



**PROCEEDINGS**

**CITES ANIMALS COMMITTEE**  
15th Meeting

**ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR**  
5 to 9 July 1999

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Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

January 2000  
CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES

# OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

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Fifteenth Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee  
Antananarivo (Madagascar), 5-9 July 1999

## PROCEEDINGS

### **Members**

Africa:	Dr Kim Howell (United Rep. of Tanzania) Dr Jean Ngog Nje (Cameroon)
Asia:	Dr Choo-Hoo Giam (Singapore) Mr Tonny Soehartono (Indonesia)
Central and South America and the Caribbean	Lic. Oscar Lara (Guatemala) Lic. Roberto Ramos Tangarona (Cuba)
Europe:	Dr Marinus Hoogmoed (Netherlands) Dr Katalin Rodics (Hungary)
North America:	Dr Susan Lieberman (United States of America), Vice-Chair
Oceania:	Dr Robert Jenkins (Australia), Chairman

### **Alternates**

Africa:	Mr Edson Chidziya (Zimbabwe)
North America	Dr Charles Dauphiné (Canada)

### **Secretariat**

Dr Ger van Vliet

### **Rapporteurs**

Ms Christine Lippai  
Ms Alison Littlewood



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACTION POINTS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
<b>6. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.21 on Transport of Live Animals</b>	
The Secretariat is to communicate with the World Veterinary Association and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and the two European veterinary associations specialising in herpetology, as recommended by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Herpetologie und Terrarienkunde e.V. (DGHT), and seek their assistance for improved monitoring of live animal transport.	Secretariat
<b>7. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.17 on the Status of International Trade in Shark Species</b>	
The Chairman would maintain liaison with the FAO and monitor the implementation of the action plan on the biological and trade status of sharks by FAO Member States.	Chairman
The Secretariat to communicate with WCO on its coding system and trade in sharks.	Secretariat
<b>8. Implementation of Decision 10.78 on crocodile tagging</b>	
The Secretariat to prepare a final document and accompanying draft resolution for presentation to 11th meeting of the Conference of the parties on behalf of Animals Committee.	Secretariat
<b>9. Review of Decision 10.77 regarding specimens of animal species bred in captivity</b>	
<b>9.1 Report of the Working group established to review registration system (Resolution Conf. 8.15)</b>	
A small working group, chaired by the AC Chairman, was established to review further those outstanding issues relating to the legality of founder breeding stock and the relationship between captive breeding operations and in situ conservation on which consensus could not be achieved and determine the nature of a report to COP-11, including the possibility of submitting amendments to Resolution Conf. 8.15.	Chairman, Working group

ACTION POINTS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
<b>9.2 Consideration of draft list of animal species commonly bred in captivity</b>	
<p>A working group was charged with assessing whether progressing with a list of commonly bred species was appropriate. The Animals Committee was asked to set Terms of Reference and forward them to the Chairman of the working group (Chile).</p>	<p>Committee, Working group</p>
<b>10. Implementation of Decisions 10.75 and 10.76 regarding trade in alien species</b>	
<p>The Chairman to develop liaison with the GIS Program to inform them of the work being carried out by the Animals and Plants Committees on this issue, referring them in particular to the text of Resolution Decision 10.75 and Decision 10.76.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>
<b>11. Implementation of Decision 10.82 on trade in animal species used in traditional medicines</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. rearrange species in taxonomic order;</li> <li>2. note range States for each species;</li> <li>3. cover those species used in traditional medicine in regions not covered by TRAFFIC's report;</li> <li>4. develop a work plan on how to take this issue forward; and</li> <li>5. prepare a document for consideration at the 16th meeting of the Animals Committee.</li> </ol>	<p>Working group co-ordinated by the Secretariat</p>
<b>14. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9</b>	
<b>14.1 Seminar to review strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9</b>	
<p>The Secretariat to distribute to the Parties the guide to the Significant trade process with the evaluation sheets on species subject to the provisions of Resolution Conf. 8.9.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>
<b>14.2 Consideration of need for amending Resolution Conf. 8.9</b>	
<p>The Secretariat to amalgamate the proposed draft of the Plants Committee with the current Resolution Conf. 8.9, to communicate this to the Animals and Plants Committee members and to prepare a document for consideration at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>

ACTION POINTS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
<b>14.4 Assessment of taxa included in Phase IV of the review</b>	
The Secretariat, in accordance with the procedure outlined in paragraph g) of Decision 10.79, to circulate the findings of the Committee to the Management Authorities of the affected range States for comment preparatory to the Committee formulating recommendations, where appropriate, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 8.9.	Secretariat
For <i>Vicugna</i> , <i>Moschus</i> and <i>Naja naja</i> the Secretariat to: a) initiate a process for selecting appropriate reviewers, b) develop a contract with Terms of Reference to enable these species to be reviewed and evaluated this year to allow the Committee to, c) investigate whether action under Resolution Conf. 8.9 was warranted.	Secretariat
The Animals Committee to assess the reports on the wild bird trade in Guyana and <i>Python regius</i> from West Africa to determine whether the conclusions reached by the consultants could be supported and formed into recommendations under Resolution Conf. 8.9.	Animals Committee
The Secretariat to provide the members of the Committee with a summary of the errors, which would account for the discrepancies in trade date and subsequent elimination from the review of the taxa concerned.	Secretariat (distributed at the meeting)
<b>14.5 Trade in hard corals</b>	
A working group to identify means of resolving the problems with identification and reporting requirements for trade in hard corals in terms of Article IV (non-detriment finding). The working group was asked to consult by correspondence, to achieve a unified position that could then be communicated to the Secretariat.	Working group
The Chairman asked Animals Committee members to evaluate the reports, and in consultation with their Scientific Authorities and coral specialists in their respective regions, communicate their findings to the Secretariat and recommendations for action. The Secretariat would then consult with the Animals Committee to determine to what extent any advice in the current Notification should be amended.	Committee members
<b>15. Review of Resolution Conf. 10.18 on ranching and trade in ranched specimens</b>	
The Secretariat to prepare a document with revised draft Resolution for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.	Secretariat
The Secretariat to prepare a document for the next Animals Committee meeting detailing the different	Secretariat

ACTION POINTS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
management systems associated with captive production and ranching of Appendix II species in range States.	
<b>16. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.12 on conservation of sturgeons</b>	
<b>16.2 Draft resolution on marking of sturgeons</b>	
The working group to prepare a draft resolution for consideration at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be submitted through the Secretariat.	Working group, Secretariat
<b>17. Review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 on use of coded-microchips for marking live animals in trade</b>	
The Secretariat to prepare document with resolution for presentation to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties	Secretariat
<b>18. Periodic review of animal taxa in the appendices</b>	
The Chairman to consult with the Secretariat and the Review co-ordinator to determine how to deal with the species for which reviewers remained to be found. Reviewers should use the template that had been developed by the Plants Committee for review of plant taxa included in the appendices. Where possible reviews should be completed and submitted to the Secretariat by the end of the year.	Chairman, Hoogmoed, Reviewers
<b>19. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.15 on Conservation of edible-nest Swiftlets of the genus <i>Collocalia</i></b>	
Text to be included in the report of the Chairman to the Conference of the Parties, recommending the repeal of Resolution Conf. 9.15.	Chairman

## 1. Opening address and welcome to participants

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting and expressed thanks, on behalf of all participants, to His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Republic of Madagascar and to the Minister of Environment for hosting the meeting.

The Director of the Ministry of Water and Forests similarly welcomed participants to the meeting and referred to the experience that Madagascar has in the implementation of CITES.

The Honourable Minister of Environment extended a cordial welcome to all visitors to Madagascar and participants to the meeting of the Animals Committee. He emphasized the unique biodiversity of Madagascar and the Government's commitment towards conservation and the implementation of CITES.

The meeting was officially opened with a speech by His Excellency, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Madagascar. (Texts provided for speeches are included as Annex 1).

## 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Working Programme

The Chairman referred participants to documents Doc. AC.15.2.1 and Doc. AC.15.2 (Rev).

The revised provisional agenda and working programme were adopted as written, on the understanding that changes could be made at the Chairman's discretion.

## 3. Admission of Observers

The Chairman referred the Committee and Party observers to document Doc. AC.15.3, which contains the list of observers. There being no objections from the representatives of Parties, all organisations listed in the document were formally admitted. A list of participants can be found in Annex 9 to this document.

## 4. Adoption of Rules of Procedure for meeting of the Animals Committee

The Secretariat introduced the document Doc.AC.15.4 and explained that the Rules of Procedure were identical to those prepared, and later adopted, by the Plants Committee, following consultation with the Chairman of the Animals Committee. The delegates' attention was drawn to Rules 14, 15, 16 and 17 in Doc. AC.15.4 Annex I (Rules of Procedure of the Animals Committee), regarding the submission and distribution of documents. The Secretariat proposed two changes to Rule 15:

1. First sentence - insert 'discussion' before 'documents';
2. First sentence - 'CITES Authorities' to replace 'Management Authorities'

The observer from Switzerland suggested that the first sentence of Rule 15 could be deleted with no adverse effect to the rule. The Vice-Chair and regional representative for North America, Dr S. Lieberman, confirmed that only international NGOs accredited with the Secretariat could submit documents directly to the CITES Secretariat. After some discussion, the general preference of the Animals Committee members was to retain the first sentence in Rule 15 for reasons of harmonisation with the Plants Committee.

The observer from Argentina suggested that the word 'normally' in Rule 14 be deleted. However, the observer from the European Commission disagreed as this would preclude representatives from organisations such as the FAO from submitting documents directly to the CITES Secretariat.

The Rules of Procedure were adopted as written, except for the two amendments to Rule 15 as proposed by the Secretariat.

5. Regional reports

The Chairman referred delegates to documents Doc. AC.15.5.4 and AC. 15.5.5 and, in his capacity as regional representative for Oceania, apologised that the report from the Oceania region was not yet finalised. Dr Lieberman and Dr J. Ngog Nje, regional representative for Africa stressed the importance of such regional reports and the Chairman secured approval from Animals Committee members for submission of all reports within the next three months.

6. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.21 on Transport of Live Animals

The Chairman asked the observer from Germany, as Chair of the working group on Transport of Live Animals, to introduce document Doc. AC.15.6.1, being a report of the working group addressing issues relating to monitoring of mortality and/or injury of live animals in trade. The observer from Germany highlighted that, under the umbrella of CITES, a lot of technical expertise and international involvement had been brought together to work on the requested issue.

The Chairman confirmed that, at the request of the Animals Committee, the Secretariat had issued a Notification requesting Parties to provide information on the incorporation of the IATA Live Animals Regulations in their national legislation (Notification to the Parties No. 1998/43). The Chairman noted a disappointingly low response; only 11 Parties replied, as summarized in document Doc. AC.15.6.2.

Dr C.-H. Giam (regional representative for Asia) sought the Secretariat's confirmation of their having contacted the World Veterinary Association and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, as per suggestion made at the 14th meeting of the Animals Committee. The Secretariat, and the Chair of the working group, reported that no contact had been made yet but that they would seek their assistance for improved monitoring of live animal transport.

Dr Giam expressed reservations regarding the activities of developing countries being undermined by any unilateral decisions made in developed countries due to the high level of mortality of live animals in transport. A working group was formed to discuss future activities. The composition of this working group was: Germany (Chair), Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Hungary, the United States of America, Switzerland, Wildlife Conservation Society (Bronx Zoo), PIJAC, RSPCA, HSUS.

Later in the week, the observer from Germany, Dr I. Sprotte, as chairman of the transport working group introduced the summary report and the Chairman opened it up for discussion (enclosed as Annex 2). The Secretariat commented that the document reflected a lot of thinking by the group, but had some concerns over the group making contact directly with Parties and reminded them that all formal correspondence with Parties should be done through the Secretariat.

The report of the Working Group on Transport of live animals was accepted without amendment, on the understanding that consultation with any Party outside the Working Group would be conducted through the Secretariat.

The Secretariat is to communicate with the World Veterinary Association and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and the two European veterinary associations specialising in herpetology, as recommended by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Herpetologie und Terrarienkunde e.V. (DGHT), and seek their assistance for improved monitoring of live animal transport.

## 7. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.17 on the Status of International Trade in Shark Species

The Chairman referred delegates to documents Doc. AC.15.7.1 and Doc. AC.15.7.2 and gave a brief background to these documents. He explained that the Chairman and the Secretariat had attended a meeting in Rome at the end of 1998, which resulted in an International Action Plan (Doc. AC.15.7.1), being subsequently presented to and adopted by FAO member States (Doc. AC.15.7.2). He elaborated by informing delegates that the action plan represented compliance by the FAO with some aspects of Resolution Conf. 9.17, although it was for the Animals Committee to now determine any outstanding issues in that resolution prior to the next Conference of the Parties.

