



## 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, November 24-December 25, 2025

### TENTATIVE U.S. NEGOTIATING POSITIONS

*As of November 19, 2025*

Agenda Item		Document	Tentative U.S. Position (w/ short justification)
Opening ceremony		<i>No document</i>	N/A
Welcoming addresses		<i>No document</i>	N/A
<b>Administrative and financial matters</b>			
1.	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the meeting and of Chairs of Committees I and II	<i>No document</i>	N/A
2.	Agenda	CoP20 Doc. 2	N/A
3.	Working programme	CoP20 Doc. 3	N/A
4.	Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties	CoP20 Doc. 4	Position pending
5.	Credentials Committee		
	5.1 Establishment of the Credentials Committee	<i>No document</i>	N/A
	5.2 Report of the Credentials Committee	<i>No document</i>	N/A
6.	Admission of observers		
7.	Administration, finance and budget of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties		

	7.1	Administration of the Secretariat		CoP20 Doc. 7.1	Position pending
	7.2	Report of the Executive Director of UNEP on administrative and other matters		CoP20 Doc. 7.2	Position pending
	7.3	Financial reports for 2023-2025		CoP20 Doc. 7.3	Position pending
	7.4	Budget and work programme for 2026 to 2028		CoP20 Doc. 7.4	Position pending
	7.5	Arrangements for meetings of the Conference of the Parties		CoP20 Doc. 7.5	Position pending
8.	Terms of reference of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee			CoP20 Doc. 8	Position pending
9.	Emerging operational issues of the Committees			CoP20 Doc. 9	Position pending
10.	Access to funding			CoP20 Doc. 10	Position pending
11.	Sponsored delegates project			CoP20 Doc. 11	Position pending
Strategic matters					
12.	Committee reports and recommendations				
	12.1	Standing Committee			
		12.1.1	Report of the Chair	CoP20 Doc. 12.1.1	The United States <b>supports</b> noting Document CoP20 Doc. 12.1.1.
		12.1.2	Election of new regional and alternate regional members	<i>No document</i>	N/A
	12.2	Animals Committee			
		12.2.1	Report of the Chair	CoP20 Doc. 12.2.1	The United States <b>notes</b> the report of appreciates the work carried out by the Animals Committee, in relation to Resolutions and Decisions directed or relevant to the Committee.

					<p>With respect to Periodic Review of species, we <b>support</b> the amendment by the Animals and Plants Committees which “<i>agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of criterion D in paragraph 3 b) ii) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II,</i>” as this was suggested at the joint AC33/PC27 meeting because the criterion is not clearly defined and has not been shown to have utility.</p> <p>The United States <b>supports</b> the renewal of Decisions 19.211 and 19.212 on Leopards (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) in Africa because of the additional time needed for the IUCN to update the Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa in consultation with the range states, as recommended by the AC.</p> <p>The United States <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decision 18.175 on Captive breeding of Sri Lankan agamids, as recommended by the AC, because the decision has been implemented resulting in useful guidance to the Parties on trade in these protected endemic species, and additional helpful guidance is also provided under a different agenda item, in Annex 3 of CoP20 Doc. 49. We do not see a need to duplicate this effort.</p>
		12.2.2	Election of new regional and alternate regional members	<i>No document</i>	N/A
	12.3	Plants Committee			
		12.3.1	Report of the Chair	CoP20 Doc. 9.3.1	Position pending
		12.3.2	Election of new regional and alternate regional members	<i>No document</i>	N/A
13.	CITES Strategic Vision			CoP20 Doc. 10	Position pending

14.	Enhancing the work and efficiency of the Convention through the permanent committees		CoP20 Doc. 11	Position pending
15.	Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade			
	15.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 15.1	Position pending
	15.2	One Health and CITES: Reducing risks to human and animal health associated with trade in CITES-listed species	CoP20 Doc. 15.2	Position pending
16.	Cooperation			
	16.1	Cooperation with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other international organizations	CoP20 Doc. 16.1	Position pending
	16.2	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	CoP20 Doc. 16.2	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.5 and the deletion of Decisions 19.22 and 19.23.
	16.3	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	CoP20 Doc. 16.3	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 13.3 on Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the draft decisions contained in Annexes 1 and 2 to Document CoP20 Doc. 16.3.
	16.4	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime	CoP20 Doc. 16.4	Position pending
	16.5	Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	CoP20 Doc. 16.5	Position pending

17.	World Wildlife Trade Report	CoP20 Doc. 17	The United States generally <b>supports</b> the Standing Committee's recommendations and draft decisions with a few edits. We propose the Standing Committee decide whether not to direct the Secretariat to prepare the Overview Report after the Committee has the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Overview Report outline.
18.	CITES and forests	CoP20 Doc. 18	Position pending
19.	Language strategy for the Convention	CoP20 Doc. 19	Position pending
<b>Capacity building</b>			
20.	Capacity building framework	CoP20 Doc. 20	Position pending
21.	Compliance Assistance Programme	CoP20 Doc. 21	Position pending
22.	Country-wide Review of Significant Trade	CoP20 Doc. 22	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions contained in the Annex to document CoP20 Doc. 22. In addition, the United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation that Decisions 19.47 and 19.48 can be deleted, as they have been incorporated into the new draft decisions.</p> <p>With regard to draft Decision 20.BB, we <b>support</b> this draft Decision as written, as it will assist other Parties under the Review of Significant Trade with better implementation of the Convention, which as a result, benefits U.S. companies by reducing unfair competition/illegal trade.</p>
23.	CITES Tree species programme	CoP20 Doc. 23	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decision in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 23, with edits, and deletion of Decisions 19.49 and 19.50.
<b>CITES and people</b>			
24.	United Nations World Wildlife Day	CoP20 Doc. 24	Position pending
25.	CITES gender action plan	CoP20 Doc. 25	Position pending
26.	CITES Global Youth Network	CoP20 Doc. 26	Position pending
27.	Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities	CoP20 Doc. 27	Position pending
28.	Draft resolution on the creation of an advisory Subcommittee of the Standing Committee of People Living alongside Fauna and Flora species	CoP20 Doc. 28	Position pending

