

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

Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 - 25 November 2022

Summary record of the thirteenth session for Committee I

22 November 2022: 14h05 –17h00

Chair: V. Fleming

Secretariat: D. Morgan

Rapporteurs: A. Caromel
F. Davis
J. Gray
C. Stafford

Proposals to amend the Appendices

89. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

Mauritania, speaking also on behalf of the co-proponent Senegal, introduced **proposal CoP19 Prop. 16** for the inclusion of *Tarentola chazaliae* in Appendix II, noting the attractive appearance and vocal behaviour of the species made it a target for the international pet trade.

Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the European Union and its Member States, India, Israel, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Somalia, and the United States of America supported the proposal, citing restricted distribution, continuing loss and degradation of habitat, and the negative impact collection for trade may be having on wild populations. Conservation Force considered the species did not meet the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 16 to include *Tarentola chazaliae* in Appendix II was accepted by consensus.

Proposals CoP19 Prop. 17 and CoP19 Prop. 18 were considered together.

The United States of America introduced **proposal CoP19 Prop. 17** for the inclusion of *Phrynosoma platyrhinos* in Appendix II, noting specimens of the species were subject to international commercial trade as pets, with the majority taken from the wild. The species was considered to be difficult to maintain in captivity, necessitating continuous replacement of individuals because of high levels of mortality.

Mexico introduced **proposal CoP19 Prop. 18** for the inclusion of the genus *Phrynosoma* in Appendix II, noting that it considered a genus listing to be needed because of the difficulty in distinguishing different *Phrynosoma* species, especially as juveniles. Mexico also drew Parties' attention to information document CoP19 Inf. 37, which provided additional information on *Phrynosoma* spp.

Brazil, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Senegal, Somalia and Togo, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Defenders of Wildlife, International Fund for Animal Welfare, ProWildlife and Species Survival Network supported the proposals, agreeing that international trade posed a threat to wild populations. Zambia did not consider the genus met the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II, but did not wish to block consensus.

Canada noted that trade levels of *P. platyrhinos* had declined in 2018 and had been negligible since, and suggested the reasons for this be investigated before listing.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 18 to include the genus *Phrynosoma* spp. (including *Phrynosoma platyrhinos*) in Appendix II was accepted by consensus.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 19 to include *Tiliqua adelaidensis* in Appendix I was presented by Australia. It highlighted that this species of skink had been thought extinct until 1992, was endemic to South Australia, was classed as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and was sought after in illegal trade.

Cambodia, Canada, Cuba, the European Union and its Member States, India, Malaysia, Mali, New Zealand, Peru, Taronga Conservation Society Australia and the German Society of Herpetology supported the proposal, most agreeing that the species met the criteria for inclusion in Appendix I. Mali called on the European Union to do more to regulate imports of the species into its Member States.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 19 to include *Tiliqua adelaidensis* in Appendix I was accepted by consensus .

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 20 to transfer *Epicrates inornatus*, a snake species endemic to Puerto Rico, from Appendix I to II was introduced by the United States of America, noting that the proposal was an outcome of the Animals Committee's Periodic Review of the Appendices. It stated that the species had been listed in Appendix I since 1977 but was not as rare as had previously been thought. The species was protected under national law in Puerto Rico and in the United States and, though hunted for meat and oil, was not threatened by trade.

The proposal was supported by Cambodia, Costa Rica, the European Union and its Member States and Senegal.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 20 to transfer *Epicrates inornatus* from Appendix I to Appendix II was accepted by consensus.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 21 to include *Crotalus horridus* in Appendix II was introduced by the United States of America, who stated that international trade was a growing threat to the species, which was vulnerable to exploitation on account of its life history traits.

Congo, India, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Panama, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Togo supported the proposal, but the European Union and its Member States did not, stating it doubted the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II were met. Switzerland agreed, noting that IUCN classed the species as Least Concern. Israel and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland queried the rationale of the proposal, both suggesting domestic-level measures might be more fitting than inclusion in Appendix II.

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and National Animal Interest Alliance spoke against the proposal, stating that international trade was not a threat.

The United States of America, stating than an Appendix-II listing would bring with it a requirement for non-detriment findings and a focus on the sustainability of the species, withdrew proposal CoP19 Prop. 21.

On behalf of the co-proponents, Peru introduced **proposal CoP19 Prop. 22 (Rev. 1)** to include *Chelus fimbriata* and *Chelus orinocensis* in Appendix II. Peru noted that there was growing international demand for the species and highlighted both significant increases in legal exports from Peru and the high number of specimens involved in recent seizures. Peru argued that the inclusion of the species in Appendix II would enable sustainable management and complement existing domestic measures.

Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Bahamas, Benin, the Dominican Republic, the European Union and its Member States, Guatemala, Guyana, Mali, Senegal and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela supported the proposal, the European Union and its Member States raising concerns about laundering of wild-caught specimens. The Wildlife Conservation Society, speaking also on behalf of a number of observer organizations, drew the attention of Parties to information document CoP19 Inf. 21.

