



CITES Governing structures

CITES Secretariat

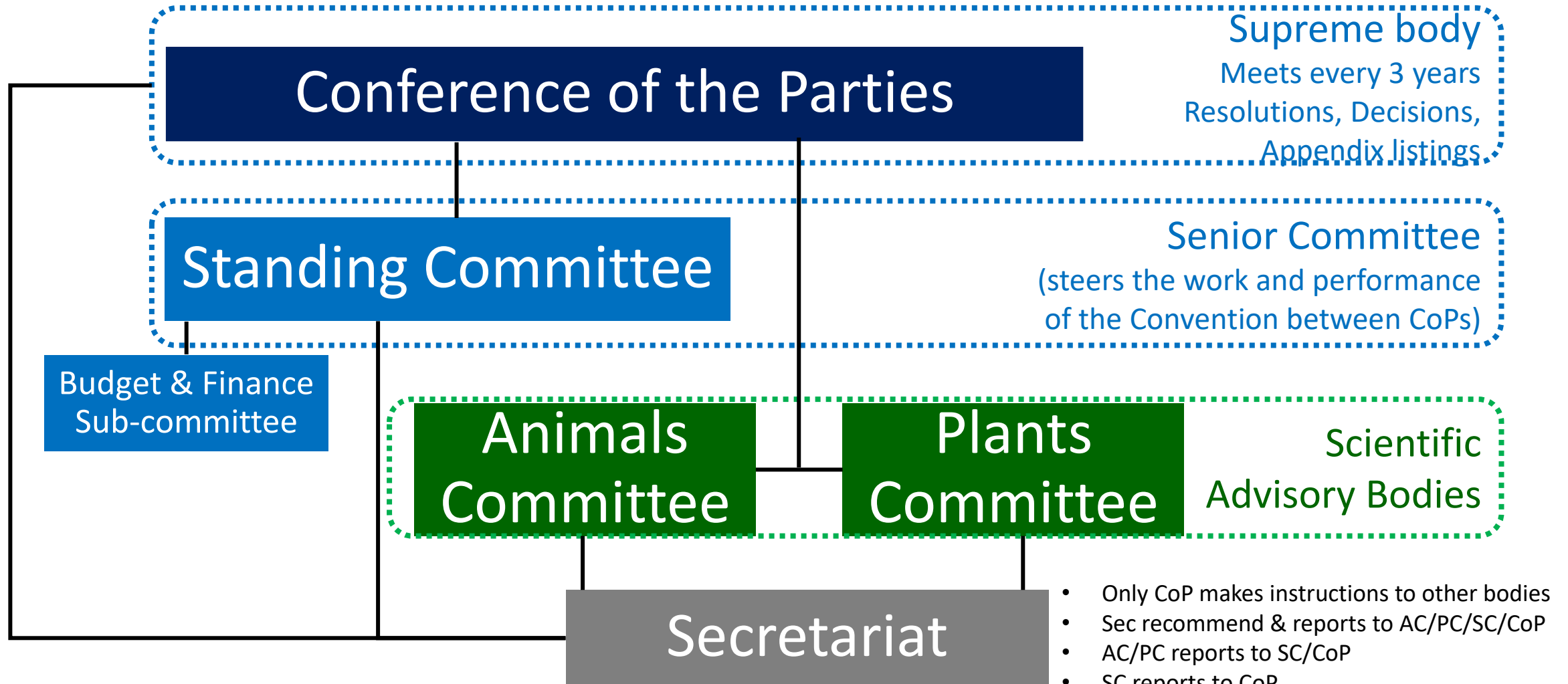
Pre-INC-3 webinar No.1 - Reflections on Institutional Structures in MEAs
22 August 2023

What is CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) ?

