

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Sixty-second meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 23-27 July 2012

Reports of regional representatives

ASIA

1. This document has been submitted by Kuwait as the Regional Representative of Asia\*\*.

**2. General information:**

- Regional Representative: Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kuwait
- Alternate Regional Representative: Pakistan, Jordan, Saudi Arabia
- Number of Parties in the Region: 33

Parties providing information for this Report: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Myanmar, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and United Arab Emirates..

**3. Introduction:**

This report summarized the activities of Parties between 61st Standing Committee Meeting (August 2011, Geneva) and 62nd Standing Committee Meeting (July 2012, Geneva).

- **Japan** represents Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- **Islamic Republic of Iran** represents Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan.
- **Kuwait** represents China, India, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

**4. Participation in CITES meeting:**

**Cambodia:**

Representatives of Cambodia participated in:

Meeting on development of CITES E-permitting in China (9-11-May-2012)

Workshop in implementation of CITES for Agarwood-producing species in Kuwait October 2011

---

\* This document has not been translated and is provided in the language in which it was submitted /  
Ce document n'a pas été traduit et est fourni dans la langue dans laquelle il a été soumis /  
Este documento no ha sido traducido y se presenta en el idioma en que fue recibido.

\*\* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

Asia Regional Workshop on Agarwood in Indonesia (22-24-November-2011)

**China:**

Participated the 61st meeting of CITES Standing Committee in Geneva: From 15 to 19 August, 2011, under the leading of CITES Management Authority of China (CNMA), China delegation composed of State Forestry Administration (SFA), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and HongKong Special Administration Region attended the 61st meeting of CITES Standing Committee.

Participated the CITES workshops on Agar-wood in Kuwait and Indonesia. CNMA organized a delegation attended and co-chaired and Workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood-producing Species in Kuwait (October 3-6, 2011), the delegation is composed of CNMA and Medicinal Plants Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Medical Science; Another delegation composed of CNMA and industry representative attended the Asian Regional Workshop on Agarwood in Indonesia from November 22 to 24, 2011.

Participated the 26th Meeting of CITES Animals Committee and the 20th Plants Committee: From 14 to 21 March of 2012 China delegation composed of CNMA, CITES Scientific Authority of China (CNSA), MOA and experts from Shanghai Ocean University, attended the 26th Meeting of CITES Animals Committee in Geneva; and another delegation composed of CNMA and CNSA attended the 20th Meeting of CITES Plants Committee in Dublin.

**Indonesia:**

Indonesia participates in Asia regional workshop on Agarwood 3-4 October 2011 in Kuwait.

Indonesia participate in 20<sup>th</sup> Plants Committee meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> Animals Committee meeting, and 61<sup>th</sup> Standing committee meeting.

Indonesia participates at the Meeting on the Development of CITES E-permitting System di Guangzhou, China.

**Islamic Republic of Iran:**

Iran was invited to participated in regional workshop on "strengthening implementation of CITES", was held in Riyadh from 19 to 21 December, but unfortunately despite of the interest of Iran to participation, the introduced members failed to receive visa from the host country.

**Japan:**

Japan participated in the 61<sup>th</sup> (July,2011) Standing Committee Meetings as a representative for Asian region.

Dr. Ishii participated in 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Animals Committee and joint meeting with the Plants Committee in March 2012 as its alternative member.

**Kuwait:**

Kuwait participates in Asia regional workshop on Agarwood 22 – 24 November 2011 in Bangka Tengah – Indonesia.

Kuwait participates as alternate member of Asia in the Twentieth meeting of the Plants Committee Dublin (Ireland), 22-30 March 2012.

**Myanmar:**

The Forest Department staff are participating in international training and workshop, and achieved to implement the CITES rules of regulation and illegal wildlife crime suppression. List of staff from Forest Department who participated in the International Workshops and Trainings related to CITES and wildlife law enforcement during year 2011 are described in appendix (I).

## Philippines:

1. Participation in national, regional or international CITES meetings or events, such as:
  - 1.1 Training of Trainers on CITES Policies and Species Identification 17-20 January 2011, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia participated in by three (3) representatives, each from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (DENR-PAWB), DENR National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) and National Bureau of Investigation (NBI);
  - 1.2 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group (AEG) on CITES, 8-10 February 2011, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam attended by a representative from the DENR-PAWB, the CITES Management Authority of the Philippines for terrestrial wildlife species;
  - 1.3 Joint CITES Ivory and Rhino Horn Task Force Meeting, 17-19 2011 May in Nairobi, Kenya attended by a representative from the NBI;
  - 1.4 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN WEN), 25-27 May 2011, Manila, Philippines attended by representatives from the CITES Management Authorities of the Philippines (DENR-PAWB and Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DABFAR), Philippine Centre on Transnational Crime (PCTC) and NBI. The Meeting was also attended by representatives from other ASEAN countries;
  - 1.5 61<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of CITES, 15-19 August 2011, Geneva, Switzerland attended by a representative from the DENR-NCR. A representative from Birds International Inc. (BII), a private breeding facility in the country also attended as observer; and,
  - 1.6 Marine Turtle Egg Trade Workshop, 16-18 November 2011, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia attended by ten (10) participants from concerned enforcement agencies of the Philippines (DENR, Department of Justice, Department of Finance-Bureau of Customs, Philippine National Police, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development and BFAR).

## Saudi Arabia:

- Sixty-first meeting of the Standing Committee - Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 August 2011.
- Twenty-sixth meeting of the Animals Committee Geneva (Switzerland), 15-20 March 2012; Dublin (Ireland), 22-24 March 2012.
- Twentieth meeting of the Plants Committee Dublin (Ireland), 22-30 March 2012.

## Singapore:

On 3 – 6 October 2011, Singapore participated in a Workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood-producing Species hosted by the Environmental Public Authority of Kuwait and co-sponsored by the CITES Secretariat and Ajmal perfumes company. It was attended by representatives from the CITES Management and Scientific authorities and non-governmental organisations (eg. TRAFFIC, agarwood and perfume traders and associations) from the ASEAN countries, Middle East, India, China and the CITES Secretariat. The workshop was convened to help improve the implementation of CITES for agarwood producing species (eg. *Aquilaria spp.*, *Gyrinops spp.*). The workshop included presentations on CITES implementation and agarwood in each country followed by discussions on the scientific and management related issues in 2 working groups. The scientific issues included the refinement of the current guidelines on non-detrimental findings and definition of 'Artificially Propagated'. The management WG discussed on possible exemptions of agarwood products, amendment of annotations in the CITES Appendices, permitting and enforcement issues etc. The workshop considered controls on all raw parts (eg. logs, chips, blocks, pure oil) and possible exemption for mixed oil of less than 15% of agarwood oil, finished products packaged for retail sale and trade as well as those excluded under the current annotations.

