

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



Seventy-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 6–10 November 2023

Compliance

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, following consultation with the Members of the Animals Committee through its Chair.

Background

2. The role and responsibilities of the Standing Committee in conducting the Review of Significant Trade (RST) in specimens of Appendix-II species are described in paragraph 1 k) to p) and paragraph 2 of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*.
3. Concerning fauna, there are a total of 80 current species/country combinations in RST (21 which were selected for review at AC32; 22 which are “ongoing”; and 37 which are long-standing and subject to a recommendation to suspend trade by the Standing Committee). Details of the combined 119 fauna and flora cases (species or taxa/country or range State combinations) that are currently in the RST are presented in Annex 1 to document SC77 Doc. 35.1.
4. In the current document, the Secretariat reports on 19 cases where actions were taken by Parties to implement recommendations made by the Animals and Standing Committees for cases concerning fauna under the RST to ensure compliance with the obligations of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a) of the Convention.
5. The fauna species/country combinations reviewed in the present document are divided into two sections.

Section 1: Contains the following seven long-standing cases [note that cases d) to g) are currently subject to a recommendation to suspend trade], where the range State has provided new information:

- a) *Chelonoidis denticulatus* / Suriname
- b) *Malayemys subtrijuga* / Indonesia
- c) *Notochelys platynota* / Indonesia
- d) *Strombus gigas* / Grenada
- e) *Triceros feae* / Equatorial Guinea
- f) *Triceros montium* / Cameroon
- g) *Tiroceros quadricornis* / Cameroon

Section 2: Contains 12 “ongoing” cases that were selected following CoP17 and retained by the Animals Committee at its 30th meeting (AC30; Geneva, July 2018) and the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting (SC74; Lyon, March 2022) or 75th meeting (SC75; Panama City, November 2022).

6. New information has been received from Cameroon, Indonesia, Equatorial Guinea, Grenada, Guyana, Morocco, Suriname, Togo and Tunisia. Responses received from the range States are made available in Annex 2, in the language and format as received. Short summaries of the responses are included in the tables in Annex 1 to this document.
7. In line with paragraph 1 k) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the Secretariat consulted the Members of the Animals Committee intersessionally to gather their views on whether the recommendations have been implemented. The outcomes of these consultations have been considered and incorporated in the evaluation of implementation by the Secretariat of the 19 cases presented in this document.
8. As per paragraph 1 l) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the Secretariat is hereby informing the Standing Committee of its determination as to whether the recommendations formulated by the Animals Committee have been implemented by the range State concerned. The cases are summarised in Sections 1 and 2 below, with detailed recommendations made in the table presented in Annex 1 to the present document.
9. In accordance with paragraph 1 m) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), and based on the present report, the Standing Committee is invited to decide on necessary action and make recommendations to the range States concerned, or to all Parties, for each of the fauna cases detailed in the present document.

Section 1: Long-standing cases

10. The table in Section A of Annex 1 to this document provides an overview of 7 long-standing fauna cases where new information has been provided by the Party concerned. The table includes the relevant recommendations and timelines in the first column, an update on the status of implementation of the recommendations, including a summary of any response from the range State concerned in the second column and the Secretariat’s assessment and recommendations to the Standing Committee following consultation with the Animals Committee in the third column. The cases are ordered alphabetically by species and summarised below.
11. ***Chelonoidis denticulatus* / Suriname**

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Chelonoidis denticulatus* for RST as a priority species at its 27th meeting (AC27; Veracruz, April 2014). Suriname did not provide a response. At its 28th meeting (AC28; Tel Aviv, September 2015), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29; Geneva, July 2017), it determined that “Action is needed” concerning trade in *C. denticulatus* from Suriname and formulated recommendations.
- b) At SC71, the Standing Committee agreed that if Suriname failed to meet the deadline to establish a revised conservative quota, including a restriction on trade to live individuals with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 10 cm, by 16 September 2019, it would request the Secretariat to publish a zero export quota as an interim measure, while encouraging Suriname to implement recommendations d) to g) by 31 December 2019. As Suriname did not establish a revised conservative quota in time, the zero export quota was published on 17 August 2020.
- c) Suriname is currently receiving assistance under the CITES Compliance Assistance Programme and one of the priority areas for attention is helping Suriname to address the recommendations under RST and making non-detriment findings (NDFs).

Response from range State

- d) Suriname replied in a letter sent on 8 August 2023. It highlighted that the size restriction of 10 cm maximum straight carapace length (SCL) may not be appropriate, and that a maximum size restriction of 12 cm would be more realistic. This is because the United States of America has very specific restrictions on the commercial/public sale of pet turtles with a shell length smaller than 4 inches or 10 cm (choking hazards for toddlers and other health issues). In light of trade restrictions imposed by the United States on the imports of tortoises and turtles, Suriname is considering implementing size

restriction between 10 and 12 cm for trade to the United States coming from captive-bred specimens and between 5 and 10 cm for other countries.

- e) Meanwhile Suriname indicates that it will work on the implementation of the other recommendations of the Standing Committee and will make an NDF for specimens of this species harvested from the wild in order to establish a quota. However, this will take time and financial support is needed to do so.

Determination of implementation

- f) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that Suriname has not yet implemented any of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.
- g) The Secretariat notes that the zero export quota only applies to specimens from the wild (source codes W, F and R). Suriname can trade in captive-bred specimens of *C. denticulatus*, as long as the facilities meet the definition set out in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev. Cop19) on *Specimens of animal species bred in captivity*.

12. *Malayemys subtrijuga* / Indonesia

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Malayemys subtrijuga* for RST as a priority species at its 27th meeting (AC27; Veracruz, April 2014). At its 28th meeting (AC28; Tel Aviv, September 2015), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29; Geneva, July 2017), it determined that “Action is needed” concerning trade in *M. subtrijuga* from Indonesia and formulated recommendations.
- b) The Secretariat wrote to Indonesia on 22 September 2017 and received a response on 23 October 2017. In its response, Indonesia submitted a report entitled “Information of the Range States on Sustainability of Harvest of Malayan Flat-shelled Turtle (*Notochelys platynota*) and Mekong Snail-eating Turtle (*Malayemys subtrijuga*) in Indonesia”. This report provided the justification for the proposed revisions of the quota from 180 to 130 live specimens for *M. subtrijuga*. The report also indicated that trade will be restricted to live individuals with a maximum carapace length of 10cm.
- c) Following consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, this revised quota was agreed and published on the CITES website. The quota for 2018, which was published on 19 March 2018 has been further reduced to 117 live individuals with the same size restriction.
- d) At SC70, the Standing Committee acknowledged the progress made by Indonesia in implementing recommendations a) to c) of the Animals Committee with regard to *Malayemys subtrijuga*. Furthermore, the Standing Committee encouraged Indonesia to finalise the implementation of the remaining recommendations by 22 September 2019.

Response from range State

- e) Indonesia provided a response on 8 August 2023 that included an “NDF primary evaluation” for the species, the result of which led Indonesia to determine that trade in the wild population is non-detrimental. It highlighted that it had followed the recommendation to reduce the export quota up to 125 individuals every year with a limitation of maximal harvest size of 10 cm (SCL). Considering the low level of harvest and status of this species as non-native to Indonesia, Indonesia believes that the current harvest quota is not detrimental to the wild population.
- f) Based on the limited and scattered distribution (Indochina and Java) especially at the locations of anchored Indonesia-Indochinese interaction of trade history in the past (northern coast of Java), as well as the findings of Hamidy *et al.* (2019)¹, Indonesia concludes that *M. subtrijuga* is a non-native species.

¹ Hamidy, A., Munir, M., and Herlambang, A.E.N. 2019. [Native or introduction? Preliminary evaluation of the *Malayemys subtrijuga* population in Indonesia and its conservation challenges.] (in Indonesian). In: Dwibadra, D. *et al.* (Eds.). [Proceedings of the National Seminar on Conservation and Utilization of Wild Plants and Animals: Research as a Foundation for the Conservation and Utilization of Wild Plants and Animals], pp. 347–353.

Determination of implementation

- g) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that the recommendations of the Animals Committee have been fully complied with.

13. *Notochelys platynota* / Indonesia

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Notochelys platynota* for RST as a priority species at its 27th meeting (AC27; Veracruz, April 2014). At its 28th meeting (AC28; Tel Aviv, September 2015), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29, Geneva, July 2017), it determined that “Action is needed” concerning trade in *N. platynota* from Indonesia and formulated recommendations.
- b) The Secretariat wrote to Indonesia on 22 September 2017 and received a response on 23 October 2017. In its response, Indonesia submitted a report entitled “Information of the Range States on Sustainability of Harvest of Malayan Flat-shelled Turtle (*Notochelys platynota*) and Mekong Snail-eating Turtle (*Malayemys subtrijuga*) in Indonesia”. This report provided the justification for the proposed revisions of the export quota from 810 to 583 live specimens for *N. platynota*. The report also indicated that trade will be restricted to live individuals with a maximum carapace length of 15cm. Following consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, this revised quota was agreed and published on the CITES website.
- c) The quota for 2018, which was published on 19 March 2018 has been further reduced to 522 live individuals.
- d) At SC70, the Standing Committee acknowledged the progress made by Indonesia in implementing recommendations a) to c) of the Animals Committee with regard to *N. platynota*. Furthermore, the Standing Committee encouraged Indonesia to finalise the implementation of the remaining recommendations by 22 September 2019.

Response from range State

- e) Indonesia responded on 8 August 2023 with a “NDF primary evaluation” for the species. Based on the evaluation conducted by Indonesia, taking a precautionary approach, the annual export quota will be further reduced by 50% (to 250 individuals) and a size limitation of a straight carapace length (SCL) ≤ 15 cm will be applied for harvest specimens.

Determination of implementation

- f) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that recommendations d) to g) of the Animals Committee remain outstanding.

14. *Strombus gigas* / Grenada

Background to the case

- a) *Strombus gigas* (Queen Conch) was selected for Phase V of the RST (following previous selection in Phase III of the RST) by the Animals Committee at its 17th meeting (AC17; Hanoi, July/August 2001) “largely to provide an update on the current situation in some countries” (see document SC46 Doc. 16.2).
- b) At its 19th meeting (AC19; Geneva, August 2003), the Animals Committee categorised *S. gigas* as of “possible concern” for Grenada (see AC19 Summary Record), and recommendations were formulated.
- c) At its 54th meeting, the Standing Committee noted that Grenada had not responded to the Secretariat, and therefore agreed to recommend that Parties suspend imports of specimens of *S. gigas* from Grenada (see SC54 summary record). The recommendation to suspend trade came into effect on 12 May 2006 (Notification to the Parties [No. 2006/034](#)).

- d) At SC66, the recommendation to suspend trade was maintained on the basis that further information was required in line with the draft format and guidelines for NDF assessments for *S. gigas* proposed at AC28, incorporating the status of stocks and addressing the AC recommendations and considering recommendations arising from the 2nd CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM² working group meeting on Queen Conch.
- e) At SC70, the recommendation to suspend trade was maintained by the Standing Committee due to Grenada's lack of a response.
- f) As reported in document [SC77 Doc. 68](#), the Secretariat was able to provide targeted assistance to Grenada as part of Phase 1 of the Blue BioTrade Project on queen conch, to help it overcome current recommendations to suspend trade based on a lack of annual reporting and the RST process for queen conch. In the context of the latter, the Blue BioTrade project funded a queen conch stock assessment for Grenada. This stock assessment included a training workshop for Grenadian fisheries authority staff (as well as those from Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and a field survey that involved the local fishers.

Response from range State

- g) In a letter dated 22 May 2023, Grenada provided a response outlining progress that it has made under the Blue BioTrade Project. This included completion of a stock assessment study in two locations; preparation of the first draft of National legislation (International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act, 2023); and official appointment of Grenada's Management and Scientific Authorities. Measures are currently being considered to implement a co-management arrangement through the strengthening of cooperation with fisherfolks to provide for the responsible management and sustainable utilization of this fishery.
- h) The main conclusion of the stock assessment study is that the queen conch population of Grenada is considered healthy. The bulk of the population (85%) is composed of animals measuring 20 to 25 cm in shell length and 15 mm in shell lip thickness. In both study areas, the shell length and lip thickness are very similar suggesting that it is a single population. In both study areas (Calliste and Carriacou), the queen conchs are very mature adult individuals that are referred to as "mega spawners" and overfishing of these very mature individuals can result in the rapid decline of the health and reproductive capacity of the population. For this reason, extreme caution should be exercised in the harvesting of mega spawners. The current fishing effort being applied to the fishery is not considered high (considering fishers' knowledge and experience of the fishery) and should be maintained as low as possible. The queen conch meat did not show any distinguishing characteristics that would indicate an inferior meat quality.
- i) The study recommends a precautionary seasonal Total Allowable Catch (TAC) limit of 376,676 lbs of conch meat, which represents 25% of the total estimated biomass of 1,506,706 lbs. The study notes that queen conchs were sampled in only two fishing areas and there are additional fishing areas where sampling and biomass estimation was not done. Sustained catch landings data collection and field monitoring of the queen conch population in Grenada at least every two years is strongly recommended to gather information on spatial and temporal changes in the population parameters for improved management and conservation of queen conch. The TAC should be reviewed and amended based on the results of the population monitoring. Finally, a closed season (already being supported by fishers contingent upon a similar measure in nearby fishing areas/jurisdictions) extending to at least three months during the queen conch peak spawning period (for e.g., July – September) is also strongly recommended.