	included in the CITES Appendices (PLFF), a related Voluntary Fund, and their procedures			
29.	Livelihoods			
	29.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 29.1	Position pending
	29.2	Document by Zambia	CoP20 Doc. 29.2	Position pending
30.	Integrating human rights, livelihoods, and food security into the implementation of CITES		CoP20 Doc. 30	The United States <b>strongly opposes</b> adoption of the draft resolution proposed in document CoP20 Doc. 30.
31.	Demand reduction to combat illegal trade		CoP20 Doc. 31	The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation that Decisions 19.55 to 19.57 have been implemented and should be deleted. We also <b>support</b> the adoption of draft Decisions 20.AA, 20.BB, and 20.CC on <i>Demand reduction to combat illegal trade</i> , as presented in the Annex to the Document CoP20 Doc. 31.
Existing Resolutions and Decisions				
32.	Review of Resolutions		CoP20 Doc. 32	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the amendments proposed by the Secretariat to the two Resolutions in Annexes 1 and 3 to Document CoP20 Doc. 32, and adoption of the draft decision found in Annex 4 to the document, with edits.
33.	Review of Decisions		CoP20 Doc. 33	As with previous CoPs, the United States opposes the Secretariat’s intention not to include in the list of Decisions in effect after CoP20 any Decisions adopted at previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties that are not agreed for continuation. With regard to the specific recommendations in Document CoP20 Doc. 33, the United States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 17.108 (Rev. CoP19) to 17.110 (Rev. CoP19) on Review of Significant Trade;</li><li>• <b>supports</b> the Secretariat’s rationale for including <i>Tursiops truncatus ponticus</i> in Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i>, but notes that the suggested edit needs to be corrected;</li></ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 19.71 to 19.73 on <i>Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods</i> (<i>Dalbergia spp.</i>) and <i>ebonies</i> (<i>Diospyros spp.</i>);</li> <li>• <b>opposes</b> deletion of 18.209 on <i>Humphead wrasse</i> (<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>); and</li> <li>• <b>supports</b> the Secretariat's recommendation to maintain Decision 17.256 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>African grey parrots</i> (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Compliance</b>			
34.	National laws for implementation of the Convention		<p>CoP20 Doc. 34</p> <p>The United States <b>welcomes</b> Turkmenistan as a new CITES Party and <b>congratulates</b> the Parties and dependent territories recently placed in Category 1.</p> <p>The United States supports adoption of the draft decisions in Document CoP20 Doc. 34 and the deleting Decisions 19.58-19.62.</p> <p>With regards to the draft guidance related to exceptional circumstances, the United States <b>supports</b> this draft, with the updates made in consideration of Party input following SC78, clarifying that such exceptional circumstances be time-limited and non-commercial in scope.</p>
35.	Compliance matters		
	35.1	Implementation of Article XIII and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i>	<p>CoP20 Doc. 35.1</p> <p>The United States <b>supports</b> noting the information contained in Document CoP20 Doc. 35.1 and adopting the draft decision contained in Annex 1 to the document, with a clarifying edit.</p>
	35.2	Review of the National Ivory Action Plans Process	<p>CoP20 Doc. 35.2</p> <p>The United States <b>supports</b> the draft amendments to Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19). In particular, we <b>support</b> inclusion of paragraph e in Step 3 of the <i>Guidelines to the National Ivory Action Plan Process</i>, which would direct the Secretariat to recommend to the Standing Committee that a Party update its NIAP in response to new or emerging trends in elephant poaching or ivory trafficking.</p>

				<p>We <b>support</b> the inclusion of text in Step 4, paragraph d that would incorporate the use of indicators and milestones to assess NIAP achievements and their impact. However, we <b>note</b> that the indicators used to assess NIAP achievements have yet to be developed and would need to be carefully vetted by the Standing Committee.</p> <p>The United States also <b>supports</b> the draft decision on Review of the NIAP Process as found in Annex 2 of the current document, which would direct the Standing Committee to evaluate the long-term considerations found in the NIAP review and make recommendations at CoP21.</p>
	35.3	Totoaba ( <i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> )	CoP20 Doc. 35.3	<p>While the United States acknowledges and appreciates the continued progress made by Mexico towards implementation of its CAP, we are still concerned about [with] the lack of compliance with the Convention and lack of enforcement of Mexico’s “2020 Agreement” in the Upper Gulf of California (UGC). The situation in the UGC is critical and urgent, as illegal harvest of totoaba has been a persistent problem that continues to jeopardize the survival of the vaquita, a species on the edge of extinction. CITES’ aim is to ensure that international trade in CITES-listed species does not threaten the survival of species in the wild. Although, both species are included in Appendix I, implementation, compliance, and enforcement of the associated protections is lacking. The United States believes that compliance matters should always be treated seriously and should be dealt with in an equitable manner across all Parties to the Convention.</p> <p>Due to Mexico’s lack of progress in fully implementing the CAP, we <b>urge Parties to amend and strengthen the draft decision text</b> contained in Annex I to document CoP20 Doc. 35.3. We strongly believe that it is important that the draft decisions are amended to include timelines to reflect the urgency of the situation.</p>



36.	Review of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i>	CoP20 Doc. 36	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the minor amendments to Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) and the proposed decision on the development of a tracking and management database. However, we suggest that the database be termed a “captive production” tracking and management database to better align with the title of the Resolution and the fact that many of the specimens falling under the Resolution are originally sourced from the wild, not captive breeding. We also support deletion of Decisions 19.63 to 19.65.
37.	Possession of specimens of species included in Appendix I	CoP20 Doc. 37	The United States <b>supports</b> recommendations a, b, and d in the document, and suggests a minor edit to the amendments referenced in recommendation c.
<b>Illegal trade and enforcement</b>			
38.	Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i>	CoP20 Doc. 38	The United States <b>supports</b> the document recommendations to adopt the draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on compliance and enforcement and delete Decision 19.66. We particularly support the proposed refinements of the timeframe for Parties to respond to the Secretariat on compliance issues and amendments regarding professional bodies.
39.	Enforcement matters	CoP20 Doc. 39	The United States <b>generally supports</b> the Secretariat’s recommendations with edits.
40.	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	CoP20 Doc. 40	The United States <b>supports</b> adopting the draft decisions on Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa, included in the annex to CoP20 Doc. 40, with the amendments recommended by the Secretariat to Decision 20.BB b) to condition the decision on the availability of extrabudgetary resources. The United States also supports the deletion of Decisions 18.90 (Rev. CoP19), 18.91 (Rev. CoP19), 19.84, 19.85, 19.86, 19.87 and 19.88.
41.	CITES Big Cats Task Force	CoP20 Doc. 41	The United States <b>supports</b> the adoption of the draft decisions contained in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 41 and deletion of Decisions 19.92 and 19.93.
42.	Implementation of the priority recommendations from the review of the ETIS Programme	CoP20 Doc. 42	The United States <b>supports</b> the revised draft decisions proposed by the Secretariat. The United States also supports the draft decisions on the ETIS data-validation protocol as presented in SC78 Doc. 65.2 (Rev. 1)

