



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties report:

Report 171

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Flora and
Fauna

**Report 171 of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties:
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna**

The Government thanks the Committee for its consideration of the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna*, which was tabled on 19 June 2017. The Government provides the following response to the Committee's recommendations on this matter.

Recommendation 1

The Committee requests the Department of Environment and Energy notify it of future proposed amendments to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and its appendices, prior to the Conference of the Parties. If the Department of Environment and Energy is unable to do this, the Committee recommends that the Government lodge reservations to amendments adopted at future Conferences of the Parties so that the parliamentary review of such treaty actions can be conducted before Australia is legally bound.

The Government acknowledges the Committee's concerns regarding timing of the amendment to the appendices to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Every effort will be made to ensure that the Committee is notified of proposed treaty amendments ahead of future Conferences of the Parties.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Minister for the Environment introduce legislation into the Parliament that amends the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act to allow for the regular and efficient cross-border movement of musical instruments that would otherwise be regulated by the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species, and its associated appendices, by the commencement of the Autumn sittings in 2018.

The Government accepts the Committee's recommendation to introduce legislation to enable improved cross-border movement of musical instruments. The Department of the Environment and Energy will prepare amendments to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and will seek their introduction in due course.