

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



Thirty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 19 – 23 June 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
FRIDAY 23 JUNE 2023

14. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

14.2 Selection of new species/country combinations for review following CoP19 AC32 Doc. 14.2

The Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a revised version of document AC32 Com. 3 that would better reflect the lack of consensus in the working group on Review of Significant Trade with a revised chapeau above the table on page 2 that should read: “In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the working group recommends the following species/country combinations be considered for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade, noting that consensus was not reached on all cases.”

The Committee adopted the substance of document AC32 Com. 3 amended as follows:

In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the Committee recommended the following species/country combinations for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade.

Species	Country selected	Justification
<i>Falco cherrug</i>	Jordan (JO)	(2) Endangered species; High volume (GT)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Ghana (GH)	(2) Endangered species; High volume (GT)
<i>Python regius</i>	Ghana (GH), Benin (BJ), Togo (TG)	(2) High volume (GT); Sharp increase
<i>Siebenrockiella crassicollis</i>	Indonesia (ID)	(2) Endangered species; High volume (GT)
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Kenya (KE); Senegal (SN); Oman (OM); Yemen (YE)*	(3) Endangered species; Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase
<i>Mobula</i> spp.	Sri Lanka (LK)	(4) Endangered species; High volume (GT); Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase
<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Mexico (MX); Indonesia (ID); China (CN); Kenya (KE); Nicaragua (NI); Oman (OM); Sri Lanka (LK); Yemen (YE)	(4) Endangered species; High volume (GT); Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase
<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>	Mexico (MX)	(3) Endangered species; Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase
<i>Testudo horsfieldii</i>	Uzbekistan (UZ)	(1) High Volume (GT)

* An asterisk denotes a non-range State.

Saiga tatarica/Ukraine

The Committee requested the Secretariat to follow up with Ukraine on its use of source code “U” for *Saiga tatarica* (noting that it is not a range State for the species) and report any issues of concern to the Standing Committee.

Trionyx triunguis/Ghana

The Committee requested the Secretariat to invite Ghana to provide clarification about the exports from Ghana and to present a case study on this species at the NDF workshop to be held later this year.

Indotestudo forstenii/Indonesia

The Committee agreed not to include this species/country combination in the review following Indonesia's commitment to the publication of a zero quota for wild specimens from 2024 with trade resuming only after a non-detriment finding has been assessed as satisfactory by the Secretariat and the Animals Committee, through its Chair.

Monodon monoceros/Greenland

The Committee noted that *Monodon monoceros* from Greenland had been removed from RST at AC22 on the basis of a temporary ban. An NDF would be needed for trade to resume. The Committee noted that trade in *Monodon monoceros* had resumed and requested the Secretariat to follow up with Greenland on the NDF requirement.

Balearica regulorum/Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Committee agreed not to include this species/country combination in the review following the Democratic Republic of the Congo's commitment to the publication of a zero quota for wild specimens from 2024 with trade resuming only after a non-detriment finding has been assessed as satisfactory by the Secretariat and the Animals Committee, through its Chair.

Pandinus spp./Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Committee agreed not to include this species/country combination in the review following the Democratic Republic of the Congo's commitment to the publication of a zero quota for wild specimens from 2024 with trade resuming only after a non-detriment finding has been assessed as satisfactory by the Secretariat and the Animals Committee, through its Chair.

Carcharhinus longimanus/Colombia

The Committee agreed not to include this species/country combination in the review and invited Colombia to request the Secretariat to publish a Notification informing Parties that Colombia has prohibited in all its national territory all trade in specimens and derivatives of sharks, rays and chimaeras, including export, re-export and import.

15. Captive-bred and ranched specimens

15.1 Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity AC32 Doc. 15.1

15.2 Captive-breeding of spiny tailed lizards AC32 Doc. 15.2

and

15.3 Exceptional case for inclusion of species-country combination in Review of trade in animal specimens as produced in captivity – *Macaca fascicularis*..... AC32 Doc. 15.3

The Committee noted the process for the implementation of Decision 19.63 outlined in paragraph 21 of document AC32 Doc. 15.1.