The observer from the United States of America remarked that whilst considerable effort had been expended on researching the biological aspect of sharks, much work remained to be done on the trade aspect. She acknowledged that this was a difficult task but reminded the Secretariat of its intention to liaise with the World Customs Organisation, particularly with regard to its coding system. She commented also on the incompatibility of FAO report-writing with the terms of reference for the consultants, which made it difficult to monitor the work carried out. With regard to timing, the observer from the United States of America highlighted the challenges arising as a result of the FAO's work schedule extending beyond 1) the report deadline and 2) next Conference of the Parties. In addition, she pointed out that in order for the Plan of Action to have any conservation benefit, a process of implementation has to be initiated.

After some discussion, the Chairman agreed that the link with the FAO and inter-governmental fisheries bodies had been beneficial to the Animals Committee and that this process of monitoring should continue beyond the next Conference of the Parties. However, in response to an observation made by the observer from the IWMC, the Chairman reported that Resolution Conf. 9.17 would be redundant after the next Conference of the Parties and could be repealed. He pointed out also that Resolution Conf. 9.17 does not provide a mechanism for ongoing monitoring. Such a mechanism, if considered desirable, should form the basis of a decision by the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Secretariat replied that a follow-up resolution or a decision could be drafted that would ensure a continuation of the process already started.

In conclusion, the Chairman advised the Animals Committee that he would incorporate, into his report to the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a recommendation to repeal Resolution Conf. 9.17 and replace it with a decision requiring the Chair of the Animals Committee to maintain liaison with the FAO and monitor the implementation of the action plan on the biological and trade status of sharks by FAO Member States.

## 8. Implementation of Decision 10.78 on crocodile tagging

The Chairman gave a brief background to the document, which had been prepared by the Committee in collaboration with the Secretariat and the IUCN/SSC Crocodile Specialist Group. The draft revision of Resolution Conf. 9.22 had been discussed at the 14th Animals Committee and a level of agreement had been achieved. The Chairman drew delegates' attention to the footnote on page 4 of document Doc. AC.15.8.1, which provides two alternative qualifications for the term 'quotas' that needed to be resolved in order to finalise the draft resolution. The Chairman put forward the suggestion that the stricter definition should be adopted, i.e. 'export quotas approved by the Conference of Parties'.

In addition the Chairman reminded the session that the issue of 'year of production' versus 'year of export', was also raised under the agenda item, on Ranching and Trade in Ranchered Specimens, would also need to be addressed.

Dr Giam referred delegates to practical problems that could arise as a result of the wording in page 3, paragraph b), **'skins, flanks and chalcos be tagged in the year of removal from the wild'**. He reminded delegates that CITES tags are required only for those skins that enter

international trade and that no tags are required for skins consumed locally. He raised also the problem that not all Parties operated according to a calendar year. The administrations of some Parties were based on a twelve month period that commenced at varying times during the calendar year, thereby resulting in specific tagging requirements. He added further that some skins are processed within the country of origin and then stockpiled for many years until buyers can be found, and gave the example of Venezuela where no unprocessed skins are allowed to be exported.

Mr T. Soehartono (regional representative from Asia) concurred with the statement made by his colleague from the same region, stating that tagging skins that did not enter into international trade meant increased costs for local people.

The observer from Germany suggested, that given IUCN/SSC's involvement in the process of amending the existing resolutions since the meeting in Caracas, they be included in a small working group comprising representatives from Scientific Authorities and industry representatives. This small working group should look at the issues raised by the forum and come up with solutions to the problems.

The observer from Namibia requested that the working group could also look at how captive-bred specimens are marked. The observer from Africa Resources Trust remarked that although he recognised that problems existed he felt uncomfortable with the Secretariat's suggestion to remove the requirement for monitoring and reporting to the Conference of the Parties.

The Chairman invited a number of observers to convene a small working group to review the draft consolidated resolution Conf. 9.22 (Rev.) taking into account the comments made during the plenary, with particular reference to the marking of captive bred specimens and the suggestion raised by the observer from the Africa Resources Trust.

Later in the week, the observer from Germany, Dr Dietrich Jelden, who had chaired the working group on crocodile tagging, and the Secretariat presented the proposed changes to document Doc. AC.15.8.1, this being a draft revised resolution on tagging which would replace Resolution Conf. 9.22 (Rev.).

As there were no comments from the floor, the draft resolution to revise Resolution Conf. 9.22 (Rev.) on crocodile tagging was adopted, including the amendments proposed by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat undertook to prepare a final document and accompanying draft resolution for presentation to COP 11 on behalf of Animals Committee.

#### 9. Review of Decision 10.77 regarding specimens of animal species bred in captivity

##### Report of the Animals Committee's drafting group to replace CITES Resolution Conf. 8.15

A working group was charged with reviewing the documents with the goal of fulfilling the Animal Committee's responsibilities under Decision 10.77 a), b) and c) and to ascertain whether a draft resolution could be submitted to COP11. In this regard, Decision 10.77 directs the Animals Committee to:

- a) *examine the effectiveness of and the need for the existing registration system for operations breeding specimens of Appendix I species in captivity for commercial purposes;*
- b) *provide advice at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the need for any changes; and*
- c) *consider the proposed definition of 'bred in captivity for commercial purposes' in document Doc. 10.67*



Later in the week, the Chairman, as chair of the working group, presented the summary report (Annex 3) and informed delegates that little progress had been made on this issue as differences still abound regarding the definition of species "commonly bred in captivity". In this regard, he drew delegates' attention to the summary report where the term "bred in captivity for commercial purposes" was quoted as being the definition agreed upon at the last Animals Committee meeting in Caracas, Venezuela. The Chairman went on to report that one important issue with regard to problems over the registration procedure for Appendix I listed species stems from the fact that Appendix I contains many taxa that would be better listed in Appendix II. In addition, discussions during the working group session concluded that in order for the review of Resolution Conf. 8.15 to progress, actions in progress at the Convention on Biological Diversity had to be taken into consideration. He added that in the Chairman's report to the next Conference of the Parties he would advise that, in order to progress the subject of captive breeding in any meaningful manner, the Conference of the Parties would need to take into account the aspirations of many range States for the Convention on Biological Diversity to address issues surrounding property rights, access to genetic resources and equitable sharing of benefits.

The Chairman reminded delegates that, in terms of Decision 10.77, the Animals Committee was not obliged to prepare a draft resolution on registration procedures for captive breeding for submission to the next Conference of the Parties.

After some discussion, the report of the working group was adopted with some amendments.

#### Consideration of draft list of animal species commonly bred in captivity

An *ad hoc* working group, to be chaired by Dr K. Rodics (regional representative of Europe), was asked to:

1. Revisit the definition of commonly captive bred as defined by the working group at the 14th Animals Committee; and
2. Produce a list of animal species commonly bred in captivity in accordance with the mandate provided in Resolution Conf. 10.16, paragraph b ii) C 2.a, taking into account the following definition adopted by the Committee at its fourteenth meeting (Caracas, 1998) of 'a species regularly bred in captivity at numerous facilities and the captive population of the species is self-sustaining'.

The working group comprised: Belgium, Canada, People's Republic of China, United Kingdom, United States of America, European Commission, PIJAC, DGHT, WCMC, IUCN/SSC, WCS.

Later in the week, Dr K. Rodics, as chairman of the working group introduced the summary report (Annex 4) and concluded that it was inappropriate to prepare a list of species 'commonly bred in captivity' at this time. Dr Rodics clarified the term 'global list' as a list of species commonly bred in captivity, that could be bred in any country if the knowledge was available, and should not be country specific. The Chairman gave a note of caution requesting the group to be mindful of using criteria which did not take into account national legislation. The Chairman gave Australia as an example of a country where internal legislation restricted the number of exotic species being bred in captivity primarily due to stringent quarantine laws which prevented large numbers of birds being imported, particularly when compared to the number of species being bred in Europe or North America. The observer from Germany said that the group had recognised specific regional interests in breeding particular species, but had decided that it was more important to ensure that information was available on how to breed particular species. Their primary aim was to ensure that a global database was set up based on sound scientific information.

The observer from the United Kingdom referred the session to the last paragraph on page 2 of the report which stated that '*such a list would be of little assistance to Management and Scientific*

*Authorities'*, and noted that the working group had in fact agreed that the list would be of assistance to CITES Authorities. He suggested that '*little*' was deleted. The Chairman agreed that although the present list was of little assistance, a future list would be useful and agreed to delete the word.

The Secretariat expressed several reservations with the recommendations adopted by the working group. In particular the financial and resource implications of setting up a database, and the fact that Parties had already been invited to provide information on commonly captive-bred specimens but few replies had been received. He concluded that the Animals Committee should determine the exact purpose the list was to serve and reach agreement on the definition of commonly captive-bred. Dr Ngog Nje noted that developing countries are concerned that when species are bred outside the range State, it has implications for *in situ* conservation of species.

After several interventions from the floor and at the request of range States to be included in the drafting process, the Chairman referred the issue to a working group for further deliberation. The working group has the following composition: Chile, Guatemala (regional representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean, Indonesia (regional representative for Asia), Cameroon (regional representative for Africa), Tanzania (regional representative for Africa), Argentina, Canada, China, Madagascar, United States of America, observer from the European region (to be appointed after the meeting).

The working group was charged with assessing whether progressing with a list of commonly bred species was appropriate. The Animals Committee was asked to set Terms of Reference and forward them to the Chairman of the working group (the observer from Chile).

Before closing discussion on this item, the Chairman acknowledged that he had failed to respond to Chile's intervention in the previous session during discussions on the review of registration procedures under Resolution Conf. 8.15. In summarising the detailed report of the Working Group on registered captive breeding establishments he had omitted some important points raised by the observer from Chile. He recognised that the observer from Chile supported registration for all Appendix-I animals bred in captivity, but added that the summary of conclusions would not change.

#### 10. Implementation of Decisions 10.75 and 10.76 regarding trade in alien species

The Chairman introduced documents Doc.AC.15.10 and Doc.AC.15.10.1 and referred delegates to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/4/L.2 of 24 June 1999, being draft recommendations from the 4th meeting of the SBSTTA (held in Montreal 21-25 June 1999). He further stressed the need to link the two Conventions, CITES and CBD, on this matter in order to avoid duplication of effort. He informed delegates that the many issues being developed in the CBD forum relate to the same issues being developed by the Animals Committee and, therefore, a degree of synergy was required.

Dr Lieberman thanked the Chairman for bringing the SBSTTA document to the delegates' attention, adding that she felt that collaboration with CBD would prove beneficial. With regard to the Global Invasive Species Programme, she suggested that while it was important not to duplicate effort, it was equally important not to relinquish Animals Committee obligations to the CBD.

In response to a comment from the observer from the United States of America regarding databases of invasive species, the Chairman reported that a list of invasive species comprising the GIS Program was compiled for the 4th meeting of the SBSTTA. In order to avoid duplication of effort, the Chairman suggested that he task himself with developing a liaison with the GIS Program to inform them of the work being carried out by the Animals and Plants Committees on this issue, referring them in particular to the text of Resolution Decision 10.75 and Decision 10.76.

The observer from IUCN, referring delegates to document Doc.AC.15.10.1, encouraged participants to review the document and to forward comments to IUCN by September 1999, in order that a final document could be submitted to the IUCN Council in 2000.

Lic. O. Francisco Lara (Regional Representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean) asked that documents such as those relevant to the Ramsar Convention, should also be made available for distribution to Animals Committee members, in order to assist their decision-making on the issue of invasive species.

#### 11. Implementation of Decision 10.82 on trade in animal species used in traditional medicine

The Secretariat introduced the topic regarding Decision 10.82, which directs the Animals Committee to review animal species used in traditional medicines to assess the implications for wild populations. The Secretariat explained that, at an earlier meeting of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat had asked for directions because of the large number of species involved, but not been given any. It had therefore contracted TRAFFIC International to compile a list of animal species used in traditional medicine. As part of the compliance with Decision 10.143 c) the Secretariat would be circulating to all Parties a colour guide with pictures of medicinal products containing CITES listed species. The guide has been prepared by TRAFFIC and the Customs Office at Heathrow Airport, with funding from WWF and the CITES Secretariat.

The observer from TRAFFIC introduced document Doc. AC.15.11 noting that international trade in wild species for medicinal purposes is in general poorly documented and the draft list of species it had prepared for consideration by the Animals Committee did not include regions such as West/Central Africa and South America. TRAFFIC applied three main criteria to focus its research and to identify species for inclusion in the list:

- the species have been documented in use in widespread traditional medicine systems
- the species are traded internationally for medicinal purposes, and
- the species are used to treat biological problems, not as charms and talismans.

