

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

Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Lausanne (Switzerland), 9 to 20 October 1989

Committee Reports and Recommendations

ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1 At the sixth regular meeting, the Conference of the Parties established the Animals Committee by the adoption of Resolution Conf. 6.1 Annex 2 under which the Animals Committee shall:
- i) assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardized animal names list;
  - ii) assist the Identification Manual Committee in the preparation of an identification manual on animal species;
  - iii) establish a list of those animal taxa included in Appendix II which are considered as being significantly affected by trade and review and assess all available biological and trade information including comments by the range states on these taxa;
  - iv) assess information on those species for which there is evidence of a change in the volume of trade or for which specific information is available to indicate the necessity for review;
  - v) undertake a periodic review of animal species included in CITES appendices;
  - vi) make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range states requesting such assistance;
  - vii) draft resolutions on animal matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
  - viii) perform any other functions that may be entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
  - ix) report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities it has carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference.

## 1.2 Membership

The following Parties have provided representatives from the six regions as follows:

AUSTRALIA  
KENYA  
ISRAEL  
SWITZERLAND  
URUGUAY

CANADA

OCEANIA  
AFRICA  
ASIA  
EUROPE  
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE  
CARIBBEAN  
NORTH AMERICA

Canada chairs the Committee.

## 2. Work of the Committee

2.1 The Animals Committee has met twice since its inception. The organizational meeting was held in Berne, Switzerland on 7-11 November 1988. The balance of the business was completed by correspondence and personal contacts.

## 3. Summary of Activities/Decisions

### 3.1 General

- Reporting lines to Standing Committee, Parties and Secretariat were clarified.
- Credentials of all regional representatives were confirmed with the Standing Committee.
- Rules of Procedure (SC 17 Annex) were adopted.
- It was decided that all matters related to African elephants would be considered separately by the African Elephant Working Group.
- The Chair of the Nomenclature Committee received a standing invitation to attend all Animals Committee meetings.
- The following working groups of Animals Committee were created:
  - Significant Trade in Appendix II Species (chaired by Switzerland);
  - Marking (chaired by Australia).
- It was decided that the Animals Committee will provide advice and guidance to Parties wishing to submit animal species proposals, if so requested by a Party.
- Honacki et al. will continue to be the standard reference for mammals; any exceptions will be identified following each meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the benefit of the Parties.
- The Animals Committee noted that several Parties still have not identified Scientific Authorities for their country. All members contacted Parties in their region to determine the reasons and to encourage them to name a Scientific Authority and to submit annual

reports. The Committee devoted one session of the Montevideo meeting to an open forum for Scientific Authorities in Latin America. Costa Rica, Bolivia and Paraguay sent their Scientific Authorities.

### 3.2 10-Year Review Species

The Animals Committee considered the following species and recommended that appropriate action be taken to confirm or change their listing before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

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|------------------------------------|---|
| - <u>Burramys parvus</u>           | Leave in Appendix II                                |
| - <u>Pedionomus torquatus</u>      | Leave in Appendix II                                |
| - <u>Francolinus ochropectus</u>   | Not in trade; remove from Appendix II               |
| - <u>Francolinus swierstrai</u>    | Not in trade; remove from Appendix II               |
| - <u>Carduelis yarrellii</u>       | Leave in Appendix II                                |
| - <u>Pseudochelidon sirintarae</u> | Thailand should propose for Appendix I              |
| - Unionidae                        | Under review by USA                                 |
| - <u>Phrynosoma coronatum</u>      | Under review by USA                                 |
| - <u>Cynolebias spp.</u>           | Switzerland should propose removal from Appendix II |
| - <u>Pitta guajana</u>             | Should remain in Appendix III                       |
| - <u>Pitta gurneyi</u>             | Thailand should propose for Appendix I              |

### 3.3 Status under the Berne Criteria

The Animals Committee considered the status of several species listings which required further clarification relative to the Berne criteria:

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| - <u>Trichechus senegalensis</u>           | Review by range states pending                             |
| - <u>Latimeria chalumnae</u>               | Federal Republic of Germany will propose Appendix I        |
| - Stony corals                             | Review required by Animals Committee for all invertebrates |
| - <u>Cyrtonyx montezumae &amp; mearnsi</u> | USA to consider a proposal                                 |

### 3.4 Nomenclature, Identification, Implementation

The Animals Committee reviewed the status of several subspecies of mammals listed in the appendices since their taxonomic status and geographical distribution are poorly known and natural markings on hides are variable. The following species have been considered to date:

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| - <u>Felis pardalis</u>                  | Place all subspecies in Appendix I           |
| - <u>Felis tigrina</u>                   | Place all subspecies in Appendix I           |
| - <u>Felis wiedii</u>                    | Place all subspecies in Appendix I           |
| - <u>Odocoileus virginianus mayensis</u> | Guatemala agreed to remove from Appendix III |

The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit suggested that an additional 17 mammals, 4 birds, and 1 reptile be reviewed to clarify their listing in the appendices.