The Committee adopted the substance of document AC32 Com. 4 amended as follows:

The Committee recommended the following species/country combinations for review. The table below includes a brief explanation for the selection and questions to be asked to the Party (for details on the criteria see page 4 in the Annex to document AC32 Doc. 15.1, while details on the questions can be found in the Annex to this document).

	Species	Country	Criterion met	Source code	Explanation for selection	Questions
1	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Indonesia	ii)	F		F1, F2, F3, F4
2	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Cambodia	ii) vi)	C, F, D	In relation to criterion vi refer to document AC32 doc 15.3	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 F1, F2, F3, F4
3	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Philippines	ii)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
4	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Vietnam	ii)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
8	<i>Chlamydotis macqueenii</i>	Kazakhstan	i)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
9	<i>Chlamydotis undulata</i>	Morocco	ii)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
10	<i>Kinyongia boehmei</i>	Kenya	ii)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
11	<i>Gecko gecko</i>	Indonesia	ii)	F		F1, F2, F3, F4
12	<i>Ctenosaura quinquecarinata</i>	Nicaragua	i)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 In addition, explain the sudden increase in volume
13	<i>Ctenosaura similis</i>	Nicaragua	i)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 In addition, explain the sudden increase in volume
14	<i>Testudo graeca</i>	Jordan	iii)	C	Might be difficult to breed in large numbers if kept “intensive”	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 In addition, explain the shift of source code Indicate the ages and sizes of animals exported
15	<i>Testudo horsfieldii</i>	Uzbekistan	ii) iii)	F, R, C		F1, F2, F3, F4 R2, R3 C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 In addition, explain the shift of source code Indicate the ages and sizes of animals exported
16	<i>Testudo kleinmanni</i>	Syrian Arab Republic	i) vi) vii)	C	Appendix I, small population size, CR, reference was made to AC31 document and concerns were raised about one sudden high number of captive bred specimens in 2017 for a species not easy to breed in high numbers without information on legal acquisition (no range state and no	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 Indicate the ages and sizes of animals exported

					legal imports) of the breeding stock and if it has been established in a manner not detrimental to the wild population	
17	<i>Testudo kleinmanni</i>	Egypt	vii) (vi))	C	Appendix I, small population size, CR, no information if the breeding stock has been established in a manner not detrimental to the wild population	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6 Indicate the ages of animals exported
18	<i>Nectophrynoides asperginis</i>	United States of America	ii)	F, C		Explain the use of "F" in combination with IUCN red list status "EW" If this is incorrect → F1, F2, F3, F4 C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
19	<i>Dendrobatus auratus</i>	Nicaragua	ii)	C		C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
20	<i>Oophaga pumilio</i>	Nicaragua	ii)	F, C		F1, F2, F3, F4 C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
21	<i>Agalychnis callidryas</i>	Nicaragua	ii)	C	Large increase and all are captive bred	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
22	<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>	Indonesia	ii)	R	Not meeting the definition of source code R in that the larvae are harvested after settlement, i.e, after the point of highest mortality in their life cycle, so it cannot be argued that they are taken when they would otherwise have had a very low probability of surviving to adulthood	R2, R3
23	<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	Azerbaijan	i) ii) vi)	C	Trade only started in 2019 rising to 1,498,500 in 2021 Not recognized as a range State for this species on Species+ Source of breeding stock unknown and whether regular introductions of wild into breeding stock occur	Confirm the presence of the species in Azerbaijan, Confirm whether Azerbaijan is a range State for this species and identify source of founder breeding stock. C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6
24	<i>Batagur borneoensis</i>	United States of America	vii)	C	Considered difficult to breed	C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6

						Please provide evidence for successful captive breeding. Confirm how long the species has been bred in your country.
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The Committee noted that the use of source code “R” for *Diceros bicornis* used by South Africa and *Loxodonta africana* used by Zimbabwe is not appropriate and requested the Secretariat to remind these Parties accordingly.

In relation to table 7 in the Annex to document AC32 Doc 15.1, the Committee agreed to refer the contents of the table to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

In relation to table 8 in the Annex to document AC32 Doc 15.1, the Committee agreed to refer the contents of the table to the Secretariat for further consultation with the Parties concerned and to refer any issues of concern to the Standing Committee. Specific concerns about *Uromastix acanthinurus* from Mali were raised, noting that Mali is not a range State for this species, but trade has mostly been in source F, and there have been no imports recorded.