The observer from TRAFFIC said that they hoped the list, although not comprehensive, would serve as a good starting point for future reviews of species regularly traded for use in traditional medicine.

Dr Ngog Nje asked whether any analysis had been undertaken regarding the impact that use of species in traditional medicines has on the conservation status of the species. The observer from TRAFFIC replied that the report did not include data on the volume of trade and accordingly, did not attempt to analyse the impact of use; the table serves merely as a list of species used in traditional medicines.

The observer from the United States of America complimented TRAFFIC on its report and made the following suggestions:

- i) split the table into higher taxa, e.g. mammals, birds, reptiles, etc. and include common names of the species.
- ii) Add two more columns to include country and full references not just citations.

She added her endorsement of Dr Ngog Nje's recommendations that trade volumes and impacts have to be studied, in order to fulfil Animals Committee obligations under Resolution Conf. 10.19 and Decision 10.143.

The Chairman suggested that a small working group convene to progress the issue, perhaps looking at it on a regional basis. The observer from the Republic of Korea expressed appreciation for the effort put into formulating document Doc. AC.15.11 but noted several reservations concerning the Committee's approach to addressing the issue of traditional medicine. In particular

he felt that the mandate of the Animals Committee to review trade in animal species for use in traditional medicine, was too narrow and prevented the Committee from fully understanding all the issues associated with traditional medicine. He referred the session to several recommendations laid down in Resolution Conf. 10.19 including:

- the need to work with groups of traditional medicine practitioners;
- the need to strengthen efforts to enforce legislation governing trade in threatened species;
- promoting the development of techniques to identify parts and derivatives used in traditional medicine, and
- investigating the potential use of substitutes.

The observer from the Republic of Korea noted that Decision 10.143 directed the Secretariat to review similar measures needed for effective implementation of the Convention in relation to trade in medicinal products. He was concerned that, if the Animals Committee proceeded without parallel efforts to implement recommendations as set out in Decision 10.143 and Resolution Conf. 10.19, the Animals Committee would not present a balanced or comprehensive set of recommendations. The observer concluded that rather than set up a working group now, it would be better to wait until progress had been made in implementing the other related decisions and resolutions.

The Chairman recognised that it was still at the information-gathering phase and the working group should consider the need to develop a comprehensive project proposal in consultation with the CBD Secretariat. The Secretariat requested that the working group cover those regions for which little information was included in document Doc. AC.15.11, identify potential problem areas and report back to the Committee.

On the basis of comments made in plenary later in the week, and following discussions with the Secretariat and interested Parties, it was decided to establish a working group, charged with the responsibility of examining the document Doc. AC.15.11 taking into account all the relevant resolutions and decisions, and include the following amendments:

1. rearrange species in taxonomic order;
2. note range States for each species;
3. cover those species used in traditional medicine in regions not covered by TRAFFIC's report;
4. develop a work plan on how to take this issue forward; and
5. prepare a document for consideration at the 16th Animals Committee.

The observer from China welcomed the working group, but suggested that comprehensive information on different traditional medicine systems, covering all regions, should be made available before planning the next stage of work. He reiterated many of the points raised by the observer from the Republic of Korea and requested that the working group take these remarks into account. He went on to say that all the areas of work, including the co-operation with CBD, were necessary and essential to the work on 'sustainable utilization'.

The Secretariat was asked by the Chairman to co-ordinate the working group until the next meeting of the Animals Committee.

The working group has the following composition: regional representative for Africa (Dr Howell), regional representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Lic. Lara), China, Korea, Madagascar and TRAFFIC International.

## 12. Role and function of the Scientific Authorities

The observer from IUCN presented the Report on the IUCN Workshop to develop guidelines for CITES Scientific Authorities regarding the making of non-detriment findings (16-18 October 1998, Hong Kong) and acknowledged the financial support provided by the Government of the United States of America and SWAN. Recommendations from the workshop included:

- Recognition of the importance of Scientific Authorities must be increased at the international and national level.
- A framework paper, including a matrix, should be developed to assist Scientific Authorities in their technical needs to make non-detriment findings.
- Improved capacity and creativity is needed to secure long term financial support for Scientific Authorities.
- Co-operation with the Convention on Biological Diversity should be improved.
- Access to, and use of, available information to support the making of non-detriment findings should be improved.
- Co-operation with national bodies under the CBD and with the academic community should be improved to fill knowledge gaps.

The Chairman stressed that action on this important initiative was long overdue and that the workshop represented the first serious attempt to focus on the requirements of Article IV and the effective determination of the minimum set of parameters necessary for making a non-detriment finding. The Secretariat announced that the Standing Committee had set aside funds to organise a follow-up workshop, upon which the observer from the United States of America announced that the US Government would also provide financial support for this important activity. Dr K. Howell (Regional Representative for Africa) expressed his concern at the lack of African representation at the workshop and expressed his hope that funds would be made available for smaller workshops to address problems associated with particular regions.

The Chairman acknowledged the valuable contribution of all involved and expressed formal appreciation to the donors for their assistance in funding the workshops. He invited the Committee to fully support this initiative, and asked that a document be presented to the next Conference of Parties.

### 13. Strategic Plan of the Convention

Before passing over to the Vice-Chair, the Chairman explained the activities of the working group established by the Standing Committee, noting the responsibility of the two technical committees to provide comment on the draft plan and the procedure leading up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Vice-Chair introduced this item by giving a brief background on the Decision to proceed with a strategic plan for the period 2000-2005. She informed delegates that the strategic plan, upon approval by the Standing Committee, will be presented to the 11th Conference of the Parties for possible amendment and eventual adoption. She explained that this was an opportunity for the Animals Committee to make recommendations on the goals and objectives as set out in document Doc. AC.15.13. She added further that the meeting was in the fortunate position to have at its disposal the recommendations and changes put forward by the Plants Committee (document Doc. AC.15.13.1) following its recent meeting in Darwin, Australia.

The Vice-Chair proceeded to take the delegates through the documents, inviting comments from the floor on each goal and associated objectives. Valuable contributions were made and whilst there was general agreement from the floor on many of the recommendations proposed by the Plants Committee, a number of additional improvements to the document were suggested which would be incorporated, by the Chairman, into his report to the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee later in the year.

### 14. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9

#### Seminar to review strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9

The Chairman introduced this Agenda item with a brief history behind the decision to review the significant trade process, focusing on its implementation, its success and its problems. He

continued by informing the delegates that as a result of discussions on this issue at the last meeting of the Animals Committee, the Secretariat contracted a consultant, the Africa Resources Trust, to produce a plain language guide outlining the procedures of Resolution Conf. 8.9. The Chairman invited Dr Hutton, the observer from the Africa Resources Trust and former representative for Africa on the Animals Committee, to present the findings of the significant trade review on the basis of information contained in the following documents: Doc. AC.15-Sem.1, Doc. AC.15-Sem.2, Doc. AC.15-Sem.3, Doc. AC.15-Sem.4 and Doc. AC.15-Sem.5

Dr Hutton stressed that the review did not constitute an opinion on the effectiveness of the process. Using overhead sheets, he explained that the presentation was an attempt to eliminate confusion over a number of aspects of Resolution Conf. 8.9, citing the numbering system involved in Decision 10.79 paragraph d), as well as the method of communication between the Secretariat and Parties with respect to requests for information on species, as examples of such confusion. He then presented a list of implementation problems, in terms of the result of the study together with comments from Party reviewers, with particular mention of the following:

- a) There is no consistent procedure for the tracking of a species' progress through the significant trade process
- b) The significant trade process involves a great deal of consultation, but the effectiveness of such consultation is questionable
- c) A degree of confusion over categories and numbering used at CoPs and in documents distributed to Parties
- d) A potential problem with quotas is that it is not clear upon which grounds the Secretariat determines a quota as being "conservative" as well as how to proceed when a Party subsequently changes the agreed quota
- e) The formulation of primary and secondary recommendations by the Animals Committee is unclear
- f) The co-ordination of field projects is currently a disjunct process requiring additional co-ordination
- g) The terms introduced in Article IV are confusing in that Scientific Authorities may have varying interpretations of making a "non-detriment finding" [Article IV, paragraph (2)a]
- h) There is a generic problem relating to under-resourced, under-staffed or even non-existent Scientific Authorities, which although highlighted through the significant trade process is beyond the scope of the AC to address and rectify.
- i) It is difficult to assess the effectiveness of the significant trade process, although this could be assisted by informing the COP if a species is proposed for uplisting (from Appendix II to I) has been put through the significant trade process.

The Chairman opened the discussion on this subject by reminding delegates of the importance of Resolution Conf. 8.9 in ensuring that trade in wild fauna and flora was conducted sustainably with no detriment to wild populations, this being at the very heart of the Convention (document Doc. AC.15-Sem.1 and Sem.2). He suggested that it would be less confusing if there was only one significant trade review process that is applicable to both fauna and flora.

There was a general appreciation of the quality of the report prepared by Africa Resources Trust.

Dr Hoogmoed (regional representative for Europe) remarked that, in cases where data on a species were absent, trade in that species could prove to be detrimental and, that accordingly,

the species ought to be referred back to the Animals Committee. However, as Resolution Conf. 8.9 currently stands, the issue remains at the level of the Secretariat. The Chairman replied that, in order to change this process, an amendment to the wording in Resolution Conf. 8.9 would be required. In this regard, the Secretariat reminded delegates of the deadlines for responses, which would be compromised if recommendations were to be re-directed back to the Animals Committee. Dr Lieberman complimented the Chairman and the Secretariat on the quality and completeness of the documentation provided for this agenda item. She further suggested that a possible solution could be the hiring of consultants to provide assistance with regard to the export quotas and non-detriment findings. She also suggested that the Secretariat could create a web-site containing an extensive library of documents, past and present, as well as detailed information on, *inter alia*, species, countries and market factors. She stressed the importance of using quality information in appropriate decision-making processes.

Dr Ngog Nje asked for the information presented by African Resources Trust to be translated into French as this would assist Francophone African countries to understand this complex process. He also concurred with the point raised by Dr Hoogmoed with regard to the lack of trade data.

In response to requests for the papers to be translated into French and Spanish, the Chairman reassured delegates that this would be dealt with.

The observer from the European Commission emphasised the need to follow the process outlined in the flow-chart presented by Dr Hutton and that the Animals Committee should not depart from the procedures as laid out in Decision 10.79.

The observer from Namibia expressed concern that many recommendations were based on old trade data and he suggested that the Animals Committee should focus more attention on the management and monitoring systems in place. He added that increased flexibility within the significant trade process would assist its implementation in some cases. The observer from China concurred with these statements.

The observer from the International Wildlife Coalition raised the point that taking a species by species approach excludes the opportunity to review common problems that relate to taxa or families and, in his opinion, a review of these generic issues could possibly improve the effectiveness of the significant trade review process.

The observer from Korea raised the issue of sovereignty with regard to the inclusion of a species in the significant trade process and asked that increased co-operation with relevant institutions in the range states should be encouraged when considering priorities for field projects.

The observer from the Humane Society of the United States expressed her opinion that medicinal species should be included in the text of the guide, given their inclusion in the process under Decision 10.82. She added that when the Standing Committee recommends a trade ban to a Party, it would be appropriate to look at a potential shift in trade patterns.

The Chairman commented on the lack of clarity on the extent to which the Secretariat distributed to the range States information produced by the consultants prior to submission of such data to the Animals Committee. The Secretariat confirmed that all documents were submitted to range States asking for their concurrence with the findings of any such consultancies.

In response to a query made by Dr Howell, the Secretariat informed delegates that the consultants were under a clear instruction to only include references that were accessible to range States and the Animals Committee. Where 'Anon' is cited in references, it refers to a paper that is available but to which no authorship was attached.

The Chairman called for the formation of two working groups to:

- i) Assess the implementation process with the ultimate view of determining whether amendments to Resolution Conf. 8.9 are warranted, and if so, what form these amendments should take; and
- ii) Review the reports prepared by the consultants on the species selected for Phase 4 of the significant trade review.

He added that the comments made during the plenary session should be taken into account during such assessment and asked that the working group pay particular attention to Decision 10.79 and the draft resolution prepared by the Plants Committee in Darwin, Australia (Doc. AC.15.14.2). There was general agreement from the delegates that a single resolution applicable to both Plants and Animals Committees would be preferable.

Later in the week, the Chairman referred delegates to the report of the working group which reviewed both Decision 10.79 and the amendments to Resolution Conf. 8.9 that have been proposed by the Plants Committee (Annex 5), noting the necessary typographical corrections. He thanked the working group participants for their input and expressed the hope that the document reflected their views. The Chairman highlighted a number of key issues in the draft revision of Resolution Conf. 8.9, particularly where the Plants and Animals Committees have been given additional flexibility in researching trade data for species where trade has been suspended – this would make provision for research into any shift in trade to other countries. In addition, he advised that the draft reflected the concern expressed by the working group that provision be made for increased consultation with range States.

