

Discussion topics from Annex 4 of background study

- Conversion factors of amphibians reported in units of mass versus units of number
- Use of trade terms and variability in interpretation
- Anomalous reporting of amphibian countries/regions of origin and/or sources
- Incorrect species identification of traded amphibians
- Spread of emerging infectious diseases through the international trade in amphibians

Topics for discussion submitted by participants

- Most traded species online
- Traceability of captive-bred amphibian specimens
- The importance of amphibians in their ecosystems
- The importance of working with communities
- Reducing demand for amphibians as 'disposable pets' and end capture of wild amphibians for the pet trade

Topics for discussion submitted by participants (continued)

- What kind of information do law enforcement and management authorities expect from scientific authorities?
- How can trade and species use information for red list categorization be improved?
- What funding mechanisms are available to address gaps in amphibian population information
- Sustainability and regulation of trade in frogs' legs
- Review of international trade of amphibians claimed as captive bred/farmed

Observations and draft recommendations

Implementation of Decision 19.197

- Sections i), v) and vi) of paragraph a) of Decision 19.197 are considered to be have been implemented
- Concerning section ii) national legislation is incomplete – invite the Secretariat to reach out to range States of those priority non-CITES listed species to get additional information (including on legislation covering the protection of amphibian habitats)
- Concerning sections iii) and iv) on current levels of trade and harvesting levels for priority non-CITES listed species –draft decisions for CoP20?

Observations and draft recommendations

- Invite the Secretariat to continue to develop the species prioritization matrix by including additional columns with updated red list assessments, list of range States and captive breeding information concerning priority species (consult with Species 360) and submit it to the Animals Committee along with the study and the report from the workshop.
- Produce separate set of priority species traded for frog legs.
- Invite the Secretariat to refer the following issues to the NDF workshop for its consideration:
 - concerns about how to address cumulative pressures on amphibians
 - the specific role in the ecosystem of amphibians (e.g. in terms of improving water quality)
 - International trade in species as potential disease agents

Observations and draft recommendations

- Encourage Parties to share NDFs for amphibian species for inclusion on the CITES website
- Invite Parties to implement biosecurity recommendations to avoid spread of pathogens, such as
 - Diagnostic testing upon import/export
 - Maintaining closed system amphibian breeding operations
 - Packing animals in lower densities to reduce pathogen transmission
 - Disinfection of shipping materials to prevent spreading infectious material through water (to be treated before disposal), cartons, containers and substrates
- **It would be useful to have more information about breeding farms**

Observations and draft recommendations

- Develop/collate table of conversion factors for amphibians – draft decision for CoP20
- Record shipments in a standardized way so at least the majority of what is being traded is recorded accurately.
- To the extent possible record trade to the individual level. Could there be notes in the reporting for example when 100 skin pieces are traded, add a note how many individuals this represents?
- Work towards an agreed vision on the terms to be used for amphibians (e.g. legs vs meat vs live animals) – refer to AC for advice
- Identify existing ID material; request AC to review (need to be simple and fit for purpose) – part of ongoing work on ID materials (Dec. 19.142 – 19.144)

Observations and draft recommendations

- Consider practicality of ID materials for use by customs/law enforcement officers in view of amphibians' sensitivity to being handled and the way in which they are packaged
- Raise awareness about and train customs officers in the guidance for annual reporting
- Consider additional training needs for customs/enforcement officers

Observations and draft recommendations

- Higher sampling effort to identify shipments that mislabel species and identify the actual species being traded (which may or may not be species of concern) so that we can improve confidence in which species are being traded
- Consider ways to ship live animals in a way that reduces the risk of disease transmission, as part of the next CITES review of the IATA transport guidelines
- Indicate what life stage or size of animals are traded to help strengthen traceability that the animals in trade are generally coming from the sources described
- Invite the Secretariat to continue to identify and source additional relevant datasets

Observations and draft recommendations

- Challenges identified include the lack of quantitative data on trade in (and captive breeding of) non-CITES listed species, evolving taxonomy and species identification
- Importance of making this information available to Parties (Link to decision 19.186 on *identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade?*)
- Parties considering developing a possible listing proposal under Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) are encouraged to work with consumer Parties and to consult with other range States as recommended in Res. Conf. 8.21 (Rev. CoP16)
- Encourage Parties to consider Appendix III listings for species that meet the criteria set out in Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) – native species and nationally protected. Must consult with other range States