Determination of implementation

- j) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that, while the production of the stock assessment is a significant step towards the implementation of the recommendations, further work is needed to turn this into a robust NDF.

² CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM stands for Caribbean Fisheries Management Council (CFMC), Organization for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector of the Central American Isthmus (OSPESCA), Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM).

15. *Trioceros feae* / Equatorial Guinea

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Trioceros feae* for inclusion in RST as a priority species at its 23rd meeting (AC23; Geneva, April 2008). At its 24th meeting (AC24; Geneva, April 2009), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29, Geneva, July 2017), the Animals Committee categorised trade in *T. feae* from Equatorial Guinea as “Possible concern” and formulated recommendations.
- b) The species/country combination was reviewed at SC62, but there was no response from Equatorial Guinea. The Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of *T. feae* from Equatorial Guinea until the country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee.
- c) The recommendation to suspension of trade in the species from Equatorial Guinea came into effect on 7 September 2012 and was reviewed and maintained on two occasions (at SC62 and SC70).

Response from range State

- d) Equatorial Guinea responded in a letter dated 7 August 2023, noting that since the recommendation to suspend trade in *Trioceros feae*, there had been no further commercial exchange of this species or even an intention to establish international trade by the local or expatriate population. An examination of the CITES trade database by the Secretariat confirms that there have been no records of trade of this species from Equatorial Guinea since the recommendation to suspend trade came into effect in 2012. Equatorial Guinea also provided details of the legal framework for the conservation and protection of *Trioceros feae* in the distribution area.
- e) Equatorial Guinea noted that the population density of the species remains stable, there is a total absence of its extraction and therefore this reptile, currently, does not suffer any type of harvest pressure for international trade. In conclusion, Equatorial Guinea highlighted that financial and technical support is required to help prepare an NDF for this species.

Determination of implementation

- f) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that with the exception of recommendation b), all recommendations of the Animals Committee have been complied with.

16. *Trioceros montium* / Cameroon

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Trioceros montium* for RST as a priority species at its 27th meeting (AC27; Veracruz, April 2014). At its 28th meeting (AC28; Tel Aviv, September 2015), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29; Geneva, July 2017), it determined that “Action is needed” concerning trade in *T. montium* from Cameroon and formulated recommendations.
- b) At SC70, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of *T. montium* from Cameroon until that country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for trade in this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

Response from range State

- c) In a letter dated 31 May 2022, Cameroon proposed to publish a zero export quota for this species. The Secretariat has sought clarification from Cameroon if they want the quota to be published in 2023.

Determination of implementation

- d) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that, should Cameroon establish and confirm the publication of a zero export quota, it will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

17. *Trioceros quadricornis* / Cameroon

Background to the case

- a) The Animals Committee selected *Trioceros quadricornis* for RST as a priority species at its 27th meeting (AC27; Veracruz, April 2014). At its 28th meeting (AC28; Tel Aviv, September 2015), the Animals Committee retained the species/country combination in RST. At its 29th meeting (AC29; Geneva, July 2017), it determined that "Action is needed" concerning trade in *T. quadricornis* from Cameroon and formulated recommendations.
- b) At SC66, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of *T. quadricornis* from Cameroon until that country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee. The recommendation to suspend trade came into effect on 15 March 2016.
- c) At SC74, the recommendation was reviewed. Cameroon noted that, while it did not currently wish to resume trade in *T. quadricornis*, a species inventory and NDF could be a future possibility. The Standing Committee recommended that the recommendation to suspend trade for this species/country combination remain in place. However, this could be reviewed in the future, subject to Cameroon providing these elements.

Response from range State

- d) In a letter dated 31 May 2022, Cameroon proposed to publish a zero export quota for this species. The Secretariat has sought clarification from Cameroon if they want the quota to be published in 2023.

Determination of implementation

- e) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that, with the establishment and publication of a zero export quota, Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

Additional response to the long-standing case of Togo / *Pandinus imperator*

18. Togo sent a letter dated 10 August 2023 concerning *Pandinus imperator*, indicating that it does not share the concerns of the Animals Committee on the status of this species, based on field observations on the ecology and distribution of the species in its range, but did not provide any documentation to support this. Togo indicates that it has already worked on the status of this species (see document SC67 Doc. 15 [Annex 3](#)). During this work, Togo noted an abundance of this species in its range. Furthermore, it is receiving financial support from CITES, through the Compliance Assistance Program (CAP). The project has just started and one of the planned actions is to improve scientific knowledge on the status of ten species, including *P. imperator*.

Section 2: Species/country combinations selected following CoP17

Background to the cases

19. At AC29, the Animals Committee selected 19 taxa for the RST in compliance with paragraphs a) and b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*, which was the relevant version of the Resolution in force at the time of selection [see documents AC29 Doc. 13.3 and AC29 Com 5 (Rev. by Sec.)].
20. At its 30th meeting (AC30; Geneva, July 2018), the Committee reviewed the available information on these taxa, including responses from the range States in accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17). In instances where the Committee was satisfied that Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), were correctly implemented, the species were eliminated from the Review with respect to the range State

concerned, and these range States were notified accordingly by the Secretariat (see document AC30 Doc. 12.2 and AC30 Summary Record).

21. The taxa and range States that were selected following CoP17 and retained in the Review following AC30 are shown in Table 1 below. AC30 formulated recommendations for each species/country combination as presented in [AC30 Com. 11 \(Rev. by Sec.\)](#). Where a response has been received from a Party, the Party is indicated in bold.

Table 1. Taxa selected following CoP17 and retained in the review after AC30

Species Name	Range State(s)	Justification
<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	Guyana and Suriname	High volume (globally threatened)
<i>Ara ararauna</i>	Guyana and Suriname	High volume (globally threatened)
<i>Ara chloropterus</i>	Guyana and Suriname.	High volume (globally threatened)
<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	Democratic Republic of the Congo.	High volume
<i>Uromastyx geyri</i>	Mali	High volume
<i>Cuora amboinensis</i>	Indonesia	High volume
<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria.	High volume (globally threatened); Sharp increase (Morocco; Tunisia)

22. On 14 November 2018, the Secretariat wrote to all range States retained in the Review following AC30 to inform them that the species/country had been retained in the RST and shared the recommendations made by the Animals Committee. The letter also contained a copy of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) and a summary schedule of the conduct of the RST process from CoP17 onwards. The implications of not addressing the recommendations were also made clear.
23. At its 74th meeting (SC74; Lyon, March 2022), the Standing Committee reviewed the progress made by the Parties concerned and made some additional recommendations, which can be found in the [summary record](#) of the meeting. They are also included with the relevant species/country combination in the table in Section B of Annex 1 to this document.
24. The table in Section B of Annex 1 to this document provides an overview of the 12 fauna species/country combinations that were selected at AC29 and retained following AC30, including the relevant recommendations and timelines in the first column, an update on the status of implementation of the recommendations, including a summary of any response from the range State concerned in the second column and the Secretariat's provisional assessment and recommendations to the Standing Committee in the third column. The cases are ordered alphabetically by species.
25. Responses were received from the following Parties: Guyana, Indonesia, Suriname and Tunisia. These responses are available as Annexes to the present document and are summarised below in alphabetical order by the Party.

26. **Guyana / *Amazona farinosa*, *Ara ararauna* and *Ara chloropterus***

Response from range State

- a) In an email dated 8 August 2023, the Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission indicated that it had reviewed the correspondence received from the Secretariat. It is currently working on another submission that will be ready by the end of October 2023.

Determination of implementation

- b) No update has been received to date from Guyana to determine whether any of the outstanding recommendations have been implemented.

27. **Indonesia / *Cuora amboinensis***

Response from range State

- a) In August 2023, Indonesia provided an NDF and a comprehensive update on each of the outstanding recommendations as outlined in the table in Section B of Annex 1.

- b) Based on the NDF assessment, Indonesia concludes that precaution is needed in managing the harvest and use of *Cuora amboinensis*.
- c) The assessment proposes several improvements in regulations concerning *Cuora amboinensis* utilization including the following:
 - i) reduction of the export quota by 40% to 7,200 individuals starting from 2024;
 - ii) stricter application of the minimal harvest size ≥ 18 cm (SCL);
 - iii) harvest activity only allowed in October, November, December;
 - iv) harvest strictly prohibited in May, April, and June; and
 - v) outreach to people who depend on these turtles for their livelihood about these limits as well as to rotate harvesting locations.

Determination of implementation

- d) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that all recommendations have been fully implemented.

28. **Suriname / *Amazona farinosa*, *Ara ararauna* and *Ara chloropterus***

Response from range State

- a) On 8 August 2023, Suriname sent a very detailed response outlining the actions taken under each of the Animals Committee's recommendations for *Amazona farinosa*, *Ara ararauna* and *Ara chloropterus*, including NDFs and two survey reports. These reports were carried out through the Suriname Forest Service (LBB) and supported by the ACTO BioAmazon project. They are entitled "A pre-study conducted on psittacine species presence and numbers with the emphasis on *Ara ararauna*, *Ara chloropterus* and *Amazona farinosa*" and "Population size status of parrot species - A focus on population size of parrot species in known harvest areas". Further details relating to the study are contained in the table in Section B of Annex 1.
- b) Concerning *Amazona farinosa*, the Scientific Authority (SA) recommends revision of the general conditions on the harvest quota and to set the harvesting quota at 12% higher than the export quotas for all bird species (this was previously set at 25% higher than the export quota). The SA recommends establishing an interim conservative quota of 200 for *Amazona farinosa*, as was recommended by the Animals Committee, until further studies are done on the population of this species.
- c) Concerning *Ara ararauna*, the SA recommends establishing an interim conservative export quota of 500 as recommended by the Animals Committee, until further studies are done on the population of the species.
- d) Concerning *Ara chloropterus*, the SA concluded that the scarcity of the species during the two studies (only found in one of the 8 regions surveyed) resulted in a negative NDF for exports until further studies are done. Therefore, the recommendation of the SA is to maintain the zero quota for this species. The Management Authority, however, does not agree with the SA and recommends maintaining the voluntary **export quota of 250**, which was recommended by the Animals Committee, until further studies have been carried out on this species. The Secretariat encourages the Management Authority to follow the advice of the Scientific Authority and maintain the zero quota until further studies can justify a sustainable quota to be agreed with the Chair of the Animals Committee. *Determination of implementation*
- e) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that:
 - i) Concerning *Amazona farinosa*, recommendation l) of the Animals Committee has been implemented. Recommendations d), e) and f) have been partially implemented.

- ii) Concerning *Ara ararauna*, recommendations a) to c), h) and m) of the Animals Committee have been implemented. Recommendations e), f), g), i), j), k), n), o), q), r), t) have been partially implemented.
- iii) Concerning *Ara chloropterus*, recommendation l) of the Animals Committee has been fully implemented. Recommendations e), f), i), n) and o) have been partially implemented.

29. Tunisia / *Anguilla anguilla*

Response from range State

- a) Tunisia provided a detailed response on 5 August 2023 that included a management plan from 2010, a report entitled “Eel subpopulations in Tunisia: Characteristics and preliminary results of the stock assessment” (2019), and details of a 4-year research project with GCFM.

Determination of implementation

- b) Based on the above, the Secretariat has determined that recommendations a) and b) of the Animals Committee have been complied with. Recommendations c) to l) have been partially complied with.