43.	ETIS categorization of Parties		CoP20 Doc. 43	The United States <b>supports</b> the adoption of the proposed criteria for the ETIS analysis, to be used by TRAFFIC in Step 1 paragraph a) of the <i>Guidelines to the NIAP Process</i> and the deletion of Decisions 19.97-19.98.
44.	Ivory seizures and domestic ivory markets		CoP20 Doc. 44	The United States <b>tentatively supports</b> the deletion of Decision 19.99 to 19.101.
45.	Illegal trade in cheetahs ( <i>Acinonyx jubatus</i> )		CoP20 Doc. 45	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions included in Document CoP20 Doc. 37 with one edit. as well as deletion of Decisions 19.104 to 19.106.
46.	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)		CoP20 Doc. 46	The United States Chaired the intersession working group established by the Standing Committee at its 77 <sup>th</sup> meeting (Geneva, November 2023) and <b>strongly supports</b> the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 19.5 on Conservation of and trade in marine turtles, as detailed in the Annex of this document.
47.	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)			Draft decisions on Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.) are proposed in the Annexes to both document CoP20 Doc. 47.1 and document CoP20 Doc. 47.2. The draft decisions proposed in the two documents partially overlap. The Secretariat therefore revised and consolidated the draft decisions from the two documents, to facilitate the discussion on tortoises and freshwater turtles at CoP20. The consolidated document can be found here: <a href="#">CoP Doc. 47.2</a>
	47.1	Report of the Standing Committee and of the Secretariat	CoP20 Doc. 47.1	The U.S. <b>notes</b> the reports of the Standing Committee and of the Secretariat found in CoP20 Doc. 47.1. The U.S. <b>supports</b> adoption of the amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles as contained in Annex 2 of CoP20 Doc. 47.1. The U.S. <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decisions 19.123 to 19.127.
	47.2	Trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles from Madagascar	CoP20 Doc. 47.2	<p>The U.S. <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions as amended by the Secretariat in its comments in <a href="#">CoP20 Doc. 47.2</a> with a proposed change to 20.AA intended to highlight the work of the CCITT (see position paper for more information and a draft intervention), and a small proposed change to 20.BB.</p> <p>The U.S. <b>notes</b> the report from Madagascar as contained in Annex 3 of CoP20 Doc. 47.1 (and CoP20 Inf. 3) and <b>congratulates</b> Madagascar on</p>

			<p>its commitment to respond to the illegal collection and trade of its native tortoises and freshwater turtles. Given the critically endangered IUCN status of these species and their inclusion in Appendix I, the U.S. <b>strongly supports</b> efforts that further the conservation of Madagascar's tortoises and freshwater turtles. The draft decisions as amended by the Secretariat in its comments in CoP20 Doc. 47.2 are a reasonable way to advance the conservation and management of Madagascar's tortoises and freshwater turtles.</p> <p>At SC78, the U.S., on behalf of the North American region, suggested that the activities proposed in the draft decisions in SC78 Doc. 46 be undertaken within the Compliance Assistance Program. Therefore, should support for this option arise at CoP20, the U.S. would <b>support</b> the Secretariat to transfer work that is instructed in the decisions, to be realized under the Compliance Assistance Program, conditional to the interest of Madagascar and the capacity of the Secretariat.</p>
<b>Regulation of trade</b>			
48.	Proposal to amend Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19)	CoP20 Doc. 48	<p>The United States <b>strongly opposes</b> the proposed amendments as they would be contrary to a number of provisions of the Convention, including Article II(4) requiring Parties not to allow trade in CITES specimens unless the requirements of the Convention are met, Articles III-VI requiring valid CITES documents for trade in CITES species, and XIV(1) allowing Parties to enact stricter domestic measures to the requirements of CITES.</p>
49.	Legal acquisition findings	CoP20 Doc. 49	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in the document to improve guidance for Parties on the making of legal acquisition findings (LAF), including the amendments to Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19) on Legal acquisition findings in Annex 2 and the revised guidance in Annex 3 of the present document.</p> <p>The United States also <b>supports</b> the adoption of the draft decisions contained in Annex1 to CoP20 Doc. 49 with a minor edit to draft Decision 20.DD and an additional draft decision 20.XX directed to Parties encouraging them to use the guidance provided in Resolution Conf. 4.22 on <i>Proof of foreign law</i> to inform other Parties of stricter</p>

			domestic measures regarding management of native and endemic CITES-listed species to support in making LAFs for specimens from species of concern.
50.	Non-detriment findings	CoP20 Doc. 50	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions on <i>Non-detriment findings</i> contained in Annex 1 to document CoP20 Doc. 50. In addition, the United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation that Decisions 19.132 to 19.134 can be deleted, as they have been implemented.</p> <p>The United States <b>notes and applauds</b> the progress made on the NDF guidance to date. The United States has had an active role in developing the guidance and feels the draft decisions provide a transparent plan for continuing to update the guidance via input from the Animals and Plants Committees, as well as Parties. The guidance should be living documents that are strengthened through inputs from experiences with its implementation.</p>
51.	Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction	CoP20 Doc. 51	The United States <b>supports</b> consideration of the draft decisions contained in document CoP20 Doc. 52 on <i>Introduction from the sea with some proposed amendments</i> as they could address the relevant recommendations and implementation matters raised at the technical workshop on <i>Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from ABNJ</i> (see U.S. Position on document CoP20 Doc. 52). The United States <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 19.135 to 19.139 as they have been implemented.
52.	Introduction from the sea	CoP20 Doc. 52	The United States <b>supports</b> the document's recommendation with our proposed amendments. While, the United States supports the development of additional guidance and clarification regarding implementation of introduction from the sea, we <b>request the scope of the review of Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16) be limited</b> . The United States does <b>not support</b> the inclusion of i) from part a) of draft Decision 20.BB regarding the BBNJ Agreement.
53.	Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species	CoP20 Doc. 53	The United States <b>strongly supports</b> the adoption of the proposed draft decisions outlined in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 53 by the Conference of the Parties and <b>encourages</b> that this work be prioritized. We consider the development of identification materials to be core