On 21 – 25 November 2011, Singapore participated in an Asian Regional Workshop on Agarwood organised by the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia, CITES Management Authority of Indonesia. It was attended by representatives from the CITES Management and Scientific authorities, agarwood traders and trade associations from the ASEAN countries, Middle East, India, China and the CITES Secretariat. The range countries presented on their non-detriment findings (NDF) formulation, current practices and agarwood

plantations management. Two working groups were formed to discuss on (i) scientific issues ie. current practice of NDF formulation for wild source agarwood, NDF methodology and guidelines and (ii) management of agarwood plantation and administrative issues. The workshop proposed amendments to the definition 'Artificially Propagated' under Res. Conf. 11.11 (Rev CoP15), amendment to Res. 10.13 (Rev CoP15) regarding use of word 'monospecific' or mixed plantation and the title. It also recommended that NDF for agarwood-producing taxa (all listed under CITES Appendix II) to be at the genus level, amendment to annotations in the CITES Appendices, proposed personal and household exemptions for agarwood (chips, oil, bracelet/beads/necklaces), proposed exemptions of certain agarwood products (drafting of a glossary to include types of products, units, terms), identification materials and labelling for agarwood mixed oil. The amendment proposals would be prepared by the identified proponents for submission to Plant Committee to be considered for adoption at the next CITES CoP16.

#### **Thailand:**

- 61<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee, 15-19 August, 2011, Switzerland.
- Workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood producing taxa, 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait.
- Workshop on Agarwood: Management of wild and plantation grown– agarwood, 22-24 November 2011, Indonesia.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Animals Committee, 15-20 March, 2012, Switzerland.
- Joint sessions of the Animals and Plants Committees Meeting, 22-24 March, 2012, Ireland.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Plants Committee, 26-30 March, 2012, Ireland.
- Meeting on the Develop of CITES E-Permitting System, 9-11 May, 2012, China.

#### **Vietnam:**

- Workshop on implementation of cites for agar wood-producing species, organized in Kuwait in October, 2011;
- CITES Asian Regional Workshop of Agarwood in Indonesia, November 2011;
- Twenty-sixth meeting of the Animals Committee Geneva in Switzerland, March 2012;
- Regional workshop on biodiversity and Forest planning in Malaysia, March 2012;
- The first International Chiefs of Environmental Compliances and Enforcement Submit in March 2012 in Lyon – France;
- CITES e-permitting systems to strengthen the protection of CITES species in China, May 2012;
- The first stocktaking meeting of senior officials and experts to review implementation of the global tiger recovery program in India, May 2012.

#### **United Arabs Emirates:**

UAE participated in the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City.

First Regional Workshop for West and Central Asia held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 19 to 21 December 2011. The Workshop was funded by the European Commission under the Project "Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade".

## 5. Cooperation with the Parties and others

### Cambodia:

Cambodia and Vietnam will sign a MoU to improve the cooperation in Wildlife, Timber trade control.

### China:

**In August 2011**, the CITES Management Authority of Hong Kong SAR, China, received a delegation of Tanzanian CITES enforcement officer and prosecutor and provided assistance in the investigation into a case of ivory smuggling intercepted in Hong Kong.

**In October 2011**, in collaboration with the CITES Management Authority of Indonesia, the CITES Management Authority of Hong Kong SAR, China, repatriated 609 head of live *Carettochelys insculpta* seized in a smuggling case to Indonesia for reintroduction to the wild.

**In February 2012**, 18 head of *Siebenrockiella leytensis* and 14 head of *Cuora amboinensis* seized in a smuggling case were repatriated to the Philippines. The CITES Management Authority of Hong Kong SAR, China, also received a delegation of Pilipino CITES enforcement officer on mission to escort these turtles.

**Sino-Mongolia Cooperation:** To strengthen the cooperation between China and Mongolia on the conservation of Saiga Antelope and implement the recommendation from Workshop on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Saiga Antelope (Urumqi, September 27-28, 2010). The meeting between the CITES Management Authorities of China and Mongolia held in Beijing, the representatives from Customs, Forestry Policeman, Wildlife Competent Authority, international cooperation department and representative from China Association of Chinese Medicine in China side attended the meeting, the CITES Management Authority of Mongolia, officials from international cooperation department and WWF-Mongolia attended the meeting in Mongolia side. The topic focused on how to strengthen the law enforcement activities, and a MoU for future's cooperation is under preparation. Currently both countries is preparing a joint training seminar for 20 officials in three Sino-Mongolia Boundary Customs, this training seminar would happen around August in Yili, Xinjiang Autonomous Region.

**Sino-US Cooperation: In the May of 2012**, a Chinese CITES delegation visited the US under the Sino-US Nature Conservation Protocol. The delegation met with officials from US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a substantial exchange of information on the potential proposals and draft resolutions had been exchanged, especially on the turtles and freshwater tortoise. Following to the meeting, the delegation also visited the Alligators management program, alligator farms and turtle farms in Louisiana, USA. It is believed this kind of exchange visiting will enhance the common understanding about the concept of sustainable use through the management.

### Indonesia:

Indonesia with the cooperation of CITES Secretariat, Local Government of Bangka Tengah and Indonesian Agarwood Association organized and hosted the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood producing species in the period between 22–24 November 2011, Pangkal Pinang City. 19 countries from Asia region participated in this workshop, and a document will be prepared by Indonesia and Kuwait to be discussed in 20<sup>th</sup> CITES PC meeting regarding the result of the workshop.

Indonesia conducted population survey of *Amyda cartilaginea* in West Sumatera the survey was funded by CITES Secretariat

Indonesia in cooperation with CITES Secretariat and International Trade Center (ITC) conducted field study concerning the Sustainable Trade of *Python reticulatus*.