Following discussion, the Chairman suggested that the document be referred to the Secretariat for onward communication to the Plants Committee seeking their views and comments on the draft and eventual incorporation into a new document to be prepared for consideration at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Dr S. Lieberman reported on the conclusions of the working group to review all taxa in Phase IV of the review (Annex 6). She thanked the observer from Safari Club International who had acted as rapporteur for the working group and informed delegates that the working group had considered documents Doc. A.C.15.14.4, Doc. AC.15.14.4 (cont.) and Doc. AC.15.14.4.1 and had formulated conclusions and comments based on these documents and the comments from participating Parties.

There was some general discussion of the findings of the working group. In response to a query from Dr Howell regarding the basis upon which a decision had been made on the designation of *H. amphibius* as a d)ii) species in the periphery of its range, the observer from Kenya replied that such designation was to be applied to those countries where trade in hippo ivory had been recorded. Dr Howell noted the lack of clarity in the working group report on this matter and asked that a list be drawn up, which would define these peripheral states.

The Chairman requested the Secretariat, in accordance with the procedure outlined in paragraph g) of Decision 10.79, to circulate the findings of the Committee to the Management Authorities of the affected range States for comment preparatory to the Committee formulating recommendations, where appropriate, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 8.9.

#### Assessment of taxa included in Phase IV of the review

The Chairman referred delegates to document Doc. AC.15.14-inf and reminded them that *Naja* spp., *Moschus* spp. and *Vicugna vicugna*, included in Phase 4, had not yet been reviewed in detail.

The Committee agreed to the proposal of the Chairman to request the Secretariat to: a) initiate a process for selecting appropriate reviewers, b) develop a contract with Terms of Reference to enable these species to be reviewed and evaluated this year to allow the Committee to, c) investigate whether action under Resolution Conf. 8.9 was warranted. Dr S. Lieberman advised that in order to avoid any duplication of effort, the United States of America would



provide the Secretariat with the text of its review of Vicugna, which had been conducted in consultation with range States.

The observer from the World Conservation Monitoring Centre pointed out that two other taxa identified in Phase 4 had not been dealt with in document Doc. AC.15.14-inf. A decision on whether to include *Uromastyx* spp. and *Python sebae* in a later review was deferred until the next meeting of the Animals Committee after the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Chairman drew attention to field study reports on the wild bird trade in Guyana and *Python regius* from West Africa. He requested the Animals Committee to assess the reports to determine whether the conclusions reached by the consultants could be supported and formed into recommendations under Resolution Conf. 8.9.

The observer from International Wildlife Coalition noted that not all of the species in the information document had been incorporated into document Doc. AC.15.14.2. The Secretariat explained that for these species there were a number of typographical errors in the original trade data. After correction it was considered that there were no longer problems with regard to the volumes of trade in these species. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to provide the members of the Committee with a summary of the errors, which would account for the discrepancies and subsequent omission from the list.

#### Trade in hard corals

The Chairman introduced documents Doc. AC.15.14-inf and Doc. AC.15.14.5 and explained that the trade in hard corals had originally been brought to the Animal Committee's attention through the Resolution Conf. 8.9 significant trade process. No definitive recommendations have been made by the Animals Committee mainly due to lack of appropriate data because of reporting and identification problems. The Chairman explained that Notification to the Parties No. 1999/41 had been circulated after extensive consultation with coral experts and that discussion should concentrate on recommendations made in paragraphs 5a) and b) of the Notification.

The observer from Indonesia and Dr M. Hoogmoed both agreed that the recommendations as laid out in paragraphs 5a) and 5b) did not need amending but felt that difficulties in identifying hard corals to species level meant that paragraph 5c) could present problems. The observer from Switzerland felt there were problems with paragraphs 5a), b) and c) because of the difficulty in identifying the species on import and expressed a preference for the list of coral taxa that may be reported at the generic level to be increased. The observer from the United Kingdom supported the call for more hard corals to be reported at the generic level and noted that a recent report published by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre showed that non-specialists at ports of entry also supported retaining reporting to the generic level. The Secretariat expressed concern at the comments made by the importing countries and said that various well-illustrated manuals were available and that these should be provided to border inspection posts. The main identification problem arises at the exporting end where Scientific Authorities have to make a non-detriment finding in implementing Article IV, paragraph 2a). The observer from the United States of America said that they had produced a photographic guide to hard corals using digitised photographs and a variety of identification techniques that they would be pleased to make more widely available.

The Chairman set up a working group (comprising Indonesia, United States of America, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC), the United Kingdom, TRAFFIC and WCMC) to identify means of resolving the problems with identification and reporting requirements for trade in hard corals in terms of Article IV (non-detriment finding). The working group was asked to consult by correspondence, to achieve a unified position that could then be communicated to the Secretariat and the Conference of the Parties.

The Chairman referred delegates' attention to paragraph 8 of document Doc. AC.15.14-inf and called upon the observer from Indonesia, as a major exporter of hard corals, to make a presentation on the management systems in place for coral-harvesting in Indonesia, giving the

scientific basis upon which wild harvest quotas are currently established. The observer from Indonesia described the condition of Indonesia's coral reefs, identified the major human activities affecting coral reefs and outlined the actions, which have been taken by the government to protect coral reefs. He presented the guidelines produced by the Ministry of Forestry for the sustainability of the trade in corals, which included technical, administrative and management directives on rotational harvesting, marine protected areas and the establishment of a maximum size limit for coral harvest. With regard to the development and implementation of a Coastal Zone Management Plan, the observer from Indonesia reported that, for the successful implementation of such a plan, a number of factors had to be considered, including the poverty of coastal communities and the effective enforcement of trade monitoring. He mentioned that Indonesia was in the process of implementing a coral reef rehabilitation and management programme to develop a national system to support: 1) coral management, 2) sustainable harvests, and 3) biodiversity conservation.

Dr Lieberman thanked the observer from Indonesia and reported that the United States of America is the major importer of hard corals. She asked that the report submitted by the United States of America be circulated to all Animals Committee members in order that an informed decision, based on Resolution Conf. 8.9 pertinent to Article IV, could be made. The Chairman agreed that the Animals Committee was now in a stronger position to make an informed decision on this matter and asked that the documents provided by the United States of America, WCMC and the observer from Indonesia, be circulated to Animals Committee members by the Secretariat immediately following the meeting. He asked Animals Committee members to evaluate the reports, and in consultation with their Scientific Authorities and coral specialists in their respective regions, communicate their findings to the Secretariat and recommendations for action. The Secretariat would then consult with the Animals Committee to determine to what extent any advice in the current Notification should be amended.

15. Review of Resolution Conf. 10.18 on ranching and trade in ranched specimens

The Chairman introduced documents Doc. AC.15.15.1 and Doc. AC.15.15.1a and noted that the draft revision of a resolution on ranching and trade in ranched specimens incorporated those amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.18 that had been agreed upon at the 14th meeting of the Animals Committee. The Chairman offered the floor to the Secretariat who proceeded to take plenary through its comments on the revised draft resolution. Their comments related mainly to the section on definitions.

The Chairman remarked that the original intent of ranching as adopted by the third Conference of Parties in 1981 was to provide a mechanism whereby under certain conditions species or populations could be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II, and believed that this needed to be incorporated into the title of the revised Resolution. The Vice-chair supported the title change and the Chairman instructed the Secretariat to make the necessary amendment.

Dr Hoogmoed and Dr Howell both expressed concern over the many management techniques used by operations describing themselves as ranching facilities and requested a document be prepared for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Vice-Chair supported the interventions from the floor remarking that similar concerns had been raised in the significant trade working-group which were fundamental to the making of 'non-detriment' findings. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to prepare a document for the next Animals Committee meeting detailing the different management systems associated with captive production and ranching operations.

Dr Ngog Nje emphasised the need for increased monitoring of survivorship of specimens released into the wild from ranching operations, particularly with regard to conservation benefits. The observer from Islamic Republic of Iran stated that experience with sturgeon ranching had shown that a large proportion of sturgeon harvested from the wild emanated from ranching operations. He added that it was important to consider the potential alteration in the genetic pool of wild sturgeon when considering releasing specimens into the wild. Lic. R. Ramos Tangarona (representative from Central and South America and the Caribbean region) noted that often the best species were

retained by the ranching operation and only poor specimens were released into the wild. The Chairman acknowledged the need for Management Authorities to be involved where a commercial operator intended to release specimens to the wild, to ensure that healthy, disease-free specimens are released. He suggested that, if the Animals Committee produced a guide covering the issues raised, this would be a useful tool to Parties.

The observer from Africa Resources Trust referred the session to document Doc. AC.15.15.1, page 4, paragraph d stating that the term 'uniform marking system' and 'year of production' had caused problems in the past and sought clarification on whether skins should be tagged with the 'year of harvest' or 'year of export'. He added further that such confusion was causing a loss in some taxon-specific nuances, especially with regard to ranched crocodile skins, where the balance of incentives that had been built up over the years was in jeopardy. The Chairman concurred that the dating issue was an important point and suggested that depending on how discussions progressed on Resolution Conf. 9.22, this item may need further consideration by a small working group.

The observer from IWMC felt that during the consolidation process decisions taken for crocodiles had been taken to cover everything despite different species dictating very different ranching techniques and gave the example of collection of eggs from crocodiles and the collection of eggs from parrots. The observer from Germany felt that this resolution could be seen as a flexible instrument that did address specific issues relating to specific taxa.

The Animals Committee adopted the draft revision of the consolidated resolution as laid out in document Doc. AC.15.15.1 together with the comments from the Secretariat in document Doc. AC.15.15.1a. The Secretariat was asked to amend the title to incorporate the original intent of ranching as adopted in Resolution Conf. 3.15 and to incorporate all these amendments into a final draft.

The observer from Chile, remarked that the interpretation into Spanish had improved and thanked the Secretariat for dealing with this sensitive issue.

#### 16. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.12 on conservation of sturgeons

##### Draft resolution on marking of sturgeons

The Chairman invited the observer from the United States of America to convene a small sub-group to review the report of the Working Group and comments by the Secretariat and incorporate the views and concerns of the range states present. The sub-group was asked to consider the budgetary implications of any actions they recommended [as required under Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev.)].

The sub-group, comprising representatives from range States, importing states and industry, under the chairmanship of the United States of America, is as follows: China, Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation, TRAFFIC International, International Caviar Importers Association (ICIA) and International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies US.

Later in the week, the observer from the United States of America, as chair of the working group, reported on the findings on marking systems for specimens of sturgeon. She stated that the primary conclusion of the working group was that it was not feasible at this stage to mark live sturgeons as outlined in document Doc. AC.15.16.1, but, rather, that a universal marking system for the sturgeon product, caviar, be developed. In this regard, she reported that specific items to be recorded on the marking label should include, as a minimum requirement, the *grade*, *species*, *date* (of harvest), and *country of origin*. Such information is to be clearly marked on the label of the caviar tin or box as well as recorded on the CITES export permit, to allow for tracking and monitoring of caviar exports.

The Chairman stressed the importance of obtaining the views and inputs of the range States in drafting a resolution for submission to the next Conference of the Parties. In addition, the observer from Switzerland remarked on the potential difficulties arising from the re-export of caviar products, to which the observer from the United States of America replied that this issue was too complex to be dealt with during the time available to the working group. The Chairman reminded delegates of the process for tagging crocodile skins, which began in 1985, and stressed to delegates that to expect a 100% secure marking system would be premature at this stage as implementation of the processes involved required time and constant re-evaluation.

After a brief discussion, the Animals Committee approved the report and the preparation of a draft resolution to be submitted at the next Conference of the Parties.

#### 17. Review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 on use of coded-microchips for marking live animals in trade

The observer from the Czech Republic, as chairman of the Coded-microchips Working Group, introduced document Doc. AC.15.17.1. He noted that there were difficulties regarding the ISO 11784 and ISO 11785 standards that had led to a proposal from some ISO member States for a re-evaluation of the standards for radio-frequency identification. He said also that the document contained a list of the reasons cited in a formal request for the suspension and revision of such incompatibility in products and technologies used.

The Chairman referred delegates' attention to document Doc. AC.15.17.1a, which had been prepared by the Secretariat. The Secretariat explained that this document relates to the two different methods of microchip marking and recommended that it would be better to maintain the current Resolution Conf. 8.13 until uniform codes have been established. The Secretariat stressed that any new proposal should contain budgetary provisions in accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev).