Recommendations

- 30. In accordance with paragraph 1 m) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), and based on the present report and its Annexes, the Standing Committee is invited to consider the following recommendations (arranged in the same order as the table in section A of Annex 1 to this document, followed by Section B of the same Annex):
 - a) Concerning *Chelonoidis denticulatus* from Suriname, the Standing Committee is invited to:
 - i) retain trade in *Chelonoidis denticulatus* from Suriname within the review;
 - ii) encourage Suriname to continue to work with the Secretariat through the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) to develop a non-detriment finding for this species; and
 - iii) encourage Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.
 - b) Concerning *Malayemys subtrijuga* from Indonesia, the Standing Committee is invited to:
 - i) congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;
 - ii) remove *Malayemys subtrijuga* from Indonesia from the review;
 - iii) encourage Indonesia to publish an export quota of 125 for live individuals of *Malayemys subtrijuga*, including a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 10 cm; and
 - iv) invite Indonesia to share its new management plan for *Malayemys subtrijuga* with the Animals Committee when it becomes available.
 - c) Concerning *Notochelys platynota* from Indonesia, the Standing Committee is invited to:
 - i) congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;
 - ii) invite Indonesia to publish an annual export quota from 2024 of 250 specimens of *Notochelys platynota* with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 15 cm;
 - iii) remind Indonesia that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification, for their agreement;

- iv) agree that recommendations d) to g) of the Animals Committee remain outstanding; and
 - v) encourage Indonesia to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations d) to g) to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.
- d) Concerning *Strombus gigas* from Grenada, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) congratulate Grenada for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee; and
 - ii) encourage Grenada to continue working closely with the Secretariat and the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES working group on queen conch (QCWG) to implement the recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee, as appropriate.
- e) Concerning *Trioceros feae* from Equatorial Guinea, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) remove *Trioceros feae* from Equatorial Guinea from the RST subject to the publication of a zero export quota; and
 - ii) remind Equatorial Guinea that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place.
- f) Concerning *Trioceros montium* from Cameroon, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) remove *Trioceros montium* from Cameroon from the RST subject to the publication of a zero annual export quota;
 - ii) note that, with the establishment of a zero quota, Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee; and
 - iii) remind Cameroon that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place.
- g) Concerning *Trioceros quadricornis* from Cameroon, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) remove *Trioceros quadricornis* from Cameroon from the RST subject to the publication of a zero annual export quota;
 - ii) note that, with the establishment of a zero quota, Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee; and
 - iii) remind Cameroon that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place; and an update on the implementation of Animals Committee recommendations a) to c).
- h) Concerning *Amazona farinosa* from Guyana, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) request Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and
 - ii) urge Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations c) to l) by 1 March 2024 so that it can be considered by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

- i) Concerning *Amazona farinosa* from Suriname, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) congratulate Suriname on the significant progress it has made in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee;
 - ii) establish an export quota of 200 specimens, reminding Suriname that any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement;
 - iii) agree that recommendation l) has been implemented; and
 - iv) encourage Suriname to continue working closely with the Secretariat to implement the outstanding recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 to be included in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.
- j) Concerning *Ara ararauna* from Guyana, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) request the Secretariat to publish an annual export quota of 660 birds for *Ara ararauna* from Guyana;
 - ii) urge Guyana to clarify how the data from the survey was used to determine the sustainable level of off-take and the proposed export quota; and address the concerns by the Animals Committee in its review of the study (see Annex 2 to document SC75 Doc. 8); and
 - iii) invite Guyana to submit a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data by 1 March 2024 for review by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- k) Concerning *Ara ararauna* from Suriname, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) congratulate Suriname on the significant progress it has made in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee;
 - ii) establish a conservative quota of 500 specimens on *Ara ararauna* for Suriname;
 - iii) remind Suriname that any increases to the interim quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement;
 - iv) agree that recommendation m) has been implemented; and
 - v) encourage Suriname to continue working closely with the Secretariat to implement the outstanding recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 to be included in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.
- l) Concerning *Ara chloropterus* from Guyana, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) request Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and
 - ii) urge Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations c) to k) before 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- m) Concerning *Ara chloropterus* from Suriname, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) acknowledge the progress that has been made by Suriname;
 - ii) welcome the fact that the process of establishing quotas in Suriname is now being done by the Scientific Authority;

- iii) encourage the Management Authority to follow the advice of the Scientific Authority and maintain the zero quota until further studies can justify a sustainable quota to be agreed with the Chair of the Animals Committee;
 - iv) agree that recommendation l) has been implemented; and
 - v) urge Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations outstanding by 1 March 2024 so it can be considered by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- n) Concerning *Poicephalus guielmi* from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Standing Committee is invited to urge the Democratic Republic of the Congo to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations c) to g) by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- o) Concerning *Uromastix geyri* from Mali, the Standing Committee is invited to recommend that all Parties continue to suspend trade in specimens of *Uromastix geyri* from Mali until it demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for trade in this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals and Standing Committees.
- p) Concerning *Cuora amboinensis* from Indonesia, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;
 - ii) remove *Cuora amboinensis* from Indonesia from RST subject to the publication of a revised export quota of 7,200 specimens from the wild, including a minimum straight carapace length (SCL) of 18 cm; and
 - iii) remind Indonesia that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.
- q) Concerning *Anguilla anguilla* from Algeria, the Standing Committee is invited to ask Algeria to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- r) Concerning *Anguilla anguilla* from Morocco, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) instruct Morocco to maintain its current quotas of 500,000 kg of live adult eels (raised in aquaculture based on a harvest of 2 tonnes of glass eels), 5,500 kg of wild-taken adult eels and 0 live glass eel (fingerlings) of *A. anguilla* until it provides a justification for any increased quota, demonstrating how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, for their agreement. In this regard, Morocco should clarify how the proposed increase in the harvest quota for glass eels of 2 tonnes to 4 tonnes will only yield an additional 100 tonnes of adult eels from the farms;
 - ii) share the results of its stock assessment studies when they become available; and
 - iii) invite Morocco to provide an update by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.
- s) Concerning *Anguilla anguilla* from Tunisia, the Standing Committee is invited to:
- i) commend Tunisia for its ongoing progress in implementing the remaining recommendations d) to l);
 - ii) invite the anguillid specialist group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to assist Tunisia in the development of its non-detriment finding; and

- iii) invite Tunisia to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

SECTION A: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE (AC)
FOR LONG-STANDING CASES WITH UPDATES FROM THE RANGE STATES CONCERNED;
AND DETERMINATION OF IMPLEMENTATION BY THE SECRETARIAT
(FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE)

Recommendations of the AC and SC, where these exist	Update on implementation of recommendations (including summary of response from the range State concerned)	Determination of implementation and recommendations following consultation with the members of the Animals Committee
<i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> (Yellow-footed Tortoise)		
<p>Suriname</p> <p><u>Short term action (by 21 December 2017)</u></p> <p>a) Review and revise, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, the export quota for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat. The revised quota should be conservative and include a restriction on trade to live individuals with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 10 cm.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.</p> <p>c) The export quota (which could include zero allowable exports) should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information and clearly demonstrate how the quota is managed considering the variability in status across the country.</p>	<p>Suriname replied in a letter sent on 8 August 2023.</p> <p>Regarding recommendation a), Suriname highlights that it has come to its attention that the size restriction of 10 cm maximum straight carapace length (SCL) was not appropriate, and that a maximum size restriction of 12 cm would be more realistic. This is because the United States of America has very specific restrictions on the commercial/public sale of pet turtles with a shell length smaller than 4 inches or 10 cm (choking hazards for toddlers and other health issues). In light of trade restrictions imposed by the United States of America on the imports of tortoises and turtles, Suriname is considering implementing a size restriction between 10 and 12 cm for trade to the US and between 5 and 10 cm for other countries coming from captive bred specimens.</p> <p>Meanwhile Suriname indicates that it will work on the implementation of the other recommendations of the Standing Committee and will make an NDF for specimens of this species harvested from the wild in order to establish a quota. However, this will take time and financial support is needed to do so.</p> <p><u>Notes from the Secretariat</u></p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Suriname has not yet implemented any of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) retain trade in <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> from Suriname within the review;</p> <p>b) encourage Suriname to work with the Secretariat through the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) to develop a non-detriment finding for this species; and</p>

d) Before making any increases to the interim quota (including increases from a zero export quota), the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of the respective range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable offtake that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Long term action (by 22 September 2019)

e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs f) ii) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

Final recommendation

g) Upon completion of other recommendations, the range State should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC71**, the Standing Committee agreed that if Suriname fails to meet the deadline to implement recommendations a) and b) by 16 September 2019, it will request the Secretariat to publish a zero export quota as an interim measure, while encouraging Suriname to implement recommendations d) to g)

The Secretariat points out that the zero export quota only applies to specimens from the wild (source codes W, F and R). Suriname can trade in captive-bred specimens of *C. denticulatus*, as long as the facilities meet the definition set out in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev. CoP19) on *Specimens of animal species bred in captivity*.

c) **encourage Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.**

<p>by 31 December 2019. The zero export quota was published on 17 August 2020.</p>		
<p><i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i> (Mekong Snail-eating Turtle)</p>		
<p>Indonesia (ID)</p> <p><u>Short term action (by 21 December 2017)</u></p> <p>a) Review and revise, within 90 days, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, the export quota for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat. The revised quota should be conservative and include a restriction on trade to live individuals with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 10 cm until the non-native status of the population in Indonesia is confirmed and the new management plan is established.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat’s website.</p> <p>c) The export quota (which could include zero allowable exports) should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information.</p> <p>d) Before making any increases to the interim quota (including increases from a zero export quota), the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Indonesia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Long term action (by 22 September 2019)</u></p>	<p>Indonesia provided a response on 8 August 2023 that included an “NDF primary evaluation” for the species.</p> <p>Indonesia highlighted that it had followed the recommendation to reduce the export quota to 125 individuals every year (up to 35 %) with a limitation of maximal harvest size of 10 cm (SCL). Considering the low level of harvest and status of this species as non-native to Indonesia, Indonesia believes that current harvest quota is not detrimental to the wild population.</p> <p>Indonesia indicated that the harvest of <i>M. subtrijuga</i> occurs in extremely low volumes. In total, 569 individuals were harvested from 2017 to 2021 (or an average of 114 individuals per year). The CITES trade database confirms these figures, noting that the total recorded by importers over the same period was only 154 individuals. The result from Indonesia’s primary evaluation of this species is lower than five (5), leading Indonesia to determine that trade in the wild population is non-detrimental.</p> <p>Concerning the recommendation to undertake genetic studies, Indonesia reports that Hamidy <i>et al.</i> (2019) sequenced two mitochondrial genes of 11 <i>M. subtrijuga</i> specimens, consisting of field-collected turtles from Java and captive individuals from a breeder on Sumatra. These sequences were compared with data for Indochinese populations submitted to GenBank by Ihlow <i>et al.</i> (2016). A low genetic variation was found, where genetic divergence between Indonesian and Indochina population is 0.0-0.5% in NADH4 and 0.0-1.0% in CytB, leading Hamidy <i>et al.</i> (2019) to conclude that <i>M. subtrijuga</i> has been introduced to Indonesia.</p> <p>Dawson <i>et al.</i> (2020) believed relying solely on mitochondrial genes may be unsuitable for resolving the history of recent divergences and declare those are inadequate to fully settle the status of <i>M. subtrijuga</i> on Java.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat’s determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendations have been fully complied with and Indonesia asserts that this species is not native.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;</p> <p>b) remove <i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i> from Indonesia from the review;</p> <p>c) encourage Indonesia to publish an export quota of 125 for live individuals of <i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i>, including a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 10 cm; and</p> <p>d) invite Indonesia to share its new management plan for <i>M. subtrijuga</i> with the Animals Committee when it becomes available.</p>

<p>e) Undertake science-based studies: i. to determine the natural occurrence of the species in Indonesia (e.g. molecular-phylogenetic studies to determine whether the species is native or introduced in Indonesia) ii. on the status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs</p> <p><u>Final recommendation</u></p> <p>g) Upon completion of the recommendations above, the Management Authority of Indonesia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Indonesia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p> <p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC70, the Standing Committee acknowledged the progress made by Indonesia in implementing recommendations a) to c) of the Animals Committee with regard to <i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i>. Furthermore, the Standing Committee encouraged Indonesia to finalise the implementation of the remaining recommendations by 22 September 2019.</p>	<p>Based on the limited and jumping distribution (Indochina and Java) especially at the locations of anchored Indonesia-Indochinese interaction of trade history in the past (northern coast of Java) and as well as conclusion from Hamidy et al. (2019), Indonesia concludes that MSET is a non-native turtle in Indonesia.</p>	
<i>Notochelys platynota</i> (Malayan Flat-shelled Turtle)		
Indonesia (ID)	Indonesia responded on 8 August 2023 with a NDF primary evaluation for the species.	<u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u>

Short term action (by 21 December 2017)

- a) Review and revise, in consultation with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, the export quota for the species within 90 days and communicate the quota to the Secretariat. The revised quota should be conservative and include a restriction on trade to live individuals with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 15 cm.
- b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.
- c) The export quota (which could include zero allowable exports) should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information and clearly demonstrate how the quota is managed considering the variability in status across the country.
- d) Before making any increases to the interim quota (including increases from a zero export quota), the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Indonesia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Long term action (by 22 September 2019)

- e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs.

