

Discussion on CITES Decision 19.197, paragraph a)

- identify amphibian species that are in international trade and evaluate whether certain species or groups should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;
- share existing national legislation relevant to the trade in amphibians;
- evaluate whether current levels of trade are compatible with the conservation of these species in the wild;
- compile further data on harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade;
- explore the emerging threat of diseases to traded amphibians, including amphibian chytrid fungus and rana viruses; and
- examine current enforcement efforts to deter and detect illegal and unreported trade and identify additional actions needed

Regional priorities – North America

- Main species traded:
- Main exporters: United States (W and C), Canada (C), (Mexico – not in CITES trade database)
- Main importers: United States, EU member States, Republic of South Korea, China (Province of Taiwan), Guatemala.
- Legislation:
- Issues/concerns:

Annex 4

- *Cynops pyrrhogaster* – endemic to Japan

Regional priorities – Central and South America and the Caribbean

- Main species traded:
- Main exporters:
 - Wild - Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname, Chile.
 - Captive - Ecuador, Nicaragua.
- Main importers: US, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, EU Member States
- Legislation:
- Issues/concerns:

Annex 4

- *Ceratophrys ornata* – Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil
- *Bolitoglossa dofleini* – Honduras and Guatemala

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

Draft conclusions and 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 – invite the Secretariat to reach out to range States of those priority non-CITES listed species to get additional information
- Concerning sections iii) and iv) on current levels of trade and harvesting levels for priority non-CITES listed – consider draft decisions for CoP20?
- Submit the Excel workbook to the Animals Committee including additional columns with updated red list assessments, list of range States and captive breeding information priority species (consult with Species 360). Any other information?

Draft conclusions and recommendations

Other recommendations

- Ways to improve reporting
 - Customs harmonized codes
 - Species level
 - Standardization of parts and derivatives (reporting guidelines)
- Conversion factors – draft Decision?
- Capacity building and outreach, including demand reduction
- Encourage Parties to share NDFs for amphibian species for inclusion on the CITES website
- Refer concerns about how to address cumulative pressures on amphibians to the NDF workshop for its consideration

Draft conclusions and recommendations

- How to make this information available to Parties (Link to decision 19.186 on *identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade?*)
- 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
- Other?