- **International agreement** signed on 3 March, 1973
- **Legally-binding instrument** with 184 Parties: 183 countries + EU
- **Objective:** ensure that wild fauna and flora in international trade are not exploited unsustainably
- Combines **wildlife and trade** themes with common **procedural mechanisms**
- **Three appendixes (I, II and III) regularly amended:**
 - strictest control of international commercial trade in species threatened with extinction
 - effective regulation of international trade in others

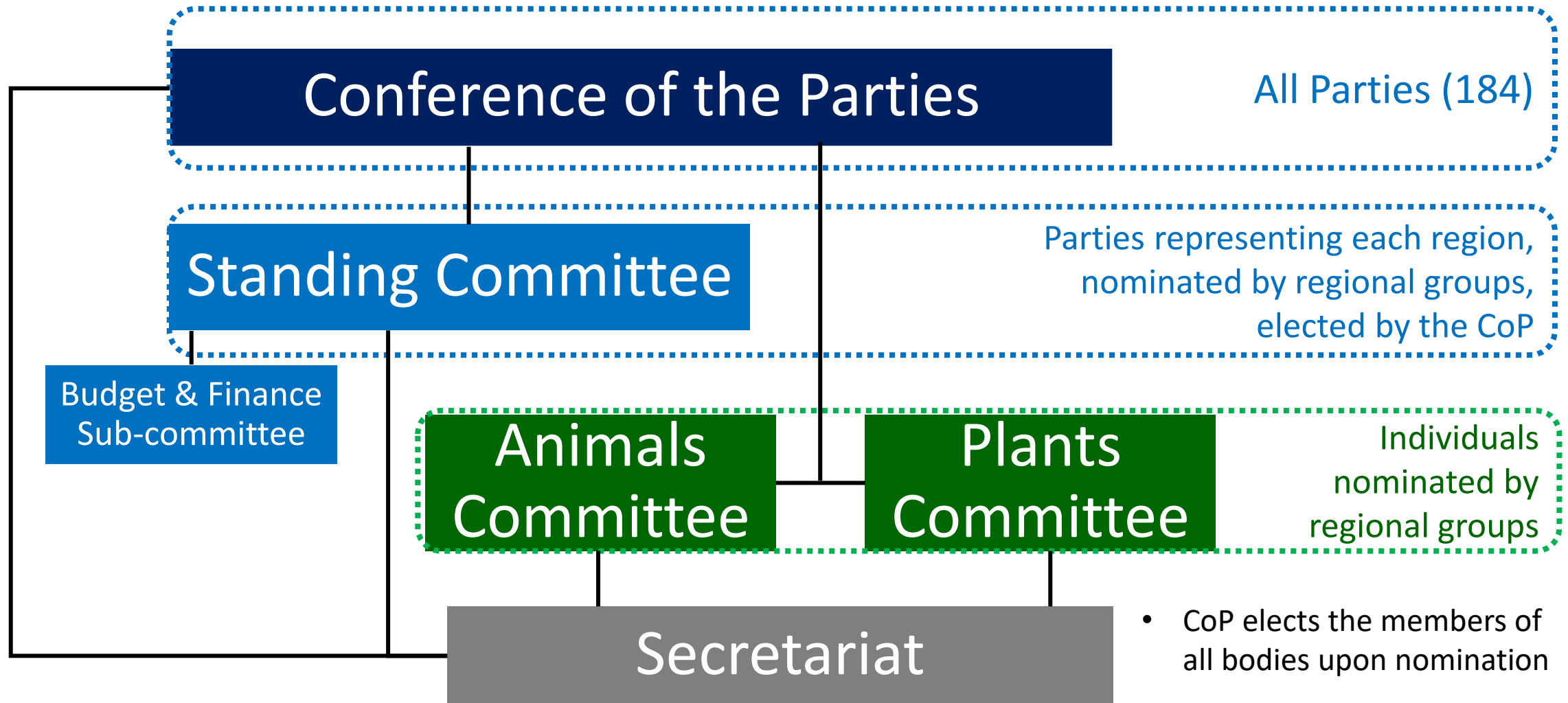


CITES Governance structure



Ref: Resolution Conf. 18.2 *Establishment of Committees*

CITES Governance structure: representation



CITES National Authorities

Management Authority/ies

Scientific Authority/ies

Enforcement Focal Points



CITES Compliance mechanisms

Annual reports – CITES permitting/trade
National Legislation
Review of Significant Trade
Review of trade in captive-bred animals
Article XIII process
National Ivory (& Rhino) Action Plan process



Various compliance mechanisms in place to identify/monitor
Failure to meet may result in trade suspensions
(by taxa, or all CITES-related trade)