### Islamic Republic of Iran:

The Meeting on Trans-Boundary Movement of Biological Specimens and Species was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2012 in Tehran, Iran. The delegations of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Republic of Turkey attended the meeting. The representatives of ECO Secretariat also participated in the meeting. The delegation of Iran made the presentations on the following issues and the participants exchanged their point of views and deliberated on the following items as the agenda for meeting:

- Identification, conservation and monitoring of species in trans- boundary habitats
- Identification, establishment and development of trans-boundary Protected Areas
- Illegal trade of biological specimens and species
- Development of related joint programs
- The participating countries agreed to have some cooperative and joint activities on controlling the illegal trade on the species

**Japan:**

As part of efforts to enhance taxonomic capacity under the East and Southeast Asia Biodiversity Information Initiative (ESABII), Japan carried out training programs for identifying CITES Appendices Species in cooperation with the Government of Cambodia, TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and the ASEAN-WEN in February 2012.

**Kuwait:**

Kuwait with the cooperation of CITES Secretariat and Ajmal Company organized and host International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City. 19 countries from Asia region were participating in this workshop.

**Myanmar:**

Regarding to international cooperation, Myanmar is closely coordinating and cooperating with neighboring countries such as China, India, Thailand, etc. for combating illegal wildlife trade. Forest Department has been submitting annually the implementation reports to the CITES Secretariat as CITES Authority.

**Saudi Arabia:**

Saudi Arabia has attended the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait.

**Singapore:**

A 6-member delegation from the Malaysian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment scheduled an official working visit to the Singapore Zoological Gardens (SZG) on 27 August 2011, as SZG is designated by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority as a rescued wildlife centre. The visit, led by the Secretary General of the Ministry, Dato' Zool Azha Yusof, was part of the Ministry and related CITES Management Authority's effort in the development and setting up of new wildlife rescue centres to be implemented under the new CITES Act in Malaysia. The visit included briefings by Zoo staff regarding the role and function of the Zoo and how they supported the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority's effort in housing and caring for the illegal wildlife confiscated from CITES enforcement cases. The delegation also toured the SZG's small animal quarantine and animal hospital and research facilities. After the Zoo, the delegation visited the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserves (hosted by the National Parks Board) where they learnt more about park management and wildlife rescue.

Between November 2011 and April 2012, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority met with several non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and trade industries, namely, International Trade Centre (ITC) Secretariat, Conservation International (CI), Project Aware (PA), the Asian arowana traders and Singapore Reptile Skin Trade Association (SRSTA). The meetings discussed on CITES issues eg. python skin trade, export of Asian arowanas to the US market and shark issues.

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority hosted a visit by Dato' Abdul Rashid Samsuddin (DG Perhilitan) and Dr Zaaba Zainol Abidin (Deputy DG Perhilitan) on 8 March 2012. The meeting discussed about regulation of pet shops, and pet shop licensing conditions for the various types of pet animals (eg. birds, fish). The meeting also shared information on the surveillance programs for pet shops and bird farms, as well as enforcement issues related to pet shops and pet ownership including the welfare and conservation of certain protected species. The Malaysian officials also visited some pet shops selling birds, small mammals and fish to understand about the pet shop grading system and regulations.

**Thailand:**

- Cooperation with Parties:
- Thailand-Lao PDR Bilateral Meeting on Wildlife Enforcement Cooperation, 13-15 September, 2011, Thailand.
- Cooperation with Indonesia regarding the orangutan's repatriation.
- Cooperation with others:
- Meeting between Department of Fisheries with Seahorse Traders.
- Meeting between Department of Fisheries with Crocodile Traders, Bangkok, Thailand
- Meeting between Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation and Wildlife Traders on 26<sup>st</sup> August 2011, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Meeting between CITES MA of Thailand and Wildlife and Plant Traders on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Regional technical consultation on improvement of Technical issues related commercially-exploited aquatic species.

**Vietnam:**

The second Bilateral Dialogue on wildlife tackle between enforcement agencies of Vietnam and Indonesia was held in Bali – Indonesia, November 2011. An MOU on strengthening biodiversity conservation between the two countries have been developed and submitted to Authorities for approval;

An exchange visit to South Africa by Vietnamese delegation in September 2011 to improve cooperation between two countries to deal with illegal trade of rhino specimen from South Africa to Vietnam. A MOU on strengthened enforcement of wildlife laws between Vietnam and South Africa was drafted and submitted to higher level for approval. It is planned to be signed at the end of the year.

**United Arabs Emirates:**

- UAE Participate in regional meeting of GCC countries CITES working group June 2011, Riyadh – Saudi Arabia.
- UAE Participate in the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City.
- Regional Workshop for West and Central Asia held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 19 to 21 December 2011
- UAE cooperation with International animal welfare organizations (IFAW) for training countries Non-Parties such as (Iraq – Bahrain) and training for who identify shahtoosh wool and shawls

**6. Implementation of CITES including conservation, legislation and law enforcement activities****Cambodia:**

With requirement of the National Constitution, the text of CITES Convention had been translated into Khmer and enacted by the National Assembly, the Senate and promulgated by the King (02-January-2012). It is now became the effective law.

**China:**

European Eel: In September 2011, CNMA and the Fishery Bureau of MOA jointly held a seminar on European eel, a new regulatory procedures was launched based on the considerations including industry size, market demand, CITES compliance etc.

Giant Salamander: In September 2011, organized by the Fishery Bureau of MOA, the Periodic Review Report of Chinese Giant Salamander (*Andrias davidianus*) was completed.

In September of 2011, the 7<sup>th</sup> Inter-sectorial CITES Implementation and Law Enforcement meeting on Endangered Species held in Yinchuan, Ningxia Autonomous Region. The meeting was jointly organized by the CNMA, Anti-Smuggling Bureau of General Customs Administration, and the Forestry Public Security Bureau of SFA, the representatives come from the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Procuratorate, the Ministry of Public Security, National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Justice, MOA, General Customs Administration, State Administration Authority for Industry and Commerce, SFA, CNMA and relevant officials at provincial level, more than 60 representatives attended the meeting. The representative from Traffic was also invited to attend the meeting, other than the report on law enforcement activities, the priority species and tasks for 2012 were also identified by the meeting.

China CITES Law Enforcement Coordination Group was established on December 9, 2011 in Beijing. CNMA convened the inter-sectoral launching event, with 50 representatives from 15 ministries and administrations attending the meeting. The coordination group composed of SFA, MOA, the General Customs Administration, the State Administration Authority for Industry and Commerce. Several ministerial sectors express their strong support to this group and wish to become formal member of this group.

