

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

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Fifty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 2-6 October 2006

Reports

Reports of regional representatives

ASIA

1. The attached report for Asia has been submitted by China, Japan and Malaysia.
2. Annexes 2 and 3 are provided in English only, the language in which they were submitted, as they were received after the deadline for submission of documents.

## ASIAN REGIONAL REPORT

Owing to the lack of information from most Parties in the region at the time of writing, this report contains information on CITES-related activities conducted at the national level for several certain Parties only and at the regional or sub-regional level, as well as on bilateral initiatives conducted between the 53rd (SC53, Geneva, June – July 2005) and 54th (SC54) meetings of the Standing Committee. Further information may be provided at a later stage, either before or during the present meeting of the Standing Committee.

1. CITES activities at the national levelChina

- a) In order to fully meet the requirements of CITES, China has made great efforts to improve its national legislation for CITES implementation. As a result, the Regulation for Management of Import and Export of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora was enacted by the State Council on 29 April 2006 and is due to come into effect on 1 September 2006.
- b) In order to prevent illegally-sourced specimens of wildlife from entering legal domestic markets, China has developed and imposed a labelling scheme on specimens of certain species, including among others musk, elephants and pythons, since 2005.
- c) China has sent representatives to the meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees, of working groups on the Strategic Plan, Sharks and Introduction from the Sea, of the Tiger and Falcon Enforcement Task Forces, etc.
- d) China strictly cracks down on illegal trade in endangered species. According to statistics, the Chinese Forest Police detected 455 criminal wildlife cases, confiscated 40,492 endangered animals and arrested 736 wildlife offenders throughout China in 2005. The Chinese Anti-Smuggling Bureau of the Chinese Customs has intercepted 423 illegal wildlife shipments and arrested 748 suspects since its establishment in 1999.
- e) In order to raise CITES awareness, the Chinese CITES Management Authority has organized several training seminars at the national level on, *inter alia*, MIKE, ETIS, endangered species enforcement and newly-adopted wildlife regulation training for forest officers. The 19 branch offices of the Chinese CITES Management Authority have organized 46 CITES training activities at the provincial level and 4,040 wildlife dealers and enforcement officers from Customs, forestry, police, market management and the quarantine department have received training. Several CITES posters have been jointly produced and distributed by the Chinese CITES Management Authority, IFAW, CI, TRAFFIC, WWF and WCS at the major international airports, seaports and train stations as well as the Sino-Russian and Sino-Vietnamese border areas and great Tibetan region. All Chinese embassies and consulates worldwide have been informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that diplomats and their relatives are not allowed to bring CITES specimens back to China. The embassies of African elephant range States in Beijing have also been requested to remind Chinese visitors not to buy and bring back ivory and other CITES specimens when they issue visas for them. Some Internet auction houses have been asked not to allow the auction of ivory. The details of 460 wildlife-related cases detected in China have been submitted to the CITES Secretariat and the Interpol General Secretariat. The details of over 200 elephant-related cases have also been submitted to ETIS.

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China

- f) The local CITES legislation, the Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance, which was enacted in 1976, will be replaced. The new Ordinance, the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, will streamline the licensing requirements

and strengthen CITES enforcement work in Hong Kong. The new law is scheduled to come into effect in November 2006.

- g) Hong Kong SAR continued to make contributions to CITES enforcement work. In November 2005 and January 2006, Hong Kong made two contributions for a total amount of HKD 700,000 (about USD 90,000) to the CITES Trust Fund for enforcement projects. Part of the contributions has been earmarked for holding an enforcement seminar in Hong Kong in late 2006.
- h) *Cheilinus undulatus* was included in CITES Appendix II at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004). To better implement the listing of the species, the "Western Pacific Workshop on policy, enforcement and sustainable trade for the CITES Appendix-II listed Humphead/Napoleon Wrasse, *Cheilinus undulatus*" was held in Hong Kong from 5 to 7 June 2006. Participants included delegates from CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, and other relevant agencies of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, as well as representatives of the CITES Secretariat, FAO, WWF, IUCN, TRAFFIC and the local fisheries. Participants in the workshop agreed on the need for further actions in the fields of regional cooperation, non-detriment finding, trade monitoring, legislation and law enforcement.
- i) Hong Kong SAR maintained a strong momentum in curbing illegal trade in endangered species. In the first half of 2006, the authority had successfully made several significant seizures, including 5,067 heads of frozen pangolin, 2,036 kg of pangolin scales, 897 kg of turtle plastrons, 106 heads of Indian star tortoises, 1,176 heads of frozen monitor lizard and 3,903 kg of ivory. In all these cases, Hong Kong immediately forwarded the information to the Parties concerned, including the Management Authorities of the source and the destination countries as well as the CITES Secretariat and other relevant enforcement agencies to facilitate timely investigation.

## 2. CITES activities at the regional or sub-regional level

Between SC53 and SC54, a lot of actions have been undertaken to promote regional or sub-regional coordination and cooperation in enforcement and implementation of CITES. These are listed below.

- a) The ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (2005-2010) was developed at the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (AEG-CITES) held on 3 May 2005 in Jakarta, Indonesia; and endorsed at the eighth meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), held from 18 to 20 August 2005 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) expressed their full support to the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (2005-2010) through the Joint Press Statement made on 29 September 2005 at their 27th meeting in Tagaytay City, the Philippines.
- b) 24-28 August 2005: Silk Road Workshop on Enforcement and Implementation of CITES, Urumchi, Xinjiang, China.
- c) In support of the implementation of Objective Two of the Regional Action Plan to promote networking among relevant law enforcement authorities in ASEAN member countries to curb illegal trade in wild fauna and flora, the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for the Implementation of CITES held on 1 December 2005 in Bangkok launched the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), previously referred to as the ASEAN CITES Enforcement Task Force in the Regional Action Plan.
- d) 16-19 May 2006: ITTO experts' meeting on the Effective Implementation of the Inclusion of Ramin in CITES Appendix II, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- e) 22-24 May 2006: International Executive Seminar on Implementing the ASEAN-WEN and first ASEAN-WEN meeting, Bangkok, Thailand.
- f) 4-7 July 2006: second Mekong sub-regional CITES implementation and enforcement workshop, Kunming, Yunnan, China.
- g) 17-22 July 2006: MIKE Database Training, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand.

- h) 25-28 July 2006: 18th meeting of the Interpol Wildlife Working Group, Beijing, China.
- i) 25-26 September 2006: first meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the Saiga antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*) [a cooperative initiative between the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and CITES], Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- j) Fourth meeting of the ASEAN Experts Groups (AEG) on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Dusit Hotel, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines (dates to be determined).
- k) MIKE Law Enforcement Monitoring Training, Namphui National Protected Area, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (dates to be confirmed).

### 3. CITES activities conducted bilaterally

In order to consolidate and enhance the cooperation on the conservation and trade control of Asian big cats and the Tibetan antelope, a programme of exchange between officials working in the field of CITES was carried out in the first half of 2006 with financial support from TRAFFIC East Asia. A Chinese delegation visited India from 24 to 30 May, and in return an Indian delegation visited China from 20 to 26 June. Cooperation in the fields of conservation and trade control of Asian big cats and the Tibetan antelope was discussed. A summary record of the discussions was signed by the Chinese Vice-Forestry Administration and the Indian Special Secretary for Forests. During the Indian delegation's visit in China, two officials from Nepal also visited China on the invitation of the CITES Management Authority of China. A workshop was convened on 22 June with participants from the three countries and interested NGOs.

## 1. Introduction

This report summarizes of the activities of Parties between the 53rd meeting, Geneva (Switzerland) 27 June- 1 July 2005 and the 54th meeting Standing Committee, Geneva (Switzerland) 2-6 October 2006. Japan represents the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen for the 54th meeting and this report has been prepared with contributions from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

## 2. Participation in CITES meetings

### Japan

#### a) CITES Standing Committee

The Japanese delegation participated in the 53<sup>rd</sup> CITES Standing Committee as a member of an Asian Representative.