			work of the Convention and critical to the implementation of the treaty to ensure compliance and assist enforcement efforts. We have recommendations for amendments to some of the draft decisions to help alleviate concerns related to the prioritization of this work and the development, review, and use of CITES identification materials. With adoption of the draft decisions contained in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 53, the United States <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 19.142 to 19.144.	
54.	Identification of timber and other wood products		CoP20 Doc. 54	Position pending
55.	Purpose-of-transaction-codes		CoP20 Doc. 55	The United States generally <b>supports</b> the recommendation of the document to improve coherent interpretation of purpose-of-transaction codes and encourage consistent use among the Parties.
56.	Electronic systems and information technologies and authentication and control of permits			
	56.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 56.1	The United States <b>supports</b> the Standing Committee’s report, its draft decision language and inclusion of the 2D barcode guidelines; the Secretariat’s proposed amendment to Res. Conf. 12.3 on <i>Permits and Certificates</i> ; and the recommendations to delete Decisions 19.150 to 19.152 and adopt the new draft Decisions, contained in Annex 1 of CoP20 Doc. 56.1.
	56.2	A hub model for the exchange of CITES permits	CoP20 Doc. 56.2	The United States <b>supports</b> the draft decisions calling for a new feasibility study on the use of a hub model for exchanging electronic CITES certificates among Parties with the Secretariat’s proposed edits to the draft decisions.
57.	Review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade</i>		CoP20 Doc. 57	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions included in Document CoP20 Doc. 57, with the Secretariat’s proposed amendment to draft Decision 20.AA indicating that its implementation is subject to external resources.
58.	Risk assessment and analysis for border control of CITES-listed species		CoP20 Doc. 58	Pending a Standing Committee decision at its 79 meeting, the United States tentatively <b>supports</b> the recommendation to renew Decisions 19.153 to 19.155.

59.	Stocks and stockpiles	CoP20 Doc. 59	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the proposal to renew Decisions 19.161 to 19.163 and encourages further engagement by members of the working group to make measurable progress on the renewed Decisions.</p> <p>The United States also <b>supports</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>including the definition of stockpiles as written in paragraph 11 of the present document in the CITES Glossary,</li> <li>using the term stockpiles and not using stock in the context of stored dead specimens and supports amending the Resolutions set out in the Annex to CoP20 Doc. 59 to account for this change in terminology, and</li> <li>deleting Decision 17.170 (Rev. CoP19).</li> </ul>
60.	Transport of live specimens	CoP20 Doc. 60	The U.S. <b>strongly supports</b> adoption draft decision 20.AA and the deletion of Decisions 19.158 to 19.159.
61.	Rapid movement of wildlife diagnostic samples and musical instruments	CoP20 Doc. 61	The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation to adopt draft decisions 20.AA to 20.DD, as amended by the Secretariat, with minor clarifying edits to Decision 20.DD. The United States also supports the deletion of Decision 19.160.
62.	Specimens produced through biotechnology	CoP20 Doc. 62	The United States <b>supports</b> the proposal to renew Decisions 19.161 to 19.163 and encourages further engagement by members of the working group to make measurable progress on the renewed Decisions.
63.	Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’	CoP20 Doc. 63	The United States supports renewal of Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 on <i>Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’</i> as presented in the Annex to document CoP20 Doc. 63.
64.	Disposal of confiscated specimens		
	64.1	Report of the Standing Committee	<p>CoP20 Doc. 64.1</p> <p>The United States <b>thanks</b> the Secretariat and the Parties for their work on this issue and <b>supports</b> the recommendations contained in CoP20 Doc. 64.1.</p> <p>We <b>support</b> adopting the amendments to Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species</i>, contained in Annex 1 to the present document, as it will clarify the decision tree for maintaining Appendix-I species in captivity and encourage the use of relevant information and materials on the CITES website by the Parties.</p>

				<p>The United States <b>supports</b> maintaining Decisions 19.169, 19.171, and 19.173. It is important to continue collecting information on existing networks and resources on the management of seized and confiscated live animals and to make this information available to the Parties as well as to develop additional materials to assist Parties, and to regularly report to the Standing Committee to confirm progress.</p> <p>We <b>support</b> deleting Decisions 19.170, 19.172, and 19.174.</p>
	64.2	Review of Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19)	CoP20 Doc. 64.2	<p>The United States is <b>undecided</b> on Kenya's proposal to replace the word "disposal" in the title of Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19).</p> <p>The United States <b>opposes</b> Kenya's proposal to delete subparagraph e) in Annex I Option 1 of Resolution Conf. 17.8 (Rev. CoP19).</p>
	64.3	Voluntary register of placement facilities for confiscated live specimens	CoP20 Doc. 64.3	U.S. Document
65.	Labelling system for trade in caviar		CoP20 Doc. 65	The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in the document.
66.	Trade in stony corals			
	66.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 66.1	The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in the document.
	66.2	Trade in asexually produced stony corals	CoP20 Doc. 66.2	The United States <b>does not support</b> the proposed amendments without further discussion. Further, we believe that a better course of action would be to include the development of guidance on this issue in the work of the next intersessional period.
<b>Exemptions and special trade provisions</b>				
67.	Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source			
	67.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 67.1	The United States <b>opposes</b> adoption of the draft decisions contained in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 67.1, and we <b>support noting</b> the work concluded to date and deleting Decisions 19.179 and 19.180, as they have been implemented.