Law Enforcement: Following to the establishment of the above mentioned China CITES law enforcement coordination group, a series of law enforcement activities had been carried out. More than 700 cases of illegal wildlife trade on websites and antique markets that openly traded in animal products from endangered species had been dealt with. The achievement had been made through inspection on 5,962 markets by around 100,000 police officers. During this crack down action, about 13 gangs, 1,031 illegal traders were punished and over 130,000 wild animals and 2,000 animal products worth nearly seven million Yuan (\$1.11 million) seized. Police officers also shut down 7,155 high-street shops and 628 websites selling banned animals and removed 1,607 related online messages.

The CITES Management Authority of China organized the Agarwood Management Workshop, Zhongshan, China, 23-24 February 2012. The relevant sectors including General Customs Administration, State Administration for Traditional Chinese Medicine, State Food and Drug Administration, the Ministry for Industry and Information, State Forestry Administration, China Wildplants Conservation Association and provincial authorities attended the workshop. The trade and resources situation, and the development of artificial planting techniques had been reviewed.

HS-CODE Reference Working Manual: CITES Management Authority of China, jointly with General Customs Administration, promulgated the new annual version of Wildlife Products International Trade Monitoring Referential HS-code Book, at the end of 2011, to update the status of endangered species and incorporated the provisions of relevant wildlife protection law and regulation into the tool book so as to facilitate the daily work of the customs officials and wildlife officials.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting on the control of illegal transportation of endangered species jointly organized by CNMA and the national Postal Bureau in Beijing from April 12 to 13, 2012. More than 70 representatives from 42 different sectors including both regulators and industry attended the meeting. The discussion on how to enhance the control and promote the common recognition and how to set up multi-sectors law enforcement working mechanism are the major topics, the fruitful suggestions and advice for the follow-up actions had been reported.

The CITES Management Authority of Hong Kong SAR, China, has taken the opportunity of several thematic exhibitions to promote endangered species protection.

Publicity and education activity was conducted in December 2011 at various control points in HONGKONG SAR to increase the awareness of the public and tourists towards the licensing control on endangered species.

#### **Indonesia:**

- Annual meeting on quota setting between SA, MA, NGO, Universities and other stakeholders as an implementation of CITES.
- Monitoring and evaluation for Annual Allowed Cutting for ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) by Ramin Working Group.



- Monitoring and evaluation of permanent plot of Agarwood producing plants by SA to study growth rate and population dynamic of the species.
- Monitoring and evaluation of captive bred operation between SA, MA and universities
- Finalize and legalize National Plan of Action (NPoA) of Sharks
- Monitoring stop point of sharks

On October 5, 2011, 609 pignose turtles from Indonesia were confiscated in Hongkong due to these specimens covered without proper CITES permits. Indonesia in cooperation with CITES Management Authority of Hongkong released The species into the nature habitat in Merauke, Papua.

On November 2011 Government of Indonesia confiscated living reptile specimens in Soekarno-Hatta airport which were 42 heads of Indian Star Tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*) and 38 *Testudo graeca* (originally from India) appendix II CITES. These specimens were imported from Thailand. Indonesia will send back the confiscated species to India.

Indonesia also confiscated 394 heads of Star Tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*), species Appendix I which imported from Egypt.

#### **Japan:**

As CITES Management Authority, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) issued 6,053 export permits including re-export certificates in 2010 and 3,667 in 2011. And also, METI issued 907 import licenses for items concerning species listed in Appendix I in 2010 and 812 in 2010. Furthermore, METI implements a regulation entitled the “Prior Confirmation System” to confirm each import of specimens of certain species listed in Appendix II or III, not only to verify the authenticity of documents but also to detect any fraud before anything can be imported with incorrect documents. METI confirmed 2,178 cases in 2010 and 1,939 in 2011.

METI introduced domestic electronic application procedures on CITES (re-)export permit /certificate in March 2012.

METI introduced the new CITES permit/certificate form in accordance with Conf. 12.3 in October 2011.

Japan is in the process of introducing the exemption provision of Personal and Household Effects as referred to in Article VII, paragraph 3 of the Convention.

#### **Kuwait:**

The Environment Public Authority of Kuwait revised the modified of the current CITES national legislation “Resolution No.93/2003 regarding Sale and Trading in Endangered Wild Species”, to fulfill the requirement for classification the current legislation to grade I.

#### **Myanmar:**

Information sharing among law enforcement agencies, practicing one stop services, setting up check points and patrolling in protected areas have been carried out for the effective implementation of CITES activities. Public awareness programs about the rules and regulation of CITES and wildlife legislation to the owners of restaurants and souvenir shops are being carried out as additional activities for effective wildlife trade control. Police are assigned as special taskforces in Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary to make sure law enforcement in that remote area. The joint cooperation among staff of Forest Department and police are being carried out in other protected areas as well as check point to prevent illicit activities such as hunting, chopping trees, collecting natural resources, trans boundary wildlife trade etc. List of wildlife seizures in Myanmar 2011 are described in appendix (II).

Moreover, the Protection of Wildlife and Protected Areas Law (1994) has been amended recently, 2012, to be compatible with current situation of the country as well as to be in line with the needs of CITES. It is a great support to combating the wildlife crimes.

## Philippines:

### 2. CITES activities in the country, in respect to:

#### 2.1 Review of the Appendices

The DENR-PAWB, in collaboration with the academe, non-government organizations and scientific authorities has started the review of the "National List of Threatened Wild Fauna and Flora", that include CITES-listed species with the end view of updating the lists for conservation, protection and enforcement purposes.

#### 2.2 CITES-related Projects

2.2.1 The Philippines is one of the implementing partners of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity for the project "*Expanded Taxonomic Capacity Building and Governance for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*". Through this Project, the Philippines participated in the CBD-Global Taxonomy Initiatives to provide the taxonomic information and expertise needed.

2.2.2 The Philippines, through the United Nations Development Programme-GEF funded-project, Biodiversity Partnerships Project, is presently at the initial stage of developing the CITES E-permitting System. It aims to streamline and facilitate the issuance of CITES permits in support to the wildlife business industry and CITES E-Permit Project. It also aims to promote paperless use of common information exchange format, protocols and standards, advice on signatures and other electronic security measures.