#### b) CITES Animals Committee

Dr Nobuo Ishii contributed to the Animals Committee as its alternate member of Asia. The Japanese delegation participated in the 21st Animals Committee as an observer.

### Kuwait

The State of Kuwait participated in 53rd meeting of Standing Committee, Geneva (Switzerland), June 27- July 1, 2005, 16th meeting of the CITES Plants Committee, Lima, Peru July 3-8, 2006 and 22nd meeting of the CITES Animals Committee, Lima, Peru 7-13, 2006.

### Qatar

The State of Qatar has participated in the 50th meeting of the Standing Committee which was held in Switzerland (June 2005), and will participate in the 54th meeting in October 2006.

### Syria

Syria participated for the first time in the CITES Asian Regional Meeting in Manila the Philippines 19-21 July 2004. Syria also participated for the first time in the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Bangkok – Thailand, 2-14 October 2004.

### United Arab Emirates

Over the last year the UAE has been involved in and participated in many CITES meetings both regionally and internationally:

- a) The 53rd Standing Committee meeting in Geneva, Switzerland from 27 June to 1 July 2005.
- b) CITES Training Workshop for North African Arab-Speaking Parties held in Rabat, Morocco from 5 to 7 December 2005.
- c) CITES Workshop for Training of Trainers for Management Authority and Customs Officials held in Kuwait City from 11 to 15 March 2006.
- d) Enforcement Training Workshop for CITES Authorities of Syria held in Damascus, Syria from 14 to 18 May 2006.

- e) International Sturgeon Enforcement workshop to combat illegal trade in caviar held in Brussels, Belgium from 27 to 29 June 2006 – where a UAE perspective was presented at this workshop.

### 3. Cooperation with the Parties and others

#### United Arab Emirates

The UAE actively networks with Parties both at a regional and international level. As an example the UAE hosted the CITES Falcon Enforcement Task Force meeting in Abu Dhabi from 21 to 23 November 2005 in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP13) (Compliance and enforcement) and a decision of the Standing Committee. Delegates comprising mainly wildlife law enforcement personnel from Canada, China, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Qatar, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland participated in this meeting.

### 4. CITES implementation after SC53

#### Islamic Republic of Iran

With regard to enforcement of CITES, the Department of Environment issued import, export and re-export permissions in cooperation with the Custom Office. With regard to the issues related to CITES, the Department of Environment consulted with other Parties as well as the Secretariat.

The Custom Office appropriately implemented all regulations regarding import, export and re-export of CITES-listed species and controlled at borders.

The Department of Environment prepared to establish the Executive Secretariat on CITES. It also improved exchanging information by using the Convention's items, the Warning of the Secretariat as well as by cooperating with several correspondences with General Department of Environment in the Provinces, Customs Authority and related authority. The Department of Environment also plans to hold CITES workshop for the experts of Department of Environment and Customs Office.

#### Japan

Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Committee to CITES was held several times a year to promote information exchange and coordination among relevant ministries and agencies related to CITES issues.

Japan received the verification mission related to the control of internal trade in ivory in March 2005 and August 2006. A working group consisting of relevant governmental departments, individual experts and TRAFFIC East Asia-Japan was set up after the mission's visit in 2005. The group has overseen the activities to improve Japan's control of internal trade in ivory.

#### Jordan

A Training Workshop on the enforcement of CITES was held in Amman on February 2006. The workshop was funded by the International Fund for Animals Welfare (IFAW). Participants were from different concerned sectors, mainly the Management Authority, Customs, quarantines officer, police and airline company.

Participation in Training of Trainers workshop held in Kuwait in March 2006. The workshop funded by IFAW and organized by the Arab League as part of the cooperation between different Arab countries.

Jordan is in process of reviewing related legislation of CITES. The new-by-law is expected to be in the final draft in next year.

## Kuwait

### **Review of Significant Trade**

According to the CITES Secretariat, in a correspondence referenced WWW/TDM/PJN and dated 17/8/2005, regarding the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II (*Falco cherrug*), the Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (Management Authority competent to grant permits and certificates in the State of Kuwait) stopped issuing export permits for *Falco cherrug* since May 2005.

The Environment Public Authority (EPA) is also taking further measures and is in process of issuing a legislative order regarding the prohibition of the export of *Falco cherrug* from the State of Kuwait.

## Syria

All Syrian embassies were notified that no export or import of all wild species alive or embalmed may occur prior to the approval of the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment-General Commission for Environmental Affairs-Directorate of Biodiversity and Natural Reserves (CITES Authority).

To issue export/import licenses according to CITES by the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment-General Commission for Environmental Affairs-Directorate of Biodiversity and Natural Reserves (CITES Authority).

The Syrian Government will establish offices for Wildlife in all airports and points borders subjoin the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment-General Commission for Environmental Affairs-Directorate of Biodiversity and Natural Reserves (CITES Authority).

## United Arab Emirates

The UAE Management Authority submitted its Annual Report for 2004 during October 2005 as per Article VIII, paragraph 7(a), and Notification to the Parties No. 2002/022. A Biennial Report was also submitted for the period 2003-2004 as per Article VIII, paragraph 7(b), to the CITES Secretariat in May 2006.

## 5. Legislation and law enforcement activities

### Islamic Republic of Iran

The Department of Environment in cooperation with enforcement authorities undertook some appropriate measures to decrease and control poaching and illegal trade of some sensitive CITES-listed species. 84 smuggled consignment of CITES-listed birds have been found and have been released in their ecology.

The Department of Environment also collected information and made a "*Falco Cherrug*" map. The Department of Environment collected information related to "*Lynx lynx*" and "*Neurergus kaiseri*" and sent them to the CITES Secretariat. The Department of Environment collected information of "*Ursus arctos* (Brown Bear)" and inform it to the Management Authority in Spain.

### Israel

Concerning law enforcement activities, the CITES Management Authority of Israel has continued with a vigorous enforcement of the Convention within the country, as well as cooperatively with colleagues abroad. We have made a number of seizures of illegally trafficked species that are listed on the CITES Appendices. And we have cooperated with CITES Management Authorities in several foreign countries to assist with their law enforcement concerns.

Israel normally implements the Convention to the best of its ability. We work to implement the basic precepts of the Convention, such as the issuance of import and export permits as required, and we

also implement stricter domestic measures that in many ways makes wildlife law in Israel stricter than what is required by the Convention.

The CITES Management Authority of Israel has good working relationships with Israeli Customs, and with the Israel National Police, who support the implementation of the Convention as necessary. The CITES Management Authority of Israel also consults with the CITES Secretariat on matters of mutual interest as well as with colleagues in both governmental and non-governmental organizations.

#### Japan

##### a) CITES administration by Management Authorities

As the CITES Management Authority, METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) issued about 3,200 export licenses and about 4,400 import licenses with CITES permits in 2005 under Japan's trade regulation, in some cases the Management Authority of Japan exchanged relevant information with the CITES Secretariat and Parties concerned to make an appropriate decision regarding a CITES matter.

METI takes care of illegally-imported live animals and plants which were seized by the Japanese Customs and Police authorities, at rescue centres (mainly zoos and botanic gardens). METI had a consultation with exporting Parties to send back seized CITES-listed specimens to the Parties concerned.

##### b) CITES administration by Scientific Authorities

A manual has been published to distinguish between mammoth and elephant ivory by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and widely distributed among relevant departments, especially enforcement agencies.

##### c) CITES administration by Enforcement Authorities

The Customs and Tariff Bureau, Ministry of Finance, distributed manuals made by TRAFFIC to distinguish between the CITES-listed tropical woods and others to each Regional Customs and they have been making use of them in the clearance examination.

