

NOTING that the Identification Manual Committee was first established in 1977, and was one of the first committees serving the Parties to the Convention;

GRATEFUL to all persons who have served this Committee, for the work they have done to develop the Identification Manual;

NOTING also that between the sixth (Ottawa, 1987) and the 10th (Harare, 1997) meetings of the Conference of the Parties the Committee was without Chairman and membership;

NOTING further that following the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Harare, 1997) only one Party has expressed interest in appointing members of the Committee;

RECOGNIZING the need for a regular production of sheets for the Identification Manual in the three working languages of the Convention and that the work involved is not of a nature readily performed by a committee;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

DIRECTS the Secretariat to:

- a) prepare sheets on the identification of animal and plant species for inclusion in the Identification Manual in the three working languages of the Convention;
- b) upon request from a Party, provide advice on the identification of species, or seek advice from experts on the taxa concerned;
- c) ensure, where relevant, that the subject of identification of species or specimens is included in training seminars organized by the Secretariat;
- d) provide assistance to Parties in the development of national or regional identification manuals;
- e) obtain, from Parties whose proposals to include new species in the Appendices have been adopted, appropriate data for inclusion in the Identification Manual within one year after acceptance of such additions;
- f) publish, within its financial capacity, the Identification Manual;
- g) inform each meeting of the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees on the progress made; and
- h) report at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

EXHORTS Parties having successfully submitted proposals to include new species in the Appendices, to provide appropriate data for inclusion in the Identification Manual within one year after acceptance of such additions;

APPEALS to Parties and organizations to provide funds to ensure the production of the Identification Manual; and

REQUESTS the Parties to promote the use of the Identification Manual.