### 3.5 Status of Podilymbus gigas - Referred to Nomenclature Committee for a review of its taxonomic status.

- 3.6 Status of Bucerotidae - The Animals Committee supports two proposals to place all Buceros in Appendix II; one is a Belgium proposal to include all subspecies of Buceros rhinoceros in Appendix II and the other is by Switzerland to place all Buceros spp. in Appendix II.
- 3.7 Status of Rhynchotus rufescens subsp. - Uruguay will propose to delist all subspecies from Appendix II.
- 3.8 Survey of the Leopard (Panthera pardus) in Sub-Saharan Africa Report - The Animals Committee reviewed and rejected the report largely based on the lack of quantitative population data and the invalid application of statistical methods.
- 3.9 Captive-Breeding Registration - The Animals Committee reviewed two drafts of a proposed resolution regarding criteria and guidelines to follow in establishing captive-breeding facilities. Canada and USA submitted separate draft resolutions that The Animals Committee will review before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 3.10 Marking - Australia co-ordinated the preparation of a major discussion paper on marking. Comments were received and incorporated into a final report for submission to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- 3.11 Review of the Berne criteria - The Animals Committee deliberated on the applicability of the Berne criteria to major taxa and whether proposals which do not fulfill the Berne criteria should be rejected. No conclusion was reached but the review is ongoing.
- 3.12 African Elephant - The Animals Committee was requested to consider a draft proposal to place the African elephant in Appendix I. It was decided that the review and possible endorsement of this draft was beyond the mandate of the The Animals Committee. However, the population status and applicability of the Berne criteria to the African populations were discussed. It was a majority opinion of the Animals Committee that the Berne criteria are applicable to certain but not all populations of African elephants.
- 3.13 Bubalus and Bos spp. - The Animals Committee requested Nomenclature Committee to distinguish wild and domestic forms of Bubalus bubalis and Bos javanicus in order to avoid confusion on some Appendix II listings.
- 3.14 Dracaena spp. - The Animals Committee supported the intent of Paraguay to place Dracaena spp. in Appendix II because of a look-alike problem.
- 3.15 Review of Proposals - The Animals Committee reviewed a number of proposals submitted by several Parties (Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia, Switzerland).
- 3.16 Crocodylus - The Animals Committee noted that Malawi and Zambia have exceeded their 1986 quota of Crocodylus niloticus. Indonesia was alleged to have exported 16,000 skins to Japan in 1988. It was recommended that the Secretariat should seek an explanation.

Australia requested advice regarding Japan's reservation on C. porosus and the interpretation of Resolution Conf. 5.16 j), Articles X and XXIII; The Animals Committee agreed that a Resolution cannot override an Article of the Convention and that Japan should be urged to withdraw its reservation.

3.17 Significant Trade Species - Three species not contained the 1988 Significant Trade Publication were reviewed. It was decided that Saguinus labiatus and Dusicyon culpaeus should be moved from C2 to C3; Felis colocolo was retained on C2. Of the 15-20 other species reviewed to date, most were not in significant trade. However, further review of trade data for Rana hexadactyla, R. tigerina, Tridacnidae, and stony corals is required.

#### 4. Financial Support

4.1 A proposal to allow IUCN to provide trade data and background information to the Animals Committee on a contractual basis was discussed. It was decided that the Animals Committee should request an operating budget for the next two years of travel for representatives (US\$ 10,000), travel for invited observers (US\$ 5,000) and studies, statistics and publications (US\$ 50,000) from the Parties at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

#### 5. Evaluation and Recommendations

5.1 The Animals Committee successfully organized itself and actioned all of the issues referred to it by the Parties at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties or by the Standing Committee in the interim. However, there have been some problems that required clarification. Many Parties and at least one non-government organization asked the Animals Committee to endorse positions on proposals for the seventh meeting although the Animals Committee was not given the mandate "to provide advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties.....which may include proposals to amend the appendices" (from Plants Committee terms of reference). In addition, the appointment of one representative to the Committee meeting was questioned. Finally, an active and productive committee cannot develop and operate on the basis of individual dedication, volunteer service and donations for travel assistance alone. For example, the Animals Committee relies heavily on those organizations that compile trade statistics to evaluate listings in the appendices but cannot offer needed financial support to help defray the costs. The Parties must provide adequate financial support if they expect permanent Committees to complete their assigned tasks.

5.2 It is RECOMMENDED that:

- 1) the Parties provide the Animals Committee with an adequate operating budget of US\$ 65,000 in order to conduct its business during the next two years;
- ii) the The Animals Committee normally meet once between and one just following each meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- iii) if required, a maximum of three of the six regional representatives be replaced by the Parties or Standing Committee at any one time;

- iv) the Parties or Standing Committee provide written confirmation of all members appointed to the Animals Committee; and
- v) the Parties reconsider whether the Animals Committee may take positions on proposals to amend the appendices.

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Chairman of the Animals Committee