#### Jordan

Enforcement of the Convention is ongoing and number of seizures were performed involving CITES Appendix-I and -II species such as Greek tortoise, peregrine and saker falcons and other species.

#### Kuwait

- a) Review of the national CITES relevant legislation (EPA Resolution No. 93/2003) regarding regulating Sale and Trading in Endangered Wild Species.
- b) EPA Decision No. 229/2006 for the re-establishment of enforcement team for the Decision No. 93/2003.
- c) Participating in the "CITES Falcon Enforcement Task Force" meeting hosted by the United Arab Emirates in November 21-23, 2005.
- d) Enforcement of the Convention is ongoing and a number of seizures took place of CITES Appendix-I and -II species such as the saker and peregrine falcons, houbara bustard, Indian python, African crocodile and plants such as some cactus and orchid species.
- e) Establishment of CITES counter by PAAF in the arrival hall in the Kuwait International Airport to further ensure the implementation of CITES regulations.



f) Identification of the CITES Enforcement Officers:

- 1) Ms. Muna Nasser Faraj  
Director of Living Resources Department  
Environment Public Authority (EPA)  
P.O. Box 24395 Safat  
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- 2) Ms. Nabeela Ali Al-Kaleel  
Director of Kuwait Zoo  
Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Resources (PAAF)  
Kuwait Zoo-Omarya  
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Qatar

a) National Legislation for implementation of CITES

The national Legislation for implementation of CITES in Qatar was issued on February 2006 and is now in full operation in Qatar.

b) National enforcement activities

CITES Management Authority has deployed 8 employees at the airport and 7 employees at the border, working with the Customs officials in control of entry and exit of CITES-listed species.

Syria

A draft national law of the implementation of CITES is currently under discussion through a specialized committee that include representative of different ministries.

Yemen

Some articles of the Law 226 for 1995 concern with protection of endangered species and regulation of their exploitation. The prime Ministerial Decree No. 104 for 2002 concerns the protection of endangered species and their trading. The EPA is updating it.

United Arab Emirates

The following law Resolution of the Council of Ministries No. 22 of the year 2003, on issuing the executive by-law of the Federal Law No. 11, has been issued and is supposed to strengthen and improve the implementation of Federal Law No. 11 of 2002. The complete CITES Appendices I, II and III were translated into Arabic and officially gazetted as an additional document to the Federal Law 11.

As a step to control the trade in live falcons the UAE issued a Notification to the Parties (No. 2006/012) on the "Control of Trade in Live Falcons". The notification mentions two points:

- a) The Secretariat has been informed that live falcons may not be imported into the United Arab Emirates unless they are fitted with a closed leg-ring with an identity number (which may include

letters), and unless this identity number is included on the permit or certificate that was issued to authorize the export or re-export of the birds.

- b) Therefore, in order to avoid live birds being seized or refused entry to the country, Parties are urged not to allow the export or re-export to the United Arab Emirate of any falcon that does not comply with these conditions.

There have been many enforcement activities conducted by the CITES Management Authorities. The UAE CITES Management Authority has cooperated with other Parties regarding caviar enforcement. The CITES authorities continually monitor local markets for any illegal sale of CITES species, products and derivatives.

## 6. Training/capacity building and public awareness activities

### Israel

The CITES Management Authority of Israel conducted a CITES training program in September 2005 which provided CITES training to staff members of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority, Israel Customs, and government officials from a few neighbouring countries. The CITES Secretariat was invited to participate, but unfortunately could not. The CITES Management Authority of Israel is presently negotiating with the Israel Airports Authority concerning CITES educational exhibits that may be displayed at Ben Gurion International Airport.

### Japan

A CITES workshop on prevention of smuggling and illegal trade was held on 2 August 2006. Mr John Sellar and Mr Marcos Silva from the CITES Secretariat as well as the representative of TRAFFIC East Asia-Japan provided a presentation. The main purpose of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of government officials working at CITES-related agencies such as Management Authorities, Customs and Scientific Authorities. Approximately 90 persons participated in this workshop.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) holds the training course of the International Trade Control including CITES annually, for regional officers of METI and Customs and police officers in order to understand and implement the CITES administration and enforcement.

### Jordan

#### a) Bilateral cooperation

Conducting a training workshop for Syrian officials on May 2006, the workshop was aiming to build the capacity of the CITES officers in Syria, mainly Customs and quarantines officers.

Jordan has provided assistance to a Lebanese environmental NGO to write justification to the government to join CITES.

#### b) Public awareness

New set of publication on CITES awareness and procedures were published and distributed to all national borders points and the concerned agencies.

### Kuwait

#### a) On job training for EPA & PAAF employees.

#### b) Providing the public with information about CITES on EPA website: [www.epa.org.kw](http://www.epa.org.kw).

#### c) The Environment Public Authority (EPA) with the Cooperation of The International Fund of Animal Welfare (IFAW) and the Arab League Organization, had organized a regional workshop for

the Arabic states titled "Workshop in Training of Trainers for CITES Management Authorities and Customs Officials in The Arab Region" from 11 to 15 March 2006.

The workshop objective was to train trainers for providing CITES Management Authority and Customs officers throughout the Arab region with the necessary information, knowledge, skills and motivation in order to ensure enforcement of CITES in all countries of the Arab League.

The participants were representatives of CITES Management Authorities and Customs of all Arab countries Parties to CITES, and of the CITES Secretariat. About 40 participants from 15 Arab countries: Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

- d) Participation in the Fifth Master Degree in: Management, Access, Conservation and Trade of Species: The International Framework from October 3 – December 16, 2005.

#### Qatar

- a) Capacity building

CITES training was organized for new employees in April 2006 by CITES Management Authority of State of Qatar. Two members of the CITES Management Authority also participated in the CITES Workshop in training of trainers for CITES Management Authorities and Customs officials in the Arab region, held in Kuwait in March 2006.

- b) Public awareness

Printed materials in the form of brochures, pamphlets, posters and stickers were produced and distributed to the public for spreading information about CITES and raising awareness.

#### Syria

- a) Bilateral cooperation

A bilateral cooperation with many countries is taking place, especially with Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Syria also has a bilateral cooperation with the International Fund for Animals Welfare (IFAW), especially regarding awareness and training.

- b) Capacity building and awareness rising

Officials of the Syrian Government participated in some the regional training courses.

Syria also had implementation training course about the implementation of CITES, the training included the staffs of Ministry for Local Administration and Environmental and the Customs. It was implemented in cooperation with IFAW in Damascus from 15 to 17 May 2006.

#### Yemen

- a) Bilateral cooperation

Yemen became a Party of the CITES in 1997. Since then has been felling that there is a need to act the bilateral and regional cooperation to implement CITES. Yemen has bilateral agreements with neighbours to protect endangered species, such as Arabian leopard reproduction in the Emirates and houbara bustard reproduction in Yemen.

- b) Capacity building

Yemen presented a proposal project on capacity building to the CITES Secretariat but has not received any support in this area. Yemen is in need of education of employees of CITES Unit at EPA, employees of the CITES Unit at EPA and Customs employees.

Yemen views as necessary the taking of measures to educate employees of agencies and partners implementation of CITES and ensures this at the bilateral and regional levels through developing programs and plans aiming at active sharing cooperation among regional countries.

Yemen is now preparing a national list of endangered species.

#### United Arab Emirates

Many workshop have been held in the various Emirates to increase the awareness of public officers on the implementation of CITES.

In 2005 a wildlife identification manual was produced by the CITES Authorities which was launched at the 2005 international Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition in Abu Dhabi. This manual has been widely distributed locally, regionally and internationally.

The UAE CITES Management Authority has cooperated with local NGOs in a project which involved the translation of Environment Canada's CITES identification manuals into Arabic for use by UAE Customs. The Arabic translations were proofread and reviewed by the Management and Scientific Authorities.