After some discussion, delegates agreed that the draft resolution prepared by the working group addressed some but not all, of the problems identified in implementing Resolution Conf. 8.13. Some of the solutions proposed were not considered realistic (as outlined in Doc. AC.15.17.1a) and the Chairman invited a small working group to be established, chaired by the observer from the Czech Republic, to determine whether to proceed with a new draft resolution, or retain Resolution Conf. 8.13 with the minor modifications proposed at the 14th meeting of the Animals Committee in Caracas, Venezuela.

Later in the week, the Secretariat presented the report from the working group, referring delegates specifically to document Doc. AC.15.17.1 Annex, being the proposed revision to Resolution Conf. 8.13. He stressed in particular, the recommendation that Parties adopt the use of implantable transponders that have non-reprogrammable and unique codes. In response to a query from Dr Howell asking for clarification on the CITES codes, the Secretariat responded that Parties had the option whether to use codes or not.

The draft resolution was adopted with amendments introduced by the Secretariat. The Chairman reminded delegates that the Secretariat would put forward all such documents to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on behalf of the Animals Committee.

#### 18. Periodic review of animal taxa in the appendices

Before inviting Dr Hoogmoed to present the findings of the working group that was established to consider this agenda item, the Chairman explained the relationship between the periodic review of animal taxa included in the appendices against the Resolution Conf. 9.24 criteria and the closely-related agenda item (item 20) concerning the review of the Resolution Conf. 9.24 criteria.

Dr Hoogmoed drew delegates' attention to the list of species, put forward for review against the criteria laid out in Resolution Conf. 9.24. The Animals Committee accepted the list produced by the working group (Annex 8). Interventions by the following observers were noted by the Chairman:

The observer from Switzerland expressed his Party's disappointment that only two species they had proposed for review had been included in the final list.

The observer from Japan expressed concern that four populations of whale, proposed for transfer to Appendix II at the last Conference of Parties had been excluded from the list of taxa drawn up for further review under Resolution Conf. 9.24 criteria.

The Chairman advised that it would be inappropriate for the Committee to conduct a new review of species against criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 that already been considered by the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties against that Resolution. He added that it was also beyond the mandate of the Animals Committee to review species where downlisting proposals were possibly intended for presentation at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The observer from Japan noted the advice of the Animals Committee Chairman but indicated that it could not agree with the reason for not including the suggestion in the periodic review and that Japan had the right to provide the Animals Committee with the result of the review of any whale species in accordance with the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24.

Delegates were reminded by the Chairman that the review of species by the Animals Committee does not preclude any Party from conducting its own independent review. Parties can employ expert bodies to assist with any such review, for eventual submission to the Animals Committee.

The feeling of the working group was that review of species on the list should be carried out by Parties, preferably in co-ordination between the range State and an importing country.

Parties represented at the meeting then indicated particular species identified by the Working Group that they would carry out assessments on against criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (see Annex 8). The Chairman thanked those Parties that had volunteered to undertake the species' reviews and advised that he would consult with the Secretariat to determine how to deal with the species for which reviewers remained to be found. Reviewers should use the template that had been developed by the Plants Committee for use in a parallel process of reviewing plant taxa included in the appendices. Where possible reviews should be completed and submitted to the Secretariat by the end of the year.

19. Implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.15 on Conservation of edible-nest Swiftlets of the genus *Collocalia*

Dr Giam presented a summary of the document Doc. AC.15.19 on the conservation of edible-nest swiftlets and reported to the meeting the progress made since the 14th Animals Committee, Caracas, Venezuela (25-29 May 1998). It was noted that all the requirements of Resolution Conf. 9.15 have been carried out viz:

- a) The Secretariat to convene a technical workshop, and
- b) The Animals Committee to promote scientific guidance for the implementation of the Resolution.

Dr Giam suggested that it was appropriate for this item to be removed from the Animals Committee agenda.

The Chairman noted that Resolution Conf. 9.15 had effectively been implemented and invited Dr Giam, the Secretariat, and the observer from the IUCN to prepare a text repealing Resolution Conf. 9.15, ensuring that the repeal is cited as being a result of the success of the effort of

CITES and not because the species is not listed in the Appendices. The Animals Committee noted this was an example where a potential problem had been addressed and successfully concluded by range states. (This expression would be included in the report of the Chairman to the Conference of the Parties, recommending the repeal of Resolution Conf. 9.15).

20. Terms of reference for the review of the criteria

The Chairman introduced document Doc. AC.15.20 and informed delegates that this document was an information document only, and that it was unlikely that substantial changes would be made given the time constraints. In providing a background to the item, he reminded delegates that Resolution Conf. 9.24 established new criteria for amending Appendix I and II of the Convention and, built into this resolution was the requirement for a review of criteria by the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. As a first step in this process, he informed delegates that the information document before them comprised a response to the request from the Standing Committee for the chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees to develop terms of reference for the review of criteria for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

The Chairman approved the recommendation from the observer from RSPCA that "from the Parties" be deleted from paragraph 3 on page 4 of the document.

21. Any other business

Trade in freshwater turtles/tortoises in Southeast Asia

The Chairman invited the observer from Germany to introduce the document Doc. AC.15.21.2, who proceeded to explain that the intention of the report was to highlight the specific problems with the increased trade in freshwater tortoises for human consumption. He informed delegates that the work was being carried out in the framework of a project undertaken by a German NGO Pro Wildlife.

The Chairman drew delegates' attention to the Table on page 6 of the document and invited open discussion. The observer from China said that the government of China supports the sustainable use of this resource but urges co-operation with other Parties with regard to research, identification and the application of import/export controls. He added that the Management Authority of China had written to several Asian countries requesting their advice on action to be taken.

Dr Hoogmoed welcomed this item on the agenda and, together with Dr Lieberman, welcomed the positive moves by China to begin a process of training, research and regional collaboration. Dr Hoogmoed welcomed also Germany's discussion paper to be presented at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the listing of some species, recognising that much of the trade has been unregulated to date noting that the trade is generally for food items rather than for the pet industry.

After brief discussion on the merits of identification guides and the establishment of priorities for an action plan, the Chairman concluded by inviting the Animals Committee to address this issue again at the 16th Animals Committee meeting when the outcome of deliberations by the Conference of the Parties will be known.

Master's course in management, conservation and control of species internationally traded

The observer from Spain gave a brief explanation on a Masters Programme being organised for the second time in Spain. She explained that a course had been held last year for three months (including 57 experts) and had had the participation of 25 individuals from 14 different countries (13 Latin American and Equatorial Guinea). She stated that the second Masters degree course would begin in October and would consist of 500 hours. She explained that the financial support

was provided by the Foundation of Biodiversity in Spain. The observer from Spain requested the participants to disseminate the information on the Masters programme. She added that the Spanish Government was interested in organizing the masters programme on an ongoing basis and planned to also run it in English and French.

## 22. Closing remarks of the Chairman

I would like to express thanks on behalf of all participants to the Government of the Republic of Madagascar in general and, particularly to the Ministry of Eaux et Forêts, the CITES Management Authority of Madagascar. Many people have been responsible for ensuring that this meeting actually took place but I would like to single out – at the risk of offending some people – our special thanks to Madame Fleurette and my friend and colleague, Olivier Behra. Despite prior concerns by the Management Authority of Madagascar that it would be able to organise the meeting, the achievements of the past five days are clear demonstration that developing countries like Madagascar can and should hold meetings such as the one we have just had. Indeed, if countries like Madagascar are precluded from hosting meetings of the Convention, it will result in a perception that only countries that have adequate facilities and the necessary support technologies are able to host meetings of the Convention. I believe that this will not only exacerbate the North-South division but will ultimately bring about the death of CITES.

I would like to acknowledge our appreciation for the hard work of the interpreters. These people really are the un-sung heroes for without them we cannot communicate effectively – and without communication there is no understanding of and thus respect for differing opinions. Without these elements, we cannot begin to craft solutions to problems.

Our work during the week has been facilitated by the charming Malagasy women in white scarves and the technicians of DINKA. To these people, I also extend our appreciation.

The Secretariat – what can I say but thank-you. The Secretariat has demonstrated a continuing high level of professionalism in providing services to the meeting, sometimes under stressful conditions on short notice. I continue to be amazed that my colleagues in the Secretariat manage to maintain this level of support and a sense of humour regardless of what time they retire from socialising in the evenings. In view of the number of participants at this meeting and the knowledge that participation at future meetings will increase, rather than decrease, there will be a need for additional support from the Secretariat.

This brings me to acknowledge the excellent job done by the two young ladies who have served as our rapporteurs and whose charming company I have enjoyed during the week. Christine and Alison both volunteered to do undertake this task. Those of you who attended the last meeting of this Committee will be aware that this is Alison's second tour of duty. I am unsure whether Alison is a masochist or in dire need of urgent counselling. In the case of Christine, whom I have known for some time, her presence here stems from an e-mail message that I received requesting my approval to attend the meeting to catch-up with friends and colleagues. In order to obtain my approval, Christine indicated that she was prepared and willing to do anything necessary to assist the meeting. This offer was manna from heaven because Christine had unwittingly solved a major problem by becoming our second rapporteur.

To my fellow members of Animals Committee, I would like to express my thanks for your support and collaboration during our time as regional representatives together. I have got to know you personally and you have each progressed from being colleagues to being friends. It has been my privilege to serve as your Chair.

Finally, I would like to thank you – the participants. Meetings of this Committee are very much what the participants make them. Here in Antananarivo, we have managed to get through a substantial work programme. You have made my task as Chair of this meeting both easy and pleasurable.

Thank you all – have a safe return to your respective countries and I will see you again at the 16th meeting of the Animals Committee.



### **Opening speech by Mr Hank Jenkins, Chairman of the Animals Committee**

Monsieur le Premier Ministre, Monsieur le Ministre d'Eaux et Forêts, distinguished representatives of the Government of the Republic of Madagascar ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the CITES Animals Committee, the Convention Secretariat, the representatives of foreign governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, I would like to express my deep-felt gratitude and appreciation to you Sirs and the Government of the Republic of Madagascar for your invitation to host this, the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Animals Committee here in Antananarivo.

This is indeed a special occasion because, not only does it represent the largest meeting of its kind, comprising more than 160 registered participants, comprising 42 Parties and 50 NGOs and trader organisations but, more importantly, it is the first occasion that this Committee has held a meeting in a French-speaking country outside Europe. It is also the first time that Animals Committee will conduct its business in all three working languages of the Convention. It is also fitting that this meeting is being held on the island of Madagascar renowned for its unique and diverse wildlife.

Rather than talk about CITES and the work of the Animals Committee, I would like to talk about conservation and the role of people in developing conservation strategies that are sustainable. We are poised to enter a new millennium and it is becoming increasingly apparent that no single strategy will solve all conservation problems. Governments must have the flexibility and courage to apply different solutions to different problems. It will be important for these solutions to be tailored to suit the social, cultural and economic characteristics of the region where they are to be applied. They must also take account of the needs of the local people.

Conservation is not so much about managing wildlife appropriately, as it is about managing the activities of people. Without people, there would not be a conservation problem. Ironically – although people are the cause of conservation problems, they are also the key to their solution.

The sustainability with which people use many wildlife resources is becoming a major issue. An important component of the work of this Committee concerns the extent to which Parties involved in the export of Appendix II-listed animals implement the non-detriment requirements of the Convention and conduct such trade in a manner that is sustainable by the wild resource. The problems identified by the Animals Committee can only be solved if they are approached and addressed in close collaboration with the Management and Scientific Authorities of the exporting country concerned.

I would like to make special mention about the work by the Management Authority of Madagascar and the team of DINKA in preparing this magnificent venue in less than 5 hours this morning.

Finally, Monsieur le Premier Ministre, I would like to express my personal pleasure in being able to return to Madagascar and thank you for your hospitality and the efforts of the Ministry of Eaux et Forêts and all those that have been involved in preparing for this meeting.

Merci beaucoup.



## Opening speech by the Director of the Ministry for Water and Forests

Mr Prime Minister, head of the Government; Ministers; Madame le Pût, Chairman of the Commission for the Environment, Water, Forests and Tourism; the Chairman of the CITES Animals Committee; Representatives of international organizations and NGOs; distinguished guests and ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the entire staff of the Ministry for Water and Forests, the CITES Management Authority for Madagascar, and on behalf of the ad hoc national committee for the organization of this meeting, it is in their name that I wish to present our best wishes and appreciation to the Prime Minister, head of Government, to members of the Government, to distinguished officials and to everyone who has kindly agreed to accept to enhance with your presence the opening session of the 15th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee in Antananarivo, Madagascar. I also wish to hail the holding of this international workshop that will, without a doubt, mark an important event in the management of Malgache fauna and co-operation between Madagascar and CITES.

Ladies and gentlemen, what can be said about CITES?