	67.2	Considerations and recommendations for ranching of aquatic species	CoP20 Doc. 67.2	U.S. document
68.	Review of Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i>		CoP20 Doc. 68	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> adopting the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15), contained in the Annex to Document CoP20 Doc. 68. If adopted, these amendments will allow Registering Parties and the Standing Committee to have a well-tailored oversight of the narrow exemption for commercial trade in Appendix-I species.</p> <p>If these amendments are adopted, we would be <b>supportive</b> of deleting Decision 19.181.</p>
69.	Guidance on the term ‘artificially propagated’		CoP20 Doc. 69	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations of the Plants Committee in this document, including the draft decisions on <i>Guidance on terms related to the production and source of CITES regulated plants</i> because of the benefits to trade and conservation that come from greater consistency of implementation and accurate usage of CITES source codes by all Parties.</p> <p>The United States <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decisions 19.182 and 19.183 as they have been implemented.</p>
70.	Use of phytosanitary certificates as certificates of artificial propagation		CoP20 Doc. 70	<p>The United States <b>does not support</b> the adoption of the draft decision and aligns with the Secretariat's comments. We <b>acknowledge</b> the work that has already been done in updating the CITES website with the latest information and thank the Secretariat for their efforts in this regard. Due to the limited number of Parties who implement these special procedures and recognizing the overwhelming workload of the Standing Committee, we <b>do not recommend</b> further work be done on this issue at this time. We note, the United States has received phytosanitary certificates without the additional statement that specimens are artificially propagated as defined by CITES Resolution Conf. 11.11, and therefore they may not be accepted in lieu of a CITES permit. Therefore, the United States suggests <b>reminding</b> Parties to include the clear language from the Resolution when implementing these special procedures.</p>



Species conservation and trade			
71.	Assessment of Appendix-I listed species	CoP20 Doc. 71	<p>The United States <b>notes</b> the report and the recommendations by the Animals and Plants Committees.</p> <p>We <b>support</b> deletion of Decisions 19.184 to 19.185. The AC Chair at AC33 pointed out CITES already had numerous processes and mechanisms that could be used to address any concerns that may arise with respect to international trade in Appendix-I listed species, including the Periodic Review. Also, the assessments were often outside of CITES mandate, such as habitat loss. The U.S. generally shares these views (AC Chair, Secretariat, UK, Germany) which reflect that not all species declines are due to trade, necessitating other conservation tools outside of CITES, that there already exist a number of CITES Resolutions that overlap with and help address the recurring themes, and that there may be little additional value using the current methodology and process for the assessment of Appendix-I listed species. However, the Parties have raised concerns since the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC66; 2016, Geneva) about the high number of species in Appendix I (over 1,000) that are classified as Threatened according to the IUCN Red List and in decline. The U.S. <b>finds value</b> in developing some sort of mechanism to identify Appendix-I listed species in need of additional support but <b>does not support</b> the continued use of the current method as both time and funds can be better used elsewhere, such as in Non-Detriment Findings for Appendix II species in international trade.</p>
72.	Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade	CoP20 Doc. 72	<p>The United States has been an engaged member of both the AC/PC and SC intersessional working groups and <b>supports</b> the recommendations to delete Decisions 19.196-19.188 and adopt draft decisions in the Annex to the present document. We would also <b>support</b> the edits suggested by the Secretariat to simplify implementation of the decisions</p> <p>The U.S. has been the lead on several components aimed at CITES capacity-building. The development of capacity-building, including Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by</p>

			international trade should continue to be Party-driven as is outlined in the draft decisions.
73.	Trade in endemic species	CoP20 Doc. 73	The United States <b>does not support</b> the draft decisions as written we do not support the draft decisions as written. We could support revisions that align with the draft Guidance on the chain of custody required for demonstrating the legal acquisition of the parental/breeding stock contained in Annex 3 to Document CoP20 Doc. 49.
<b>Fauna</b>			
74.	West African vultures ( <i>Accipitridae</i> spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 74	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the revised Decisions 19.192 to 19.196 on <i>West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)</i> contained in Annex 2 to document CoP20 Doc. 74.
75.	Conservation of amphibians ( <i>Amphibia</i> spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 75	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> adopting draft decisions 20.AA through 20.CC to continue this important work.</p> <p>We do <b>not support</b> the Secretariat's recommendation to delete subparagraphs ii and iii from draft Decision 20.AA. While trade information on CITES-listed species is publicly available through the CITES trade database, individual Parties may have more data or more refined data on trade and harvest of specific priority species. The decisions are an invitation, not a requirement, and we see no benefit to reducing the availability of information, if Parties are willing and able to share.</p> <p>We <b>support</b> deleting Decisions 19.197 through 19.199.</p>
76.	Elephants ( <i>Elephantidae</i> spp.)		
	76.1 Report of the Secretariat and the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 76.1	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in paragraph 56 of the document, and with respect to the option presented in paragraph 56 g) we support deletion of the decisions.</p> <p>a) The United States <b>supports</b> noting the information in the document.</p> <p><i>Domestic ivory markets</i></p>