### 7. Other CITES-related activities in the country

#### Kuwait

EPA will conduct in September 2006 a research for the evaluation of the status of *Falco cherrug* in the State of Kuwait.

PAAF is in the process of setting a new registration system for all the falcons used for falconry in Kuwait, including issuing falcon passport (certificate of ownership) for frequent cross-border falcons that are used as personal effect. The falcon covered by this document has been legally acquired and is legally possessed by the owner.

PAAF will prepare CITES standard format for export, re-export and import of CITES species that will be provided in five carbon coloured copies to be used collectively.

## Report of regional representatives for the ASEAN sub-region of Asia

1. Introduction

This report is compiled by Malaysia as Regional Representative for Asia assigned to represent ASEAN. All ASEAN countries are member to CITES with the Lao People's Democratic Republic as the youngest CITES Parties in ASEAN. This report covers the period between the 53rd meeting (27 June to 1 July 2005, Geneva, Switzerland) and 54th meetings of the SC (2 to 6 October, Geneva, Switzerland). This report summarizes some of the activities that has been carried out by the reporting countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore) and detailed information on each country is attached as Annexes 1 to 4 to this document.

2. Legislation on CITES

In Indonesia, The Ministry of Forestry has just enacted a Ministerial Decree No. P.19/Menhut-II/2005 concerning captive breeding of wild plants and animals. This decree, which is one of the implementing regulations under the Government Regulation No. 8 of 1999, concerning Species Utilization, targeted to cover as many CITES provisions.

Malaysia is now in its final stage of enacting its very first national CITES legislation, proposed to be the "International Trade in Endangered Species 2006", this act will cover all the requirements stipulated under CITES.

Singapore has reviewed its Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 2006 which came into effect on 1 March 2006. The act has raised the maximum level of penalties to ensure an effective deterrence against smuggling and illegal trade of CITES species. In addition, the act is also being updated to allow the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) to take appropriate enforcement actions based on the markings, labels, or claims to contain a part of derivative of CITES species.

3. Participation in CITES meetings/courses

ASEAN countries participated actively in most of the CITES activities at the regional or international level, within this period a lot of coordination and cooperation in implementation of CITES had taken place. One of the worth mentioned activity was the launched of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) in 1st December 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. This movement once again proved the determination of ASEAN member in better implementation of CITES and fight against illegal wildlife trade.

Some of the activities that has been participated by ASEAN such as:

- a) An ASEAN Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network Workshop from 17 to 21 October 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand, attended by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.
- b) The Second Meeting of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in ramin from 12 to 13 April 2006 in Jakarta, Indonesia, attended by Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.
- c) An Asian Elephant Range State Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 24 to 26 January 2006 was conducted by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks with the cooperation from CITES MIKE Programme. The said meeting was funded by United States Fish and Wildlife Service. It was attended by participants from 13 Asian countries namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The main objective for this meeting was to give a forum for all Asian elephant range States to discuss the current status, threats, challenges and sustainable management of elephants in the long run.

- d) The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Expert Meeting on Effective Implementation of the Inclusion of Ramin in CITES Appendix II from 16 to 19 May 2006 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

In order to help some ASEAN countries to curb illegal wildlife trade at the borders, TRAFFIC South East Asia had help authorities in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore to conduct CITES capacity-building and training workshop for Malaysia and Singapore. The workshops target officers from CITES Management authorities, port authorities, police and Customs officer. The objectives of the workshop were to give officers some basic introduction to CITES, roles of CITES Management Authorities, Implementation of CITES, identification of CITES-listed species and also *modus operandi* in wildlife trafficking.

#### 4. Enforcement and Implementation of CITES in ASEAN

Malaysia and Viet Nam had repatriated respectively 6 and 2 illegally-traded orang-utans to Indonesia. The repatriated orang-utans are now being rehabilitated in the Sumatran Orang-utans Conservation Programme (SOCP) rehabilitation centre in Medan before they can be released in their natural habitat in Bukit Tigapuluh National Parks, Jambi. The repatriation by Malaysia was done on 17 December 2005, Malaysia is currently in the process of its second phase repatriation exercise to send back one Sumatran orang-utan and four confiscated Kalimantan orang-utans (*Pongo pygmaeus wurmbii*) to Indonesia.

CITES Management Authorities in ASEAN had successfully intercepted a number of illegal wildlife trade involving CITES species within the reporting period. Details of these cases can be obtained from individual country reports.

**Report submitted by CITES MA Indonesia  
(Year 2005 and 2006)**

**A. Participation in national, regional or international CITES meetings or events**

1. 27 June – 1 July 2005  
Attended 53rd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC) Geneva, Switzerland.
2. 5-9 September 2005  
Attended the Intergovernmental Meeting on Great Apes and First GRASP Council Meeting in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
3. 17-21 October 2005  
Attended ASEAN Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network Workshop in Khao Yai National Park (Thailand). The purpose of the workshop to move toward better networking among ASEAN countries and consumer countries.
4. 1 December 2005  
Attended launch of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN). The establishment of ASEAN-WEN promotes the capacity of ASEAN to combat organised transboundary criminal activities of wildlife trafficking and trade, as well as to enforce CITES implementation in the region effectively.
5. 14-15 February, 2006  
Workshop on trade dynamics and population status of Napoleon Wrasse *Cheilinus undulatus* was held in Jakarta Indonesia. The purpose of the workshop was to enable a preliminary presentation of trade and underwater population data collected during 2005 regarding *Cheilinus undulatus* in Indonesia. The workshop also help to identify and clarify remaining data and information gaps, and to discuss the findings and management experiences elsewhere with CITES-listed marine species of commercial importance.
6. 12-13 April 2006  
The Second Meeting of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin was held on in Jakarta – Indonesia. The meeting agreed to make efforts to develop closer cooperation and common understanding to avoid illegal trade in ramin. This included exchange of relevant information through embassies, Customs agencies, and other related agencies. The participants also agreed to discuss the issue on disposal of confiscated ramin specimen in more detail at their next meeting. After considerable discussions, the meeting adopted the action plan of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin.
7. 22-25 May 2006  
Attended International Executive Seminar on Implementing the ASEAN-WEN which was held on 22-24 May 2006, Bangkok, Thailand, and The First Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) which was held on 25 May 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand. The aims of the seminar and meeting were to inform enforcement agencies about the objectives of ASEAN-WEN and engage them in its implementation; to hold practical discussion about how to network at the national and regional levels to implement ASEAN-WEN effectively; and to discuss which agencies in respective countries could act as national focal point by developing a functioning regional network.

**B. CITES activities in the country in respect to:**

1. Review Significant Trade

Indonesia prepared procedure to make non-detriment findings for trade in *Coura amboinensis* in Indonesia in accordance with the Review of Significant Trade. Indonesia has to undertake a status assessment and field study of this species that should be completed within 24 months and TRAFFIC South East Asia has shown its commitment to support Indonesia to undertake this survey starting in 2006. A field survey has been conducted and the report on the result is still in progress.

## 2. CITES projects

### a. National Legislation

The Ministry of Forestry has just enacted a Ministerial Decree No. P. 19 /Menhut-II/2005 concerning captive breeding of wild Plants and Animals. This decree, which is one of the implementing regulation under the Government Regulation No. 8 of 1999, concerning Species Utilization, endeavours to cover as much CITES provision as this decree can possibly accommodate.

### b. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix I Asian big cat species

Information paper on the report on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 has been submitted to the CITES Secretariat.

### c. Annual and biennial reports

The Indonesian CITES Management Authority has submitted its annual and biennial reports.

### d. Workshop On Evaluation And Updating Of The Indonesian Rhino Conservation Strategy was held in Jakarta on 27 and 28 February 2006. The aim of this workshop was mainly to revise the Indonesian Rhino Conservation Strategy published in 1994.