The Committee requested that, in its ongoing compliance discussions with the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Secretariat investigate the issue of legal acquisition of founder stock for captive-breeding facilities for *Macaca fascicularis* in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In relation to document AC32 Doc 15.2 on spiny tailed lizards (*Ceratophora stoddartii*, *C. aspera* and *Lyriocephalus scutatus*), the Committee noted the concerns raised in the document regarding the protection and conservation status of these three endemic species in Sri Lanka. The three species were not recommended for inclusion in the review at this current time as there has been no reported international trade since the species were listed on the Appendices. The Committee encouraged Parties to scrutinize legal acquisition and breeding claims when faced with export/import applications and any shipments presented for import/(re-)export of these species.

The Committee noted the concern raised by the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance regarding trade in a number of primate species, including Appendix-I species, great apes, small apes, and endangered species, from Syria under source code C.

37. Sharks and rays (*Elasmobranchii* spp.) AC32 Doc. 37 (Rev. 1)

The Committee adopted the substance of document AC32 Com. 5 amended as follows:

The Committee invited Parties to submit new non-detriment findings (NDFs) to the Secretariat, including negative NDFs, to be posted on the CITES website.

The Committee agreed to draw to the attention of Parties that export sharks and rays of the availability of the useful eNDFs tool¹, to facilitate the preparation of NDFs with associated conditions, if necessary, and enable NDFs to be standardized between Parties to the extent possible, taking into account additional guidance that will be available after the 2nd NDF expert workshop.

The Committee encouraged Parties that catch and trade in relevant shark species to engage and provide input into the implementation of Decisions 19.135 to 19.139 on *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*.

The Committee encouraged Parties to use genetic / genomic methodologies to assist with stock assessments, including close-kin-mark-recapture techniques and further encouraged organizations and other key stakeholders to support Parties on the use of these methodologies.

The Committee encouraged Parties and relevant stakeholders to develop artificial intelligence, genetic and isotopic tools for the identification of shark and ray species, parts and derivatives and their geographic origins at various stages in the supply chain.

The Committee invited Parties and organizations to submit genetic sequences of sharks and rays from voucher specimens or scientific studies to open access databases such as the Barcode of Life Data Systems (BOLD) and the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), taking into consideration FAO's report on Genetic Technologies for Fisheries and Aquaculture.²

¹ <https://user.cites-endf.org>

² <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc1236en:%20>

The Committee encouraged Parties to consider including a broader range of sectors in their capacity building activities, including fishers, media, law enforcement officers, members of the judicial system and other relevant entities.

The Committee agreed to consider the circumstances in which it would be appropriate for the RST process to include country/species combinations at a higher taxonomic level or broader geographic scope, taking into account lessons learned from previous cases, including the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar.

The Committee encouraged national CITES Authorities to collaborate with national fisheries authorities to validate shark and ray landings and international trade (species, volumes, etc.).

The Committee encouraged Parties to inform the Secretariat of any voluntary export quotas, including any zero export quotas, negative NDFs and national prohibitions on catch for sharks and rays to further facilitate general compliance with CITES and enforcement by all participants in the trade.

The Committee noted the importance of biological data for informing shark and ray stock assessments and the transport of scientific samples and support for scientific research should be enabled even in the case where a negative NDF is issued and there is a consequent negative opinion for permitting trade in other types of specimens for commercial purposes.

The Committee noted that in the RST process a limited number of species/country combinations are chosen; however for CITES-listed sharks that are highly mobile and/or have shared stocks managed at the regional level by a single Regional Fisheries Management Organization, the RST process could be more effective if focused on a larger grouping of Parties, including on an ocean basin-wide basis.

The Committee invited Parties to respond to the Notification that will be published as mandated in Decision 19.224, paragraph a), and to Notification to the Parties No.2023/050 on *Request for information on non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*.