			<p>b) The United States <b>supports</b> renewing Decisions <a href="#">18.117 (Rev. CoP19)</a>, <a href="#">18.118</a> and <a href="#">18.119 (Rev. CoP19)</a> on <i>Closure of domestic ivory markets</i> as contained in Annex 1 to the document.</p> <p><i>MIKE and ETIS support</i></p> <p>c) The United States <b>supports</b> deleting Decisions <a href="#">19.36</a> and <a href="#">19.37</a> and revising Decision 19.35 on <i>Financial and operational sustainability of the MIKE and ETIS programs</i> as contained in Annex 4 to the document.</p> <p>h) and i) The United States also <b>supports</b> noting the new MIKE project funded by the European Union and <b>support</b> noting the funding needs for ETIS.</p> <p><i>Ivory stockpiles</i></p> <p>d) The United States <b>supports</b> adopting the amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> contained in Annex 2 to the document.</p> <p>e) The United States also <b>support</b> adopting the draft decisions on <i>Management of stockpiles</i> contained in Annex 3 to the document.</p> <p>f) The United States <b>supports</b> deleting Decision 19.156, and all of Decision 19.157.</p> <p>g) We see the utility in renewing and updating Decisions 18.184 and 18.185 as proposed in CoP20 Doc. 76.3. However, we note the Secretariat's comments in CoP20 Doc. 76.3 regarding the challenges faced while implementing these decisions, particularly with identifying Parties. Absent a new approach to address the challenges presented by the Secretariat in SC78 Doc. 54.1 (Rev. 1), we are <b>unlikely to support</b> renewing Decisions 18.184 and 18.185.</p> <p><i>Asian elephants</i></p>
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				<p>j) The United States <b>supports</b> noting the <i>List of key elements to be considered regarding registering, marking, and tracing systems for captive Asian elephants</i> as presented in Annex 5 to the document.</p> <p>k) The United States <b>supports</b> adopting draft decision 20.AA and revised Decision 18.226 (Rev. CoP20) in <i>Trade in Asian elephants (Elephas maximus)</i> as contained in Annex 6 to the document;</p> <p>l) We also <b>support</b> deleting <a href="#">Decisions 19.107 and 19.108</a>.</p> <p><i>Mammoth ivory</i></p> <p>m) The United States <b>supports</b> deleting <a href="#">Decisions 19.102 and 19.103</a> on <i>Trade in mammoth ivory</i>.</p>
	76.2	Implementing aspects of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) on the closure of domestic ivory markets	CoP20 Doc. 76.2	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> renewing Decisions <a href="#">18.117 (Rev. CoP19)</a>, <a href="#">18.118 and 18.119 (Rev. CoP19)</a> on <i>Closure of domestic ivory markets</i>, as presented in Annex 1 of CoP20 Doc 76.1.</p> <p>However, the United States does <b>not support</b> the proposed amendments to Decisions 18.117 (Rev. CoP19), 18.118 and 18.119 (Rev. CoP19), as written in Annex 1 of CoP20 Doc. 76.2.</p> <p>The United States also <b>does not support</b> the draft decisions, as presented in Annex 2 of CoP20 Doc. 76.2.</p>
	76.3	Ivory stocks and stockpiles	CoP20 Doc. 76.3	<p>The United States sees utility in renewing and updating Decisions 18.184, 18.185 as proposed in CoP20 Doc. 76.3. However, we note the Secretariat's comments regarding the challenges faced while implementing these decisions, particularly with identifying Parties. Absent a new approach to address the challenges presented by the Secretariat in SC78 Doc 54.1 (Rev.1), we are <b>unlikely to support</b> renewing these Decisions.</p> <p>The United States <b>does not support</b> the proposed amendment of Decision 19.156 and supports the Secretariat's recommendation to delete it, as its provisions are already addressed in the proposed amendments to paragraph 7 f) of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19) in Annex 1 of the present document.</p>

	76.4	Report on Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE)	CoP20 Doc. 76.4	The United States <b>notes</b> the report and <b>thanks</b> the Secretariat, TRAFFIC and the African and Asian elephant range States for their cooperation and efforts to continue this important work. The MIKE program provides invaluable information on trends in elephant poaching that are directly relevant to the illegal ivory trade.
	76.5	Report on the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS)	CoP20 Doc. 76.5	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the proposed amended language to Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP19), paragraph 27. g).</li> <li>- the proposed amended language to Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP19), paragraph 4.</li> <li>- the draft decision on Exchange of information between the annual illegal trade report and ETIS.</li> <li>- the inclusion of the bias-adjusted network analysis as part of the ETIS data analysis to better identify Parties and trade routes most affected by the illegal ivory trade and encourage its continued use in the ETIS analysis for CoP21.</li> </ul> <p>The United States <b>notes</b> the report by TRAFFIC on The Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) and the Illicit Trade in Ivory.</p>
	76.6	Results of the African elephant dialogue meeting	CoP20 Doc. 76.6	The United States welcomes the outcomes of the African elephant range State Dialogue meeting and <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decisions 19.167 and 19.168.
	76.7	Sustainable financing for the African elephant conservation and management	CoP20 Doc. 76.7	Recognizing that this document is the result of range State consensus, the U.S. <b>supports</b> the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 of CoP20 Doc. 76.7.
77.	Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)			
	77.1	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species</i>	CoP20 Doc. 77.1	The United States <b>opposes</b> the recommendation to delete Decision 18.105; we <b>propose</b> amending Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19), to instruct the Secretariat, subject to external funding and in consultation with the Animals and Standing Committees through their Chairs, to commission an independent consultant to prepare the report called for under paragraph 2 sub paragraph a); and we <b>support</b> the remainder of the document recommendations (i.e., note the document, and delete

				Decisions 18.100, 18.101, 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.106, 18.107 (Rev. CoP19), and 19.109).
	77.2	Asian big cats in captivity	CoP20 Doc. 77.2	The United States <b>supports</b> noting the report and recommendations in Annex 1 to the document and deleting Decisions 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.108 (Rev. CoP19), and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19). With regard to the decisions on tigers in captivity contained in Annex 2 to Document CoP20 Doc. 77.2, we <b>support</b> their adoption with some edits. The United States does not support the Secretariat's recommendation in its comments on the document to delete Decision 14.69.
78.	Great apes (Hominidae spp.)			
	78.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 78.1	The United States <b>supports</b> noting the report.
	78.2	Conservation of and trade in live great apes	CoP20 Doc. 78.2	The United States <b>supports</b> the drafts decision re-establishing the Great Ape Enforcement Task Force with edits to emphasize that a very specific and targeted Terms of Reference are needed to focus the work on improving CITES implementation regarding trade in these species.
79.	Pangolins ( <i>Manis</i> spp.)			
	79.1	Implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Conservation of and trade in pangolins</i>	CoP20 Doc. 79.1	The United States <b>supports</b> the document recommendations with edits to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 (Rev. CoP19) to align reporting deadlines and draft Decisions 20.BB and 20.EE with edits to encourage parties to undertake additional reporting and for the Secretariat to develop timebound recommendations for Parties affected by illegal trade in pangolins.
	79.2	Report on Decisions 18.238, 18.239 & 19.200 to 19.204	CoP20 Doc. 79.2	The United States <b>supports</b> the draft decision in Doc. 79.2.
80.	African lions ( <i>Panthera leo</i> )		CoP20 Doc. 80	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the revised decisions on African lion ( <i>Panthera leo</i> ), as recommended by the Standing Committee and Animals Committee, and with the additional amendments to draft revised decisions 19.205 (Rev. CoP20) and 19.206 (Rev. CoP20) recommended by the Secretariat in its comments, to reflect that the report on the comparative study of African lion population trends and conservation and management practices is available for consideration and review by the Animals Committee.