## 3. Review of the Appendices

Indonesia is willing to propose Merbau (*Intsia bijuga*) and (*Intsia palembanica*) into CITES Appendix III. The proposal to include merbau is made on the basis that the current illegal international trade in the species is rampant, the level of which is considered to jeopardize the sustainability of the species and its trade. The associated international trade can only be effectively controlled through international cooperation.

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

Twenty-two companies are registered in the CITES Secretariat as an operations of *Scleropages formosus* that breed Appendix-I species in captivity for commercial purpose in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP13), and six company is still in application to include in the registered company.

## C. Promotion of CITES in the country

### 1. Cooperation with others countries, stakeholders and NGOs

#### a) Communication and cooperation

There has been increased communication and cooperation between Indonesia and the CITES Management Authorities of Singapore and Hong Kong SAR to enhance enforcement efforts against illegally-imported specimen from Indonesia (such as soft shell turtles to Singapore and pangolin scales to Hong Kong SAR).

#### b) Repatriation on orang-utans

In cooperation with the Governments of Malaysia and Viet Nam, 6 and 2 smuggled orang-utans respectively from Malaysia and Viet Nam were repatriated to Indonesia. The repatriated orang-utans will be placed in a rehabilitation centre in Kalimantan.

#### c) Development of an MoU between the Government of Indonesia and TRAFFIC-SEA

The Management Authority of Indonesia developed a formal cooperation with TRAFFIC South East Asia on the matters related to CITES implementation in Indonesia. The cooperation focuses on, but is not limited to, wildlife trade monitoring and the making of non-detriment findings. The MoU was signed on 20 April 2005 in Jakarta. Following the signing of the MoU, both parties



have developed a thematic work plan, comprising strategic projects to be implemented in Indonesia.

d) Development of coordination with stakeholders

CITES MA Indonesia in collaboration with CITES SA is developing a coordination with other stake holders such as Customs, police, quarantine, the Ministry of Marine Affairs, etc. on the matters related to CITES implementation and wildlife trade monitoring in Indonesia. The Memorandum of Understanding between the CITES MA, Customs and Quarantine is in the progress.

2. Capacity-building activities

a) November 2005

A Training on CITES law enforcement for field enforcement officers such as Customs, quarantine and provincial conservation agencies is conducted annually. The training has been undertaken regularly since 1995 to enhance the skill and knowledge of the field officers on CITES in order to implement better control of trade in wild fauna and flora. The training materials include Introduction to Species Conservation, Introduction to CITES, Permit Systems and Procedures, Wildlife Crime and Law Enforcement Procedures, Customs Procedures, Quarantine Procedures and Species and Specimens Identification.

b) 12-13 December 2005

Dissemination on CITES implementation and Conservation of Roti Island snake-necked Turtle (*Chelodina mccordi*) was conducted in the Roti Island Eas Nusa Tenggara Province. The dissemination was conducted by the CITES MA of Indonesia and TRAFFIC SEA.

c) 20-25 April 2006 (Bogor); 13-15 June 2006 (North Sulawesi); 20-22 June 2006 (North Sumatera)

Airport training related to CITES issues for field enforcement officers in ports such as Customs, quarantine, police and provincial conservation agencies was conducted by the CITES MA of Indonesia and TRAFFIC SEA.

**Malaysia's country report to the 54th meeting of the Standing Committee  
2-6 October 2006, Geneva (Switzerland)**

1. Introduction

This report outlines the activities carried out by Malaysia in the period between the 53rd meeting of the SC (27 June to 1 July 2005, Geneva, Switzerland) and 54th meeting of the SC (2 to 6 October, Geneva, Switzerland).

2. New legislation on CITES

Malaysia is now in the final stage of enacting its very first national CITES legislation which is temporarily named "International Trade in Endangered Species 2006" and scheduled to be tabled in Parliament end of this year. This Act will be covering all the requirement stipulated under CITES.

3. Amendment of the Protection of Wild Life Act 1972

The Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) is also in its final stage of amending its Protection of Wild Life Act 1972 which is scheduled to be tabled in Parliament at the end of this year. The amendment takes into consideration new developments in wildlife conservation and also the requirements of international conventions such as CITES and CBD. Under the new amendment, issues on wildlife smuggling is specifically addressed and the licensing system has also been extended to cover activities such as exhibition, zoological parks, circus and captive breeding operations. Definitions on products claimed to contain derivatives are also included. The penalties on illegal trade in wildlife have also been increased a 10 to 30 fold compared to current provisions.

4. Enforcement

a) Six Sumatran orang-utans (*Pongo abelli*) that had been illegally imported by some of the zoological parks in Malaysia were successfully repatriated to Indonesia on 17 December 2005 in accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 4, of CITES. The agencies that were involved in the repatriation are the DWNP, Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation of Indonesia, Sumatran Orang-utans Conservation Programme (SOCP) and Malaysian Airlines System Berhad (MAS). The said orang-utans are being rehabilitated in SOCP rehabilitation centre in Medan before they can be released to their nature habitat at Bukit Tigapuluh National Park, Jambi. Malaysia is currently in the second phase of its repatriation exercise to send back one Sumatran orang-utan and four confiscated Kalimantan orang-utans (*Pongo pygmaeus wurmbii*) to Indonesia. Apart from these, Malaysia is also in the process of determining the origin of two recently confiscated orang-utans which are currently being kept in its rescued centre in the Malacca Zoo.

b) DWNP carried out a national survey and auditing on reptiles skins (*Python reticulatus*, *Varanus salvator*, *Naja naja*) that are held by its licensed dealers throughout Peninsular Malaysia from 14 to 18 August 2006. The main objectives of this survey was to update the stock piles held by licensed dealers and to prevent laundering of illegal skins from neighbouring countries as being reported as originating from Malaysia.

5. Non-detriment Findings (NDF)

The Department of Wildlife and National Parks is working together with TRAFFIC South East Asia to carry out NDFs for *Cuora amboinensis* (Malayan box turtle). The study was funded by the British High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, the study was started on 1 August 2006 and is projected to end in November 2006. The aims of this study are to provide baseline data needed to determine the survival chances of *Cuora amboinensis* in the wild and to assess the current population sizes of *Cuora amboinensis* in selected sites in Peninsular Malaysia. This study can be used as cornerstone in NDF study for other CITES-listed species in the future. At the same time non-detriment findings for *Python reticulatus* and *Varanus salvator* are being conducted by the department.

As for flora species such as ramin, the newly completed National Forest Inventories IV by the Department of Forestry of Peninsular Malaysia was used as a basis for NDFs for ramin. The self-imposed administrative quota was endorsed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE), nevertheless the self-imposed quota has not been communicated to the CITES Secretariat.

6. CITES/GRASP orang-utan technical mission

Malaysia agreed to welcome the visit of CITES/GRASP orang-utan technical mission conducted jointly by the CITES and GRASP Secretariats to be scheduled in November 2006. The said visit was at first proposed by CITES on 1 May 2006 but due to tight schedules and other commitments in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the visit scheduled earlier was requested to be postponed to a later date.

7. Meetings and CITES-related courses

Between the 53rd and 54th meetings of the Standing Committee, Malaysia participated in various meetings or courses that related to CITES such as the ASEAN Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network Workshop (17-21 October, Bangkok, Thailand), the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers responsible for the implementation of CITES (29 November – 1 December 2005, Bangkok, Thailand), the Second Meeting of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin (12-13 April 2006, Jakarta, Indonesia), the 16th Meeting of the Plants Committee (3-8 July 2006, Lima, Peru), and the CITES and Livelihoods Workshop (5-7 September 2006, Cape Town, South Africa).