The Committee invited the Standing Committee to:

- a) encourage Parties to report the trade of sharks and rays using the preferred terms and units (as identified in the latest *Guidelines for the preparation and submission for CITES annual reports*) at the species level and consider the addition of taxon-specific terms to assist in the reporting;
- b) consider implications of the limited number of species-specific HS codes available under the WCO's Harmonized System (HS);
- c) request that Parties adopt more comprehensive national classifications based on WCO's HS Nomenclature;
- d) encourage Parties to use the available HS codes when reporting trade in the annual trade reports;
- e) consider the development of new digital reporting and traceability mechanisms; and
- f) consider the appropriate use of pre-Convention permitting for different shark and ray product types for specimens that meet the requirements of Resolution Conf. 13.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Implementation of Article VII, paragraph 2, concerning 'pre-Convention' specimens*.

The Committee invited the Secretariat to:

- a) issue another Notification to the Parties as mandated in Decision 19.224 paragraph a) and report on the responses received to the next meeting of the Animals Committee;
- b) consider the issues raised regarding the apparent mismatch between the trade in products of CITES-listed sharks recorded in the CITES Trade Database and what would be expected against the information available on catches of listed species in information document AC32 Inf. 3 when implementing Decision 19.223 paragraph c); and

- c) consider the feasibility of including the addition of catch locations, at a minimum by ocean basin, of sharks and rays in the annual reports and the amendment of the Guidelines for the preparation and submissions for CITES annual reports.

Adoption of executive summary AC32 Sum. 3:

The Committee adopted executive summary AC32 Sum. 3 with the following amendments:

- under agenda item 19.1, paragraph a) of the mandate, replaced “Thailand” with “Bangkok” and specify that Mr. Balama is the representative for Africa of the Plants Committee; and
- under agenda item 46, insert “the substance of” before “document AC32 Com. 2”, delete the footnote 4 on page 7; add the representative for Africa (Ms. Maha) as a member of the intersessional working group on nomenclature and correct the spelling of IWMC-World Conservation Trust.

47. Regional reports

47.1 <u>Africa</u>	AC32 Doc. 47.1
47.2 <u>Asia</u>	AC32 Doc. 47.2
47.3 <u>Central and South America and the Caribbean</u>	AC32 Doc. 47.3
47.4 <u>Europe</u>	<i>No document</i>
47.5 <u>North America</u>	AC32 Doc. 47.5
47.6 <u>Oceania</u>	AC32 Doc. 47.6

The Committee noted the oral reports and documents AC32 Doc. 47.1, AC32 Doc. 47.2, AC32 Doc. 47.3, AC32 Doc. 47.5 and AC32 Doc. 47.6.

48. Any other business..... *No document*

There was no intervention.

49. Time and venue of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee..... *No document*

The Committee noted that the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee should take place in Geneva from 8 to 19 July 2024.

50. Closing remarks..... *No document*

The Secretary-General and the Chair thanked the Committee members, in particular those that chaired in-session working groups, as well as Party observers, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations, the interpreters, the operators and the Secretariat; and the Chair closed the meeting.

Questions to be asked to countries depending on the source code reported for the species selected:

Source code "C"

Question code	Question
C1	How many facilities in your country are breeding specimens of the species concerned which are subsequently being exported? For how long have the facilities been established in your country? How does the breeding facility meet the criteria of a closed environment according to Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.) on <i>Specimens of animal species bred in captivity</i> ? Since when do the facilities successfully breed to F1/ F2?
C2	Have all of these facilities been inspected to ensure that the specimens produced comply with Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.) on <i>Specimens of animal species bred in captivity</i> ? Please explain further any regulations or measures currently in place for monitoring facilities which claim to be captive breeding this species, for example whether facilities are required to keep records of the acquisition, maintenance or breeding of animals of this species, and whether authorities verify these records?
C3	Which authority carries out these inspections and how often are they undertaken?
C4	For each facility in question 1, either complete the Data Collection Form (document AC29 Inf. 1 may be of assistance), or provide the information on the form in a different way.
C5	How was it determined that the breeding stock was established in accordance with the provisions of CITES and relevant national laws and in a manner not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild?
C6	Has the breeding stock received additional specimens from the wild since establishment and if so, how many and when and how was it determined that they were obtained in accordance with the provisions of CITES and relevant national laws and in a manner not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild?