Proposal Cop19 Prop. 22 (Rev. 1) to include *Chelus fimbriata* and *Chelus orinocensis* in Appendix II was accepted by consensus.

The United States introduced **proposal CoP19 Prop. 23** to include *Macrochelys temminckii* and *Chelydra serpentina* in Appendix II. It noted that *Macrochelys temminckii* was particularly vulnerable to overexploitation because of its life history characteristics. It explained that inclusion in Appendix II would complement domestic measures and ensure specimens are acquired legally and sustainably and noted that immature specimens of *Macrochelys temminckii* were indistinguishable from *Chelydra serpentina*, and that this second species therefore met the look-alike criteria for inclusion in Appendix II.

Benin, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Senegal, Singapore, Türkiye, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, and the Animal Welfare Institute, speaking also on behalf of a number of observer organizations, supported the proposal.

The European Union and its Member States considered that *M. temminckii* met the criteria for listing in Appendix II. However, it did not believe that the criteria for listing *Chelydra serpentina* under the 'look-alike' criterion were met, as juveniles could easily be distinguished from *M. temminckii*. It was concerned that listing *C. serpentina* would create implementation challenges, particularly given its resemblance with other *Chelydra* spp. from Latin America, and also warned against inadvertent shifts in demand to these other species. It suggested that the United States reduce the scope of its proposal to consider *Macrochelys temminckii* only for inclusion in Appendix II. This was rejected by the United States.

Japan noted ambiguity about the information in the proposal and asked the United States to confirm whether specimens in trade were wild-caught or captive-bred.

The Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies noted that, while it agreed that *M. temminckii* met the listing criteria for Appendix II, it disagreed that *C. serpentina* should be included in Appendix II as a look-alike species. It noted that *C. serpentina* is a wide ranging and abundant species that is subject to strict regulation and effective law enforcement programmes.

The European Union and its Member States called for a vote on the proposal. With 82 votes in favour, 32 against and 11 abstentions, proposal CoP19 Prop. 23 to include *Macrochelys temminckii* and *Chelydra serpentina* in Appendix II was accepted.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 24 to include *Graptemys barbouri*, *G. ernsti*, *G. gibbonsi*, *G. pearlensis*, and *G. pulchra* in Appendix II was introduced by the United States of America, which noted that, although there was not a high volume of international trade in these species, there were doubts over whether the genus could be bred in captivity in commercial volumes, given its delayed sexual maturity and specialised diet. It hoped that inclusion of the species in Appendix II would allow the United States to regulate trade in the genus and ensure its sustainability through non-detriment findings. It argued that collective inclusion of all five species was warranted given the difficulty in distinguishing them once removed from the wild.

Benin, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, India, Israel, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Panama, speaking also on behalf of Argentina, Belize, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Uruguay, Senegal and Togo, and the Center for Biological Diversity, supported the proposal.

The European Union and its Member States remarked on the low levels of international trade recorded since the inclusion of the genus in Appendix III in 2006 and noted that these were primarily in specimens bred in captivity. Given the lack of evidence of illegal trade, it considered that domestic efforts to regulate trade were more appropriate and opposed the listing in Appendix II. However, it noted that it would not block consensus should there be overwhelming support for the proposal. The National Animal Interest Alliance opposed the proposal.

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 24 to include *Graptemys barbouri*, *G. ernsti*, *G. gibbonsi*, *G. pearlensis*, and *G. pulchra* in Appendix II was accepted by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 17h00.



Motion Prop 23 [22.11.2022 4:34:16 PM]

Quorum: Yes > 66.66%

EU-Vote: block

YES: 71.93%

1	AFGHANISTAN	Not Allowed
2	ALBANIA	Not Allowed
3	ALGERIA	YES
4	ANDORRA	Not Allowed
5	ANGOLA	Present
6	ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	ABST
7	ARGENTINA	YES
8	ARMENIA	Not Allowed
9	AUSTRALIA	YES
10	AZERBAIJAN	Not Allowed
11	BAHAMAS	YES
12	BAHRAIN	Not Present
13	BANGLADESH	YES
14	BARBADOS	Not Allowed
15	BELARUS	Not Allowed
16	BELGIUM	NO (eu)
17	BELIZE	YES
18	BENIN	YES
19	BHUTAN	ABST
20	BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)	YES
21	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Not Allowed
22	BOTSWANA	NO
23	BRAZIL	YES
24	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	Not Allowed
25	BULGARIA	NO (eu)
26	BURKINA FASO	YES
27	BURUNDI	YES
28	CABO VERDE	Not Allowed
29	CAMBODIA	YES
30	CAMEROON	YES
31	CANADA	YES
32	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	Present
33	CHAD	Not Allowed
34	CHILE	YES
35	CHINA	YES
36	COLOMBIA	YES
37	COMOROS	Not Present
38	CONGO	YES
39	COSTA RICA	YES
40	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	YES
41	CROATIA	NO (eu)
42	CUBA	YES
43	CYPRUS	NO (eu)
44	CZECH REPUBLIC	NO (eu)
45	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	Not Present
46	DENMARK	NO (eu)
47	DJIBOUTI	Not Allowed
48	DOMINICA	Not Allowed
49	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	YES