#### 2.3 Registration of operations breeding Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes.

2.3.1 The application of Birds International Inc. for the registration of its commercial breeding operations for birds listed under Appendix I (*Cacatua sulphurea abbotti*, *Cacatua sulphurea citrinocristata*, *Cacatua sulphurea sulphurea*, and *Cacatua moluccensis*) was further reviewed and deliberated by the Animals Committee in March 2012.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Philippines (PH) and the Government of Indonesia (IN) was signed 18 June 2009 concerning collaboration on the *in situ* conservation of above-said Indonesian *Cacatua* species. The joint discussion of PH and IN to clarify and finalize the Action Plan is planned to take place in 2012.

### 3. Country priorities to strengthen the scientific basis of the implementation of CITES e.g. priority species and taxa; research projects being carried out, new developments in identification methods, research needs; population management priorities; emerging issues; species listing needs).

#### 3.1 Enforcement of wildlife laws.

The DENR had forty two (42) wildlife apprehensions with a total number of 2,415 assorted wildlife species confiscated in year 2011. Twelve (12) cases of violations against wildlife laws, including CITES, were filed in Philippine courts.

#### 3.2 New policies were formulated to strengthen the protection of Philippine wildlife species. These policies are as follows:

- 1) Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases issued by the Supreme Court of the Philippines;
- 2) DENR Memorandum Circular, adopting the "Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations" for implementation by enforcement officers throughout the country;
- 3) DENR Administrative Order Establishing the "Adopt-A-Wildlife Species Program' and Providing the Guidelines Governing the Implementation Thereof;
- 4) DENR Administrative Order 2011-12 "Declaring a parcel of land in Mindanao as a critical habitat for *Rafflesia schadenbergiana*" ;

- 5) Presidential Administrative Order No. 10 dated 11 April 2011 "Creating the Philippine Inter-agency Committee on Zoonosis, defining its powers and functions and providing funds thereof"; and
- 6) DENR Administrative Order No. 10 "Declaring Cabusao Wetland Area situated in Camarines Sur as Critical Habitat for the Philippine mallard".

3.3 Five (5) proposed policies in support to the implementation and enforcement of

Republic Act 9147 (the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of the Philippines) are being finalized, as follows:

- 3.3.1 Proposed DENR Administrative Order establishing the list of economically important wildlife species for collection and direct trade purposes;
- 3.3.2 Guidelines on the accreditation of individuals, establishments, or institutions including community-based organizations engaged in the artificial propagation and trade of wild flora;
- 3.3.3 Guidelines on the humane treatment, care and handling of wild fauna in captivity;
- 3.3.4 Proposed DENR Administrative Order establishing Hinatuan Bay situated in Surigao del Sur as Critical Habitat for Dugong and Marine Turtles; and
- 3.3.5 Proposed DENR Administrative Order establishing certain parcels of timberland areas in the province of Batangas as Critical Habitat for the Golden-Crowned Flying Fox and the Giant Flying Fox.

3.4 Conduct of researches on population and distribution of wildlife species in the country are accorded priority in the wildlife conservation agenda of DENRPAWB. Wildlife studies and inventory are continuously being promoted among researchers to update the wildlife species information in the country. Among the scientific studies recently carried out are:

- 1) Philippine Spotted Deer (*Cervus alfredi*) Conservation Project  
Captive Breeding Component ;
- 2) Study on Social Behaviour and Communication of the Philippine Tarsier (*Tarsius syrichta*);
- 3) Inter-Island Variation in Philippine Tarsier (*Tarsius syrichta*);
- 4) Piloting Conservation Stewardship Program for the Protection of Philippine Tarsier (*Tarsius syrichta*) in Bohol, Samar and Leyte;
- 5) Survey for the Streaked-Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus sorgho philkus*) in the Philippines;
- 6) Scientific investigation on Rice-associated Wild Fauna and Flora for Research Advancement and Biodiversity Conservation;
- 7) Diversity, Ecology and Long-term Population Dynamics of Philippine Bat Communities;
- 8) Study on Lepidopteron Diversity and Biogeography in the Philippines;
- 9) Exploring and Protecting Philippine Biodiversity, from Reefs to Rainforests; and
- 10) Bee Diversity of Agricultural Landscapes of Southeast Asia. Promotion of CITES in the country:

## Singapore:

Singapore joined CITES on 30 November 1986 and implemented the Convention on 9 February 1987. The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore is the designated Management and Scientific Authority for the implementation and enforcement of CITES in Singapore.

### Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 2006

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority administers and enforces the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act [ESA], which was enacted in March 1989 to give effect to CITES in Singapore. The Schedules to the ESA list CITES Appendices I-III species. The ESA was reviewed and the new Act came into operation on 1 March 2006.

Under the Act, it is an offence to import and export any scheduled species without a CITES permit. The Act empowers the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority to investigate, take enforcement actions against offenders and seize illegal consignments of endangered species. The new Act include powers to investigate transshipment or transit cases, search, inspect, detain and seize any illegal CITES protected species found in such transshipments.

In the new ESA, the maximum penalty for unauthorized import, export, re-export and introduction from the sea, of endangered species is \$50,000 per scheduled species (not exceeding an aggregate of \$500,000) and/or 2 years' imprisonment.

Between August 2011 and April 2012, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority investigated a total of 22 cases involving illegal import, export or re-export of CITES species, and possession or sale of illegally imported CITES species. Of the 22 cases investigated, 15 cases were offered composition sums of \$100 - \$1000 and 7 cases were issued with warning and advisory letters. Significant cases are as follows:-

On 26 July 2011, Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority investigated a traditional Chinese medicine shop for selling alleged bear bile products. All 74 capsules were seized and representative samples were sent to the laboratory to test for its authenticity. Results returned negative for presence of bear bile. The TCM shop was fined \$500 for retailing fake bear bile capsules, an offence under the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act.

On 1 October 2011, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) of Singapore inspected an import shipment of live seafood from Malaysia and found 2 cartons containing 11 packets of crocodile meat fillet without CITES permits. The case was referred to the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority for investigations. The driver and importer were fined \$500 and \$1000 respectively for the offence.

