Regional reports

ASIA

1. This document has been prepared by the Regional Representatives of Asia in consulted with parties in that region.

2. General information:
   a) Representatives Tukirin Partomihardjo: tukirin@indo.net.id (Indonesia) and ZHOU Zhihua: zzh0@yahoo.com (China).
   b) Alternates: Mr Mohd Yunus Zakaria: yunus@forestry.gov.my (Malaysia) Ms Shereefa Al-Salem: sh.alsalem@epa.org.kw (Kuwait).
   c) Number of the Parties in the region: 34 (thirty four).
   d) Number of the Parties responding to communication (Jan. 9th - Jan. 18th-3th Feb): 5 (China, Indonesia, Kuwait, UAE, Vietnam).

3. This report covered the activities on CITES implementation, especially plants conservation, taken by parties in Asia between the 19th and 20th meeting of the Plants Committee.

4. Participation in CITES meeting/activities carried out (international & regional):
   a) Asian Parties participated in the 61st Meeting of the Standing Committee of CITES in August 2011.
   b) Asian Parties participated in the 25th Animal Committee Meeting in July 2011.
   c) Asian Parties participated the “Regional workshop for Non Detrimental Finding on CITES implementation Plans” 2 – 7 May 2011 Kathmandu, Nepal. The workshop was aimed also to promote the cooperation and data sharing between Secretariat and parties.
   d) Asian Parties participated in the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City.

f) First Regional Workshop for West and Central Asia held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 19 to 21 December 2011. The Workshop was funded by the European Commission under the Project "Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade".

5. Workshop and other activities (within each Party)

5.1 Indonesia
- Indonesia participate in Special Meeting of ASEAN Experts Group (AEG) on CITES, 7-10 February 2011 in Brunei Darussalam, and 24-28 Mei 2011 in Philippines.

5.2 Kuwait
a) Kuwait participates in the “Regional workshop for North Africa and the Middle East on updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans” 2 – 7 May 2011 Lebanon, Beirut. The workshop was aimed also to promote the synergies between CBD and CITES targets.

b) Kuwait Participate in regional meeting of GCC countries CITES working group June 2011, Riyadh – Saudi Arabia.

5.3 UAE
a) UAE Participate in regional meeting of GCC countries CITES working group June 2011, Riyadh – Saudi Arabia.

b) UAE Participate in the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City.

c) Regional Workshop for West and Central Asia held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 19 to 21 December 2011

5.4 Vietnam
a) Representative of Scientific Authority and Management Authority participated in the 8th AEG meeting held in Brunei in March 2010.

b) Representative of CITES MA and Custom General Department attended the 6th annual meeting of ASEAN-WEN in Manila – Philippines.

6. Cooperation with the Parties and others

6.1 Indonesia
- Indonesia with the cooperation of CITES Secretariat, Local Government of Bangka Tengah and Indonesian Agarwood Association organized and hosted the International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood producing species in the period between 22–24 November 2012, Pangkal Pinang City. 19 countries from Asia region participated in this workshop, and a document will be prepared by Indonesia and Kuwait to be discussed in 20 th CITES PC meeting regarding the result of the workshop.

6.2 Kuwait
- Kuwait with the cooperation of CITES Secretariat and Ajmal Company organized and host International workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood – producing species in the period between 3-6 October 2011, Kuwait City. 19 countries from Asia region were participating in this workshop, and a document will be prepare by Kuwait to be discuss in CITES PC 20 meeting regarding the result of this workshop.
6.3 UAE
- UAE cooperation with International animal welfare organizations (IFAW) for training countries Non-Parties such as (Iraq – Bahrain) and training for who identify shahtoosh wool and shawls.