Indonesia indicates that it has followed the recommendation to reduce the quota up to 35% or to be 522 individuals starting from 2018 and applied a maximum size for harvest in 15 cm SCL. Based on exports reported in the CITES trade database, 2,408 individuals in total were exported that between 2017 and 2021, equivalent to 482 individuals each year.

Based on the NDF primary evaluation conducted by Indonesia, taking a precautionary approach, the annual export quota will be reduced by 50% (to be 250 individuals) and as well as applied size limitation for allowed harvest specimens in straight carapace length (SCL) \leq 15 cm.

Indonesia states that this management intervention guarantees a sustainable utilization of Malayan flat-shelled turtle from Indonesia at level annually harvest from Sumatra and Kalimantan up to 250 individuals, and this will be enforced from 2024.

Recommendations d) to g) remain outstanding.

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) **congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;**
- b) **invite Indonesia to publish an annual export quota from 2024 of 250 specimens of *Notochelys platynota* with a maximum straight carapace length (SCL) of 15 cm;**
- c) **remind Indonesia that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification, for their agreement;**
- d) **agree that recommendations d) to g) of the Animals Committee remain outstanding; and**
- e) **encourage Indonesia to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations d to g) to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.**

f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs.

Final recommendation

g) Upon completion of the recommendations above, the Management Authority of Indonesia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Indonesia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC70**, the Standing Committee acknowledged the progress made by Indonesia in implementing recommendations a) to c) of the Animals Committee with regard to *Notochelys platynota*. Furthermore, the Standing Committee encouraged Indonesia to finalise the implementation of the remaining recommendations by 22 September 2019.

***Strombus gigas* (Queen conch)**

Grenada (GD)

Within 12 months:

a) Establish within 12 months cautious catch and export quotas, communicate these to the Secretariat and provide information for the basis of these quotas.

As reported in document [SC77 Doc. 68](#), the Secretariat was able to provide targeted assistance to Grenada as part of Phase 1 of the UNCTAD-OECS-CITES Blue BioTrade Project on queen conch, to help it overcome current trade suspensions based on a lack of annual reporting and the Review of Significant Trade (RST) process for queen conch. In the context of the latter, the Blue BioTrade project funded a queen conch stock assessment for Grenada. This stock assessment included a training workshop for Grenadian fisheries authority staff (as well as those from Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and a field survey that involved the local fishers.

The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

While the production of the stock assessment is a significant step in the implementation of the recommendations, further work is needed to turn this into a robust NDF.

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

b) Establish a standardized minimum meat weight that corresponds to adult specimens of unprocessed and processed meat.

c) Design and implement a fishery data collection programme. This programme is designed to collect catch and effort data and shall include 1.) a system of permits and licenses for commercial harvesters and exporters, and 2.) regular reporting of landing and export data.

d) Design and implement a long-term population monitoring programme for the designated commercial fishing areas. This programme should provide reliable estimates of adult and juveniles densities within commercial fishing areas, at a minimum.

Within 24 months:

e) Apply adaptive management procedures to ensure that further decisions about harvesting and management of the species concerned will be based on the monitoring of the impact of previous harvesting and other factors.

f) Give serious consideration to the recommendations of the June 2003 IQCI meeting and commit specifically to those recommendations on

i) development of a regional management regime, including cooperative quota setting,

ii) law enforcement capacity and effectiveness

iii) population assessments and other research relating to the management of Queen Conch

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

In a letter dated 22 May 2023, Grenada provided a response outlining progress that it has made under the project referred to above. This included completion of a stock assessment study; preparation of the first draft of National legislation (International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act, 2023); and official appointment of Grenada's Management and Scientific Authorities. Measures are currently being considered to implement a co-management arrangement through the strengthening of cooperation with fisherfolks to provide for the responsible management and sustainable utilization of this fishery.

A queen conch stock assessment training workshop was held at the Grenada Fisheries Division in St. George's, Grenada from 17-18 October 2022. The objective of the workshop was to train eight staff members of the Grenada Fisheries Division and five fishers on how to assess the queen conch population including the estimation of density, abundance and biomass availability in two selected primary fishing grounds around Carriacou and Calliste. The training also included (i) underwater queen conch field survey methodology (ii) how to process, analyse and interpret the results, as well as (iii) setting of a seasonal Total Allowable Catch (TAC) limit, all of which is envisaged to inform the setting of a catch quota. Complementarily, a closed fishing season period to protect the stock and support breeding during spawning season was recommended.

In addition, a 4-day field data collection exercise was carried out from 19 -22 October 2022 with the purpose of conducting a UNCTAD-OECS Blue BioTrade project queen conch stock assessment. Two fisheries officers and five fishers participated in the field exercise. A stratified random sampling methodology was employed in the field data collected to determine the structure of the queen conch population, lip thickness, density and abundance in two selected primary fishing grounds (Carriacou and Calliste).

The results can be summarized as follows:

- A total of 250 queen conch were found and measured in a total area of 1,100 m² (using underwater belt transects each measuring 50 x 2 m) in two primary fishing grounds (Calliste and Carriacou).
- A density of 249 conchs and 670 conchs per hectare were found in Calliste and Carriacou, respectively.

The Standing Committee is invited to:

a) **congratulate Grenada for the significant progress it has made towards implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;**

b) **encourage Grenada to continue working closely with the Secretariat and the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/ CITES working group on queen conch (QCWG) to implement the recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 for consideration and inclusion in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee, as appropriate.**

At **SC54**, the SC recommended a suspension of trade in *S. gigas* from Grenada (SC54 Doc. 42). The suspension came into effect on 12 May 2006 (Notification No. 2006/034).

At SC66, the trade suspension was maintained on the basis that further information was required in line with the draft format and guidelines for NDF assessments for *S. gigas* proposed at AC28, incorporating the status of stocks and addressing the AC recommendations and considering recommendations arising from the 2nd CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAF C/CRFM working group meeting on Queen Conch.

At SC70, the trade suspension was maintained due to Grenada's lack of a response.

- In both study areas, primarily very mature adult conchs were found. Very few juvenile and sub-adult conchs were found.
- In the Calliste area, the area of distribution of queen conch was estimated at 1,748 hectares while in Carriacou the area was estimated at 3,843 hectares.
- Queen conch abundance in Calliste is an estimated 435,252 individuals, while in Carriacou the abundance was estimated at 2,578,160 individuals giving an estimated biomass (assuming a minimum weight of 8 ounces of meat weight for each animal processed at 85%) available to the fishery of 217,626 lbs and 1,289,080 lbs, respectively.
- The mean shell length in Calliste was estimated at 21.7 cm and mean shell lip thickness was 16.7 mm. Animals measuring 21 to 25 cm in shell length composed 87.63% of the population. The mean shell length in Carriacou was estimated at 21.5 cm and mean shell lip thickness was 15 mm. Animals measuring 20 to 25 cm in shell length composed 85.6% of the population.

The main conclusion of the study is that the queen conch population of Grenada is considered healthy. The bulk of the population (85%) is composed of animals measuring 20 to 25 cm in shell length and 15 mm in shell lip thickness. In both study areas, the shell length and lip thickness are very similar suggesting that it is a single population. In Calliste the queen conch shell is older than in Carriacou which makes it easier to bore a small hole near the third spire of the shell using a scaling hammer (chipping hammer). A dinner knife is then used to cut the adductor muscle, which allows the removal of the animal from the shell for processing. In both study areas, the queen conch are very mature adult individuals that are referred to as "mega spawners" and overfishing of these very mature individuals can result in the rapid decline of the health and reproductive capacity of the population. For this reason, extreme caution should be exercised in the harvesting of mega spawners. The current fishing effort being applied to the fishery is not considered high (considering fishers' knowledge and experience of the fishery) and should be maintained as low as possible. The queen conch meat did not show any distinguishing characteristics that would indicate an inferior meat quality.

The study recommends a precautionary seasonal TAC limit of **376,676 lbs of conch meat, which represents 25% of the total**

	<p>estimated biomass of 1,506,706 lbs. The study notes that queen conchs were sampled in only two fishing areas and there are additional fishing areas where sampling and biomass estimation was not done. Sustained catch landings data collection and field monitoring of the queen conch population in Grenada at least every two (2) years is strongly recommended to gather information on spatial and temporal changes in the population parameters for improved management and conservation of queen conch. The TAC should be reviewed and amended based on the results of the population monitoring. Finally, a closed season (already being supported by fishers contingent upon a similar measure in nearby fishing areas/jurisdictions) extending to at least three months during the queen conch peak spawning period (for e.g., July – September) is also strongly recommended.</p> <p>In conclusion, Grenada does not state that it intends to take on board the findings of the study or to propose an export quota at this point but is seeking advice on any further actions to be taken to ensure that international trade in queen conch can continue.</p>	
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***Trioceros feae* (Bioko montane chameleon)**

<p>Equatorial Guinea (GQ) Possible concern</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (by 4 January 2012):</u></p> <p>a) The Management Authority should confirm that no export permits have been issued for this species since 1999, and provide an explanation to the Secretariat for the perceived discrepancies between reported Customs data (imports) and CITES data (exports) referred to in document AC25 Doc 9.4;</p> <p>b) If there is no intent to allow export of this species for the foreseeable future establish a zero quota which should be communicated to Parties by the Secretariat; or</p> <p>c) If trade is allowed provide justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the quantities of <i>Chamaeleo feae</i></p>	<p>Equatorial Guinea replied in a letter sent on 7 August 2023.</p> <p>It noted that the distribution area of this species is integrated into the Scientific Reserve of the Caldera de Luba (RCCL). The RCCL, is a protected area of 51,000 hectares, that is part of the National System of Protected Areas (SNAP) of Equatorial Guinea, that has a comprehensive management plan, validated in 2021. Several partners are developing conservation activities, including the Bioko Island Biodiversity Protection Program (BBPP), funded by Drexel University (USA) and EXÓN MOBIL (GE), UNGE, DRILL FILM, DOÑANA, etc. The area is being managed by the National Institute for Forestry Development and Management of the System of Protected Areas (INDEFOR-AP), which was created by Decree Law No. 60/2002 of 8 May.</p> <p>GQ noted that since the suspension of its trade in <i>Trioceros feae</i>, there has been no further commercial exchange of this species or even an intention to establish international trade by the local or expatriate population. An examination of the CITES trade database</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>With the exception of recommendation b), all recommendations have been complied with.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) remove <i>Trioceros feae</i> from Equatorial Guinea from the RST subject to the publication of a zero export quota; and</p> <p>b) remind Equatorial Guinea that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat</p>
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exported are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC62**, the Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of *C. feae* from GQ until that country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

This suspension came into effect on 7 September 2012 and was reviewed and maintained on two occasions (at SC66 and SC70).

by the Secretariat confirms that there have been no records of exports of this species from Equatorial Guinea since the recommendation to suspend trade came into effect in 2012. GQ also provided details of the legal framework for the conservation and protection of *Trioceros feae* in the distribution area.

Document SC66 Doc. 31.2 noted that “whilst Equatorial Guinea have not reported any exports of the species, imports from the country were reported consistently until the trade suspension came into effect. One expert suggested some trade in *T. feae* may be misdescribed and represents other species.”. GQ have also come to the same conclusion that it is not the same species since the species *Trioceros feae* is located only and exclusively on the island of Bioko and not on the mainland of the country that borders Cameroon.

Equatorial Guinea noted that the population density of the species remains stable, there is a total absence of its extraction and therefore this reptile, currently, does not suffer any type of hunting pressure for its international trade. In conclusion GQ highlighted that financial and technical support is required to help prepare an NDF for this species.

and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place.

***Trioceros montium* (Mountain chameleon)**

Cameroon (CM)

Short term action (by 22 October 2017)

- a) Establish a zero export quota within 30 days for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.
- b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat’s website.
- c) Before making any increases to this zero export quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Cameroon to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of

Cameroon indicated in its response in a letter dated 31 May 2022 that it does not have an NDF for this species and therefore proposes a zero export quota.