On 13 December 2011, following a TV advertisement on the sale of *Hoodia* slimming pills, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority inspected a retail store selling the product and noted that the ingredients contained extracts from the CITES-listed plant species, *Hoodia gordonii*. Further investigations traced the source of the pills to a company who imported the pills from Malaysia without CITES permits. The pills were recalled from the retail stores and seized. The importer was fined \$1000 for selling *Hoodia gordonii* pills which had been imported without CITES permits, a violation under the Singapore's Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act.

On 16 December 2011, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority of Singapore at the Singapore Changi Airport detained a traveller from Thailand with 71 pieces of amulets claimed to be made of tiger skins. As the items were imported without CITES permits, they were seized and referred to the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority for follow-up investigations. Representative samples were sent to the Laboratory for DNA testing, and results returned negative for presence of tiger DNA. The traveller was fined \$500 for importing amulets claiming to be from real tiger skin, an offence under the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act.

On 22 December 2011, Madagascar and Panama listed 111 species of ebony and rosewood under CITES Appendix III, in an effort to curb the illegal timber trade through verification of the origin of the timber entering the trade. For these changes to come into operation, Singapore gazetted the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act (Amendment of Schedule) (No.2) Notification 2011. Prior to the implementation, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority has transmitted a circular to notify all timber importers of the new regulations and informed them to declare existing stocks in their possession so as to facilitate the issuance of CITES certificates of origin for any exports.

Singapore submitted its CITES annual report 2011 to the CITES Secretariat on 24 October 2011. The timely submission of a CITES annual report is an obligation of a Party to the Convention. The report recorded the type of permits and certificates issued quantities, species and types of specimens for that year.

On 12 March 2012, Singapore launched a watermark system for CITES permits, certificates and attachments such as tag lists for Asian arowana, captive bred birds and tagged crocodylian skins. The watermark features would distinguish the original CITES permits and certificates from the photocopies. The security features served to prevent unauthorised reproduction or fraudulent use of the CITES permits and certificates for import/export/re-export of CITES-listed specimens. A condition page had also been included with the CITES permits and certificates for permitted to comply with the permit conditions. Electronic stamp was implemented for all CITES permits and certificates. The CITES import permit would be e-signed by authorised officers from the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority and may be self-printed by applicants using watermark printers. The CITES export/re-export permits and certificates would be manually signed by authorised CITES personnel.

#### **Thailand:**

CITES Register farm Appendix I for commercial have 2 Farms in Year.

There are 22 aquatic wildlife checkpoints under Department of Fisheries enforcement in Year 2011-2012.

There are 44 cases of wildlife seizures/confiscations during August 2011-April 2012. Significant species are pangolins, turtles and tortoises, water monitor and snakes.

CITES MA for plant in cooperation with CITES SA for plant has been carrying survey the population of *Cycas chamaoensis* K.D. Hill and *Vanda coerulea* Griff. for NDF.

#### **Vietnam:**

A monitoring program focusing on aquatic species was conducted by Vietnam CITES SA and MA in December 2011 and national export quota to the farms in 2012 was set up.

A stock-checking against the status of hunting trophy specimens legally imported into Viet Nam conducted in April and May 2012.

Annual meeting of Vietnam – Wildlife enforcement Network Committee was held in Hanoi in April 2012. The meeting reviewed the illegal wildlife trade control plan, which was developed by Vietnam CITES MA.

A project on Non-detrimental finding on Vietnam's Cycads was conducted in December 2011 by CITES SA and CITES MANDATES The project was supported by CITES Secretariat. The final report has been submitted to CITES Secretariat for review.

### **7. Training/capacity building and public awareness activities**

#### **Cambodia:**

On 13-17 February 2012, Cambodia had conducted two ESABII training sessions on CITES Policy and Identification of species commonly found in Trade with support from Japan's Ministry of Environment, the ASEAN-WEN and TRAFFIC Southeast Asia.

#### **China:**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Multi-Sector Working Meeting on the Control of Trade in Endangered Wildlife on Internet was held in Qingdao, China from May 23 to 26, 2011. The current situation at both international and national level was reported and progress and valuable control experience had been exchanged through the meeting. The working priorities for the next period were proposed accordingly. The government sectors including CNMA, the Ministry of Industry and Information, MOA, General Customs Administration, State Administration Authority for Industry and Commerce and SFA.

Introduction From the Sea: In September 2011, CNMA and the Fishery Bureau of MOA held a joint seminar on Introduction from the Sea, with relevant departments and institutions on CITES implementation participating the meeting, so as to build up the common understanding among various relevant authorities.

The 2nd Law Enforcement Exchanging Training Seminar among China, India and Nepal were held in Chengdu, China from October 11 to 15, 2011. More than 50 governmental officers and experts from different NGOs such as IFAW, TRAFFICE, WWF & WPSI participated the training. The representatives reported their CITES implementation status, reviewed the progress had been achieved for the past period, identification techniques needed for the frontier officials, and the possible collaboration priorities among three-parties had been discussed and identified.

Jointly with the Customs General Administration, the CITES MA of China held a workshop aiming to strengthen the import regulation of *Bulnesia samentoi*, in which a training course on the identification techniques of major imported timber was staged for customs officers. Following its inclusion in CITES Appendix II in 2010, the CITES MA of China has taken a series of measures to improve the effectiveness of the regulation for import of *Bulnesia samentoi*, with focus on establishing information exchange mechanism with its counterparts from country of origin, and strengthening the risk awareness and enforcing capacities of customs officers.

An NDF Workshop was jointly held by China CITES MA and SA in Beijing, from February 20 to 21, 2012, with 26 experts outlining NDF case studies of flora and fauna species such as *Aquilaria* spp., *Cistanche* spp., *Acipenseriformes*, *Moschus* spp. etc.

### **Indonesia:**

National workshop and seminar in Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade.

CITES Implementation Training in Jakarta, North Sulawesi Province and West Papua Province.

Protected and CITES Appendices Plants and Animals Identification Training in West Sumatera Province and Papua Province.

National workshop and seminar in Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade

Management Authority of Indonesia in cooperation with Custom carried out socialization of Indonesian National Single Window (INSW) as an implementation of CITES permit in Jakarta.

### **Islamic Republic of Iran:**

The Postgraduate Certificate on Environmental Management (PCEM), the first training course of the ECO Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ECO-IEST), was conducted from 12th September 2011 to 21st October 2011 with participating of the members from Afghanistan, Georgia, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Turkey. The main objective of this programme was to provide skills for translating environmental knowledge into specific policy, management, and practical strategies enabling participants to develop practical, communication and other professional skills. One of the selected subjects for training in the course was CITES which in a 1 day and three sessions of presentations the key elements of the convention explained for the participants by Mr. Asghar Mobaraki, Scientific Authority for CITES in Iran.

