

NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2013/049

Geneva, 8 November 2013

CONCERNING:

Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)
(Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species)

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

1. In the context of the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species, the Standing Committee agreed at its 63rd meeting (SC63, Bangkok, March 2013), that the cases: *Tursiops aduncus*, *Tridacna derasa*, *T. crocea*, *T. gigas*, *T. maxima* and *T. squamosa* from Solomon Islands; *Balearica regulorum* from Uganda; and *Hippopotamus amphibius* from Cameroon would be decided by postal procedure. The procedure commenced within two months of SC63, on the basis of: the Secretariat's determination, made in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee for these species and range States; and the appropriate actions that the Secretariat recommended to the Standing Committee. It was conducted in accordance with the communication procedure in Rules 30 to 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee.
2. In the light of information received from Uganda in the course of the postal procedure concerning *Balearica regulorum* and the need for the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, to determine whether the recommendations had been implemented, the Standing Committee agreed to discuss the case at its 65th meeting (Geneva, July 2014).
3. The recommendations of the Animals Committee for the species selected for the Review of Significant Trade, and the decisions and recommendations of the Standing Committee are shown in the Annex to this Notification.
4. At the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee (Veracruz, April 2014), the Secretariat will present detailed information on the responses from the range States concerned to the recommendations of the Animals Committee, and the determination of their implementation that the Secretariat has made in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee.

Recommendations of the Animals Committee for species selected
for the Review of Significant Trade and decisions of the Standing Committee

Recommendations of the Animals Committee	Decisions of the Standing Committee
<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> (hippopotamus)	
<p>Cameroon (possible concern) <u>Within 90 days (by 4 January 2012):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Management Authority should clarify what legal protection is afforded to this species in Cameroon and provide an explanation for the perceived discrepancies between reported Customs data (imports) and CITES data (exports) referred to in AC25 Doc 9.4; b) Provide available information to the Secretariat on the distribution, abundance and conservation status and any current management measures in place for <i>H. amphibius</i> in Cameroon; and c) Provide justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the quantities of <i>H. amphibius</i> exported were not detrimental to the survival of the species and in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, of the Convention. 	<p>Cameroon should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) as an interim measure, limit the exports of specimens of <i>H. amphibius</i> for 2013, 2014 and 2015 to a maximum of 10 trophies per year, to be published on the CITES website; b) report at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee (2015) on a national population survey of <i>H. amphibius</i>, and progress with the establishment of science-based quotas and non-detriment findings for the species; and c) submit a report to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 66th meeting (2015), on its compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, of the Convention, including information on the establishment of non-detriment findings for trade in <i>H. amphibius</i>, and population status information.
<i>Tursiops aduncus</i> (Indo-Pacific bottle-nosed dolphin)	
<p>Solomon Islands (possible concern) <u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Immediately establish an annual export quota for this species of no more than 10 specimens as an interim measure and communicate this to the Secretariat; b) Provide to the Secretariat a report of the most recent surveys on the status, estimated abundance, site fidelity and population genetics of <i>T. aduncus</i> in the Solomon Islands; and 	<p>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that the Solomon Islands is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. aduncus</i>.</p> <p>In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures concerning this species, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>T. aduncus</i> from Solomon</p>

<p>c) Report on measures taken to ensure that any captures for export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species or sub-populations and will be in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6, of the Convention.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p> <p>d) Before amending or revising the interim annual quota established in accordance with paragraph a) and, pending the results of the recent survey referred to in paragraph b) above, provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the export quota will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and is in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6, of the Convention.</p>	<p>Islands on its website.</p> <p>The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to confirm that no exports of <i>T. aduncus</i> have taken place since a national export ban was enacted as of 1 January 2012, and that no export will be authorized as long as this measure remains in effect. Solomon Islands should be requested to respond by 30 September 2013¹ at the latest and its response should be forwarded to the Standing Committee.</p>
<i>Tridacna derasa</i> (deresa clam)	
<p>Solomon Islands (urgent concern)</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <p>a) Clarify to the Secretariat the legal status of the species in the Solomon Islands and inform the Secretariat of whether present policy or legislation allows for the export of wild-taken specimens of the species;</p> <p>b) Establish immediately a zero export quota for wild-taken specimens;</p> <p>c) Provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that any exports will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and are in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, of the Convention;</p> <p>d) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production;</p> <p>e) Initiate measures to ensure that descriptions on all CITES permits are standardized so that trade is only permitted at the species level and that, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15)², Section XIV, paragraph e), trade ceases to be reported or permitted at higher taxonomic levels (genus or family); and</p> <p>f) Ensure that appropriate units are recorded on permits for trade in specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp., namely to record meat in kilograms, live specimens by number, and shells by number of pieces</p>	<p>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that Solomon Islands is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. derasa</i>.</p> <p>The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations d) and g) by 1 February 2014, in time for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.</p> <p>In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. of wild origin from Solomon Islands on the CITES website. This quota could be reviewed in the light of Solomon Islands' further implementation of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.</p>