The CITES trade database only shows 3 trade transactions in this species from Cameroon since 2015 as follows:

Year	Quantity reported by Importer	Quantity reported by exporter	Term	Purpose code	Source code
2016		50			
2018	8		specimens	S	W
2018	56		tails	S	W

The Secretariat’s determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

With the establishment of a zero quota Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) **remove *Trioceros montium* from Cameroon from the RST subject to the publication of a zero annual export quota;**
- b) **note that, with the establishment of**

sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC70**, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of *T. montium* from Cameroon until that country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for trade in this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

a zero quota, Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee, and

c) remind Cameroon that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place.

***Trioceros quadricornis* (four-horned chameleon)**

Cameroon (CM)

Within 90 days (by 31 August 2014), the Management Authority should provide the following information to the Secretariat for transmission to the Animals Committee for review at its 28th meeting:

- a) the legal protection that is afforded to this species in CM, and a clarification of the circumstances under which the present policy allows for export of the species;
- b) a clarification of the recorded trade in wild specimens (as reported by CM in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2009, and by importing countries from 2005 to 2011);
- c) available information on the distribution, abundance and conservation status of the species,

Cameroon indicated in its response in a letter dated 31 May 2022 that it does not have an NDF for this species and therefore proposes a zero export quota.

The CITES trade database indicates a total of 13 trade transactions in this species from Cameroon since between 2010 and 2014 (no trade was recorded after 2014), summarized as follows:

Year	Quantity reported by Importer	Quantity reported by exporter	Term	Purpose code	Source code
2010	475		Live	T	W
2011	402		live	T	W
2014		60	Live		

The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

With the establishment of a zero quota Cameroon will have implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) remove *Trioceros quadricornis* from Cameroon from the RST subject to the publication of a zero annual export quota;
- b) note that, with the establishment of a zero quota, Cameroon will have implemented the

<p>and any current management measures in place for <i>T. quadricornis</i> in CM; and</p> <p>d) a justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the quantities of <i>T. quadricornis</i> exported are not detrimental to the survival of the species and in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3.</p> <p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC66, the Standing Committee recommended that all Parties suspend trade in specimens of <i>T. quadricornis</i> from CM until that country demonstrates compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals Committee. The suspension came into effect on 15 March 2016.</p> <p>At SC74, the suspension was reviewed. Cameroon noted that, while it did not currently wish to resume trade in <i>T. quadricornis</i>, a species inventory and NDF could be a future possibility. It was recommended that the trade suspension for this species/country combination remain in place; however, this could be reviewed in the future, subject to Cameroon providing these elements.</p>		<p>recommendations of the Animals Committee; and</p> <p>remind Cameroon that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement in advance of any trade taking place; and an update on the implementation of Animals Committee recommendations a) to c).</p>
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SECTION B: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE (AC) FOR SPECIES SELECTED FOR THE REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE FOLLOWING CoP17; RESPONSES FROM THE RANGE STATES CONCERNED; AND DETERMINATION OF IMPLEMENTATION BY THE SECRETARIAT (FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE)

Recommendations of the AC and SC, where these exist	Update on implementation of recommendations (including summary of response from the range State concerned)	Determination of implementation
<i>Amazona farinosa</i> (Mealy parrot)		
<p>Guyana</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (13 January 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Establish a reduced quota for 2019 to average trade levels 300 specimens; these quotas should not be amended until a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data (to be provided within 1 year), is submitted and reviewed by the AC.</p> <p>b) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Guyana to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>c) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons</p>	<p>In an email dated 8 August 2023, the Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission indicated that it had reviewed the correspondence received from the Secretariat. It is currently working on another submission that will be ready by the end of October 2023.</p> <p>The Secretariat notes that an analysis of the CITES trade data indicates that Guyana has not exceeded its quota of 300 since it was published in 2020.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>No update has been received to-date from Guyana to determine whether any of the outstanding recommendations have been implemented.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat:</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) request Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and</p> <p>b) urge Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations c) to l) by 1 March 2024 so that it can be</p>

- harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest

d) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs

e) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs

f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

g) Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or "best practices") describing accepted practices

h) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)

i) Provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned.

j) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

k) Encourage information sharing with Suriname in order to collaborate on making NDFs

considered by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

<p><u>Final recommendation</u></p> <p>l) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Guyana should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Guyana has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p> <p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC74, the Standing Committee requested Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and urged Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations b) to k) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<p>Suriname</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (13 January 2019)</u></p> <p>a) Establish an interim conservative export quota of 200 within 60 days for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.</p> <p>c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Suriname to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of</p>	<p>On 8 August 2023, Suriname sent a very detailed response outlining the actions taken under each of the Animals Committee recommendations, including an NDF and two survey reports.</p> <p>The response is summarised below and found in full in Annex 2.</p> <p>Suriname indicated that it has endorsed the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) on 20 February 2022. One of the priority actions in the work plan is to revise the legislation regarding CITES-related matters. Suriname is not yet a CITES Category 1 country. This process will be initiated within the CAP and Suriname indicates that it will include stakeholder sessions in the process, where the CITES Management Authority will have an opportunity to collect relevant data for the development of a harvest management plan. The Secretariat would emphasize to Suriname that it is the Scientific Authority that should lead on the development of the harvest plan, in consultation with the Management Authority.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendation l) has been implemented. Recommendations d), e) and f) have been partially implemented.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) congratulate Suriname on the significant progress it has made in implementing</p>

<p>best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>d) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest</p> <p>e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>f) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>g) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or “best practices”) describing accepted practices</p> <p>h) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)</p> <p>i) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned.</p>	<p>At the moment there is no harvest management plan for <i>Amazona farinosa</i> because it is a caged species. The harvest is subject to the hunting calendar, however only live specimens may be harvested. Harvest is prohibited during the closed season. Harvest in protected areas or nature reserves is strictly prohibited.</p> <p>The CAP will be implemented starting August 2023 and has a duration of one year. Legislation used to implement CITES will be evaluated and revised in compliance with the text of the Convention. A technical CITES working group will be established. The general conditions, which is an Annex of the export permits will be evaluated and revised according to the revised legislation. This will also be an opportunity to start with the process of developing a harvest plan as a measure to ensure a sustainable harvest regime. The Scientific Authority and the relevant stakeholders will be involved in this process.</p> <p>Suriname is using a standardized CITES permit format in compliance with Annex 2 to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) and the latest guidelines for the preparation of the submission of CITES annual reports. The CITES Management Authority will strengthen the capacity of the staff of the permit section in regard to CITES related issues. The MA will initiate internal training for staff members in the proper data entry of trade and permits to minimize and avoid administrative errors and discrepancies in the trade database.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation l) the Scientific Authority (SA) has been formally established by ministerial decree and has been registered with the CITES Secretariat. The SA consists of 10 members from various organizations.</p> <p>Suriname participated in the UNIA Masters degree in CITES in Baeza and the representative from Suriname who graduated from this course is now giving guidance on CITES-related matters to the MA and SA.</p> <p>Suriname through the Nature Conservation Division (NCD) of the State Forestry management Service has carried out a pre-study to learn and better understand the locations and habitats of at least three parrot species including <i>Amazona farinosa</i>.</p> <p>Suriname, through the Suriname Forest Service (LBB), has carried out a pre-study to learn and better understand the locations and habitats of at least three parrot species including <i>Amazona farinosa</i>. This work was supported by the ACTO BioAmazon project and was undertaken in March 2021. A</p>	<p>the recommendations of the Animals Committee and Standing Committee;</p> <p>b) establish an export quota of 200 specimens, reminding Suriname that any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement;</p> <p>c) agree that recommendation l) has been implemented; and</p> <p>d) encourage Suriname to continue working closely with the Secretariat to implement the outstanding recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 to be included in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.</p>
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<p>j) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs</p> <p>k) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest.</p> <p>l) Clearly designate CITES authorities - Suriname is encouraged to outline any capacity building needs the party may have to support the implementation of Article IV, and submit to the Secretariat, e.g., providing training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region) - Encourage information sharing with Guyana in order to collaborate on making NDFs -provide training of conservation staff in the range State -provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned</p> <p><u>Final recommendation</u></p> <p>m) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Suriname should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Suriname has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p>	<p>population size study was initiated as well in 2021. The reports from these studies are entitled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pre-study conducted on psittacine species presence and numbers with the emphasis on <i>Ara ararauna</i>, <i>Ara chloropterus</i> and <i>Amazona farinosa</i>. • Population size status of parrot species - A focus on population size of parrot species in known harvest areas. <p>The objectives for the parrot population study were to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Collect information on the abundance and distribution of psittacines, especially that is under the Review of Significant Trade (<i>Amazona farinosa</i>, <i>Ara ararauna</i> and <i>Ara chloropterus</i>), from selected areas in Suriname already visited in the pre-study and others that can also be identified as relevant for the study. b) Develop a baseline for Non-Detriment Findings of psittacine species. c) Collect data to support the management of quota for psittacines species in Suriname. d) Develop specific management strategies, through consultations with stakeholders, to contribute to the overall management plan for psittacines in Suriname. e) Develop and produce an informational user's guide on best practices for trapping, transporting and caring for psittacines in the international and domestic trade f) Prepare a population study report of the psittacines species in Suriname for the CITES Management and Scientific Authorities of Suriname. <p>Field data was collected during August 2021, January 2022 and during June-July 2022. During the field visits data on other parrot species were also counted. A total of nine locations were surveyed. Eight of these locations were river transects and one was an island. Data on the latter, was collected via point count. With this data, baseline data have been established for any future intended study as well.</p> <p>Mealy Parrots were found on six river transects and were absent at Bigibere and Cottica. The highest number for Mealy parrots was reached at Karani with a total of 162 individuals. The second highest count was found at Morotokko with a total of 137 individuals.</p>	
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<p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC74, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a zero export quota for <i>A. farinosa</i> until Suriname provides information (including an NDF) to justify a higher quota to be agreed with the AC Chair; and b) urged Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations b) to m) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>	<p>With the available data, the Scientific Authority of Suriname conducted a baseline NDF for this species.</p> <p>The NDF concluded that <i>Amazona farinosa</i> is widespread with a continuous distribution at the national level. According to the latest population study (Ramcharan 2022) the national population status of <i>A. farinosa</i> is stable and generally very abundant and occurs at high densities. The scientific authority recommends stepping up control and enforcement activities in strategic posts in order to stop possible illegal activities. The SA advises the management authority to keep record of all illegal harvest and trade of this species and other CITES- listed species in order to be able to provide an illegal trade report for CITES-listed species of Suriname. Most known harvest areas are in the coast of Suriname. Due to the remoteness of the interior of Suriname, very limited harvest of this species comes from the interior. The SA recommends the development of a harvest plan for all wildlife species on the export list. The scientific authority recommends revision of the general conditions on the harvest quota and set the harvesting quota at 12% higher than the export quotas for all bird species this was earlier set at 25% higher than the export quota. The SA recommends establishing an interim conservative quota of 200 as was recommended by the Animals Committee for <i>Amazona farinosa</i> until further studies are done on the population of this species.</p> <p>The Suriname Forest Service has collaborated with conservation international Suriname (CIS) and Panthera in developing the identification guide of felines of Suriname in 2021. The Surinamese Forest Service has also collaborated with WWF in the revision of the wildlife of the guianas species identification pocketbook for wildlife trade monitoring and enforcement (second edition February 2023).</p> <p>ACTO has supported its member countries including Suriname through the BioAmazon project with implementation of CITES.</p>	
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***Ara ararauna* (Blue and Yellow Macaw)**

<p>Guyana</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (by 13 January 2020):</u></p> <p>a) Establish a reduced quota for 2019 to average trade levels 660 specimens; these quotas should</p>	<p>In an email dated 8 August 2023, the Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission indicated that it had reviewed the correspondence received from the Secretariat as well as the report of the Animals Committee on its previous submission concerning <i>Ara ararauna</i> (see Annex 2 to</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendation.</u></p> <p>There is no new information to confirm whether Guyana has</p>
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not be amended until a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data (to be provided within one year), is submitted and reviewed by the AC.

b) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Guyana to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Within two years (14 November 2020):

c) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest

d) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs

e) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs

f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or “best practices”) describing accepted practices

document [SC75 Doc. 8](#)). It is currently working on another submission that will be ready by the end of October, 2023.

CITES trade data (2016 to 2022) shows that on three occasions in the past 6 years, the volume of specimens reported by the importer was higher than that reported by Guyana.

	Specimen	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Annual report		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Quota		792	792	In prep	In prep	In prep	In prep
Importer	Live	988	385	811	194	324	580
Exporter	Live	741	319	530	452	499	467

complied with the recommendations of the Animals and Standing Committees.