The items that discussed as the training materials were:

- What is CITES
- The structure of CITES
- How CITES works
- Appendices
- The criteria for Appendices Amendment
- CITES implementation

In another part of public awareness activities, CITES Management authority for the country, Mr. R. Faraji, published a paper in one of the most common environmental magazines, providing basic information on CITES regulations.

## **Japan:**

The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) published manuals on identification of PSITTACIFORMES and widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcement authorities.

Also, MoE translated the Identification sheets for wildlife species traded in Southeast Asia made by TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and ASEAN-WEN to Japanese, and in addition, produced identification sheets for five TFWT (tortoises and freshwater turtles) species under ESABII, both were widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcement authorities.

METI made and distributed the leaflet to draw further attention to CITES-related souvenirs, targeting all travelers depart from Japan in July 2011 and tried to enlighten them on CITES.

## **Kuwait:**

Participate in west and central Asia regional workshop in Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade 19 – 21 December 2011 in Riyadh – Saudi Arabia

## **Myanmar:**

Information sharing and publishing articles about the CITES and wildlife legislation for the local people, stakeholders and line ministries are being carried out. The seminars, workshop and training to the park staff are being conducted as well. Lectures related to CITES are being taught formally to the trainees in departmental training courses at Forest Department, Ministry of Home Affairs and other respective agencies. CITES matters are placed into the lecture of training courses that are organized by local NGOs such as Myanmar Floriculturist Association.

## **Philippines:**

Promotion of CITES in the country:

a) Capacity building and Networking activities conducted include:

- Training of Trainers (ToT) on the Application of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations, 19-25 June 2011 with support from the United States Department of Interior;
- Completion in March 2011 of the National Wildlife Rescue and Research centre (with components composed of a wild animal hospital, quarantine, necropsy and commissary buildings) with funding from the Philippine Government;
- Establishment of partnership with FREELAND Foundation for in-country capacity building and enforcement support activities through the Letter of Cooperation dated 26 April 2011;

b) The Scientific community in the country

Aside from the CITES Scientific Authorities, the DENR-PAWB taps the assistance of various scientists/experts in the review of applications covering wildlife use, including trade as well as in policy formulation and resolving wildlife-related issues, The involvement of local scientists/experts is formalized through their official membership in the National Wildlife Management Committee, Philippines Plant Conservation Committee, Philippine Eagle Working Group, Sub-Committee on Biological Diversity of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development, among others.

c) Cooperation with stakeholders and NGOs

The Philippines through the DENR-PAWB sustained its collaborative partnerships with both local and international institutions / NGOs as well as with local government units, local communities, indigenous peoples/cultural communities, academe, private sector, people's organizations and the business industry in the fields of policy development, conservation project implementation, scientific researches, and enforcement. Among our major partners are Tanggol Kalikasar Philippine Biodiversity Foundation, Inc., Philippine Eagle Foundation, Haribon Foundation, Katala Foundation; Wildlife Conservation Society of the

Philippines, *Crocodylus Porosus*, Philippines, Inc., Conservation International Philippines, University of Texas, Field Museum of Natural History, U.S.A, among others.

#### **Saudi Arabia:**

Saudi Arabia held three training workshops for customs and quarantine officers in three of Saudi Arabian main ports as follows:

- Training for customs and quarantine officers in King Khaled International Airport ,Riyadh 11-12/09/2011
- Training for customs and quarantine officers in King Fahad International Airport, Dammam 25-26/09/2011
- Training for customs and quarantine officers in King Fahad Causeway , Dammam 2-3/10/2011.

Saudi Arabia hosted the First Regional Workshop for West and Central Asia in Strengthening CITES implementation to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade that has been held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 19 to 21 December 2011. The Workshop was funded by the European Commission under the Project "Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade".

#### **Singapore:**

On 10 October 2011, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority conducted a briefing to the National Parks Board officers at the Botany Centre, Singapore Botanic Gardens. The objective was to build and enhance understanding of what the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority do and facilitate information exchanges between the 2 agencies. The programme included talks on CITES, CITES Appendices and annotations, CITES legislations and application of CITES permits and certificates, exchange of herbarium specimens between CITES-registered scientific institutions and phytosanitary requirements for import/export of plants through Singapore. An officer from the National Biodiversity Centre, National Parks Board, also gave a presentation on the Convention of Biodiversity (CBD), national implementation framework and key issues relevant to Singapore eg. Global Strategy on Plant Conservation, Global Taxonomy Initiative and Access and Benefit Sharing.

#### **Thailand:**

##### a) Training/capacity building

- Preparing National Single Window for issue permit.
- There are 2 times of National Single Window Training for officer and customer.
- The scientific community about aquatic animal has a meeting on 10 August 2011.
- Thailand Legal Seminar on Ivory and Wildlife Crime Prosecution, 20-19September 2011, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Chaing Rai Wildlife Trade Regulation Course, 8-9 September 2011, Chaing Rai, Thailand.
- Chaing Mai Wildlife Trade Regulation Course, 26-27 April 2012, Chaing Mai, Thailand.
- Royal Thai Customs Officers enhance capacities through the CITES Virtual College on 14 March-23 May 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.

##### b) Public awareness activities;

Regular Awareness Campaign and Monitoring to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade, Chatuchak open market, Bangkok, Thailand.

Leaflet of seahorse identification.



## **Vietnam:**

A Training Workshop on CITES implementation and reptile identification was organized for Forest ranger, custom and police officer in Ho Chi Minh city, December 2011 with the cooperation of Institute of Ecology and Biology Resources;

A training workshop on wildlife law implementation and CITES was organized in May 2012 by CITES MA in cooperation with WCS in Vietnam for Protected Area officers, Custom, Police, Border army officers of Quang Binh, Ha Tinh provinces.

## **United Arabs Emirates:**

CITES Training workshops for Abu Dhabi police- Abu Dhabi customs-other authority in order to implement the provisions of the law on (October 2011) with International animal welfare organizations (IFAW).