6.4 Vietnam
a) In 2010, the Vietnam Forestry Administration and Department of Inspectory of Lao PDR have signed a MOU to improve the cooperation in wildlife, timber trade control.

b) Resulted from 3 trans-boundary workshops with facilitation of Vietnam CITES MA and TRAFFIC – Greater Mekong Programme, 3 MoU on Strengthening cross-border collaboration on wildlife trade control were signed by Tay Ninh province (Vietnam) and Kampong Cham (Cambodia) on 28 April 2010, by Quang Tri province (Vietnam) and Savannakhet (Laos) on 24 May 2011, and by Quang Binh province (Vietnam) and Khammuane (Laos) on 27 May 2011.

c) In October 2011, the CITES MA and CITES SA of Vietnam met with Davis Morgan - Chief, Scientific Services Team of CITES Secretariat in Hanoi in order to learn how Vietnam review the trade on Christensonia vietnamica, Cycadaceae, Stangeriaceae and Zamiaceae spp, Dendrobium bellatulum, D. wardianum, Phalaenopsis parishii and are the wild animals species.

d) In October 2011, the CITES MA and CITES SA of Vietnam met and have discussed with TRACE network in order to improve forensic technique for Vietnam laboratory and related agencies.

e) Delegate of Vietnam, include representative of CITES MA, Police, Custom have dialogue with correlative agencies of Indonesia in Bali from 24-27 November 2011. The results of the dialogue was a draft of MOU in wildlife trade control which will be submitted to Authority for approval.

7. Implementation of CITES including Legislation and Law enforcement activities.

7.1 China
a) China National Coordination Panel on CITES Implementation and Enforcement was formally established on Dec. 9, 2011. The Panel was composed by the wildlife conservation authorities and enforcement authorities, inter alia, the State Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Public Security, General Bureau of Customs, General Administration of Industry and Commerce. The panel also includes members, such as National Committee of Development and Reform, State Food and Drug Administration, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.

b) The CITES MA of China initiated a National Assessment Programme on the Resources of and Trade in Aquilaria spp. According to the findings of the field investigation and data collection, a preliminary assessment report has been completed, in which all major aspects involving the conservation and management of Aquilaria spp. are covered, comprising the distribution in the wild, artificial propagation, domestic and international trade, and recommendations to advance the sustainable utilization.

c) In October 2011, a pilot programme was launched in southwest China's Yunnan Province, in an effort to implement the National Rescue and Conservation Plan for Wild Plants with Extremely Small Populations that was formulated by the State Forestry Administration for domestic conservation and management of wild plants.

7.2 Indonesia
a) Annual meeting on quota setting between SA, MA, NGO, Universities and other stakeholders as an implementation of CITES.

b) Monitoring and evaluation for Annual Allowed Cutting for ramin (Gonystylus bancanus) by Ramin Working Group.

c) Monitoring and evaluation of permanent plot of Agarwood producing plants by SA to study growth rate and population dynamic of the species.
7.3 Kuwait

- The Environment Public Authority revised the modified of the current CITES national legislation “Resolution No.93/2003 regarding Sale and Trading in Endangered Wild Species”, to fulfill the requirement for classification the current legislation to grade I.

7.4 Vietnam

a) Non-Detrimental Finding was applied to evaluate three flora species, include *Dendrobium nobile*, *Cibotium bazomet* and *Flickingeria firmbriata* in 2009. The annual National export quota have been set up for those species.

b) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development approved a project to survey and review the conservation status of rare and endangered flora species in 2009, the survey finished in the end of 2010. As a result, a new list of endangered species have been proposal for amendment of Government Decree on protect those species.

c) In July 2011, the Ministry of Environment and natural resource passed a Circular on criteria and list of invasive alian species, in which 22 species of plants has named.

d) The second visit exchange between wildlife enforcement agencies Vietnam and South Africa was held in October 2011 to improve the cooperation in control wildlife trade.

e) CITES SA in cooperation with CITES MA have been implementing a small-scale project to review the conservation status and significant trade on cycad in Vietnam. The project will be finish in March 2012.