The Convention entered into effect in 1973, and there are currently 145 countries participating as contracting Parties. The Convention was established because of the concerns of international opinion about the deleterious effects caused by uncontrolled international trade in wild animals and plants whose survival is endangered. This Convention forms the international legal framework through which prevention and practical regulation of trade in endangered species takes place. The main provisions of the Convention are:

first, to list species in three appendices in accordance with the degree of threat to their survival;

second, to regulate international trade through the issuing of mandatory permits for international trade in these species.

The Convention requires each contracting Party to designate a Management Authority, competent to grant CITES permits and certificates, and one or two Scientific Authorities, acting as advisory bodies.

It is with pride that I point out that Madagascar, recognized around the world as one of the countries worthy of interest because of its extraordinary richness in biodiversity characterised by an impressive level of endemism, ratified the Convention in 1975.

The Forestry Administration is the Management Authority and, therefore, the agency authorized to communicate with the Secretariat of the Convention and the Management Authorities of other contracting Parties. Madagascar has two Scientific Authorities acting as advisory bodies in the implementation of CITES: the Ministry for Higher Education and the Ministry for Scientific Research.

The Management Authority must work closely with the Customs Service, the Gendarmerie, the National Police and other technical departments in regulating trade in wild fauna and flora in light of an increase in fraud and illegal trade in these valuable resources and to prevent an important part of our heritage from disappearing forever.

It has been pointed out recently that perhaps because of a difference in information available, the Convention is often flouted. I would like to recall the confiscation of turtles, reptiles and amphibians recently made at the Ivato international airport as well as the seizure of a large number of products of Malagassy fauna confiscated abroad thanks to increased co-operation among the contracting Parties.

Please allow me, in the name of the Management Authority for Madagascar, to congratulate you on this international co-operation within the framework of CITES.

Yes, CITES has been in force for the past quarter century. It has played and continues to play, whatever its shortcomings, an important role in the preservation of biodiversity. Unfortunately, during

this quarter century the world has witnessed an unprecedented loss of hundreds of thousands of species as the result of human intervention and diverse pressures such as:

- the disappearance of natural habitats, usually associated with the transformation of forest areas rich in biodiversity into agricultural land an example of this practice is the itinerant culture of slash and burn (*tavy*) in Madagascar.
- the introduction of new species in natural ecosystems that can lead to either an outbreak of new diseases or to increased competition among new species and indigenous species. An example is the introduction in Madagascar of the fish commonly called *fibata*, which has led to the extinction of a local species, the *Mara kely*.
- the overexploitation of a species, either for the subsistence of rural populations or for national and international trade.

Even if international trade in wild species on a world-wide scale is not the primary cause of a loss of biodiversity, international demand takes on great importance for a large number of species. I have only to mention the case of the extensive use of rosewood (*Dalbergia nigra*) for marquetry on musical instruments to the point where this species was very close to becoming extinct. In 1992, this species was listed in Appendix I of CITES.

It was precisely to address concern about survival and to meet local needs that the objective of sustainable use was agreed to by the Conference of the Parties in 1992 through the adoption of the following resolution: "Commercial trade may be beneficial to the conservation of species and ecosystems and/or to the development of local people when carried out at levels that are not detrimental to the survival of the species in question."

It is precisely to deal with critical situations that the CITES mechanism has been improved: specific national legislation, international co-operation, regulations and institutional infrastructure.

The best known institutions of CITES are the Conference of the Parties and the Secretariat. At the same time, CITES has five permanent committees responsible for the work of the Convention between meetings of the Conference of the Parties; one of these is the Animals Committee.

This Committee is a technical body responsible for studying questions that would be too technical to be dealt with during meetings of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare proposals and recommendations on technical questions for submission for discussion during meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

This meeting of the Animals Committee in Madagascar will deal with important technical questions concerning:

- trade in animal species used in traditional medicine;
- regulations for the transport of wild animals;
- a universal system of tagging for the identification of crocodiles skins;
- captive breeding.

These are all questions that either concern Madagascar directly or indirectly.

This meeting is an opportunity offered to us to learn from the experience of other Parties, gaining important information for better implementation of CITES in Madagascar. This will lead to valuable thinking and new suggestions for the implementation of CITES in Madagascar.

To end, I would like to thank the following persons and institution:

- the president of the CITES Animals Committee,
- the Scientific Co-ordination Unit of the CITES Secretariat,
- the ad hoc national committee for the organization of this meeting, formed by representatives of the following institutions: the Ministry for Higher Education, the Ministry for Scientific Research, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry for Tourism, the Ministry for Water and Forests, the National Office for the Environment, the National Association for the Management of Protected Areas, WWF Madagascar, BIOSAVE, the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, the Peregrine Fund and Birdlife International.
- USAID and the American Cultural Centre
- DINIKA International
- the Corps Forestier which formed the honour guard
- the Madagascar Hotel Hilton
- and everyone whether from nearby or faraway who helped the Management Authority of Madagascar in the preparation of this meeting.

To all participants and observers, I wish you excellent progress, fruitful debates and success. I invite you to write your impressions in the honour book that the Ministry for Water and Forests, the CITES Management Authority for Madagascar, has opened on the occasion of this 15th meeting of the Animals Committee.

An official welcoming reception is offered to all participants in this session. It will take place this evening at 7 P.M. in this room. You are cordially invited.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you, and keep up the good work!



## Opening speech by the Prime Minister of Madagascar

Ladies and gentlemen and distinguished guests,

First of all, I would like to welcome all participants, especially the participants who have come from far away.

The Republic of Madagascar would like to express its appreciation to the Parties that requested Madagascar to host this meeting at the 1997 CITES Conference of the Parties in Harare. We also wish to thank the CITES Secretariat for having given its approval and for having provided their support for the holding of this meeting in Antananarivo. This is a very great honour for the Malgache Government.

Participants who have come to Madagascar for the first time probably obtained information giving a general view of the country and perhaps an idea of the potential of the natural resources, including the biodiversity of the fauna and flora, because of your interest in CITES.

If you are aware that Madagascar is rich in biodiversity, I am certain that you have also learned of the unfortunate destructive effect of the human population on the natural environment. Some irresponsible portions of the population, truly spoiled by the environment, seem to believe that the resources at their disposal are inexhaustible and that the quality of life which they enjoy as a matter of fact will never deteriorate.

Ladies and gentlemen, Madagascar's hosting of this 15th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee will contribute further to making aware and conscious not only promoters of conservation but all of the Malgache population through the media of radio, television and the press. Through its legislation, sectorial policies, government programmes and, especially, through several environmental conventions related to the management and valorization of natural resources such as the agreement with CITES, Madagascar has the tools necessary for promoting sustainable development. Madagascar must, however, be in a position to initiate and implement the regulations in respect of these international conventions.

Because of its biological wealth and the importance of its resources in wild fauna and flora, Madagascar is also the scene of destruction and the illegal export of CITES-listed species, carried out, above all, by foreign smugglers from many places. We welcome the contribution of international organizations working to improve systems of monitoring international trade in CITES-listed products.

More effective control mechanisms in terms of materials and human resources must be established to intercept illegal exports. Even stiffer and more effective punishment should be inflicted on illegal traders.

We recognize the measures and efforts already deployed by national and international organizations for the sustainable management of our natural resources in general and our fauna and flora in particular. We remain open to all forms of consultation and constructive co-operation.

Ladies and gentlemen, I hope that your participation in this meeting will lead to constructive decisions for enhancing respect for wildlife in the world.

In any event, the Malgache Government welcomes your recommendations to improve the management of its wildlife, most of which is endemic.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your attention.

I declare the 15th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee to be officially open.

### Report of the Working Group on Transport of Live Animals

8. July 1999, 10.50 - 12.20

The following people attended the group meeting:

Members: Irina Sprotte, Germany, Chair  
Tonny Soehartono, Indonesia  
Edson Chidziya, Zimbabwe  
Katalin Rodics, Hungary  
Rosemarie Gnam, US  
Thomas Althaus, Switzerland  
Don Bruning, Bronx Zoo  
Marshall Meyers, PIJAC  
Arthur Lindley, RSPCA  
Teresa Telecky, HSUS

Guests: C.H. Giam, Asia Regional Representative  
Georges Evrard, Belgium  
Dietrich Jelden, Germany  
Tuma Kayera, Tanzania  
Craig Hoover, TRAFFIC, Washington D.C.

The following items were discussed by the group:

#### **1. Discussion of the report submitted by the chair of the group to the 15th AC meeting.**

The group agreed to the report. In addition the following issues were discussed and/or reiterated:

- Explanation was given on how the list of species had been established.
- It was noted that shipments in transit are a special problem and should also be checked regularly.
- The questionnaire attached to the Notification to the Parties No. 1999/48, 1 July 1999, should also be used to monitor transit shipments.
- Injury and damage to health should also be looked at carefully and be reported.
- More data on causes of mortality and injury are needed for making recommendations to the Parties in accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.21.

#### **2. New approaches and further work of the group**

##### **2.1. Implementation of CITES Notification to the Parties No. 1999/48 referring to data collection**

- Information from carriers and traders should be sought. To achieve this goal special seminars would be needed, mainly in exporting countries.
- A table should be created which should list countries that are major importers and exporters of the species on the questionnaire in the Notification to the Parties, including the airlines involved in transporting live animals of these species in order to help the Transport Working Group to focus attention on these Parties to encourage them to collect data on the respective species. For the establishment of this table WCMC's database should be used (HSUS agreed to prepare a first draft).
- The Chair of the TWG should make personal contacts with those parties and traders which are significantly involved in the trade of the respective species. A special letter for explanation of the aim of the data collection procedure shall be sent out.
- It was agreed that the questionnaire should be attached to export permits by the issuing authorities in the framework of a pilot study.



- The questionnaire should also be attached to import permits (i.e. EU-countries) where stricter domestic measures according to Article XIV allow this.
- The questionnaire should be translated by group members into local languages for better understanding of the procedure.
- All people (as proposed in Resolution Conf. 10.21) involved in the data collection process should be requested to use the back of the questionnaire to provide additional detailed information on the type and cause of injury or mortality.

## **2.2 Collaboration with IATA**

- All those involved in transport in live reptiles and amphibians are requested to monitor the implementation of the new IATA-LAR proposed by the group and accepted by IATA. PIJAC, specifically, will monitor mortalities in consignments of Green Iguanas (*Iguana iguana*) and Red Eared Sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) and report the results to the chair of the TWG.
- Members of the TWG are requested to consider if the IATA Live Animals Regulations for other species are inadequate. Members should send proposals to amend IATA-LAR to the Chair of the group, but only with respect to CITES species.
- The TWG shall start a process to review the IATA-LAR for birds step by step. As a first step, it was suggested by WCS that the IATA-LAR for pheasant species requires improvement.
- The TWG should, in future, be regularly represented at meetings of IATA. Representation of group members on regional IATA meetings, i.e. training seminars, should be sought if appropriate.
- Health status of animals before they are shipped was considered to be crucial to reduce injury, damages to health and cruel treatment during preparation and shipment. Education on this subject is important and should be part of any training courses.

## **2.3. IATA- statement on permits according to Resolution Conf. 10.2**

The group agreed to conduct a review of which Parties have fulfilled the recommendation made in CITES Resolution Conf. 10.2 , Annex 1: n), which states that a "permit, if it covers live animals, is only valid if the transport conditions comply with the CITES Guidelines for Transport of Live Animals and in case of air transport, with the IATA Live Animals Regulations. "

## **2.4. Other issues**

The Chair informed the group about a proposed research project in Germany to study transport mortality. The observer of Belgium offered to supply copies of the handwritten mortality records of the years 1997 and 1998 for this project.

### Summary Report of the working group on Resolution Conf. 8.15 Registration Procedures for Captive Breeding

Chairman – Hank Jenkins

The purpose of this working group is to fulfil our instruction under Decision 10.77 and also to try a further redrafting of Resolution Conf. 8.15.

The Chairman's view is that after all the words over the past few years we would be in a position to respond to Decision 10.77 and produce a document to offer to CoP11. What is problematic is that we could not reach consensus on every issue so that we have three options:-

- i) Resolution Conf. 8.15 stands and there is no agreed change
  - ii) Decision 10.77 response to take the form of a range of options which would form the basis for the working group to be formed at CoP11.
  - iii) Draft a new approach
1. Following discussion it was decided that the following definition of the term 'Bred in Captivity for Commercial Purposes' would be the one decided in Caracas and would be submitted to CoP11 for consideration:

**'Specimens of animals bred to obtain economic benefit, including profit, whether in cash or in kind, and directed toward resale, exchange, provision of a service or another form of economic use or benefit'**

2. The next stage of the discussion was to focus on: Decision 10.77 a) examine the effectiveness of and the need for the existing registration system for operations breeding specimens of Appendix-1 species in captivity for commercial purposes.

