

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



Fifty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee  
The Hague (Netherlands), 2 June 2007

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

General compliance issues

REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The role and responsibilities of the Standing Committee in conducting the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species are described in the section entitled *Measures to be taken regarding the implementation of recommendations* of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) (Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species).
3. The Standing Committee is to be informed about whether the recommendations formulated by the Animals and Plants Committees to ensure compliance with Article IV for trade in selected Appendix-II species have been implemented or not and, on the basis of the report by the Secretariat, to decide on appropriate actions and make recommendations to the States concerned, or to all Parties.
4. The Standing Committee is invited to examine at the present meeting two species which were selected by the Animals Committee for the Review of Significant Trade following the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Santiago, 2002), and for which the deadlines for implementing certain recommendations have expired.

*Falco cherrug*

5. In the context of its Review of Significant Trade in *Falco cherrug* and in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Animals Committee formulated recommendations at its 21st meeting (Geneva, May 2005) directed to nine range States where the species was categorized as 'of urgent concern' and to 26 range States where it was categorized as 'of possible concern'. The Secretariat provided an update of the implementation of these recommendations at the 54th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC54, Geneva, October 2006; see document SC54 Doc. 42).
6. The Standing Committee established at SC54 that 10 range States where *F. cherrug* had been found to be of 'possible concern' (Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Kenya, Mauritania, Oman, the Sudan and Tajikistan) not responded to the recommendations of the Animals Committee. Consequently, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in *F. cherrug* from these range States with effect from 1 January 2007 if they had not provided the Secretariat with the outstanding information regarding their implementation of the recommendations by that date.
7. By 1 January 2007, the Secretariat received the required information from Afghanistan, Egypt, Kenya, Oman and the Sudan. These range States confirmed that exports of *F. cherrug* were not authorized or had not been approved in recent years. Afghanistan, Egypt and Oman stated that the species was protected from harvest. The Sudan reported that an attempt to set up a breeding operation in 1998 had been abandoned after the death of the owner a year later, and that the birds

(25 adults and 14 chicks) had been either released or exported to the United Arab Emirates. These range States have therefore complied with the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The five other countries concerned did not respond.

8. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2007/004 of 22 January 2007, conveying the Standing Committee's recommendation to all Parties to suspend imports of specimens of *F. cherrug* from Armenia, Bahrain, Iraq, Mauritania and Tajikistan.

#### ***Psittacus erithacus***

9. On the basis of a report on the biology and management of and trade in *P. erithacus*, the Animals Committee categorized at its 22nd meeting (Lima, July 2006) the populations of the range States of the species as follows:
  - 'of urgent concern': Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone;
  - 'of possible concern': the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Equatorial Guinea; and
  - 'of least concern': Angola, Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Togo and Uganda.
10. The Animals Committee eliminated from further review the range States with populations of least concern. In consultation with the Secretariat, it formulated recommendations for the range States with populations of possible or urgent concern, which were transmitted by the Secretariat to their Management Authorities on 7 November 2006.
11. A recommendation was directed to all countries with populations of urgent concern to establish a moratorium on exports of *P. erithacus* effective from 1 January 2007. Two countries with populations of possible concern were recommended to reduce significantly their national annual export quotas of *P. erithacus* from 2007 onwards. The Annex to this document shows: the full text of the recommendations; summaries of the responses of the range States to the short-term action concerning levels of export in 2007; the Secretariat's determination, made in consultation with the Chairman of the Animals Committee, regarding compliance; and recommendations to the Standing Committee for appropriate action in the case of Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
12. The Secretariat notes that the Chairman of the Animal Committee, in his report for the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, proposes a number of draft decisions concerning *P. erithacus* that, if adopted, should assist the range States of *P. erithacus* in complying with the mid- and long-term recommendations, *inter alia* by instructing the Secretariat to provide comprehensive technical and financial support.

