suspensions for seahorses to further facilitate compliance and enforcement by all participants in the trade.
18. DD Parties are encouraged to:
- a) use existing tools for effective CITES implementation and enforcement that are relevant to seahorses;
 - b) where quotas, trade suspensions, or both are in place, develop monitoring programs for seahorses in their national waters to understand effectiveness of these actions and any other relevant implementation and enforcement actions for seahorse conservation and management; and

- c) share the design and initial results of these programs with the CITES Secretariat to report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 18. EE The Animals Committee shall analyse and review the results of any activities under Decision 18.BB and other relevant information available to the Animals Committee, and develop recommendations as appropriate to ensure sustainable and legal trade in seahorses.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18. FF The Standing Committee shall analyse and review the results of any activities under Decision 18.BB and develop recommendations as appropriate to strengthen CITES implementation and enforcement for trade in seahorses.