Initially discussion focused on the proposed differentiation between large and small scale. Chile voiced concerns about this idea and the US proposed to drop its suggestions on this subject. The chairman concluded that we could not get any consensus on the large/small scale aspect of the proposal and that it should be dropped. **There would be no differentiation between large and small scale.**

3. The present system for registration of breeding facilities is complex and does not work. Chile gave examples of their failed efforts to register breeding operations. The Chairman questioned why are we so concerned to register all Appendix-1 species? Some are critically endangered – there are many more which are now common. Maybe we should think more along the lines where operations involving species of general conservation concern would be included on a central registration system run by the Secretariat. For other species of less concern registration would be voluntary and left with the Management Authority reporting to the Secretariat annually.

Discussion focused on the idea of composing a list of commonly bred species and examined the examples of species which might benefit or suffer from this proposal, its effects on trade and conservation of the wild resource.

Canada related its practical experience that there have been many merits for registration of a breeding facility and Captive Breeding. Citing its experience with the breeding of falcons in Canada. Prior to registration poaching was a major problem for them but with the advent of

registration this problem has disappeared and promoted a greater degree of compliance. Chile agreed with these advantages but stressed the need for external controls.

The International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey suggested a low cost, effective system, administered through a contracted International NGO such as IUCN, for marking and registration of specimens through payment of a licence fee which would then benefit range states financially and at the same time strengthen enforcement procedures.

**The Chairman concluded that it was extremely unlikely a draft resolution on this subject would be possible for CoP11. He would refer to the problems listed by the last working group chaired by Germany and pass these on to the CoP for its consideration and guidance.**

4. The Chairman noted that it is incumbent on the Conference of Parties not to make the process for registration so difficult that nobody can do it. The working group explored the idea that some Appendix-1 species could be left up to the national authorities to register and report to the Secretariat.

Chile raised the subject that **there are many Appendix-1 species which are not threatened or endangered and the working group agreed that this was at the heart of the problem. It was concluded that the problem would be resolved by a review of the Appendix-1 listings and that this should be a part of the report to CoP11.**

5. The Chairman then proposed a further working group to finalise a report for CoP11 and explore further the remote possibility of achieving agreement on a possible draft resolution that would simplify and free up the registration process.

The composition of the group is as follows:

Dr. Robert W. Jenkins - Australia (Chair)  
Mr Juan Agustin Iriarte Walton - Chile  
Mr Charles Dauphine - Canada  
Dr Rosemarie Gnam - US  
Secretariat  
Mr Jaques Berney -IWMC  
Mr Anthony Crosswell – IAF  
Dr Teresa Telecky - HSUS

### Report on Working Group on Consideration of Draft List of Animal Species Commonly Bred in Captivity (according to Resolution Conf. 10.16. paragraph b) ii) C) 2a) and document Doc. AC.15.9.2)

Chairperson: Dr. Katalin Rodics, Representative for Europe

Members: Belgium  
Canada  
China-was not present  
Czech Republic  
Germany  
Switzerland  
UK  
USA  
European Commission  
WCMC-was not present  
IUCN/SSC  
WCS  
PIJAC  
DGHT  
HSUS

The working group was asked to:

1. Revisit the definition of commonly bred in captivity as defined by the working group at the 14th Animals Committee meeting.
2. Clarify purpose of list  
Identify criteria for identifying candidate species for inclusion in the list.
3. Produce a list of animal species commonly bred in captivity in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.16 paragraph b) ii) C) 2a (Optional).

#### Goal 1-Definition

- ◆ The working group agreed on definition of commonly bred in captivity as defined by the working group at the 14th Animals Committee meeting:  
“The species is regularly bred in captivity (in accordance with provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.16.) at numerous facilities, and the captive population of the species is self-sustaining.”

#### Goal 2-Purpose of List

- ◆ A reference for Management Authorities when implementing Resolution Conf. 10.16. (“is specimen captive bred?”).
- ◆ Not a “green light” for acceptance of captive bred status; other Resolution Conf. 10.16. criteria's must still be met.

#### Goal 3-Criteria for identifying candidate species

- ◆ The Animals Committee should use biological criteria, while Standing Committee should use these plus other criteria (example-illegal trade, stimulation of demand, etc.).
- ◆ All range states should approve candidate species.
- ◆ A standard form should be developed to collect information to ensure consistency.  
Criteria No. 1 Bred at “numerous” facilities

Does this mean:

a-how many facilities make it “numerous”?

b-facilities in more than one Party?

c-facilities in more than one Region?

Decision of working group:

- ◆ Content is Global
- ◆ Facilities can range from “all in one country” to “worldwide distribution”.
- ◆ Number of facilities should depend on species. Will vary with species range and conservation status.
- ◆ No numbers decided on for “numerous”.

\*\*Note: Working group did not address other criteria e.g. “regularly bred” and “self-sustaining”.

#### Goal 4-Produce a list of animal species commonly bred in captivity

How to obtain information on candidate species?

Options discussed:

1. Request Parties to supply on voluntary basis.
2. Use standard format for replies.
3. Ask IUCN/SSC, CBSG or WCMC to identify candidates.
4. Invite Associations of breeders to supply information (for species in private facilities).

Remarks:

Information already supplied by Parties should be utilized, not wasted.

Investigate feasibility of getting assistance from CBSC and WCMC.

#### **Summarized decision of the working group**

The Working Group discussed the development of the list of species “commonly bred in captivity to second or subsequent generation” under Resolution Conf. 10.16. and decided not to prepare such a list at this time. It was agreed that such a list would be of little assistance to Management and Scientific Authorities in the decisions they make under the Convention when importing or exporting species. It was recognized that under Resolution Conf. 10.16. the option for the Animals Committee to develop this list and to submit it to the Standing Committee is optional. It was agreed that Resolution Conf. 10.16. remains functional without the development of the list and that there was therefore no need to amend the Resolution. Moreover, it was agreed that the development of such a list might be useful in the future. It was agreed that Parties would be invited to submit to the Secretariat a list of species that are commonly bred in captivity in their country and that the Secretariat would make these lists available to any Party upon request, for information purposes only, the lists would not be annotated by the Secretariat in any way. Finally, it was agreed that a standardized form should be developed for the collection of additional information from Parties on species commonly bred in captivity; completed forms would be submitted to the Secretariat which would maintain a database and make the information available to any Party upon request.

### Report of the Working Group to review Resolution Conf. 8.9

The Working Group agreed that Resolution Conf. 8.9 should be incorporated into the Plants Committee draft resolution (Doc. AC.15.14.2) to enable a single resolution on significant trade in Appendix II-listed plant and animal species to be submitted to 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Secretariat should be requested to review and amend the PC draft in order for it to apply generically to plants and animals. The revised draft resolution should be circulated to Animals Committee and Plants Committee members for comment before being finalised for consideration by CoP11.

The Plants Committee draft resolution should be amended to incorporate a new operative paragraph that enables species that have been subjected to a review in accordance with the provisions of the procedure required by the resolution to be monitored by the Secretariat, and, where necessary, reintroduced to the process.

The Secretariat should be requested to determine whether or not to include an additional operative paragraph that links the revised resolution with Decision 10.79 as amended below.

#### **Decision 10.79 - Regarding Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.)**

10.79 The following system shall be implemented:  
(ex-9.25)

- a) WCMC should produce a print-out from the CITES database showing the recorded net levels of trade in all Appendix-II species over the five most recent years for which reasonable data are available.
- b) Species for which the average net trade over this period has exceeded A LEVEL DETERMINED BY THE RELEVANT COMMITTEE TO BE "SAFE" should be selected and a print-out should be produced showing the levels of export and re-export of these species, by country. This will constitute the list of taxa that might be subject to significant levels of trade, for consideration in the current REVIEW.
- c) IN PREPARING THESE DATA, WCMC WILL ANALYSE THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION, HIGHLIGHTING FOR THE RELEVANT COMMITTEE, INADEQUACIES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE COMMITTEE'S REVIEW;
- d) On the basis of AVAILABLE knowledge in the Animals AND PLANTS COMMITTEES and other relevant experts SPECIES OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN BECAUSE OF THEIR RECORDED TRADE LEVELS OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON RELATED TO ARTICLE IV IMPLEMENTATION WILL BE SELECTED:
- e) THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD NOTIFY, EITHER DIRECTLY OR BY NOTIFICATION, RANGE STATES OF THE SPECIES SELECTED – PROVIDING AN EXPLANATION FOR THE SELECTION AND REQUESTING COMMENTS AND CO-OPERATION IN PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE TAXON TO ASSIST THE REVIEW
- f) Consultants should be engaged to compile information about the biology and management of species remaining in the list and should contact the range States to obtain information for inclusion in the compilation. The consultants should summarize

their conclusions about the effects of the international trade and should divide the species into three categories:

- i) those for which the AVAILABLE information indicates that THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV OF THE CONVENTION ARE BEING APPLIED;
  - ii) those for which IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER OR NOT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE IV OF THE CONVENTION ARE BEING APPLIED; OR
  - iii) those for which the level of trade is evidently not a problem.
- G) IN PREPARATION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE RELEVANT COMMITTEE, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD TRANSMIT THE REVIEW DOCUMENTS TO RELEVANT RANGE STATES, SEEKING COMMENT AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. RANGE STATES SHOULD BE GIVEN SIX WEEKS TO RESPOND;
- H) The RELEVANT Committee should review ALL the information and, if appropriate, revise the categorization.
- I) Species in Category d) iii) should be eliminated from the current REVIEW;
- J) With respect to species in Categories d) i) and ii), the Secretariat, on behalf of the RELEVANT Committee, should CONSULT THE RANGE STATES SEEKING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE ARTICLE IV IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE. Range States should be given six weeks to respond.
- K) If a response satisfactory to the Committee is received, the species WILL be eliminated from the current REVIEW with respect to the State concerned.
- L) Otherwise, the RELEVANT Committee shall, in consultation with the Secretariat, formulate recommendations in accordance with Resolution Conf. 8.9, relating to species in Categories d) i) and ii).
- M) These recommendations shall be transmitted to the States concerned by the Secretariat which shall, in consultation with the RELEVANT Committee, determine whether the recommendations have been implemented and report to the Standing Committee TO IMPLEMENT THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION CONF. 8.9 (REV.).

Note: The ELIMINATION OF A SPECIES FROM THE PROCESS WOULD ONLY OCCUR ON THE BASIS ON ARTICLE IV CONSIDERATIONS. IN THE CASE OF OTHER PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN THE COURSE OF THE REVIEW PROCESS WOULD BE ADDRESSED BY OTHER MEANS.

Decision 10.81 would be deleted

## Resolution Conf. 8.9:

**Assessment of taxa included in Phase IV:  
Working Group Report and Recommendations**

Note: these conclusions and comments are based on information in documents Doc.AC.15.14.4, AC.15.14.4 (Conf), and Doc.AC.15.4.4.1, as well as information provided by working group participants. The categories d(i), d(ii), and d(iii) are based on Decision 10.79.

**Species****Conclusion****Mammals*****Galagoides demidoff*****d(iii)**

Although the working group agreed on d(iii), a question remains about the quota from Togo. The Secretariat should write to Togo and ask what the current quota is for the species, but it needn't continue in the Conf. 8.9 process. The response from Togo can be conveyed to members of the AC.

***Hippopotamus amphibius*****d(iii)**

d(iii) in the core of its range; d(ii) in the periphery of its range. Sent to small working group of range countries (Kenya and Tanzania). Their conclusion: d(ii) in any country with recorded exports. Concerns about need for uniformity in reporting (units, etc.). Concerns also about increases in confiscated hippo ivory and possible increases in imports into Hong Kong. Secretariat should be asked to write to range states and importing countries on the need for data uniformity. Periphery of the species' range a greater concern (apparent declines). Need for field studies.

***Manis crassicaudata*****d(iii)*****Manis gigantea*****d(ii)*****Manis javanica*****d(i)**

More data needed; field work needed. Concerns about illegal and unreported trade. Clear evidence of population declines, but need more field studies. Need greater range state co-ordination.

***Manis pentadactyla*****d(i)/d(ii)**

The working group was not in consensus on (i) or (ii). There was a split between both members of the AC, and between Parties. Need more field studies. Need to pay attention to mixing of *Manis* species in trade, and unreported trade. Need to focus on the pangolin trade within the entire region.

***Manis temminckii*****d(iii)*****Manis tetradactyla*****d(iii)*****Manis tricuspis*****d(iii)*****Pecari tajacu*****d(ii): Peru and Bolivia**

Concern about the high trade volume. Concern about scientific basis for the quota.