An Asian Elephant Range State Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 24 to 26 January 2006 was conducted by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks with the cooperation of the CITES MIKE programme. The said meeting was funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. It was attended by participants from 13 Asian countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The main objective of this meeting was to give a forum to all Asian elephant range States to discuss the current status, threats, challenges and sustainable management of elephants in the long run.

The workshop on the trade dynamics of agarwood was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 1 to 2 March 2006. The workshop managed to attract participants from government agencies, trade, research and NGOs. It was co-organised by Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) and TRAFFIC South East Asia.

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Expert Meeting on Effective Implementation for the Inclusion of Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) into CITES Appendix II was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 16 to 19 May 2006. This meeting was sponsored by ITTO and organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. It was attended by 58 participants from Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

8. Capacities building and cooperation with NGOs

An Introduction/Controlling Illegal Wildlife Trade Course was conducted in April 2006 for personnel from MAsKargo (airport facilities in Malaysia) and CITES Management Authorities in Malaysia. The said course was designed to help personnel that are involved in CITES either directly or indirectly in their routine work. The course was conducted with help from TRAFFIC South East Asia. The course has helped increase awareness among personnel working in airport and front line government officials such as Customs and CITES Management Authority officers at airports. Officials who attended the course agreed that apart from knowing what CITES is and how it is implemented in Malaysia, the participants also have some basic identification in commonly traded CITES species, permit requirement and relevance government agencies to contact when there is violation related to CITES.

## **Additional Information from the CITES MA-Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB)**

### **1. ITTO expert meeting on effective implementation for inclusion of ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) in CITES Appendix II**

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) expert meeting on effective implementation for the inclusion of ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) into CITES Appendix II was held in Kuala Lumpur from 16 to 19 May 2006. The meeting cum workshop was sponsored by ITTO and organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Industry, Malaysia. The main objective of the meeting was to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and information among Parties on the implementation aspects and trade practices pertaining to ramin.

Fifty-eight participants representing Management Authorities from Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States were in attendance. Various research institutes of China, Indonesia and Malaysia were also present. International non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the UK Timber Traders Federation, Environment Investigation Agency, Fauna and Flora International, Traffic International and TELAPAK (Indonesia) participated in the meeting.

Eighteen papers were delivered at the meeting. Miss Milena Sosa Schmidt of the CITES Secretariat briefed participants on the role and functions of the Secretariat and proper procedures on ramin implementation under CITES Appendix II. The representative of ITTO briefed the meeting on the world trade scenarios and trade practices for ramin.

Mr Chen Hin Keong of TRAFFIC International gave an overview on CITES implementation for ramin and the mechanism of non-detrimental finding (NDF) for establishing quota export. Dr Tukirin Partomihardjo of Indonesia spoke on the non-detrimental finding study being conducted in Sumatera, Indonesia. Dr Samedi from Indonesia briefed participants on Indonesia's ramin implementation and export quota mechanism. Mr Jumat Ahmad of Malaysia informed participants of the progress of ramin implementation in Malaysia since the date of its uplisting (to Appendix II), and also on the trade practices, control and export quota implementation. Mr Gunther Hentschel of the UK Timber Federation spoke on the timber industry's perspective of ramin as the most valued and highly demanded tropical timber in Europe. Mr Simon Lim from Scenic Moulding Sdn. Bhd. spoke on the problem faced by the manufacturing company in sourcing the reliable and legitimate ramin in producing high quality picture frames.

The participants were divided into four working groups to deliberate on Ecological and Management status of ramin, Market and International Trade, Capacity-building for meeting the requirements of a CITES Appendix-II listing, and Coordination and Cooperation for the Effective Implementation of the Uplisting of Ramin in CITES Appendix II. The meeting concurred with the working group's recommendation, among which, that the relevant Parties must be given assistance on proper implementation of NDF for ramin, and for more accurate inventory methods for peat swamp forests at the regional level.

The meeting also recommended that Malaysia and Indonesia notify the CITES Secretariat about their ramin annual export quota beginning 2006 with the necessary justification. Re-exporting countries were urged to establish databases on the volume of ramin re-exported and exchange the information with exporting countries so as to ensure that the volume re-exported does not exceed the volume of legal ramin being imported. A field trip to a ramin picture frame factory was also arranged for participants to provide insight into CITES requirements in the manufacturing industry in Malaysia.

### **2. Second meeting of the tri-national task force on trade in ramin**

The second meeting of the Tri-National Task Force on Trade in Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) was convened in Jakarta, Indonesia on 12 and 13 April 2006. The Task Force members consisting of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore discussed issues, problems and solutions related to illegal trade of ramin timber (listed in CITES Appendix II). The meeting also discussed outstanding issues during the first Tri-National Meeting in Putrajaya, Malaysia (in 2004).

Indonesia's delegation was led by Mr Adi Susmianto, Director of Biodiversity Conservation, Ministry of Forestry. The Malaysian delegation was led by Mr Mohd Aminuddin Hashim, the Deputy Secretary-General, Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities. The Singaporean delegation was led by Mr Lee Fook On, Head of Enforcement, Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA).

All Parties shared information on the progress of each country's implementation for ramin timber after the adjournment of the first meeting. Malaysia gave insight into its awareness program in getting the industry to adhere to the CITES requirements and also on enforcement mechanism. Various Malaysian enforcement agencies are working in-hands in combating the illegal trade. Confiscated ramin cases had dwindled from 12 cases in 2004 to only 2 cases in 2005. Malaysia at the moment is preparing for the establishment of the National CITES Legislation to properly handle trade in wild flora and fauna under CITES. Malaysia's export quota for ramin in 2006 is set at 45,000 cubic meters of which 20,000 cubic meters is for Peninsular Malaysia, 22,000 cubic meters for Sarawak and 3,000 cubic meters for Sabah. Malaysia also spoke on the cooperation among its enforcement agencies in curbing the smuggling (illegal shipments) of ramin timber, logs and parts and derivatives.

Indonesia mentioned that they allowed only one ramin concession area in Sumatera (which carried-out the non-detrimental finding) for production and export. License to operate concession and export for ramin is given to P.T. Diamond Raya Timber. The annual export quota for ramin in 2006 was set at 8,800 cubic meters and 8,000 cubic meters in 2005. The quota export and license to export are only awarded to P.T. Diamond Raya Timber. Indonesia also spoke on the cooperation among its enforcement agencies in curbing the smuggling (illegal shipments) of ramin timber and logs.

Singapore deliberated that they had implemented the new Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act in March 2006. The Act has enhanced more power to the enforcement agencies and imposed stiffer penalties. Person who breaches the law will be fined 10 times more than under the previous Act, and getting longer imprisonment (up to 24 months). Singapore mentioned that it had imposed close supervision at its ports. Due to its active monitoring, cases of illegal shipment had dwindled. Singapore hoped that Parties could create a kind of standard portal information so that timely information on illegal shipments can be forwarded to the other Party. The meeting agreed to discuss this proposal in the separate working group after this meeting.

The meeting also discussed issues on barter trade, proper arrangement on confiscated ramin timber and mechanism on standardizing the Harmonised Standard (HS) Customs Codes for ramin products. These issues will be discussed at the next meeting. The meeting also agreed to invite NGOs, importing countries, the CITES Secretariat and other relevant organizations as observers in the future meeting of the ramin task force.

### 3. Workshop on the trade dynamics of agarwood (gaharu) in Malaysia and considerations of CITES non-detrimental findings

The workshop on the trade dynamics of agarwood (gaharu) in Malaysia and considerations of CITES Non-Detrimental Findings was held at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Kepong, Kuala Lumpur on 1 and 2 March 2006. The objectives of this workshop were to improve control on harvesting gaharu and understanding of the international trade practices. In addition the workshop was aimed for Malaysia at getting insights on the status and population of gaharu at the various states within Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. And to establish the mechanism on workable non-detrimental finding methodology for gaharu in Malaysia.