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) request the Secretariat to publish an annual export quota of 660 birds for *Ara ararauna* from Guyana;
- b) urge Guyana to clarify how the data from the survey was used to determine the sustainable level of off-take and the proposed export quota; and address the concerns by the Animals Committee in its review of the study (see Annex 2 to document SC75 Doc. 8); and
- c) invite Guyana to submit a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data by 1 March 2024 for review by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

g) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)

h) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned.

i) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

j) Encourage information sharing with Suriname in order to collaborate on making NDFs.

Final recommendation

k) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Guyana should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Guyana has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee requested Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines and agreed that, in relation to the Animals Committee recommendations a) and b), the Standing Committee would consider the increase in the export quota proposed by Guyana for this species, from 660 to 760, following its review by the Animals Committee at SC75.

<p>At SC75, the Standing Committee welcomed the progress made by Guyana in undertaking this population study; invited Guyana to clarify how the data from the survey was used to determine the sustainable level of offtake and the proposed export quota; and address the concerns by the Animals Committee in its review of the study (see Annex 2 to document SC75 Doc. 8); and invited Guyana to submit a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data, for review by the Animals Committee, three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<p>Suriname</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (13 January 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Establish an interim conservative export quota of 500 within 60 days for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat’s website.</p> <p>c) The export quota (which could include zero allowable exports) should be justified as conservative based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information.</p> <p>d) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Suriname to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p>	<p>On 8 August 2023, Suriname sent a very detailed response outlining the actions taken under each of the Animals Committee recommendations, including an NDF and two survey reports (see also response to <i>Amazona farinosa</i> / Suriname above)</p> <p>Suriname, through the Suriname Forest Service (LBB), has carried out a pre-study to learn and better understand the locations and habitats of at least three parrot species including <i>Ara ararauna</i>. This work was supported by the CTO’s BioAmazon project and was undertaken in March 2021. A population size study was initiated as well in 2021. The reports from these studies are entitled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pre-study conducted on psittacine species presence and numbers with the emphasis on <i>Ara ararauna</i>, <i>Ara chloropterus</i> and <i>Amazona farinosa</i>. • Population size status of parrot species - A focus on population size of parrot species in known harvest areas <p>With the available data, the study scientific authority of Suriname conducted a baseline NDF on this species.</p> <p>The NDF concluded that the national distribution of <i>Ara ararauna</i> in Suriname is widespread and contiguous. Recent population study on known harvest sites shows that this species is still in abundance in the wild, however like many other parrot species, they are facing challenges due to illegal harvesting and trade. These factors can significantly affect their populations and their ability to adapt to changing environments in the long term.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat’s determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendations a) to c), h) and m) have been implemented. Recommendations e), f), g), i), j), k), n), o), q), r), t) have been partially implemented.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) congratulate Suriname on the significant progress it has made in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee;</p> <p>b) establish a conservative quota of 500 specimens on <i>Ara ararauna</i> for Suriname;</p>

<p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>e) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest</p> <p>f) Initiate measures to ensure the descriptions on all CITES permits are standardized so that export is only permitted at the species level and that it complies with Annex 1 of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on permits and certificates; trade ceases to be reported or permitted at higher taxon levels.</p> <p>g) Clarify and standardize the terms and units used in reporting trade. Ensure that appropriate terms and units are recorded on permits for trade. Standardized terms and appropriate units are found in the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports, which is referenced in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on national reports and distributed by the Secretariat by notification.</p> <p>h) Ensure that permits issued for the species clearly and accurately indicate the source of the specimens.</p> <p>i) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs <u>or</u></p> <p>Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management</p>	<p>There is no existing harvest plan for this species or any other species. The harvest is managed based on the existing regulations for game species taking into consideration the open and closed seasons of the game calendar for this species. The aim of harvest is to exploit maximum economic yield.</p> <p>Suriname has a system of voluntary export quotas for wildlife fauna species, which was in place in 1987 after a revision of the game law 1954 and has been revised in 1995 and up until the date used before the last decision of the Standing Committee. The quota of <i>Ara ararauna</i> was 650 but a zero export quota was published in 2022. Considering the mortality rate during harvest and transport the harvest quota is 25% higher than the national export quota which in terms of conservation is considered a high risk. Most of the legal national harvest occurs in the coastal areas and areas where there is no strong control.</p> <p>All profits from the game trade go to the State treasury and very little goes back into the national budget for nature conservation. Harvest in protected areas is strictly prohibited. Considering that Suriname has eleven nature reserves with a total of 1,889,100 hectares the percentage of the species natural range or population illegally excluded from harvest is between 5 and 15%. It is uncertain how effective restriction on harvest in harvest areas can help to prevent overharvesting. Study on this matter has never been conducted. Overall, the conclusion of the CITES Scientific Authority of Suriname on this NDF is precautionary positive. The SA recommends establishing an interim conservative export quota of 500 as recommended by the Animals Committee for the <i>A. ararauna</i> until further studies are done on the population of the species.</p>	<p>c) remind Suriname that any increases to the interim quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement;</p> <p>d) agree that recommendation m) has been implemented; and</p> <p>e) encourage Suriname to continue working closely with the Secretariat to implement the outstanding recommendations and provide an update to the Secretariat by 1 March 2024 to be included in its report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.</p>
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<p>measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>j) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or “best practices”) describing accepted practices <u>or</u></p> <p>Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest) <u>or</u></p> <p>Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of harvesting, adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results.</p> <p>k) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -initiate measures to ensure that permit information is standardized (e.g., export only at a species level, source of specimens is indicated, consistency of conversion factors, standardized units) <u>Or</u></p> <p>Undertake monitoring of export; any established export limits are precautionary <u>Or</u></p> <p>Undertake regular quantitative surveys of scale and trend of all export; establish/modify export limits according to quantitative data that is</p>		
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<p>reviewed regularly, for example through an adaptive management program for the species.</p> <p>l) Implement/ improve a system to ensure individuals in captive / ranched / artificially propagated production systems are distinguished from wild if both wild specimens and non-wild specimens are in trade</p> <p>m) clearly designate CITES authorities</p> <p>n) provide training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region)</p> <p>o) develop identification methods and materials</p> <p>p) share information/collaboration with other range States (exchange of NDF information, development and implementation of regional management measures)</p> <p>q) provide training of conservation staff in the range State</p> <p>r) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned;</p> <p>s) facilitate information exchange among range States</p> <p>t) provide technical equipment and support.</p> <p><u>Final recommendation</u></p> <p>u) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Suriname should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are</p>		
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<p>compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Suriname has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p> <p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC74, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a zero export quota for <i>A. ararauna</i> until Suriname provides information (including an NDF) to justify a higher quota to be agreed with the AC Chair; and urged Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations b) to m) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<i>Ara chloropterus</i> (Red and green Macaw)		
<p>Guyana</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (13 January 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Established a reduced quota for 2019 to average trade levels 845 specimens; these quotas should not be amended until a new non-detriment finding, based on survey data (to be provided within one year), is submitted and reviewed by the AC.</p> <p>b) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Guyana to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best</p>	<p>In an email dated 8 August 2023, the Guyana Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission indicated that it had reviewed the correspondence received from the Secretariat as well as the report of the Animals Committee on its previous submission concerning <i>Ara ararauna</i> (see Annex 2 to document SC75 Doc. 8). It is currently working on another submission that will be ready by the end of October, 2023.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations.</u></p> <p>There is no new information to confirm whether Guyana has complied with the recommendations of the Animals and Standing Committees.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) request Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and</p>

available scientific information, for their agreement.

Within 2 years (14 November 2020)

c) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest.

d) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs

e) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs

f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or “best practices”) describing accepted practices

g) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)

h) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned.

b) urge Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations c) to k) before 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

i) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

j) Encourage information sharing with Suriname in order to collaborate on making NDFs

Final recommendation

k) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Guyana should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Guyana has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee noted that recommendation a) has been complied with; requested Guyana to share the results of its population study of psittacines; and urged Guyana to provide information on the implementation of recommendations b) to k) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.

Suriname

Within 60 days (13 January 2019):

a) Establish an interim conservative export quota of 250 within 60 days for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.

On 8 August 2023, Suriname sent a very detailed response outlining the actions taken under each of the Animals Committee recommendations, including an NDF and two survey reports (see also response to *Amazona farinosa* / Suriname above)

Suriname, through the Suriname Forest Service (LBB), has carried out a pre-study to learn and better understand the locations and habitats of at least three parrot species including *Ara chloropterus*. This work was supported by the ACTO's Bioamazon project and was undertaken in March 2021. A population size study was initiated as well in 2021. Suriname provided both

The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

Recommendation l) has been fully implemented. Recommendations e), f), i), n) and o) have been partially implemented.

<p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.</p> <p>c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Suriname to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>d) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest</p> <p>e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>f) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>g) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or "best practices") describing accepted practices</p>	<p>of these reports, which are entitled: "A pre-study conducted on Psittacine species presence and numbers with an emphasis of the <i>Ara ararauna</i>, <i>Ara chloropterus</i> and <i>Amazona farinosa</i>.</p> <p>With the available data, the Scientific Authority of Suriname conducted a baseline NDF on this species.</p> <p>The NDF concluded that the scarcity of the species during the two studies (only found in one of the 8 regions surveyed) resulted in a negative NDF for export and until further studies are done the recommendation of the scientific authority is to maintain the zero quota for this species.</p> <p>However, the CITES Management Authority of Suriname does not support the recommendation made by the Scientific Authority based on the information that this species is harvested in the southern part of the country of Suriname; that no study has been carried out on the population density of the species in that part of the country; and the fact that it is important for the livelihoods of the indigenous and tribal communities which occur in this area. Therefore, the Management Authority recommends maintaining the voluntary export quota of 250, which was recommended by the Animals Committee until further studies have been carried out on this species.</p> <p><u>Note from the Secretariat</u></p> <p>According to the CITES trade database data above, Suriname's reported exports have not reached the export quota of 250 between 2016 and 2021, with the exception of 2018.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="779 1026 1644 1225"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Spec.</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Annual report</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quota</td> <td></td> <td>250</td> <td>250</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Importer</td> <td>Live</td> <td>207</td> <td>156</td> <td>268</td> <td>117</td> <td>98</td> <td>184</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Exporter</td> <td>Live</td> <td>248</td> <td>217</td> <td>227</td> <td>144</td> <td>137</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Spec.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Annual report		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Quota		250	250	-	-	-	-	Importer	Live	207	156	268	117	98	184	Exporter	Live	248	217	227	144	137		<p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) acknowledge the progress that has been made by Suriname;</p> <p>b) welcome the fact that the process of establishing quotas in Suriname is now being done by the Scientific Authority;</p> <p>c) encourage the Management Authority to follow the advice of the Scientific Authority and maintain the zero quota until further studies can justify a sustainable quota to be agreed with the Chair of the Animals Committee;</p> <p>d) agree that recommendation I) has been implemented; and</p> <p>e) urge Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations outstanding by 1 March 2024 so it can be considered by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.</p>
	Spec.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021																																			
Annual report		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No																																			
Quota		250	250	-	-	-	-																																			
Importer	Live	207	156	268	117	98	184																																			
Exporter	Live	248	217	227	144	137																																				

<p>h) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)</p> <p>i) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned.</p> <p>j) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs</p> <p>k) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest</p> <p>l) Clearly designate CITES authorities - Suriname is encouraged to outline any capacity building needs the party may have to support the implementation of Article IV, and submit to the Secretariat, e.g., providing training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region)</p> <p>m) Encourage information sharing with Guyana in order to collaborate on making NDFs</p> <p>n) provide training of conservation staff in the range State</p> <p>o) provide information and guidance to persons and organizations involved in the production and export of specimens of the species concerned</p>		
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<p><u>Final recommendation</u></p> <p>p) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Suriname should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Suriname has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p> <p><u>Recommendations of the Standing Committee</u></p> <p>At SC74, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to publish a zero export quota for <i>A. chloropterus</i> until Suriname provides information (including an NDF) to justify a higher quota to be agreed with the AC Chair; and b) urged Suriname to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations b) to m) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i> (Red-fronted parrot)		
<p>Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)</p> <p><u>Within 60 days (13 January 2019):</u></p> <p>a) No additional export permit should be established for 2018 as of 19 July 2018, noting that permits for 1,870 specimens have been issued as of 19 July 2018. Establish an interim conservative export quota not to exceed the average trade level during recent years for which Annual Reports are available (450 specimens for 2019) within 60 days for the species, and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.</p>	<p>The SC had agreed that recommendations a) and b) had been complied with at SC74 and urged the Democratic Republic of the Congo to implement the remaining recommendations d) to g) by three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p> <p>The Secretariat wrote to the DRC on 20 April 2022 and sent a reminder on 31 July 2023.</p> <p>The published quota remains at 450 and an examination of the CITES trade database shows that since 2019, DRC has not exceeded this new quota. The data is summarized in the table below.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>The outstanding recommendations c) to g) have not been complied with.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to urge the Democratic Republic of the Congo to</p>

b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.

c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Within 2 years (14 November 2020):

d) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example): - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest

e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs

f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of harvesting, adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results

Year	Quantity reported by Importer	Quantity reported by exporter	Term	Purpose code	Source code
2019	100	250	Live	T	W
2020		70	Live	T	W
2021		185	Live	T	W
2022		310	live	T	W

No response was received from DRC concerning the implementation of the other recommendations.

provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations c) to g) by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

Final recommendation

g) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of DRC should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions DRC has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At SC74, the Standing Committee commended DRC for implementing recommendations a) and b) in a timely manner; and urged DRC to provide an update on the implementation of the remaining recommendations c) to g) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.