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50	ECUADOR	YES
51	EGYPT	Not Present
52	EL SALVADOR	YES
53	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	Not Allowed
54	ERITREA	YES
55	ESTONIA	NO (eu)
56	ESWATINI	YES
57	ETHIOPIA	YES
58	EUROPEAN UNION	Voted
59	FIJI	Not Present
60	FINLAND	NO (eu)
61	FRANCE	NO (eu)
62	GABON	YES
63	GAMBIA	YES
64	GEORGIA	Not Present
65	GERMANY	NO (eu)
66	GHANA	YES
67	GREECE	NO (eu)
68	GRENADA	Not Allowed
69	GUATEMALA	YES
70	GUINEA	Present
71	GUINEA-BISSAU	Not Present
72	GUYANA	ABST
73	HONDURAS	YES
74	HUNGARY	NO (eu)
75	ICELAND	YES
76	INDIA	YES
77	INDONESIA	YES
78	IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)	Not Allowed
79	IRAQ	Not Allowed
80	IRELAND	NO (eu)
81	ISRAEL	YES
82	ITALY	NO (eu)
83	JAMAICA	YES
84	JAPAN	YES
85	JORDAN	Not Present
86	KAZAKHSTAN	Not Allowed
87	KENYA	YES
88	KUWAIT	NO
89	KYRGYZSTAN	Not Allowed
90	LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	ABST
91	LATVIA	NO (eu)
92	LEBANON	Not Allowed
93	LESOTHO	Not Present
94	LIBERIA	YES
95	LIBYA	Not Allowed
96	LIECHTENSTEIN	YES
97	LITHUANIA	NO (eu)
98	LUXEMBOURG	NO (eu)
99	MADAGASCAR	YES
100	MALAWI	YES
101	MALAYSIA	YES
102	MALDIVES	YES



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103	MALI	YES
104	MALTA	NO (eu)
105	MAURITANIA	YES
106	MAURITIUS	Not Allowed
107	MEXICO	YES
108	MONACO	YES
109	MONGOLIA	Not Allowed
110	MONTENEGRO	Not Present
111	MOROCCO	YES
112	MOZAMBIQUE	YES
113	MYANMAR	Not Allowed
114	NAMIBIA	ABST
115	NEPAL	YES
116	NETHERLANDS	NO (eu)
117	NEW ZEALAND	YES
118	NICARAGUA	ABST
119	NIGER	YES
120	NIGERIA	YES
121	NORTH MACEDONIA	Not Allowed
122	NORWAY	YES
123	OMAN	Not Allowed
124	PAKISTAN	YES
125	PALAU	Not Allowed
126	PANAMA	YES
127	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	YES
128	PARAGUAY	Not Present
129	PERU	YES
130	PHILIPPINES	YES
131	POLAND	NO (eu)
132	PORTUGAL	NO (eu)
133	QATAR	Not Allowed
134	REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA	NO (eu)
135	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	YES
136	REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	Not Allowed
137	ROMANIA	NO (eu)
138	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Not Present
139	RWANDA	Not Allowed
140	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	Not Allowed
141	SAINT LUCIA	Not Allowed
142	SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	Not Allowed
143	SAMOA	YES
144	SAN MARINO	Not Allowed
145	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE	Not Allowed
146	SAUDI ARABIA	Not Allowed
147	SENEGAL	YES
148	SERBIA	Not Allowed
149	SEYCHELLES	YES
150	SIERRA LEONE	YES
151	SINGAPORE	YES
152	SLOVAKIA	NO (eu)
153	SLOVENIA	NO (eu)
154	SOLOMON ISLANDS	YES
155	SOMALIA	Not Allowed



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156	SOUTH AFRICA	NO
157	SPAIN	NO (eu)
158	SRI LANKA	YES
159	SUDAN	YES
160	SURINAME	ABST
161	SWEDEN	NO (eu)
162	SWITZERLAND	YES
163	SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	Present
164	TAJIKISTAN	ABST
165	THAILAND	YES
166	TOGO	YES
167	TONGA	Present
168	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Not Present
169	TUNISIA	YES
170	TÜRKIYE	YES
171	UGANDA	YES
172	UKRAINE	YES
173	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	NO
174	UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IR	YES
175	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA	YES
176	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	YES
177	URUGUAY	YES
178	UZBEKISTAN	Not Allowed
179	VANUATU	ABST
180	VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)	ABST
181	VIET NAM	YES
182	YEMEN	ABST
183	ZAMBIA	Present
184	ZIMBABWE	NO