¹ In view of the late conclusion of the postal procedure by the Standing Committee, the Secretariat was unable to meet this deadline and has asked Solomon Islands to provide the information required as soon as possible.

² Note from the Secretariat: now Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16).

<p>(weight as secondary unit).</p> <p><u>Within 180 days (by 20 September 2012)</u></p> <p>g) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild-harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of the Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p> <p>h) Prepare, adopt and implement a fishery management plan for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. which should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) stock assessments of clam populations subject to harvest, including estimates of abundance, distribution and age/size classes;ii) adaptive management measures, including sustainable catch and export quotas based on the monitoring of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, including catch and effort data and a long-term population monitoring programme;iii) appropriate regulatory measures, such as limited entry, licensing of fishermen, size limitations, fishing seasons and no-take zones, compatible with any customary systems of marine tenure, and the assurance of sufficient provisions for the enforcement of such regulations; andiv) measures to enable the recovery of depleted populations, including re-stocking with hatchery-produced specimens, and restoring population densities to enable effective reproduction; <p>i) Supply the management plan and supporting evidence of implementation to the Secretariat for validation; and</p> <p>j) Based on the management plan, establish precautionary export quotas, separately for wild and captive-produced specimens (if export of wild specimens is permitted), on a species-specific basis.</p>	
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<i>Tridacna crocea</i>, <i>T. gigas</i>, <i>T. maxima</i> and <i>T. squamosa</i> (clams)	
<p>Solomon Islands (possible concern)</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Clarify to the Secretariat the legal status of the species in Solomon Islands and inform the Secretariat of whether the present policy allows for the export of wild-taken specimens of the species; b) Provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that any exports will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and are in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, of the Convention; c) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce and/or raise <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production; d) Initiate measures to ensure that descriptions on all CITES permits are standardized so that trade is only permitted at the species level and that, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15)³, Section XIV, paragraph e), trade ceases to be reported or permitted at higher taxonomic levels (genus or family); and e) Ensure that appropriate units are recorded on permits for trade in specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp., namely to record meat in kilograms, live specimens by number, and shells by number of pieces (weight as secondary unit). <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) Prepare, adopt and implement a fishery management plan for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. which should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) stock assessments of clam populations subject to harvest, including estimates of abundance, distribution and age/size classes; ii) adaptive management measures; including sustainable catch and export quotas based on monitoring of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, including catch and effort data and a long-term population monitoring programme; iii) appropriate regulatory measures, such as limited entry, licensing of fishermen, size limitations, fishing seasons and no-take zones, compatible with any customary systems of marine tenure, and ensure sufficient provisions for the enforcement of such regulations; and 	<p>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that Solomon Islands is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. crocea</i>, <i>T. gigas</i>, <i>T. maxima</i> and <i>T. squamosa</i>.</p> <p>The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations c) and i) of the Animals Committee by 1 February 2014. The information provided should be considered by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.</p> <p>In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. of wild origin from Solomon Islands on the CITES website. This quota could be reviewed in the light of Solomon Islands' further implementation of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.</p>

³ Note from the Secretariat: now Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16).

<ul style="list-style-type: none">iv) measures to enable the recovery of depleted populations, including re-stocking with hatchery-produced specimens and restoring population densities to enable effective reproduction;g) Supply the management plan and supporting evidence of implementation to the Secretariat for validation;h) Based on the management plan, establish precautionary export quotas, separately for wild and captive-produced specimens (if export of wild specimens is permitted), on a species-specific basis; andi) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.	
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