Thirteen papers were delivered at the workshop. Dr Greg Leach from the CITES Plants Committee briefed participants on the background of CITES implementation related to gaharu (*Aquilaria* spp.) and *Gyrinops* spp. He outlined the framework for developing non-detrimental finding (NDF) methodology for gaharu. He mentioned four characteristics in developing the NDF. Viz resource, supply chain, regulation and monitoring. Malaysian speakers presented their views and findings on various topics such as biology and production, management and control, incentives, industry trade dynamics and policy on sustainable production.

The working group presented their findings among which proper control must be established on gaharu production as illegal trade still persists. Gaharu tree is very difficult to be planted on large

scale plantation program as it grows better in the wild. The workshop took note of the dwindling production of gaharu and hopes that the authority's concerned will strictly control the trade. Participants now have more insights on gaharu trade practices and proper mechanism in carrying out the NDF.

#### 4. Malaysia's implementation of CITES Appendix II for ramin and gaharu in 2005

Since 12 January 2005 Malaysia has been implementing the Appendix II requirement for flora and fauna under CITES as was agreed at the Conference of the Parties in Bangkok, Thailand, in October 2004. Malaysia had imposed self quota export for ramin. Gaharu / agarwood (*Aquilaria* spp.) had been listed earlier into CITES Appendix II. The Scientific Authority of Malaysia had established the ramin export quota for Malaysia in 2005 at 57,000 cubic meters of which ramin export quota for Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah was at 35,000 cubic meters and Sarawak at 22,000 cubic meters. The export product items of ramin are dressed timber, mouldings, picture frames, baby-cots, window louvres, dowels, snooker cues and parts of furniture.

Exporters in Sarawak adequately adhered to the export quota requirement. In 2005 they had finished all quota which was monitored by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC). Sabah industries have yet to export ramin in 2005. Peninsular Malaysia's export quota for 2005 was at 35,000 cubic meters. It exported only 25,586 cubic meters of ramin in 2005. The balance of 9,414 cubic meters goes into the domestic market and quite a big volume was destroyed by the industry due to quality deterioration of old stocks.

Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak had concluded its Non-Detrimental Finding (NDF) studies. In Peninsular Malaysia the undertaking projects were known as National Forest Inventories IV. This has formed the basis for establishing ramin export quota for 2006. Malaysia has voluntarily imposed an export quota of 45,000 cubic meters for 2006, covering Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak with 20,000, 3,000 and 22,000 cubic meters respectively.

Exports of gaharu / agarwood (chips) from Peninsular Malaysia in 2005 were recorded at 239,184 kilograms (in weight), higher by 11 % than the previous year which was at 215,881 kilograms.

### **Singapore's country report for the 54th meeting of the Standing Committee**

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

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

2. AVA 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 has been reviewed and the new Act came into operation on **1 March 2006**.
3. Under the Act, it is an offence to import and export any scheduled species without a CITES permit from AVA. The Act empowers AVA to investigate, take enforcement actions against offenders and seize illegal consignments of endangered species. The new Act now empowers AVA to investigate transshipment or transit cases, search, inspect, detain and seize any illegal CITES-protected species found in such transshipments. This provision is applicable to both travellers and cargoes passing through Singapore. It enables AVA to act decisively upon receiving tip-offs of illegal CITES-protected species being transhipped through Singapore.
4. The Act has raised the maximum level of penalties to ensure an effective deterrence against smuggling and illegal trade of CITES-protected species. According to Interpol, smuggling of wildlife is second only to narcotics, and generates profits of as much as USD 5 billion annually. As the value of smuggled endangered wildlife can be very high, the maximum penalty for illegal trafficking of endangered species is increased from SGD 5,000 and/or 1 year's imprisonment, to SGD 50,000 and/or 2 years' imprisonment. The fine is applicable to each CITES animal or plant, or part thereof, involved in the offence, up to an aggregate maximum of SGD 500,000.
5. In addition, the Act is also updated to allow AVA to take appropriate enforcement actions based on the markings, labels or claims that a product contains a part or derivative of a CITES species, without having to prove that this part or derivative is actually present in the product. Some examples of fake products are traditional Chinese medicine purporting to contain bear bile, tiger bone, rhino horn or musk.
6. It is now also an offence to post advertisements for sale of CITES specimens if they have been imported or acquired illegally. This serves to deter Internet users from posting advertisements to sell endangered species e.g. on eBay. Under the new Act, offenders and carriers/airlines may also be required to bear the cost of disposal (e.g. repatriation, maintenance etc) of confiscated wildlife specimens.

#### **Electronic Certificates, Licences and Permits System (e-CLiPS)**

7. On **1 March 2006**, AVA launched the Electronic Certificates, Licences and Permits System (e-CLiPS), an electronic Internet-based system to facilitate online application for CITES permits and certificates. E-CLiPS enables the public/traders to submit applications via the Internet at AVA homepage ([www.ava.gov.sg](http://www.ava.gov.sg)) and enables the AVA to process and approve the applications at AVA offices. For foreign authorities that wish to access the enquiry function to verify the validity of CITES permits and certificates issued for export consignments to their countries, they would be given a user ID and password to access the system.

#### **Enforcement cases**

8. AVA works closely with the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) and Police Coast Guard (PCG) and would share intelligence reports with the two agencies. We also request their assistance to step up inspection for illegal importation of wildlife at designated entry points and coastal waters. Singapore would like to highlight the following enforcement cases involving CITES specimens that happened between July 2005 and July 2006.

On 27 July 2005, a man was caught smuggling 1,500 reticulated python (*Python reticulatus*) skins from Malaysia. He was prosecuted and was given 2 months imprisonment and fined SGD 5000 for the offence.

On 12 August 2005, AVA intercepted a shipment of 6,549 kg of red sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) which were imported from India without CITES permits. The shipment was declared as Indian Wooden Artwares on the Bill of Lading and was destined for Hong Kong SAR. The company and the director were each fined SGD 3500 for the offence.

On 21 December 2006, a man attempted to smuggle 131 pieces of 14 species of CITES-protected corals (*Scleractinia* species) from Indonesia. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was jailed 8 weeks.

On 8 February 2006, a Singaporean was caught importing 83 pieces of wild orchids (*Orchidacea* species) from Thailand into Singapore without the necessary CITES permits. He was compounded SGD 5,000 for the offence.

On 13 June 2006, AVA responded to a tip-off and inspected a shipment of turtles on board a vessel which had arrived from Tembilahan, Indonesia. 2,520 CITES-listed box turtles (*Cuora amboinensis*) were found transiting Singapore without a CITES permit on board the vessel. The turtles were detained and the captain was arrested and prosecuted in court. The captain was subsequently fined SGD 20,000 and jailed 3 months, in default 2 months jail for violating provisions of the ESA 2006.

In June 2006, two companies were each compounded SGD 5,000 for import of a total of 1,556 bottles of *Hoodia* slimming pills without CITES permits from the US. The pills were surrendered to the AVA.

#### **Specific CITES taskforces**

9. Together with Indonesia and Malaysia, Singapore is a member of the Tri-national Task Force for ramin, set up in 2004 and aims to share information, exchange intelligence relating to illegal ramin trade and to establish long-term cooperative actions to stop the illegal ramin trade in the region. Two meetings of the taskforce have so far been held, the last being in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 12 and 13 April 2006. The taskforce has been discussing an Action Plan to address specific issues relating to illegal trade of ramin in the region and also possible cooperation in areas of repatriation and disposal of confiscated ramin among the three countries.
10. Singapore is also a member of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), which was launched in Dec 2005 by the ASEAN ministers responsible for CITES. The ASEAN-WEN aims to promote networking among enforcement agencies (e.g. CITES authorities, Customs, police, etc.), facilitate sharing of information and intelligence relating to illegal wildlife trade and undertake activities (e.g. training, public awareness programmes) to promote effective enforcement of national laws and CITES and improve collaboration and cooperation among ASEAN Member Countries. The 1st meeting, in Bangkok in May 2006, formalised the operation of ASEAN-WEN and turned it from a political concept to an operational reality. The CITES and ASEAN Secretariats facilitated the meeting which was attended by senior officials from the CITES MA, police, Customs, United States' embassy officials, INTERPOL and representatives of the CITES Management Authority of China to address issues relating to wildlife smuggling in the ASEAN region.

