

Convention on the Conservation
of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

Recommendation No. 210 (2021) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 3rd December 2021, on e-commerce and Invasive Alien Species.

The Standing Committee to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention.

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and its natural habitats;

Recalling that Article 11, paragraph 2.b, of the Convention requires parties to strictly control the introduction of non-native species;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 91 (2002) on invasive alien species that threaten biological diversity in islands and geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 99 (2003) on the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 125 (2007) on trade in invasive and potentially invasive alien species in Europe;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 154 (2011) on the European Code of Conduct on Pets and Invasive Alien Species;

Recalling the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with its 20 headline Aichi targets for 2020, adopted at COP 10 of the CBD and in particular Target 9 devoted to invasive alien species (IAS): “By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment”;

Recalling the EU Regulation No. 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species;

Recalling Decision XIII/13 adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity which recognised the serious threat that e-commerce poses to biodiversity and encouraged Parties, and invited other Governments, relevant international organizations, consumers, regular mail and express delivery service providers and e-commerce traders and managers, to reduce the risk of biological invasion associated with trade in wildlife via e-commerce;

Conscious that invasive alien species are assessed as one of the five direct drivers of biodiversity loss in the IPBES [Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#), approved by the IPBES Plenary at its 7th session in May 2019 in Paris, France (IPBES-7);

Conscious of the considerable increase of e-commerce over the past years as well as of its major role as an IAS introduction pathway and the difficulties encountered in regulating this trade;

Referring to the Guidance Document on e-Commerce and Invasive Alien Species [document [T-PVS/Inf\(2021\)39](#)];

Recommends that Contracting Parties:

1. Raise awareness on biological invasion risks associated with e-commerce, among all relevant subjects and institutions,
2. Adopt and enforce legislations regulating invasive alien species, and make the lists of regulated species easily accessible to all subjects (sellers, buyers, platforms, custom organisations, environmental protection agencies, etc.),
3. Collaborate with the main platforms and actors of e-trade of plants and animals to prevent the e-commerce of invasive alien species,
4. Ensure that sellers and buyers are provided with key information and warnings on the species they sell or buy, including on their potential invasiveness,
5. Collaborate with relevant international and regional organizations as well as neighbouring states and trade partners to develop and carry-out monitoring of e-commerce of invasive alien species at all scales,
6. Keep the Standing Committee informed on the measures taken to implement this recommendation.

Invites Observer States to take note of this recommendation and implement as appropriate.