CITES Training workshops for Doctors veterinarian at the Ministry of Environment and Water

CITES Training workshops for Engineers, agricultural at the Ministry of Environment and Water

## **8. Other CITES-related activities**

### **Cambodia:**

Representative from Forestry Administration of Cambodia had attended Regional Seminar on Improving Tools and Methods for Integrating Biodiversity Conservation into Forest Planning (26-28 March 2012)

Cambodia will host the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of ASEAN Experts Group on CITES on 6 -8 November 2012 in Siem Reap City of Siem, Reap Province.

### **China:**

The CNMA implemented a National Assessment Program on the Resources of and Trade in Aquilaria. According to the findings of the field investigation and data collection, a preliminary assessment report has been completed, in which all major aspects involving the conservation and management of Aquilaria are covered, comprising the distribution in the wild, artificial propagation, domestic and international trade, and recommendations to advance the sustainable utilization.

Scientific Institution Registration: Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev. CoP12), the CNMA, in cooperation with the Endangered Species Scientific Commission (CNSA), completed the registration procedure in the Secretariat for two scientific institutions, namely the Orchid Conservation & Research Center of Shenzhen and Fairy Lake Botanical Garden Shenzhen under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Annual CITES Coordination Meeting among Mainland, HK SAR and Macao SAR of China: To coordinate the CITES implementation policy, an annual discussion model among China mainland and two of its special administrative region had been established for years. From October 25 to 27 of 2011, CNMA organized the Annual Three Regions CITES working meeting in Zhengzhou, China, with presences of more than 30 attendees from different sectors related with CITES implementation from Mainland, HongKong Special Administrative Region and Macao Special Administrative Region.

The Development of E-Permitting System: The CNMA of China hosted the Meeting on the Development of CITES E-permitting Systems in Guangzhou, 9-11 May 2012, in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat, aiming to promote the exchange of knowledge and expertise among CITES Parties, *inter alia* Asia region, and to facilitate the development and implementation of CITES e-permitting systems.

### **Islamic Republic of Iran:**

Interpol 23<sup>rd</sup> wildlife crime working group meeting was held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of February in Bangkok, Thailand. Based on the invitation received from National Interpol office, CITE Scientific Authority participated in this meeting.

Deputy for Natural Environment and Biodiversity, Dr. Asghar Mohammadi Fazel, participated if the "1<sup>st</sup> International Chiefs of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement summit, Lyon, France, 27-29 March,"

proposing more international cooperation and coordination of the nations on combat with illegal trade of the species.

### **Myanmar:**

The information on most aspects of the CITES is being distributed at the intradepartmental and interdepartmental trainings and workshops.

The basic of the CITES are being distributed to local communities through media.

Trade in wildlife and its derivatives are occasionally investigated at pet markets and souvenir shops.

Departmental forces have been formed to carry out special duties for combating and controlling of illegal wildlife trades and poaching especially in National Parks and Sanctuaries.

Ex-situ and in-situ conservation are carried out to raise public awareness up in Parks, Zoos and Protected Areas with regard to the biodiversity conservation.

Protected Areas are being extended for in-situ conservation in high potential areas. Currently, 36 protected areas which covered 5.60% of the country area have been notified and 7 (1.07%) have been proposed.

Flora propagation and fauna breeding for commercial purpose are also carried out in Myanmar according to Protection of Wildlife and Protected Areas Law and CITES's resolutions.

Latest and updated information of CITES and necessary facts are regularly distributed to the respective agencies such as Directorate of Trade, Ministry of Hotel and Tourism and Myanmar Floriculturist Association.

Public awareness on environment and wildlife conservation activities are also being conducted at traditional and regional festivals and at some public ceremonies.

Seized offences of wildlife crimes are printed in private journals and forestry newsletters to draw more attention and participation of peoples in preventing illegal wildlife trade.

With the collaboration of local authorities and some local NGOs, nature and wildlife conservation talks are occasionally done in schools and village around the protected areas.

### **Saudi Arabia:**

Saudi Arabia Participated in the regional CITES working group for GCC countries 14-15 February 2012, Riyadh - Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia participated in the National Workshop on Green Customs Initiative 1-3 October 2011, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to make a presentation on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (CITES) in the session that was specified for the compliance and enforcement of specific MEAs.

### **Thailand:**

#### a) Research

- Demography of the Monocled Cobra (*Naja Kauthia*) in the Central Region of Thailand. Department of Fisheries and Mahidol University joined the research on Reintroduction Crocodiles to the Nature at Bung Boraped.
- Study of population Size of Seahorse in waters by Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau, Department of Fisheries.
- Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation and the Center for Conservation Biology, University of Washington joined the research on Genetic Analysis to Identify Source of Origin of the Confiscated African Elephant Ivory.
- Prepare to submit *Crinum thaianum* in Appendix III.

b) Conference/Meetings/Workshop/Seminar

- ASEAN SEAFDEC Conference, 18-20 October 2011, Bangkok, Thailand.
- ASEAN-WEN Law Enforcement Extension Office Transnational Wildlife Crime Meeting, 10 February, 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 23rd INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group Meeting and 17th Pollution Crime Working Group, 13-17 February, 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.
- ICCWC Heads of Police and Customs Seminar on Tiger Crime, 13-14 February, 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.
- 1st International Chiefs of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Summit, 27-29 March, 2012, France.

**Vietnam:**

- An International Workshop to develop a frame to monitoring the National Tiger Recovery Program was held by CITES MA in cooperation with Global Tiger Forum in Hanoi ,Vietnam in August 2011.
- A study has been carried out since February 2012 on the Status and trade of Elephant Ivory to develop A Government Briefing Document.

**United Arabs Emirates:**

- UAE Organized the first International symposium on conservation and propagation of Endangered species of Birds Abu Dhabi from 3 to 11 February 2011.
- UAE cooperation with international animal welfare organizations (IFAW) for Awareness campaign travellers (September- December).
- UAE Organized Exhibition Falcons and Hunting in (Abu Dhabi) from 14 to 17 September
- UAE Organized the International Friendship Festival of Falconry in Al Ain (Abu Dhabi) from 10 to 18 December
- UAE Organized the Eye on Earth Summit (12-15 December 2011, Abu Dhabi, UAE)
- Issuance the manual an introductory manual to get acquainted with the common Fauna and Flora in wildlife under the CITES (2011)
- Issuance Brochures for (Brochures for falconries- Falcons species and CITES convention - Definition of CITES in Arabic and English-Plants and CITES convention)