***Uromastyx geyri* (Saharan Spiny-tailed Lizard)**

Mali

Within 30 days (13 December 2018):

- a) Establish an interim zero export quota for within 30 days for the species and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.
- b) No exports should occur until the zero quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.
- c) Before making any increases to the interim zero quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Mali to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of

The Secretariat wrote to Mali on 20 April 2022 and sent a reminder on 31 July 2023, but no information has been received by the Secretariat from Mali in relation to the species and the recommendations of the Animals Committee.

An analysis of the CITES trade database indicates that trade in live specimens of *U. geyri* has been reported every year from 2016, with several discrepancies in the values and source codes used by importers and exporters.

	Spec.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Annual report		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Quota		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Importer	Live W	400	1,500	274	500	-		800
Exporter	Live W	-	-	5,000	5,000	5,000		
Importer	Live F	32	5		750	100	220	
Exporter	Live F	-	-	-	-	-		

The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

Mali has not implemented any of the recommendations of the Animals Committee

Actions recommended by the Secretariat

The Standing Committee is invited to recommend that all Parties continue to suspend trade in specimens of *Uromastyx geyri* from Mali until that country demonstrates

<p>sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>d) Ensure that permits, issued for live specimens of the species under any future conservative, NDF-based quota, clearly and accurately indicate the source of the specimens.</p> <p>e) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>f) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>g) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs -Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)</p> <p>h) Undertake monitoring of export; any established export limits are precautionary</p> <p>i) Implement/ improve a system to ensure individuals in captive production systems are distinguished from wild if both wild specimens and non-wild specimens are in trade</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Importer</td> <td>Live C</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>500</td> <td>250</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Exporter</td> <td>Live C</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Importer	Live C	-	-	500	250	-			Exporter	Live C	-	-	-	-	-			<p>compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, for trade in this species, and provides full information to the Secretariat regarding compliance with the recommendations of the Animals and Standing Committees.</p>
	Importer	Live C	-	-	500	250	-													
Exporter	Live C	-	-	-	-	-														
<p>No request has been received from Mali to publish an export quota for this species.</p>																				

Final recommendation

j) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Mali should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Mali has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to publish an interim zero export quota for specimens of *Uromastix geyri* from Mali traded under source codes W, F and R, which shall remain in place until Mali provides information (including an NDF) to justify a higher quota to be agreed with the AC Chair; requested Mali to explain the discrepancies, including the lack of source codes, in the trade data; and urged Mali to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations b) to j) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.

***Cuora amboinensis* (South Asian Box Turtle)**

Indonesia

Within 60 days (13 January 2019):

a) Establish an interim conservative export quota for the species of 12,000 specimens for 2019, within 60 days and communicate the quota to the Secretariat.

The SC had agreed that recommendation a) had been complied with at SC74 following the publication of an export quota of 12,000 specimens; and urged Indonesia to implement the remaining recommendations b) to k) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.

The Secretariat wrote to Indonesia on 20 April 2022, which responded on 4 August 2023, providing an NDF and a comprehensive update on each of the outstanding recommendations as outlined below.

The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations

All recommendations have been fully implemented.

<p>b) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Indonesia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into consideration the findings of population studies, the issues of domestic consumption and illegal trade, and the possible use of size limits, that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>c) Initiate appropriate harvest measures to ensure sustainability (for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - size limits/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest) <p>d) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>e) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p>	<p><u>Concerning recommendation c)</u>, Indonesia highlighted the following measures it has put in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibition of harvesting pregnant females (April, May, and June are most females will lay eggs). • Harvesting is only allowed for three months (October, November, and December) every year. • Harvested specimens are only allowed with a minimal SCL (Straight Carapace Length) of ≥ 18 cm (mature individuals reach a size of 16 cm SCL). • MA staff regularly conduct inspections to supplier house to ensure that the harvesting activity complies with all requirements (size restrictions and harvest season). • During the harvest period (October, November, and December), the MA staff monitor size restrictions and number quotas with a harvest inspection report (Berita Acara Partisan/BAP tangkap). <p><u>Concerning recommendation d)</u>, Indonesia provided an extensive list of publications, and an unpublished thesis regarding <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> in Indonesia during 2018-2021 that have been included in the NDF.</p> <p><u>Concerning recommendation e)</u>, Indonesia provided details of population estimates from several areas including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in a protected area consisting of two hectares of a peat swamp forest in Taman National Rawa Aopa Watomohai in the south-east of the island of Sulawesi was estimated to be 120 individuals or 60 individual/ha. The population composition in terms of immature to mature ratio was almost 1:1 (54.9% immature and 45.1% mature). • Harvest surveys of the species in an openly accessible area in East Kalimantan have shown that four middlemen alone easily assemble more than half of the nation's annual quota in one year. The composition of harvested individuals in the study site in Kota Bangun, East Kalimantan was significantly in favour of large adults (95.8%) and contained only 4.2% immature individuals (Schoppe, 2009). 	<p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) congratulate Indonesia for the significant progress it has made in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee;</p> <p>b) remove <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> from Indonesia from RST subject to the publication of a revised export quota of 7,200 specimens from the wild, including a minimum Straight Carapace Length (SCL) of 18 cm; and</p> <p>c) remind Indonesia that any change to this quota should be communicated to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee along with a non-detriment finding, including a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p>
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f) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all harvest (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

g) Develop and implement harvest guidelines (or “best practices”) describing accepted practices

h) Develop and implement local management with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., harvest seasons, harvest maximums, restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day, control of number of harvesters, types and methods of harvest)

i) Undertake qualitative monitoring of the scale and trends of all export (increasing, stable or decreasing) for use in making NDFs

j) Implement/ improve a system to ensure individuals in captive production systems are distinguished from wild if both wild specimens and non-wild specimens are in trade

Final recommendation

k) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Indonesia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Indonesia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee noted that recommendation a) has been complied with; and b) urged Indonesia to provide an update on the

- Riyanto & Mumpuni (2019) reported population size from harvested areas in Sumatra.
- Population size in Jambi was estimated at just over 65 individuals/ha, while two sites at North Sumatra ranged from almost 62 individuals/ha and almost 10 individuals/ha. Meanwhile, the composition of harvested individuals in North Sumatra is also dominated by adult individuals (80%), but in Jambi dominated by immature individuals (59%).

Indonesia concludes that there does not seem to be much difference between the populations in the harvested and protected areas.

Concerning recommendation f), Indonesia noted that Fauzi *et al.* (2021) undertook a comparison of monitoring data of *C. amboinensis* from 2006 (published in Schoppe (2009)) in North Sumatra and Central Kalimantan. The results showed no evidence a reduction in the level of harvest over more than a decade, suggesting that the population has not experienced large scale pressure due to harvesting. A reduction in the size of the harvest over time would indicate that the population size is smaller and the species is more difficult to find.

Concerning recommendation g), Indonesia states that harvesting guidelines have been “socialized” (presumed by the Secretariat to mean circulated) every year to determine catch quotas per province, which include harvest size, permitted harvest time, and also harvest method (only using funnel trap/bubu).

Concerning recommendation h), Indonesia states that the harvest period is only permitted in October, November, and December each year, with strict harvest size on SCL \geq 18 cm. Harvesting is prohibited in April, May, and June. Harvest ban in April, May, and June. implementation of rotation of fishing locations such as at the village and sub-district levels.

Concerning recommendation i), the response states that monitoring consists of monitoring catches, monitoring the realization of catch quotas per province, and monitoring the realization of export quotas. Each year in the preparation of export quotas, monitoring data on catch realization each province is presented for evaluation in the context of determining catch quotas per province. Aspects used for evaluation include realization of the number of catches in the harvest period, size of individuals harvested,

implementation of recommendations b) to k) no later than three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.

harvesting locations from the map of catch locations which are evaluated every two years.

Concerning recommendation j), Indonesia explains that captive breeding facilities are regularly inspected. The facilities must be providing captive reports, inspection report of hatching, inspection report of death, and survival rate which all will be used to determine the maximum utilization limit for captive results. Specimens from captive breeding will be included in an investigation report document and will use F source code.

Concerning recommendation k), Indonesia has provided an NDF. Based on the scoring of the NDF, Indonesia comes to the conclusion that the biological, trade pressure and management aspects have a low vulnerability, but hunting pressure is of moderate vulnerability to the existence of the *Cuora amboinensis*, as summarized in the following table

Summary of NDF scoring of <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> in Indonesia.			
Aspect	Total Score	Total Criteria	Final Score
Biological	21	16	1.31
Hunting Pressure	10	6	1.67
Trade Pressure	4	3	1.33
Management	17	16	1.06

Based on this assessment, Indonesia concludes that the utilization of *Cuora amboinensis* in general is “low vulnerability” to the existence of this species, but precaution is needed in managing its utilization considering that the hunting pressure aspect indicates “moderate vulnerability”. This assessment proposes several improvements in regulations concerning *Cuora amboinensis* utilization including the following:

1. To reduce the export quota by 40% to 7,200 individuals starting from 2024.
2. Stricter application of the minimal harvest size ≥ 18 cm (SCL).
3. Harvest activity is only allowed in October, November, December.
4. Harvest is strictly prohibited in May, April, and June.

	<p>5. Outreach to people who depend on these turtles for their lives about these limits as well as to rotate harvesting locations.</p> <p>In a follow up email Indonesia explained the rationale for the minimal harvest size restriction of 18cm SCL. Indonesia noted that <i>C. amboinensis</i> is harvested from the wild for two primary purposes: the pet trade industry, where mainly juvenile specimens are captured, and for consumption, where larger individuals are targeted. The species attains maturity at specific sizes, with males reaching a carapace length of 130 mm and females reaching 152 cm (Paul <i>et al.</i> in 1982). To address conservation concerns, the size restriction has been applied to only allow harvest of large specimens (i.e. those exceeding 18 cm in SCL size) to reduce the risk of extinction due to harvesting activities for consumption. These larger specimens have already contributed to the wild population or might not be reproductively productive anymore.</p> <p><u>Note from the Secretariat:</u></p> <p>Concerning the export quotas, Indonesia notified the Secretariat of a quota of 12,000 specimens for 2019, which was duly published. The same quota was published in 2020. In 2021, Indonesia split this into separate quotas for live (pets) and consumption (the total was 12,000). In 2022, there appears to have been a duplication in the export quota database. This discrepancy has now been corrected.</p>	
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***Anguilla anguilla* (European eel)**

<p>Algeria</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (12 February 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Establish interim conservative export quotas (suggested to be reduced to 67 percent of present trade and a zero quota for live glass eels) within 60 days for each category of specimens in trade (such as fingerlings/elvers, live, and meat), and communicate the quotas to the Secretariat for publication on the website.</p>	<p>The Secretariat wrote to Algeria on 20 April 2022 and sent a reminder on 31 July 2023. However, Algeria did not provide an additional response to explain the concerns raised by the Standing Committee at its 75th meeting.</p> <p>Algeria previously stated that of the CITES export permits issued during the last decade, most have been cancelled with the exception of two of a quantity of 3 tonnes and 120 kg in 2016. Furthermore, Algeria claims that as a precautionary measure, there was a temporary freezing of export authorizations of this species following 2018. The CITES trade data supports this as follows:</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendations c), d) and g) to l) remain outstanding.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to ask Algeria to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding</p>
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b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.

c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.