DATA COLLECTION FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE FACILITY

Date of inspection: _____	Name of senior inspecting officer: _____
Facility name: _____	

Name and position(s) of all inspecting officer(s) present:

1. _____

2. _____

Type of inspection: Initial Date of last inspection: _____

Routine

Follow-up *(in cases where discrepancies or anomalies, detected during a previous inspection, remain outstanding)*

Facility trading name(s): _____

Facility owner(s): _____

Facility address and contact information: _____

Year the facility was established: _____

How many staff are currently employed at the facility?

Full time Part time

Name and job title of facility staff accompanying inspecting officer(s):

Does the operation have access to professional veterinary services? Yes No

If yes, what is the name and address of vet? _____

Does this company keep animals at any other location(s)? Yes No

If yes, where? _____

If yes, make arrangements to inspect the location(s) as soon as possible

DATA COLLECTION FORM

SPECIES INFORMATION *(to be completed separately for each species held at the facility)*

Date of inspection: _____	Name of senior inspecting officer: _____
Facility name: _____	Species : _____

*Date species first acquired? _____ Source and life-stage of initial stock? _____

Numbers of initial stock, and sexes, if known _____ Males? Females?

*Have additional animals been obtained since you acquired the initial stock? If so, from where?

Do you **BREED** this species? Yes No

When did you start breeding? _____

litters/clutches per year? _____

offspring/eggs in litter/clutch? _____

produced in the previous year? _____

ADULT BREEDING STOCK	Facility information	Inspector count <i>(where possible)</i>
Number of adults present?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of males present?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number of females?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
What % of females breed each year?	<input type="text"/>	
What do you feed adult animals? _____		

REARING STOCK (CAPTIVE BRED AND RANCHED COMBINED)	Facility information	Inspector count <i>(where possible)</i>
Number of juveniles present?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Age at sexual maturity (years)?	<input type="text"/>	
Size or mass at sexual maturity (cm or g)?	<input type="text"/>	
Size at sale (cm or g)	<input type="text"/>	
What percentage of juveniles survive beyond 2 weeks? <i>Includes mortalities of eggs that didn't hatch.</i>	<input type="text"/>	
What do you feed rearing and juvenile animals? _____		

Source code “R”

Question code	Question
R1	In relation to all species that have been transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II under the provisions of Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev CoP15) on <i>Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</i> , please provide any missing reports under paragraph 5 a) and the information specified under paragraph 5 b) of that Resolution.
R2	<p>1. In relation to all species that have <u>not</u> been transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II under the provisions of Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev CoP15) on <i>Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II</i>, please provide the following information [from paragraph 5 a) and b) of that Resolution]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the status of the wild population concerned established by monitoring at an appropriate frequency and with sufficient precision to allow recognition of changes in population size and structure owing to ranching; ii) the number of specimens (eggs, young or adults) taken annually from the wild and the percentage of this offtake used to supply ranching operations; iii) details of the annual production levels, and product types and quantity produced for export; iv) an estimate of the percentage of the annual wild production of eggs, neonates or other life stages taken for the ranching operation; v) the number of animals released and their survival rates estimated on the basis of surveys and tagging programs, if any; vi) the mortality rate in captivity and causes of such mortality; vii) conservation programs and scientific experiments carried out in relation to the ranching operation or the wild population concerned; and viii) an estimation of the percentage of the distribution area of the species where the ranching is operating
R3	How many facilities in your country are ranching specimens of the species concerned which are subsequently being exported? Have all of these facilities been inspected to ensure that the specimens produced comply with the definition of Ranching in Res. Conf. 12.3 (Rev. COP19) on Permits and Certificates? Please explain further any regulations or measures currently in place for monitoring facilities which claim to be ranching this species, for example whether facilities are required to keep records of the acquisition, maintenance or breeding of animals of this species, and whether authorities verify these records?

Source code “F”

Question code	Question
F1	Why are you reporting this trade under source code F.
F2	Please confirm that non-detriment findings have been made for the export of all specimens of the species concerned with the source code “F” and the way in such findings have been made, particularly for species not native to your country.
F3	How many facilities in your country are producing specimens of the species concerned which are subsequently being exported?
F4	Has the breeding stock received additional specimens from the wild since establishment and if so, how many and when and how was it determined that they were obtained in accordance with the provisions of CITES and relevant national laws and in a manner not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild?