

Overview of coral products in trade and relevant Resolutions / Decisions for implementation of CITES provisions in EU

Note: fossil corals exempted from CITES, but no common CITES interpretation on definition of “fossil corals”

	Products that are covered by CITES Convention
.....	Products not covered by CITES Convention
.....	Products that, following EU interpretation on fossil corals in line with CITES Conf. Proposal 13.36, are not covered by Convention

Corals: Helioporidae spp. (Blue corals), Tubiporidae spp. (Organpipe corals), ANTHIPATHARIA spp. (black corals), SCLERACTINIA (order) Stony corals?(hard corals), Milleporidae and Stylasteridae.

Please note: NB – there is **no** exemption for fossils of black corals (Antipatharia)

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Resolution Conf. 11.10 on definitions	Definition of products	Operative part of Resolutions and notifications	Implementation CITES and EU
Coral sand	<i>Coral sand</i> – material consisting entirely or in part of finely crushed fragments of dead coral no larger than 2 mm in diameter and which may also contain, amongst other things, the remains of Foraminifera, mollusc and crustacean shell, and coralline algae. Not identifiable to the level of genus.	Res: 9.6 (rev CoP12): not readily recognisable so not covered by convention	Not covered by convention No CITES export permit and no EU CITES import permit required
Coral fragments	<i>Coral fragments (including gravel and rubble)</i> – unconsolidated fragments of broken finger-like dead coral and other material between 2 and 30 mm in diameter, which is not identifiable to the level of genus.	Res: 9.6 (Rev CoP12): not readily recognisable so not covered by convention	Not covered by convention No CITES export permit and no EU CITES import permit required
Coral rock (also live rock and substrate)	<i>Coral rock</i> – hard consolidated material, >3 cm in diameter, formed of fragments of dead coral and which may also contain cemented sand, coralline algae and other sedimentary rocks. <i>‘Substrate’</i> is the term given to pieces of coral rock to which are attached invertebrates (of species not included in the CITES Appendices) and which are	Res. 12.3 Part X: a) on permits and certificates for trade in specimens that are readily recognizable as coral rock [as defined in Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP12) Annex], where the genus cannot be readily determined, the scientific name for the specimens should be ‘Scleractinia’; b) any Party wishing to authorize export of coral rock identified to ordinate level only should, in view of the inability to make a non-detriment finding for coral rock pursuant to Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), apply the	EU interpretation following Prop 13.36: coral rock and substrate to be regarded as fossils, so exempted from CITES. some CITES Parties might issue CITES export permits; some might not For EU: no import permits issued and required (even when export permit of country of origin is issued)

	<p><u>transported in water like live corals.</u></p> <p><i>PS: Coral rock is <u>not identifiable to the level of genus</u> but is recognizable to the level of <u>order</u>. The definition excludes specimens defined as dead coral.</i></p> <hr/> <p><i>'Live rock' is the term given to pieces of coral rock to which are attached live specimens of invertebrate species and coralline algae not included in the CITES Appendices and which are transported moist, but not in water*</i></p> <p><i>(* Please note that the words "in crates" at the end of the wording in Proposal CoP13.36 has been deleted in the EU interpretation, since the containers in which live rock is transported is irrelevant to the definition and in fact most live rock is transported in cardboard boxes.)</i></p>	<p>provisions of Article IV, paragraph 3; and</p> <p>c) Parties that authorize export of coral rock should:</p> <p>i) establish an annual quota for exports and communicate this quota to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties; and</p> <p>ii) through their Scientific Authorities, make an assessment (which would be available to the Secretariat on request), based on a monitoring programme, that such export will not affect the role that coral rock has in ecosystems affected by the extraction of such specimens;</p>	<hr/> <p>EU interpretation following Prop 13.36: 'Live rock' not fossils, so under Convention.</p> <p>individual CITES export permit and EU CITES import permit required</p> <p>(Please note:</p> <p>Other Parties may choose to treat these as fossils (if so those Parties do not issue export permit) and, even if provided with an export permit, no non-detriment finding is made on export (Res. Conf. 12.3.X.b) so EC non-detriment finding on import remains difficult).</p>
<p>Dead coral</p>	<p><i>Dead coral – pieces of coral that are dead when exported, but that may have been alive when collected, and in which the structure of corallites (the skeleton of the individual polyp) is still intact; specimens <u>are therefore identifiable to the level of species or genus.</u></i></p>	<p><i>Note that <u>Notification 2003/020</u> defines which taxa may be identified to genus level only and which must be identified to species level</i></p>	<p>Individual CITES export and EU CITES import permits required</p>
<p>Live coral</p>	<p><i>Live coral – pieces of live coral transported in water and that <u>are identifiable to the level of species or genus.</u></i></p>	<p><i>Note that <u>Notification 2003/020</u> defines which taxa may be identified to genus level only and which must be identified to species level</i></p>	<p>Individual CITES export and EU CITES import permits required</p>