81.	Jaguars ( <i>Panthera onca</i> )	CoP20 Doc. 81	The United States <b>supports</b> welcoming the Lima Declaration and adopting the draft resolution with clarifying amendments, adopting the draft decisions with clarifying amendments, and deleting Decisions 19.110-19.114.
82.	Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard ( <i>Panthera pardus</i> ) hunting trophies	CoP20 Doc. 82	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions on <i>Quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19)</i> contained in the Annex to document CoP20 Doc. 82. In addition, the United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation that Decisions 18.166 and 18.168 (Rev. CoP19) can be deleted, as they have been implemented.</p> <p>We <b>commend</b> the work done so far, and we <b>are encouraged</b> that the range States remain committed to only making non-detriment findings and authorizing trade in leopard hunting trophies based on the best available and most up-to-date information, including conducting regular surveys, adjusting quotas as appropriate, and exchanging information regarding the process for determining quotas. We also <b>recommend</b> that best practices learned through this process are incorporated into the <i>CITES NDF Guidance</i> modules, for example recommended requirements with regard to age, sex or size of specimens, skull measurements, and other measures described in paragraph 8 e) of document CoP20 Doc. 82 to ensure any offtake is sustainable.</p>
83.	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 83	The United States <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decisions 18.256 (Rev. CoP19) to 18.259 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)</i> , as they have been implemented. We appreciate the efforts made under the decisions, resulting in improved information and guidance on conservation and management of songbirds in international trade.
84.	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)		The United States <b>supports</b> maintaining Decision 18.116 and <b>adopting</b> the four draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to Document CoP20 Doc. 84, with minor amendments to draft decisions 20.AA-20.DD to request that Indonesia report to the Secretariat on implementation of draft decision 20.BB and that the Secretariat report to the 81st and 82nd

			meetings of the Standing Committee on the implementation of these draft decisions
85.	Saiga antelope ( <i>Saiga</i> spp.)		
	85.1	Report of the Secretariat	CoP20 Doc. 85.1 (Rev. 2)
	85.2	Document by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation	CoP20 Doc. 85.2
<b>Aquatic species</b>			
86.	Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices		CoP20 Doc. 86
			The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the amendments to Decisions 19.213 to 19.217 on <i>Saiga antelopes</i> ( <i>Saiga</i> spp.), with the addition suggested by the Secretariat in its comments on Document CoP20 Doc. 85.2.
87.	Eels ( <i>Anguilla</i> spp.)		CoP20 Doc. 87
			The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations of this document, including the deletion of Decisions 19.189 to 19.191, as they have been implemented.
88.	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)		
	88.1	Report of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 88.1
	88.2	Draft decisions on trade, conservation and management of deep-water elasmobranchs	CoP20 Doc. 88.2
			The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in the document.
			The United States is only <b>partially supportive</b> of the draft decisions specifically directed at deep-water elasmobranchs. The United States <b>opposes</b> aspects of the draft decisions that reference a technical workshop or a series of workshops. We would be <b>supportive</b> of the contracted experts preparing the technical document(s), subject to external funding.
89.	Seahorses ( <i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)		CoP20 Doc. 89
			The United States <b>supports</b> the adoption of the proposed Decisions contained in the Annex to this document, which will support the successful implementation and enforcement of the inclusion of seahorses in Appendix II of CITES, aiding Parties in meeting their obligations under the Convention and helping to address illegal and unsustainable trade.
90.	Conservation of and trade in sea cucumbers (Holothuridae and Stichopodidae)		CoP20 Doc. 90
			U.S. document
91.	Queen conch ( <i>Strombus gigas</i> )		CoP20 Doc. 91
			The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendation to renew Decisions 19.233 to 19.236.



			The United States remains an active participant in regional efforts to improve the management and conservation status of the species, including through participation in the Queen Conch Working Group (QCWG). We concur with the Secretariat that it is important the work called for in these decisions continues and that the Animals Committee and the Conference of the Parties continue to monitor progress of their implementation
92.	Marine ornamental fishes	CoP20 Doc. 92	The United States <b>supports</b> the recommendations in the document, including the deletion of Decisions 19.237 and 19.238, as they have been implemented.
<b>Flora</b>			
93.	Agarwood-producing taxa ( <i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 93	The United States <b>supports</b> the substantive amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on <i>Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa</i> . <u>Note</u> : we have several editorial changes to suggest to the Resolution to revise legally binding language currently found in it.
94.	Boswellia trees ( <i>Boswellia</i> spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 94	Position pending
95.	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	CoP20 Doc. 95	Position pending
96.	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 96	The United States <b>partially supports</b> the recommendations in the document. We do <b>not support</b> draft decision 20.BB, paragraphs a) and b) unless the focus is narrowed to edible tuber orchid species rather than simply continuing to examine trade in Appendix-II orchid taxa broadly. Without narrowing the scope in draft decision 20.BB, paragraphs a) and b), the United States <b>does not support</b> their adoption.
97.	Brazil wood ( <i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> )	CoP20 Doc. 97	The United States <b>supports</b> noting the final report “ <i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> bows: Fine tuning traceability solutions” and deleting Decisions 19.249-19.253. With regard to the draft decisions in Annex 1 to the document, we support their adoption with some amendments to consider the cost and enforceability of traceability systems, and their ability to be linked to one another. We also propose an additional element to the draft decision to contract a review of existing voluntary marking or identification systems for <i>P. echinata</i> and other similar systems and prepare a report for consideration of the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee.