#### Recommendations

13. The Secretariat proposes that the Standing Committee take note of paragraphs 7 and 8, and adopt the recommendations and actions outlined in the Annex to this document.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE FOR SPECIES SELECTED FOR THE REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE, RESPONSES FROM THE RANGE STATES CONCERNED, AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT (IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE) TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Recommendations formulated by the Animals Committee	Summary of responses from range States; evaluation of compliance; actions recommended to the Standing Committee (in bold) as appropriate
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	
<p><b>Cameroon</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Institute a moratorium on exports effective 1 January 2007.</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>- Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> <li>- If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>The Management Authority (M.A.) of Cameroon informed the Secretariat on 3 January 2007 that it did not find it appropriate to establish a moratorium on the export of <i>P. erithacus</i> as of 1 January 2007. It stated to have taken various measures concerning the management of <i>P. erithacus</i> since the review of this species had been initiated in 2004, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request for technical assistance from the CITES Secretariat for undertaking and updating a status survey of <i>P. erithacus</i>;</li> <li>- Bibliographic research on the species;</li> <li>- Support to researchers studying <i>P. erithacus</i> (delivery of a research permit to Dr Tamungang);</li> <li>- Promotion of captive breeding (issuance of two authorizations for game-farming of this species);</li> <li>- Scheduling of a study in 2007 on the status of <i>P. erithacus</i> in the protected areas and their buffer zones;</li> <li>- Publication of CITES-implementing legislation in July 2005 and June 2006, and organization of training and information seminars for the judiciary;</li> <li>- Enhanced fight against internal illegal wildlife trade, and signature of an</li> </ul>

<p>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	<p>agreement with an NGO (LAGA - Last Great Apes) in this regard; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Initiation of considerations for the establishment of a platform for collaboration amongst countries in the sub-region that export <i>P. erithacus</i>.</li> </ul> <p>The M.A. reiterated its request for assistance from the Secretariat, and argued that the postponement of the moratorium until 30 June 2008 would allow the country to secure the necessary budgets in 2007 and undertake studies in the course of 2007 and 2008 to obtain the necessary scientific information to develop a management plan for <i>P. erithacus</i>.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>Cameroon appears committed to implement the mid-term and long-term recommendations formulated by the Animals Committee, which would also address the issues raised in its letter of 3 January 2007. Cameroon is however not intending to implement the short-term action whereby it should establish an export moratorium from 1 January 2007 onwards.</p> <p><u>Recommended action</u></p> <p><b>The Secretariat should include in its list of export quotas for 2007 that the export quota for wild live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> from Cameroon is zero.</b></p> <p><b>Cameroon should implement all the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>P. erithacus</i> within the agreed time frame.</b></p>
<p><b>The Congo</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Establish an annual export quota of 4,000 specimens effective 1 January 2007.</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> </ul>	<p>The M.A. of the Congo established an export quota for 2007 of 4,000 live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> of wild origin. It informed the Secretariat on 9 January 2007 that as a consequence of the decision by the European Union to suspend imports of wild birds, 7,000 live <i>P. erithacus</i> obtained in 2006 as part of the export quota of 10,000 had not yet been exported.</p> <p><u>Conclusion</u></p> <p>The Congo has complied with the short-term recommendation.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> <li>– If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Côte d'Ivoire</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Establish a moratorium on exports of the two subspecies effective 1 January 2007</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically based field survey to establish the population status of the two subspecies in the country;</li> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan (as described below) for the two subspecies</li> <li>– If necessary, the range State should seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to</li> </ul>	<p>The M.A. of Côte d'Ivoire informed the Secretariat on 20 November 2006 that it was committed to conduct field studies on the two sub-species of <i>P. erithacus</i> and implement the other recommendations of the Animals Committee. It requested the Secretariat to provide financial and technical support in this regard, and offered to make staff available to collaborate with researchers in undertaking fieldwork.</p> <p>The M.A. explained that it wanted to avoid an export ban because this would negatively impact on the management and conservation of the species, halt the activities of four legal exporters, and reduce personnel and budgets of the services that control the airport of Abidjan and the ports of Abidjan and San Pedro, which would probably leading to increased fraud.</p>

<p>monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects.)</p> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A quota can be established for one or the two subspecies, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following are in place:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically based field survey to establish the population status of the two subspecies in the country;</li> <li>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the two subspecies (as described below).</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of the Regional Management Plans for the conservation of and trade in both subspecies (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Recommended action</u></b></p> <p>The Secretariat should include in its list of export quotas for 2007 that the export quota for wild live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> from Côte d'Ivoire is zero.</p> <p>Côte d'Ivoire should implement all the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>P. erithacus</i> within the agreed time frame.</p>
<p><b>The Democratic Republic of the Congo</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Establish an annual export quota of 5,000 specimens effective 1 January 2007</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> <li>– If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).</li> </ul>	<p>The M.A. of the Democratic Republic of the Congo established an export quota for 2007 of 5,000 live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> of wild origin.</p> <p><b><u>Conclusion</u></b></p> <p>The Democratic Republic of the Congo has complied with the short-term recommendation.</p>