***Saiga tatarica*****d(i)**

Poaching a major problem. Kazakhstan population a concern. Need scientific basis for quotas (export and domestic use). SCI will provide trophy-hunting information. Clear that species is in decline, due to international (legal and illegal) trade for traditional medicine.

***Tayassu pecari*****d(ii): Peru and Bolivia**

Concern about the high trade volume. Concern about scientific basis for the quota.

**Birds*****Agapornis canus*****d(iii)*****Cacatua ducorpsii*****d(iii)*****Poicephalus robustus*****d(ii)**

Concerns about trade from non-range countries, or countries where the species is rare. Subspecies may need to be addressed.

***Poicephalus rueppellii*****d(ii): South Africa**

Concerns about possible illegal trade from Namibia to South Africa, or origin of birds being exported or re-exported from South Africa. No harvest from the wild permitted in Namibia. Need clarification of South African system for issuing permits. Consultants requested to provide Namibia with information on sources of illegal trade.

***Tauraco hartlaubi*****d(ii): Tanzania**

Concerns that actual exports exceeded Tanzania's quota. The species is restricted to forests, which are declining; little population data are available. Concerns relate to the scientific basis for the quota, and for the level of exports.

***Tauraco persa*****d(iii)****Reptiles*****Bradypodion fischeri*****d(ii): Tanzania**

The species is restricted to forests, which are declining; little population data are available. Concerns relate to the scientific basis for the quota, and for the level of exports.

***Calabaria reinhardtii*****d(ii)**

Clarification needed on the ranching situation, particularly in Togo.

***Chamaeleo jacksonii*****d(ii): Tanzania**

Need population information; concerns about information on which quota is based.

***Chamaeleo quadricornis*****d(ii): Cameroon**

The species is restricted to isolated mountaintops. Concerns relate to the scientific basis for exports, as well as the origin of specimens.

***Cordylus tropidosternum*****d(ii): Tanzania and Mozambique**

Although there is a large number of range states, only these two are exporting currently. No population data available. Concerns about lack of proper species identification. Status of ranching unclear. Country quotas exceeded.

***Corucia zebrata*****d(ii): Solomon Islands**

Country quotas exceeded. Concerns about scientific basis of quotas, and when quota was even established.

***Geochelone pardalis*****d(ii): Zambia, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo**

Concerns about trade volume from Mozambique, scientific findings for all 3 exporting countries. Concerns about captive breeding operations in Zambia. Concerns about exports of adults versus juveniles.

***Uromastix aegyptia*****d(ii)**

Concerns about origin of specimens, and scientific basis for exports.

**Amphibians*****Dendrobates auratus*****d(ii): Nicaragua and Panama**

There are concerns that captive breeding is claimed, but there is no information on any captive breeding of the species in range states. Agree to consider all poison arrow frogs as d(ii). Concerns about status of the species and basis for the non-detriment findings by Nicaragua and Panama.

***Dendrobates histrionicus*****d(ii): Ecuador**

There are concerns about captive breeding, and Ecuador's exports. Agree to consider all poison arrow frogs as d(ii). Concerns about status of the species and basis for the non-detriment findings by Ecuador (need to first determine if trade is continuing).

***Dendrobates pumilio*****d(ii): Nicaragua and Panama**

There are concerns that captive breeding is claimed, but there is no information on any captive breeding of the species in range states. Agree to consider all poison arrow frogs as d(ii). Concerns about status of the species and basis for the non-detriment findings by Nicaragua and Panama.

***Dendrobates tinctorius*****d(ii): Suriname**

There are concerns that captive breeding is claimed, but there is no information on any captive breeding of the species in range states. Agree to consider all poison arrow frogs as d(ii). Concerns about status of the species and basis for the non-detriment findings by Suriname.

***Epipedobates tricolor*****d(ii)**

Agree to consider all poison arrow frogs as d(ii). Concerns about status of the species and basis for the non-detriment findings.

***Hoplobatrachus tigerinus*****d(iii)**

Excellent discussion; agreement on d(iii), but need to consider whether *Hoplobatrachus rugulosus* should be included in Appendix II as well. Also need to evaluate whether the two species are being mis-identified or mis-labelled in shipments, since there are exports from non-range states.

***Mantella aurantiaca*****d(ii)**

Concerns with high trade volumes and low population estimates. Recognition of Madagascar's efforts to begin a monitoring program, and undertake a CITES-sponsored field study. Madagascar intends to propose 3 other species in the genus for Appendix II; recognition by the working group of Madagascar's efforts.

**Invertebrates*****Ornithoptera chimaera*****d(iii)*****Ornithoptera goliath*****d(iii)**

***Ornithoptera rothschildi***                      **d(iii)**

Agree to ask WCMC to communicate with importing countries, to determine why they show imports as wild-caught, when the exporting country annual report indicates that they are ranched. Not part of 8.9 process, however.

***Pandinus imperator***                                      **d(ii)**

Concerns about claims that the species is ranched. Concerned about lack of protection or management of the species throughout its range, particularly in exporting countries.

## Report of the Animals Working Group on Sturgeon Marking

Fifteenth Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee  
Antananarivo Madagascar, 5-9 July 1999

This document has been prepared by the Chair of the CITES Animals Working Group on Sturgeon Marking at the request of the Chairman of the CITES Animals Committee.

### Background

At the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (COP10), Resolution Conf. 10.12, "Conservation of Sturgeons" was adopted. This resolution recommended that the Secretariat in consultation with the Animals Committee, explore the development of a uniform marking system for sturgeon parts and derivatives and aquaculture stocks to assist in subsequent identification of the species. At the 14th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee a Working Group on sturgeon marking was created to draft recommendations for the creation of a universal marking system.

### Drafting Process

The Chair of the Working Group submitted a report with recommendations (document Doc.AC.15.16.1 for consideration at the 15th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee. The Secretariat reviewed these recommendations and their comments are contained in document Doc. AC.15.16.2. The Working Group met during the 15th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee meeting to review and discuss these documents.

Members of the Working Group who were present included: the United States (Chair), Russian Federation, Iran, China, Germany, TRAFFIC International, IWMC, and ICIA.

It was decided that it was not feasible to mark live sturgeon as discussed in document Doc. AC.15.16.1. Rather, the group focused its discussions on development of an universal marking system for the sturgeon product, caviar. They recognized that future work of the Working Group should focus on aquaculture stocks also.

The Working Group recognized that a marking system should be recommended for the export of caviar from producing countries to the initial importing country . It was recognized that additional problems occur after the initial import with the subsequent re-export and re-packing of caviar but to develop a marking system for these stages was more problematic. The group's initial efforts should focus on the export of caviar from the range states (producers). After much discussion of how each exporting country currently marks tins of caviar for export, the group agreed to the following items being needed for a universal marking label, as a minimum:

Grade – beluga, kaluga, sevruga, and ossetra caviar egg grade;

Species – use the three letter code for the scientific name of the species as in document Doc. AC.15.16.1 Annex 1, with "SIE changed to SIN";

Date - month (preferred), year of harvest;

Country of origin - the ISO two-letter code for the country of origin;

Unique serial identification number for the shipment (either the original 1.8 kg tin or box of smaller jars which weigh less than 50 to 100 gm) – this number must be unique and could correspond for example, to the plant and lot identification number for this caviar item.

The above information should be clearly marked on the label of the caviar tin or box. This label information , including the serial identification numbers should be recorded on the CITES export permit to allow for tracking and monitoring of caviar exports.

The Chair of the Working Group will circulate this recommendation for an universal marking system to other Working Grouping members for review and then draft recommendations for consideration at CoP11.

Additionally, the Working Group recommended that the CITES Animals Committee consider the recommendation that this Working Group on Sturgeon Marking continue to meet to discuss problems with the implementation of the CITES sturgeon listing. They also recommended that the Secretariat contact FAO to inquire about the creation of an “universal standard” for caviar and to seek consultation on the development of a marking system for aquaculture stocks and sea ranching programs for sturgeon.

### **Working group on periodic review of taxa in the appendices 6 July 1999, 12:40 - 13:50h/17:50 - 18:30h**

#### Goals:

1. To fulfil the charge of CoP10 (Decision 10.71) to review taxa on Appendices I and II against the criteria provided in Resolution Conf. 9.24.
2. To make a limited list of taxa across the Animal Kingdom for review in this process.

#### Composition of the working group

Chair: M.S. Hoogmoed, European representative on the Animals Committee/Netherlands

Parties: Argentina, Germany, Japan, Korea, Madagascar, Mexico, Switzerland, United States, Zimbabwe

The Chair of the working group relayed the instructions of the Chair of the Animals Committee that the group should chose 4 - 6 species per large taxonomic group from Appendices I and II. The group noted the possible financial restrictions of the Secretariat which limit the size of the list of species to be reviewed. The Chair observed that the Secretariat apparently did not perceive a problem. The group agreed that species chosen should not have been previously reviewed according to Resolution Conf. 9.24. In addition, priority would be given to species which:

- were listed in early Conferences of the Parties;
- have ranges that are geographically varied and have varied biological properties;
- have characteristics that will be useful in testing the robustness of the listing criteria; and
- are involved in trade to different degrees.

The Chair stressed that no decisions will be taken by the working group. It will only draft a varied list of taxa and present that to the Animals Committee. Species reviews will be completed after AC15.

The group reviewed document Doc. AC.15.18, which contains the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 1998/62, the recommendations of the Parties of species to be included in the periodic review of taxa in the appendices and then reviewed Appendices I and II. After making up the list, the working group discussed the process for completing the reviews. The group suggests that Parties adopt species to review. Preferably a Range State and an importing country should combine their efforts to produce each review.

The group chose the following species:

## Mammals

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date first listed
Australia	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>	Southern elephant seal	II	Africa; S. America	1/7/75
Kenya	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	Leopard	I	Africa; Asia	1/7/75
	<i>Cephalophus sylvicultor</i>	Yellow-backed duiker	II	W. Africa	29/7/83
United States of America	<i>Saiga tatarica</i>	Saiga antelope	II	C. Asia	16/2/95
Indonesia	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Crab-eating macaque	II	Asia	4/2/77
Brazil (through the regional representative)	<i>Callithrix jacchus</i>	Common marmoset	I	E. Brazil	4/2/77
Australia	<i>Pteropus macrotis</i>	Big-eared flying fox	II	Pacific islands	22/10/87

## Birds

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
	<i>Caloenas nicobarica</i>	Nicobar pigeon	I	Asia	28/6/79
Argentina	<i>Rhea americana</i>	Common rhea	II	S. America	14/7/76
Australia	<i>Anas aucklandica</i>	Brown teal	I	New Zealand	1/7/75
United States of America	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	I	Worldwide	1/7/75
Indonesia	<i>Macrocephalon maleo</i>	Maleo megapode	I	E. Indonesia	1/7/75
Guatemala	<i>Ara macao</i>	Scarlet macaw	I	N. South America	28/10/76
Switzerland/ United Republic of Tanzania	<i>Agapornis fischerii</i>	Fischer's lovebird	II	E. Africa	6/6/81

## Reptiles

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
United States of America	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback sea turtle	I	Worldwide	1/7/75
Guatemala	<i>Dermatemys mawii</i>	Central America river turtle	II	C. America	6/6/81
	<i>Boa constrictor</i>	Boa constrictor	II	N./S. America	1/7/75
Netherlands	<i>Crocodylus lacertinus</i>	Dragon lizardet	II	S. America	4/2/77
Argentina	<i>Tupinambis teguixin</i>	Tupinambis	II	S. America	4/2/77
Namibia	<i>Python anchietae</i>	Angloa python	II	Africa	1/7/75

## Amphibians

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
Netherlands	<i>Dyscophus antongilli</i>	Tomato frog	I	Madagascar	22/10/87
Netherlands	<i>Bufo superciliaris</i>	Cameroon toad	I	W. Africa	1/7/75
United States of America; Mexico	<i>Ambystoma mexicanum</i>	Axolotl	II	Mexico	1/7/75
Netherlands	<i>Rana tigerina</i>	Indian bullfrog	II	Indian	1/8/85

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
				subcontinent	

### Fishes

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
Indonesia	<i>Scleropages formosus</i>	Asian bonytongue	I	S.E. Asia	1/7/75
United Kingdom	<i>Probarbus jullieni</i>	Ikan temolek	I	S.E. Asia	1/7/75
	<i>Cynoscion macdonaldi</i>	Totoaba	I	Mexico	4/2/77

### Invertebrates

Party	Species	Common name	App.	Area	Date 1st listed
	<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	Medicinal leech	II	Europe, W. Asia	22/10/87
Spain	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	Mountain apollo butterfly	II	Europe	4/2/77
United States of America	Order: Antipatharia	Black corals	II	Tropical worldwide	6/6/81
	<i>Goniopora</i> spp.	Flower pot coral	II	Tropical worldwide	18/1/90





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