98.	African tree species	CoP20 Doc. 98	Position pending
99.	Neotropical tree species	CoP20 Doc. 99	Position pending
100.	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	CoP20 Doc. 100	Position pending
<b>Fungi</b>			
101.	Resolving the implementation of the CoP12 decision that the Convention applies to fungi	CoP20 Doc. 101	The United States <b>acknowledges</b> the points raised in the document and the feedback provided by Parties and observers at the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC78, Geneva, 2025). However, we are <b>not supportive</b> of the draft Decisions as presented, as they appear too ambitious for a single intersessional period and especially given that no fungi species have been included in the Appendices yet, we are concerned that such undertaking for taxa not yet included in the Appendices would be premature. We consider the report in <a href="#">Document SC78 Inf. 27</a> to be a strong foundation for future consideration of fungi species that may meet the listing criteria. Additionally, we believe that evaluating conservation status and trade impacts should remain the responsibility of individual Parties. The United States is <b>also not supportive</b> of the Secretariat's amendments.
<b>Appendices of the Convention</b>			
102.	Considering the 'look-alike' criterion Annex 2B A of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II</i>	CoP20 Doc. 102	The United States <b>opposes</b> the proposed draft Decisions on the look-alike criteria as we have concerns about the complexity, limited benefits, and potential to overburden CITES committees without clearly identifying existing problems. We believe that the current resolutions already provide sufficient guidance for look-alike species listings and that enforcement needs, such as simplifying identification, are better served under the existing framework. These criteria are designed to be objective, scientifically credible, and flexible, thereby providing guiding decisions based on best available information and the conservation status of the species. Reopening the resolution could potentially undermine long-standing consensus, introduce unnecessary debates, and compromise the scientific integrity of CITES processes.
<b>Annotations</b>			
103.	Annotations	CoP20 Doc. 103	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the proposed amendment to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) and the <i>Interpretation</i> Section of the Appendices, as well as the adoption of draft decision 20.XX on

			Annotations. We also <b>support</b> deletion of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP19).	
104.	Annotation #15		CoP20 Doc. 104	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of draft decision 20.AA a), but we <b>oppose</b> adoption of draft decision 20.AA b). The United States also supports requesting the Secretariat to publish the revised “Report on the impact of CITES exemptions for Dalbergia and Guibourtia” on the webpage on CITES and forests, and deleting Decisions 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.322 (Rev. CoP19).
105.	Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another			
	105.1	Report of the Secretariat at the request of the Standing Committee	CoP20 Doc. 105.1	The United States <b>supports</b> encouraging Parties to consult the draft Guidance, adopt the draft decision found in Annex 1 to the document, and delete Decision 18.151 (Rev. CoP19).
	105.2	Facilitating legal trade and sustainable use during periods of transition	CoP20 Doc. 105.2	U.S. Document
106.	Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species		CoP20 Doc. 106	The United States <b>supports</b> the deletion of Decisions 18.317 (Rev. CoP19) and 19.265. The United States had previously been concerned about the complexities of developing an information database, housing it, and cost to periodically update trade data in the system. The United States had believed there are higher priority issues concerning trade in CITES-listed tree species on which the Secretariat should focus, rather than continue to work on the implementation of this matter.
107.	Informal review mechanism of existing and proposed annotations		CoP20 Doc. 107	The United States <b>supports</b> adoption of the draft decisions in the Annex to the document, to be included in the mandate of the Standing Committee’s annotations working group, if re-established and deletion of Decisions 19.266 and 19.267.
108.	Orchids specimens exempted through annotation #4g)		CoP20 Doc. 108	The United States <b>does not support</b> adoption of the proposed revised draft decisions on <i>Orchid specimens exempted through annotation #4 g)</i>
109.	Annotation of Cape aloe ( <i>Aloe ferox</i> )		CoP20 Doc. 109	The United States <b>supports</b> deleting Decisions 18.323 (Rev. CoP19) to 18.326 (Rev. CoP19), which have been implemented.  The United States also <b>supports</b> the observation that the harvest of <i>A. ferox</i> appears to be well managed in South Africa though the picture is

			not as clear from Lesotho who has noted illegal exports. Trade data does not clearly show a positive or negative impact to the species as a result of the exemption on finished products.
<b>Nomenclature matters</b>			
110.	Standard nomenclature	CoP20 Doc. 110	Position pending
111.	Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings	CoP20 Doc. 111	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the adoption of the proposed amendments contained in Annex 1 and Annex 2 to Document CoP20 Doc. 111. The United States actively participated in drafting the proposed amendments. In our view, nomenclature updates to Appendix-III taxa should be made by Parties through the proposed process for amending Appendix III as described in Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) and not as part of the updates to nomenclature for Appendices I and II taxa at meetings of the Conference of the Parties.</p> <p>With adoption of the proposed amendments contained in Annex 1 and Annex 2 to the document, the United States <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 18.313 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.314 (Rev. CoP19), as they have been implemented.</p>
112.	Higher taxon listings in the Appendices	CoP20 Doc. 112	<p>The United States <b>supports</b> the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Standard nomenclature</i> in paragraph 14 of Document CoP20 Doc. 112, in order to clarify that any proposed changes to include higher taxonomic levels in the Appendices should follow the approach for other proposed nomenclature changes that is already detailed in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19).</p> <p>With adoption of the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) in Document CoP20 Doc. 112, the United States <b>supports</b> deletion of Decisions 19.272 and 19.273, as they have been implemented.</p>
113.	Taxonomy and nomenclature of African elephants ( <i>Loxodonta</i> spp.)	CoP20 Doc. 113	Regarding the three options on how to reflect the recognition of <i>L. cyclotis</i> in the Appendices: The United States <b>supports</b> inclusion of the genus <i>Loxodonta</i> in Appendix I, which is most consistent with how the species was originally listed and is presently listed, with all elephants in <i>Loxodonta</i> genus included in the current listing of <i>Loxodonta africana</i> .

			Accordingly, the United States <b>supports option B or C</b> to reflect the change in elephant nomenclature in the CITES Appendices. The United States <b>supports</b> the other three recommendations in the document.
<b>Proposals to amend the Appendices</b>			
114.	Proposals to amend Appendices I and II		See species proposal table
	114.1	Secretariat's assessment of the proposals to amend Appendices I and II	N/A (incorporated into species proposals)
	114.2	Comments from Parties	CoP20 Doc. 114.2 N/A
	114.3	Comments from statutory consultees	CoP20 Doc. 114.3 N/A
<b>Conclusion of the meeting</b>			
Determination of the time and venue of the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties		<i>No document</i>	N/A
Closing remarks (Observers, Parties, CITES Secretary General, Host Government)		<i>No document</i>	N/A