Within 2 years (14 November 2020):

d) Evaluate current harvest management measures and implement harvest measures to ensure sustainability

(for example:

- size/selective harvest
- open/closed seasons
- harvest seasons
- harvest maximums
- restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day
- control of number of harvesters
- types and methods of harvest)

e) Clarify and standardize the terms and units used in reporting trade. Ensure that appropriate terms and units are recorded on permits for trade. Standardized terms and appropriate units are found in the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports, which is referenced in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *national reports*, and distributed by the Secretariat by notification.

	Spec.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Quota	Adult W			8,000*	8,000*	8,000*	
	Glass	-	-	-	0	0	
Importer	Live – W	120	2,000	-	-	-	
Exporter	Live – W	3,120	-	-	-	-	

Algeria previously stated that it has undertaken certain efforts, in particular through the implementation of a partial management plan, consisting of the introduction of a partial follow-up programme; the ongoing launch of the study of the assessment of exploitable biomass; the establishment of a mechanism to guarantee the traceability at national/international level of the product; and the existence of a regulation for the taking of strict measures to restore the catch and/or trade in eels. In addition, efforts have been agreed to strengthen the system of statistical information processing for the collection of capture data and Algeria is engaged with the FAO/GFCM project on eels. An update from Algeria on the development of its management plan and the FAO/GFCM project would be useful.

recommendations by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

f) Ensure that permits issued for the species clearly and accurately indicate the source of the specimens.

g) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs

h) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs

i) Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with aims to achieve, within defined time limits, escapement targets as a contribution to stock recovery; clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of harvesting, adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results; management plans should be submitted for independent peer review by a suitable external body (e.g., WGEEL)

j) Initiate robust monitoring programs, with input from WGEEL, to provide time series population data and/or recruitment and escapement indices to support development and implementation of the management plans and to inform NDF assessments

k) Algeria / Morocco / Tunisia are encouraged to outline any capacity building needs the party may have to support the implementation of Article IV, and submit to the Secretariat, e.g., providing

training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region)

Final recommendation

l) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee noted that recommendations a) and b) have been complied with; invited Algeria to submit the scientific justification for the proposed increase in the quota; commended Algeria for the progress made to-date in implementing the remaining recommendations c) to l); and requested the Secretariat to produce a detailed summary of the information provided by Algeria for review by the Animals Committee and the IUCN anguillid specialist group, to be further considered by SC75.

At **SC75**, the Standing Committee instructed Algeria to maintain its current annual export quota for *A. anguilla* of 8,000 kg wild-taken adult eels and 0 glass eels, until it provides a justification for any revised quota, demonstrating how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, for their agreement; agreed that recommendations e) and f) have been

<p>implemented; commended Algeria for the progress made to date in implementing the remaining recommendations d) and g) to l); and invited Algeria to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<p>Morocco</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (12 February 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Establish interim conservative export quotas (suggested to be reduced to 67 percent of present trade and a zero quota for live glass eels) within 60 days for each category of specimens in trade (such as fingerlings/elvers, live, and meat), and communicate the quotas to the Secretariat for publication on the website.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.</p> <p>c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>d) Evaluate current harvest management measures and implement harvest measures to ensure sustainability</p> <p>(for example:</p> <p>- size/selective harvest</p>	<p>The Secretariat wrote to Morocco on 20 April 2022 and sent a reminder on 31 July 2023. However, Morocco did not provide an additional response to explain the concerns raised by the Standing Committee at its 75th meeting.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>The Secretariat remains of the view that the remaining recommendations of the Animals Committee have either been implemented or are not relevant in light of the production method used in Morocco. However, Morocco has not addressed the recommendation of the Standing Committee.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) instruct Morocco to maintain its current quotas of 500,000 kg of live adult eels (raised in aquaculture based on a harvest of 2 tonnes of glass eels), 5,500 kg of wild-taken adult eels and 0 live glass eel (fingerlings) of <i>A. anguilla</i> until it provides a justification for any increased quota, demonstrating how the change is conservative,</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest) <p>e) Clarify and standardize the terms and units used in reporting trade. Ensure that appropriate terms and units are recorded on permits for trade. Standardized terms and appropriate units are found in the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports, which is referenced in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>national reports</i>, and distributed by the Secretariat by notification.</p> <p>f) Ensure that permits issued for the species clearly and accurately indicate the source of the specimens.</p> <p>g) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>h) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>i) Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with aims to achieve, within defined time limits, escapement targets as a contribution to stock recovery; clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of</p>		<p>based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, for their agreement. In this regard, Morocco should clarify how the proposed increase in the harvest quota for glass eels of 2 tonnes to 4 tonnes will only yield an additional 100 tonnes of adult eels from the farms;</p> <p>b) share the results of its stock assessment studies when they become available; and</p> <p>c) invite Morocco to provide an update by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.</p>
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harvesting, adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results; management plans should be submitted for independent peer review by a suitable external body (e.g., WGEEL)

j) Initiate robust monitoring programs, with input from WGEEL, to provide time series population data and/or recruitment and escapement indices to support development and implementation of the management plans and to inform NDF assessments

k) Algeria / Morocco / Tunisia are encouraged to outline any capacity building needs the party may have to support the implementation of Article IV, and submit to the Secretariat, e.g., providing training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region)

Final recommendation

l) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee acknowledged that the situation for production of *A. anguilla* in Morocco is different from that of Algeria and Tunisia; commended Morocco for the detailed response it has provided and the measures it has

<p>put in place to manage the species and ensure a strong traceability system is in place; and requested the Secretariat to produce a detailed summary of the information provided by Morocco for review by the Animals Committee and the IUCN anguillid specialist group, to be further considered by SC75.</p> <p>At SC75, the Standing Committee commended Morocco for the considerable progress it has made and the measures it has put in place to manage the species and ensure a strong traceability system is in place; instructed Morocco to maintain its current quotas of 500,000 kg of live adult eels [raised in aquaculture based on a harvest of 2t of glass eels], 5,500 kg of wild-taken adult eels and 0 live glass eel [fingerlings] of <i>A. anguilla</i> until it provides a justification for any increased quota, demonstrating how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, for their agreement. In this regard, Morocco should clarify how the proposed increase in the harvest quota for glass eels of 2 tonnes to 4 tonnes will only yield an additional 100 tonnes of adult eels from the farms and share the results of its stock assessment studies when they become available; invited Morocco to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
<p>Tunisia</p> <p><u>Within 90 days (12 February 2019):</u></p> <p>a) Establish interim conservative export quotas (suggested to be reduced to 67 percent of present trade and a zero quota for live glass eels) within</p>	<p>Tunisia provided a detailed response on 5 August 2023 that included a management plan from 2010, a report entitled “Eel subpopulations in Tunisia: Characteristics and preliminary results of the stock assessment” (2019), and details of a 4-year research project with GCFM.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat’s determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendations a) and b) have been complied with.</p>

<p>60 days for each category of specimens in trade (such as fingerlings/elvers, live, and meat), and communicate the quotas to the Secretariat for publication on the website.</p> <p>b) No exports should occur until the quota has been published on the Secretariat's website.</p> <p>c) Before making any increases to the interim quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia to the Secretariat and Chair of the Animals Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of best available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (14 November 2020):</u></p> <p>d) Evaluate current harvest management measures and implement harvest measures to ensure sustainability</p> <p>(for example: - size/selective harvest - open/closed seasons - harvest seasons - harvest maximums - restrictions to harvest frequency, sites or time of day - control of number of harvesters - types and methods of harvest)</p> <p>e) Clarify and standardize the terms and units used in reporting trade. Ensure that appropriate terms and units are recorded on permits for trade. Standardized terms and appropriate units are found in the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports, which is referenced in Resolution</p>	<p>Tunisia informed that the export quota is set according to a national management plan developed in 2010.</p> <p>In this context, the National Institute of Marine Sciences and Technologies (INSTM), Scientific Authority of CITES, has launched, since 2017, a research program whose overall objective is the collection of the basic data necessary for an assessment preliminary stock of the European eel in Tunisia with a view to estimating its stock on a Mediterranean scale. The report referred to above and entitled "Eel subpopulations in Tunisia: Characteristics and preliminary results of the stock assessment" is attached in Annex 2.</p> <p>This research project will be renewed for 4 additional years (2020-2023) in parallel with a research program on eel financed by the CGPM (FAO body) with 8 other Mediterranean partner countries for a duration of 18 months (2020-2021).</p> <p>Also, Tunisia, following the adoption of recommendation CGPM/45/2022/1 relating to a multi-annual management plan for the European eel in the Mediterranean Sea, modifying recommendation CGPM/42/2018/1, indicates that it is committed to the application of the 1st option relating to the establishment of an annual closure period of six consecutive months during which landings at all life stages (elver, yellow eel, silver eel) will be prohibited. Additionally, recreational fishing of eels will be strictly prohibited at all life stages in all habitats.</p> <p>For this, a draft amendment to the decree of September 28, 1995 relating to fishing is being prepared in consultation with the various stakeholders in the eel fishing sector.</p> <p>Moreover, and following the suggestion of the Secretariat, the Scientific Authority of Tunisia (Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer; INSTM) requested assistance from the IUCN Anguillid Specialist Group for the revision of the NDF.</p> <p>Concerning the issuance and monitoring of CITES export permits for European eels in Tunisia, the CITES management body of TUNISIA has clearly and precisely indicated the source of the specimens; to clarify and standardize the terms and units used to report trade; following the most recent version of the Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports.</p>	<p>Recommendations c) to l) have been partially complied with.</p> <p><u>Actions recommended by the Secretariat</u></p> <p>The Standing Committee is invited to:</p> <p>a) commend Tunisia for its ongoing progress in implementing the remaining recommendations d) to l);</p> <p>b) invite the anguillid specialist group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to assist Tunisia in the development of its NDF; and</p> <p>c) invite Tunisia to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations by 1 March 2024 for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.</p>
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<p>Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>national reports</i> and distributed by the Secretariat by notification.</p> <p>f) Ensure that permits issued for the species clearly and accurately indicate the source of the specimens.</p> <p>g) Undertake science-based studies on status of the species (e.g. population size/density, trends, distribution) including an evaluation of the threats to the species for use as the basis for NDFs</p> <p>h) Develop/Implement an ongoing science-based population monitoring program that is used in conjunction with an adaptive management program for the species (see harvest management measures and trade controls, below), for use in making NDFs</p> <p>i) Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with aims to achieve, within defined time limits, escapement targets as a contribution to stock recovery; clear monitoring requirements; management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of harvesting, adjustment of harvest instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results; management plans should be submitted for independent peer review by a suitable external body (e.g., WGEEL)</p> <p>j) Initiate robust monitoring programs, with input from WGEEL, to provide time series population data and/or recruitment and escapement indices to support development and implementation of the management plans and to inform NDF assessments</p> <p>k) Algeria / Morocco / Tunisia are encouraged to outline any capacity building needs the party may</p>	<p>In addition, for better management of the quota, the CITES management body of TUNISIA in consultation with the general directorate of fisheries and aquaculture have set the following procedure for obtaining a CITES permit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A request for export of European eel (live or frozen) indicating the exporter, the importer and the quantity. 2. A production sheet signed by competent fishing agents (which allows us to have the period and the fishing zone, as well as the quantity of Eel collected) and 3. Before requesting a second export permit, it will be necessary to present to the CITES management body a copy of the old permit bearing the Tunisian customs stamp (which will allow you to have an idea of the quantity exported and to manage the quota well) <p>Taking into consideration the procedures cited above; the CITES management body of Tunisia states that it does not exceed the export quota set by the scientific authority.</p> <p>It is clear from the CITES trade data that Tunisia has consistently stayed within this quota.</p>	
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have to support the implementation of Article IV, and submit to the Secretariat, e.g., providing training for CITES authorities (e.g., CITES Virtual College, NDF workshops in a country or region)

Final recommendation

l) Upon completion of other recommendations, the Management Authority of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia should provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports from their country are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions Algeria, Morocco or Tunisia has taken or will take address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.

Recommendations of the Standing Committee

At **SC74**, the Standing Committee noted that recommendations a) and b) have been complied with; commended Tunisia for the progress made to-date in implementing the remaining recommendations c) to l); and requested the Secretariat to produce a detailed summary of the information provided by Tunisia for review by the Animals Committee and the IUCN anguillid specialist group, to be further considered by SC75.

At **SC75**, the Standing Committee commended Tunisia for the considerable progress made to date in implementing recommendations c) to l); instructed Tunisia to maintain its current quota for *A. anguilla* of 90,000 kg of eels, where export is restricted to specimens greater than 30cm in length and 0 glass eels, until it provides a justification for any increased quota, demonstrating how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that

<p>make use of best available scientific information, to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, for their agreement; and invited Tunisia to provide an update on the implementation of the outstanding recommendations three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p>		
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