#### **Training and capacity-building programmes**

11. From 18 to 21 July 2005, TRAFFIC SEA conducted a CITES capacity-building and training workshop for AVA and ICA officers. The objective of this training was to give officers a basic introduction to CITES, the roles of the CITES Management Authority, Customs and Police in the implementation and enforcement of CITES and included a discussion on illegal wildlife trade through the Singaporean borders. There was also a session on the common smuggling methods and identification of commonly traded wildlife species in the region.



## Annex 4

### National report for the Philippines

1. Participation in national, regional or international CITES meeting or events, such as:
  - a) Asia Bird's Nest Conference at Genting International Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 13-14 August 2005, attended by Ms Teresita B. Tomas of PAWB-DENR and Mr Ricardo Morales of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.
  - b) ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) on 1 December 2005, attended by Perfecta Hinojosa, the Regional Technical Director of the DENR-National Capital Region (NCR).
  - c) 22nd meeting of the Animals Committee (7-14 July 2006, Lima, Peru), attended by Dr Antonio C. Manila from the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) – DENR.
  - d) Capacity-building/trainings on basic Wildlife Identification and legal procedures on wildlife Trade surveillance, and confiscation and prosecution of cases filed in court for deputized Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEOs) from different enforcement agencies, NGOs and private sector on 5-13 December 2005 and 19-21 July 2006 in Manila, Philippines.
2. CITES activities in the country, in respect to:
  - a) Review of Significant Trade - None
  - b) Review of the Appendices - None
  - c) Registration of operations breeding Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes

The Philippine Management Authority for terrestrial species has submitted proposals of Birds International Inc. (BII) for birds listed in Appendix I for registration by the CITES Secretariat for commercial purposes, in three batches, as follows:

1st batch of proposals submitted to CITES in December 2003

1. Red-vented cockatoo (*Cacatua Haematuropygia*)
2. Military macaw (*Ara militaris*)
3. Moluccan cockatoo (*Cacatua moluccensis*)
4. Black palm cockatoo (*Procygnis aterrimus*)
5. Goffin's cockatoo (*Cacatua goffini*)

2nd batch of proposals submitted to CITES in November 2004

1. Hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*)
2. Yellow-nape amazon (*Amazona o. aurapaliata*)
3. Yellow-headed amazon (*Amazona o. oratrix*)
4. Red-fronted amazon (*Ara rubrogenys*)
5. Illiger's macaw (*Ptohyrrhura maracana*)

3rd batch of proposals submitted to CITES in November 2005

1. Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*)
2. Buffon's macaw (*Ara ambigua*)
3. Citron crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea citronicristata*)
4. Lesser sulphur crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*)
5. Medium sulphur crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea abotti*)

The above mentioned proposals were evaluated and endorsed by both the CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority of the Philippines after compliances with all the provisions / requirements of Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.). At the moment, the commercial breeding operation for *Cacatua haematuropygia* under the 1st batch is the only proposal approved by the CITES member countries and has been included in the CITES Secretariat's Registry to date. Moreover we are awaiting update from the CITES Secretariat as to the status of the other

applications. If we would follow Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP13) the operation should already be included in the Registry 90 days after the notification unless the Secretariat receives an objection from a Party.

In this regard, the CMA-Philippines is requesting that these proposals to register the breeding operations for Appendix-I species with the CITES Secretariat be included in the agenda of the forthcoming 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in the Netherlands in June 2007.

d) Others

CITES Activities in the country with respect to the implementation of the CITES regulation and enforcement of Republic Act 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.

- i) Seizure / confiscation of 315 pieces of ivory (elephant tusks), about 758 kilograms at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) by the Bureau of Customs (BOC), in two separate shipments sometimes in September 2005. These items allegedly originated from Kenya and Uganda. The subject case is under investigation by the BOC.
- ii) Another Apprehension of ivory (elephant tusk) by the Bureau of Customs at the Manila South Harbour, also sometimes in September 2005. The shipment of 1 X 20 ft. container = 43 crates, consisting of 55 packages of household goods and personal effects with a gross weight of 6,000 kg. The items originated from Dar As Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, The subject items are under investigation by the BOC. No actual inventory of the ivory has been reported.
- iii) Seizure / confiscation of nine sacks of marine sea turtle scutes/ shells in 1 X 20 ft. container, weighing 345.5 kilograms, destined to Viet Nam and declared as assorted dried sea cucumber. They were intercepted by the Philippine Coast Guard and the Bureau of Custom sometimes in November 2005. The subject case in under investigation by the DENR in coordination with the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).
- iv) Submission of the CITES annual report of the Philippines for CY 2004 to the CITES Secretariat on 28 December 2005.

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).

To strengthen the protection of the Philippine wildlife species, the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, have established the list of Philippine threatened species and their categories for the protection , pursuant to Republic Act No.9147 known as the "Wildlife Resources Conservation And Protection Act" and DENR Administrative Order No.2004-15 (visit our website at <http://www.pawb.ph>). Through this Office, the Philippines has entered a collaborative partnership with international institution / NGOs (e.g. Field Museum of Natural History, U.S.A. Conservation International Philippine Haribon Foundation, Inc; Katala Foundation, etc.) for research studies of Philippine wildlife species.

4. Promotion of CITES in the country (of less importance); capacity-building activities

- a) Creation of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units/Enforcement Officers at the regional level composed of members of NGOs, citizens' groups, community organizations, volunteers, designated members of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), NBI and other law enforcement agencies.
- b) Orientation and training of designated Wildlife Enforcement Officers on:
  - i) Basic knowledge on wildlife laws, rules and regulation;
  - ii) CITES provision
  - iii) Wildlife Identification
  - iv) Animal handling

- c) Basic training in the preparation of reports, affidavits, sworn statement, seizure and turn-over receipt, inventory report; filing of complaint in court, inspection procedure/safety, surveillance, smuggling techniques, methods concealment, documentation of frauds and detection of falsified or invalid documents.
  - d) Prosecution of Wildlife Cases.
  - e) Coordination with the Indonesian CITES Management Authority regarding: Action Planning to curb the illegal trade of Indonesian bird species from that country to the Philippines.
  - f) Collaboration with Malaysian Government on the conservation and protection of marine turtles.
  - g) Collaboration with ASEAN member counties in the formulation of positions to CITES proposals and issues affecting the Region.
5. Responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2005/52 of September 2005, the Parties are requested to provide case studies of how the Addis Ababa principle and guidelines could be used in specific cases of export of specimens of Appendix-II species – None
6. Cooperation with stakeholders and NGOs

An inter-agency and multi-sectoral group of government law enforcement agencies including NGOs, local government units (LGUs), private sector and conservation groups formally signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) in August 2005, to establish a mechanism to combat and abate illegal wildlife trade in different ports, piers, airports, and exit and entry points in the country. This mechanism comprising 19 law enforcement agencies, institutions and organizations in the country is in response to the ASEAN Regional Action Plan developed and adopted at the 3rd AEG – CITES meeting in Jakarta on 2-4 May 2005, to curb the illegal international trade in fauna and flora. A copy of the approved MoA was discussed and distributed at the ASEAN-WEN workshop in Bangkok in December 2005, and forwarded to TRAFFIC South East Asia for their information and reference.