8. Training/Capacity Building and Public awareness activities.

8.1 China

- Jointly with the Customs General Administration, the CITES MA of China held a workshop aiming to strengthen the import regulation of *Bulnesia samientoi*, in which a training course on the identification techniques of major imported timber was staged for customs officers. Following its inclusion in CITES Appendix II in 2010, the CITES MA of China has taken a series of measures to improve the effectiveness of the regulation for import of *Bulnesia samientoi*, with focus on establishing information exchange mechanism with its counterparts from country of origin, and strengthening the risk awareness and enforcing capacities of customs officers.

8.2 Indonesia

a) National workshop and seminar in Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade.

b) CITES Implementation Training in Central of Java Province, Aceh Province and Maluku Province.

c) Protected and CITES Appendices Plants and Animals Identification Training in West Java Province and Papua Province.

8.3 Kuwait

- Participate in west and central Asia regional workshop in Strengthening CITES implementation capacity to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade 19 – 21 December 2011 in Riyadh – Saudi Arabia.

8.4 UAE

a) CITES Training workshops for Abu Dhabi police- Abu Dhabi customs-other authority in order to implement the provisions of the law on (October 2011) with International animal welfare organizations (IFAW).

b) CITES Training workshops for Doctors veterinarian at the Ministry of Environment and Water
c) CITES Training workshops for Engineers, agricultural at the Ministry of Environment and Water

8.5 Vietnam

a) A Package of training course for custom and police was developed; three training courses were organized in the collaboration with custom colleague

b) A presentation on CITES and regulation related have been introduced in number of National and local Workshop during 2009.

c) A manual of CITES implementation guide was published in 2009 and was delivered to enforcement Unit of 64 provinces.

d) Twice a year the CITES MA in cooperation with Custom college organize the CITES implementation training course for about 80 custom officers.

e) Information regard to CITES has been posted on website of Vietnam Forestry Administration.

f) Vietnam CITES MA sent a secondement staff attending the on-job training in ASEAN – WEN support program in Bangkok, Thailand for a period of one month in 2009.

g) A training course on CITES implementation was conducted in December 2011 for enforcement staff from Southern areas, include custom, ranger and police.

9. Other CITES-related Activities.

9.1 China

– Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev. CoP12), the CITES MA of China, in cooperation with the Endangered Species Scientific Commission, China’s CITES Scientific Authority, completed the registration procedure in the Secretariat for two scientific institutions, namely the Orchid Conservation & Research Center of Shenzhen and Fairy Lake Botanical Garden Shenzhen under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

9.2 Indonesia

– Indonesia carried out study on population and dynamic of *Cyathea contaminant* and *Cybothium barometz* at their distribution areas.

9.3 UAE

a) UAE Organized the first International symposium on conservation and propagation of Endangered species of Birds Abu Dhabi from 3 to 11 February 2011.

b) UAE cooperation with international animal welfare organizations (IFAW) for Awareness campaign travellers (September- December).

c) UAE Organized Exhibition Falcons and Hunting in (Abu Dhabi) from 14 to 17 September

d) UAE Organized the International Friendship Festival of Falconry in Al Ain (Abu Dhabi) from 10 to 18 December

e) UAE Organized the Eye on Earth Summit (12-15 December 2011, Abu Dhabi, UAE)

f) Issuance the manual an introductory manual to get acquainted with the common Fauna and Flora in wildlife under the CITES (2011)

g) Issuance Brochures for (Brochures for falconries- Falcons species and CITES convention - Definition of CITES in Arabic and English-Plants and CITES convention)
9.4 Vietnam

a) A workshop on siamensis crocodile captive breeding was conducted in Ho Chi Minh City with the facilitation from CITES MA.

b) Developed a report on conservation and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I big cat species pursuant on the Resolution 12.5

c) Vietnam Forestry Administration in cooperation with Institute of Ecology and Biology Resources has been implementing a tiger conservation project. The objective of project is aimed to survey the tiger landscape and wild tiger population.