

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



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REPORTED SEIZURES OF SAIGA ANTELOPE SPECIMENS, 2007 TO 2012

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 57 on *Saiga antelope*.

REPORTED SEIZURES OF SAIGA ANTELOPE SPECIMENS, 2007 TO 2012

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 2007 | | | | |
| 2007 | January and August | Russian Federation | Police stopped a car at the Kharol settlement in Primorsky Krai and seized, <i>inter alia</i> , 531 horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>) en route to China. A six-month operation by Customs and the Frontier Service in Primorsky Province uncovered the smuggling chain, from source to destination. | TRAFFIC: A compilation of seizures and prosecutions reported in the TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2007 | April | Taiwan Province of China | Customs officials at Keelung port seized 680 horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>) concealed in a container of traditional Chinese medicines, on a vessel arriving by sea from China via Hong Kong SAR. | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2007 | May | Netherlands | Two pieces of pharmaceutical products. | Customs Enforcement Network (CEN) database, World Customs Organization (WCO) in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2007 | August | Netherlands | Two pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2007 | October | Mongolia | The General Prosecutor's office in Ulaanbaatar ordered a reinvestigation by the Prosecutor's office in Khovd into an attempt to smuggle 108 horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica mongolica</i>) in 2006 concealed in the spare tyre of a vehicle. | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2007 | October and December | New Zealand | An unspecified quantity of saiga antelope products were uncovered by the New Zealand Customs Service (NZCS). | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2007 | December | Hungary | Six pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |

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|-------------|------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2008 | | | | |
| 2008 | January | China | The Forest police from Gansu Province seized products being offered for sale illegally at markets in the province, including six horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>). | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2008 | June | China | A skull weighing 3.4 kg was seized going from Hong Kong SAR into China. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2008 | June | China | A skull weighing 4.2 kg was seized going from Hong Kong SAR into China. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2008 | August | China | The Luohu Customs in Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province, seized 129 horn cores (7.6 kg) of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>), which were being smuggled by a Hong Kong passenger arriving from Hong Kong SAR. | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2008 | December | Netherlands | One piece of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2008 | December | Netherlands | Two pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2009 | | | | |
| 2009 | Whole year | China | The Luohu Customs in Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province, seized 2 kg of horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>). | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2009 | April | Netherlands | Four boxes of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2009 | July | Netherlands | Six pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2009 | November | Mongolia | Eleven horns seized from a passenger at Zamin Uud border Customs. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|-------------|----------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 2009 | December | Netherlands | One box of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | | | | |
| 2010 | February | Kazakhstan | Two poachers with six dead saiga antelopes were detained in Karagandinsk province. The men had been poaching in Akshal area of Koskol village, Ulytausky district. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | February | Hungary | Thirty pieces of pharmaceutical products | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | February | Mongolia | 30 kg of horns were seized at the border of a free trade zone. | WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | March | Kazakhstan | A poacher, who had killed two saiga antelopes (a male and a female), was detained in Taush village, Zhandeldinsk district. Two dead saiga antelopes and horns were confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | March | Kazakhstan | The police seized 4,704 horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>) at checkpoint "Ily", reportedly en route to China. Later that same month, police seized a further 178 horns from a car at checkpoint "Kurmangazy", in Atyrau province (western Kazakhstan). | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2010 | March | Russian Federation | During a joint operation by the Federal Security Service of Kalmykia and the Investigations Department of the Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation, an officer of the Chernozemelsk District Department of Internal Affairs was detained not far from the Elista-Lagan' road. Nineteen saiga antelope carcasses were in his car. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|-------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2010 | March | Russian Federation | In the Pallasovsk district of Volgograd Province, border guards at Elton village stopped a car with a saiga antelope carcass. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | March | Uzbekistan | Eight saiga antelope horns of various degree of freshness were confiscated from an inhabitant of the Karakalpakiya village in Ustyurt. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | March | Netherlands | Three hundred and sixty tablets. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | March | Hungary | Ten "other" pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | March | Netherlands | One hundred pills in a box. | WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | April | China | Customs officials at Horgos Port, Xinjiang Province, seized a package containing 68 horns of saiga antelopes (<i>Saiga tatarica</i>). | TRAFFIC Bulletin from 1997 onwards |
| 2010 | April | Russian Federation | At the Elista checkpoint, traffic police inspectors stopped a vehicle, in the boot of which they found a saiga antelope carcass and 20 horns. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | April | Kazakh / Uzbek border | At the 'Gisht-Kuprik' checkpoint on the Uzbek/Kazakh border north of Tashkent, an unaccompanied bag containing 119 saiga antelope horns was found by an inspector. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | May | China | The Huanggang Customs in Shenzhen, South China, seized 22 saiga antelope horns with an estimated value of CNY 650,000 (approximately USD 100,000). | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|-----------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2010 | June | Kazakhstan | In the south of Kostanai province, 53 km to the west of Akkol village, Dzhangendisk District, 31 decomposed saiga antelope carcasses were found between salt marshes. It was impossible to state the cause of death, but it is most likely that the animals had been poached, as the horns had been cut off. | Saiga news, Issue 11, Summer 2010, p. 9 |
| 2010 | June | Kazakhstan | Two men were detained in the Zhangel'dynsky District, Kostanai province, for hunting saiga antelopes. A pair of horns was confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2010 | June | China | 45 kg of horns was seized. | WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | July | Russian Federation | Officers of the Chernozemelsk militia detained a person, who had been illegally hunting saiga antelopes. Three carcasses and six horns were confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2010 | August | Kazakhstan | Poachers were caught on the steppes of Akzhar, Western-Kazakhstan, with 12 saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 9 |
| 2010 | August | Kazakhstan | In the Shalkarsky District, Aktyubinsk Province, an Okhotzooptom inspector shot and killed a hunter trying to escape the scene of a crime. A gun and a bag of saiga antelope horns were found near the dead motorcyclist. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2010 | August | Netherlands | Eight pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | September | Netherlands | One (unit "unknown") | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2010 | October | Kazakhstan | Near Atanbas, Zhaisanbaisk District, part of a saiga antelope carcass was found inside the vehicle belonging to the Irgizsko-Torgaisky nature reserve. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|-------------|----------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2010 | November | Kazakhstan | In the Baiganinsky District of the Aktybinsk Province, Okhotzooptom inspectors detained two persons who were illegally hunting saiga antelopes. The inspectors found 20 dead females, nine juveniles and one horned male. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2010 | November | Kazakhstan | Three persons were detained near Akshala, Karaganda Province. Their vehicle contained 11 saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2010 | November | Kazakhstan | Two persons were detained near Bogdok, Karaganda Province, in a vehicle containing, <i>inter alia</i> , 24 saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 12, Winter 2010/2011, p. 10 |
| 2011 | | | | |
| 2011 | January | Kazakhstan | The Ministry of Internal Affairs carried out an operation entitled "Saiga" in the Aktyubinsk, Kyzylorda, Kostanai and Karaganda Provinces. The operation led to the detention of five poachers, from whom saiga antelope carcasses and horns were confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | January | Germany | Six hundred tablets/derivatives. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2011 | January | Kazakhstan | Environmental policemen and Okhotzooptom inspectors detained poachers with eight newly sawn saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | January | Netherlands | One box of skin products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2011 | January | Netherlands | Two pieces of skin products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|----------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 2011 | February | Kazakhstan | In the town of Kyzylorda, environmental policemen found and confiscated three carcasses and the skin of a saiga antelope. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | February | Kazakhstan | Okhotzoooprom officers found seven saiga skins while examining two vehicles 30 km from the town of Zhezkazgan. Nearby, they found saiga antelope meat in packets, four heads, nine legs and three pairs of new horns. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | April | Russian Federation | One person was detained in Astakhan. After an illegal hunt, he was transporting saiga antelope meat to Astrakhan City. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 9 |