<p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Equatorial Guinea</b></p> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provide detailed information on how it was determined that the quantities of specimens exported were not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.</li> <li>– Provide information on the legal status of the species in the country.</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan (as described below) for the species.</li> </ul>	

**Guinea<sup>1</sup>**By 1 January 2007

- Institute a moratorium on exports effective 1 January 2007.

Within 12 months (by November 2007)

- Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;
- Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).
- If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).

Within 24 months (by November 2008)

- A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:
  1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;
  2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).
- Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).

The M.A. of Guinea informed the Secretariat on 16 November 2006 that it concurred with the findings of the Animals Committee and had started implementing the recommendations. It had consulted traders and trappers, and brought to their attention the review process and the measures that the Animals Committee had proposed regarding management of and trade in *P. erithacus*. The M.A. noted that its decision regarding the establishment of an export moratorium would be submitted shortly, as well as a description of the field studies that were going to be undertaken and a request to the Secretariat for support.

Conclusion

By the time of writing of this document (March 2007), Guinea had not submitted further information to the Secretariat. While Guinea seems committed to implement the mid-term and long-term recommendations of the Animals Committee, this is less clear concerning the short-term measure.

Recommended action

**The Secretariat should include in its list of export quotas for 2007 that the export quota for wild live specimens of *P. erithacus* from Guinea is zero.**

**Guinea should implement all the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning *P. erithacus* within the agreed time frame.**

<sup>1</sup> In document AC22 WG1 Doc. 1 (Rev. 1), it is proposed that for *Psittacus erithacus*, Guinea receive the same recommendations as Côte d'Ivoire where two sub-species of *P. erithacus* occur. The Secretariat believes that this was an editorial error as only one subspecies of *Psittacus erithacus* occurs in Guinea, and that the recommendations should be the same as for Cameroon.

<p><b>Liberia</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Institute a moratorium on exports effective 1 January 2007.</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> <li>– If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	<p>No response.</p> <p><b><u>Recommended action</u></b></p> <p>The Secretariat should include in its list of export quotas for 2007 that the export quota for wild live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> from Liberia is zero.</p> <p>Liberia should implement all the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>P. erithacus</i> within the agreed time frame.</p>
<p><b>Sierra Leone</b></p> <p><u>By 1 January 2007</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Institute a moratorium on exports effective 1 January 2007.</li> </ul>	<p>No response.</p>

<p><u>Within 12 months (by November 2007)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Develop a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>– Develop a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> <li>– If necessary, seek support to undertake the necessary field surveys to establish biologically sustainable quotas and to monitor populations and trade (e.g. pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.2 on Procedure for approval of externally funded projects).</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 24 months (by November 2008)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A quota can be established, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the following is in place:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results of a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;</li> <li>2. Implementation of a National Management Plan for the species (as described below).</li> </ol> </li> <li>– Participate in the development and implementation of a Regional Management Plan for the conservation of and trade in the species (subject to decisions to be taken at CoP14 and their successful implementation).</li> </ul>	<p><u>Recommended action</u></p> <p><b>The Secretariat should include in its list of export quotas for 2007 that the export quota for wild live specimens of <i>P. erithacus</i> from Sierra Leone is zero.</b></p> <p><b>Sierra Leone should implement all the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>P. erithacus</i> within the agreed time frame.</b></p>
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The National Management Plans for the species shall include:

- 1) Standardized and verifiable population monitoring techniques;
- 2) A mechanism to establish biologically sustainable capture and/or export quotas for the species, that consider in their development the status and demography of the species, levels of illegal trade, trade-related mortality, and national use;
- 3) Effective mechanisms to prevent illegal capture of and trade in the species;
- 4) A detailed description of the methodology used to determine that levels of exports are non-detrimental; and
- 5) Once developed and regionally agreed upon, incorporation of the Regional Management Plan for conservation of and trade in these species.