| 2011 | April | Netherlands | One piece of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2011 | May | Kazakhstan | An investigation team of the Irgiz District Department detained a car inside the Irgiz-Torgaiskiy Nature Reserve and confiscated one saiga antelope carcass. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | June | Kazakhstan | Officers of the Department of Internal Affairs detained a man trying to transport 62 horns of saiga antelopes. | Saiga news, Issue 13, Summer 2011, p. 8 |
| 2011 | June | Germany | Fifty ampoules of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2011 | August | Kazakhstan | In the Aktyubinsk region of Kazakhstan, four dehorned saiga antelope carcasses were found. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2011 | August | Uzbekistan | At the Gisht-Kuprik Customs office in the Tashkent region of Uzbekistan, a pair of mature saiga antelope horns and a single maral deer antler were confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|-----------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 2011 | September | Kazakhstan | Two poachers were detained in the Irgiz district, Aktyubinsk Region. Two pairs of saiga antelope horns were found on them. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2011 | October | China | Manchurian Customs detained a Chinese citizen who was attempting to smuggle six saiga antelope horns from Russia to China. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012, p. 12 |
| 2011 | October | Kazakhstan | The environmental police detained poachers engaged in illegal saiga antelope hunts, residents of the Terenozek village, Syr Darya region. They found five saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2011 | November | Kazakhstan | On the border of the Kyzylorda and Karaganda regions, a joint operation of the environmental police and the game management organization Okhotzooptom detained two persons engaged in illegal hunting of saiga antelopes. A carcass was found in their vehicle. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2011 | November | Kazakhstan | Seizure of a bag of 93 horns of saiga antelopes, Kurmangaz District. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 12 |
| 2011 | November | Kazakhstan | Baida region, seizure of 177 saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012, p. 12 |
| 2011 | December | Netherlands | Four pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2011 | December | Kazakhstan | Officers of the Irgiz District Department of Internal Affairs, Aktyubinsk Region, detained two poachers who had hunted saiga antelopes in the Bestobe area, Irgiz District. The police found five dehorned carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 12 |
| 2011 | December | Kazakhstan | At the Shep checkpoint, the police found a bag containing 46 saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 12 |
| 2011 | December | Kazakhstan | Twenty-six saiga antelope carcasses were found in vehicles in the Kyzylorda province. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012, p. 12 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 2011 | December | Uzbekistan | State inspectors of the Specialized Amudarya Inspectorate of the State Biological Control Agency detained a group of saiga antelope poachers in Muinak district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. The dressed carcass of a young female was confiscated. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2011 | December | Uzbekistan | A citizen carrying 67 pairs of saiga antelope horns was detained at the railway station in Samarkand city. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012. p. 11 |
| 2012 (to September) | | | | |
| 2012 | January | Kazakhstan | A joint operation of the environmental police and the game management organization Okhotzoprom detained a car near Kyzylorda. The police found three saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012, p. 12 |
| 2012 | January | Kazakhstan | Officers of the Syrdarya District Department of Internal Affairs detained a vehicle in the Kumkol area, in the boot of which they found 32 saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 14, Winter 2011/2012, p. 12 |
| 2012 | January | Kazakhstan | Close to the village of Zhaisaibai, Irgyz district, police officers detained a car where they found 5 dehorned saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | January | Kazakhstan | During search operations in Aktobe, policemen detained a person in whose car they found 12 saiga antelope horns. He explained that he had been buying horns through posting notices in the city and nearby areas, offering KZT 12,000 (USD 80) per pair, and reselling them at KZT 60,000 (USD 400) a kilo. He voluntarily yielded up 102 saiga horns which he had collected over the previous 2 months and kept at his home. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|----------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2012 | February | Uzbekistan | At Karakalpakiya railway station, Kungrad district, officers of the Special Amu Darya inspectorate and the Customs Service of Karakalpakstan detained an Uzbekistan resident of Uzbekistan who was attempting to smuggle 302 saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |
| 2012 | February | Kazakh / Russian border | A major batch of saiga antelope horns has been detained at the Kurmagazy border check point, Atyrau region (between Russia and Kazakhstan). Two people were attempting to bring 170 saiga antelope horns into Kazakhstan. The smugglers said they had purchased the saiga horns in Astrakhan, Russia, and were planning to sell them in Shymkent. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | March | Netherlands | Nine pieces of pharmaceutical products. | CEN database, WCO in a letter to the Secretariat, September 2012 |
| 2012 | March | China | Eight hundred and seventy-six (876) horns of saiga antelope were seized by Customs (Urumqi customs have announced that Altay customs uncovered) during a major operation against illegal wildlife trade carried out under the auspices of China's National Inter-Agency CITES Enforcement Collaboration Group (NICECG), established in December 2011. NICECG comprises the State Forestry Administration, the Ministry of Public Security, the General Administration of Customs, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Administration of Industry and Commerce, and is coordinated by the CITES Management Authority of China, hosted by the State Forestry Administration. | CITES press release: http://www.cites.org/eng/news/pr/2012/20120509_certificate_cn.php http://www.traffic.org/seizures-journal-legacy/2012/4/10/876-saiga-horns-seized-on-kazakhstan-china-border.html Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|------|-------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 2012 | March | Kazakhstan | Okhotzooptom inspectors and officers of the Zhalagazh District Police detained a vehicle containing hunting guns and cartridges, blood spots and animal hairs. Following the car tracks, they found three discarded saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | March | Kazakh / Chinese border | At the Ili check point near Kapshagai, officers of the Department for Organized Crime Control detained a person, who was attempting to take through a large quantity of saiga horns, musk beaver skins and "baimur" (<i>Fritillaria pallidiflora</i> Schrenk) roots. The police confiscated 4,704 saiga antelope horns, inter alia. The police are conducting investigations into the identity of the traders and distributors. The arrested man intended to deliver the products to Zaisan (East Kazakhstan) for onward sale to China. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | March | Kazakh / Russian border | One hundred and seventy-eight (178) saiga antelope horns were confiscated at the Kurmangazy border check point (between Russia and Kazakhstan) | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | May | Kazakhstan | In the Kulanshi region, Aktyuba province, a vehicle was detained; inside the car the carcass of a saiga antelope and two horns were found. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 13 |
| 2012 | June | Kazakhstan | Okhotzooptom inspectors in Aktebiy district, Aktyuba region, found over 60 dehorned saiga carcasses 12 km from the village of Kyrykkudyk. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |
| 2012 | June | Kazakhstan | In the Ulytau district, Karaganda region, environmental police officers detained a vehicle; inside the car they found a dressed saiga antelope carcass. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |

| Year | Month | Country or territory of seizure | Details | Source |
|-------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| 2012 | June | Kazakhstan | During search operations in the village of Akoba, West Kazakhstan region, Committee for Forestry and Hunting and Okhotzooptom officers found 12 pairs of saiga antelope horns. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |
| 2012 | July | Kazakhstan | During inspection of a car driven from Aktoba, District and Environmental police officers confiscated a saiga antelope carcass and five pairs of horns. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |
| 2012 | July | Kazakhstan | Department of Internal Affairs police officers from Aktyuba region detained a three persons, in whose car they found five saiga antelope carcasses. | Saiga news, Issue 15, Summer 2012, p. 14 |