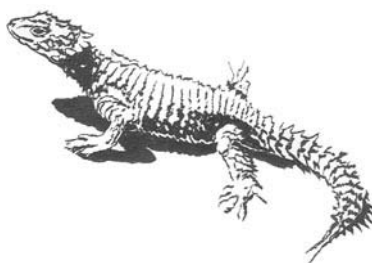


CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Twentieth meeting of the Animals Committee
Johannesburg (South Africa), 29 March-2 April 2004

TRANSPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS (RESOLUTION CONF. 10.21 AND DECISIONS 12.85 AND 12.86) –
REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

1. This document has been prepared by the Chairman of the Transport Working Group (TWG) of the Animals Committee (AC).

Introduction

2. At its 10th meeting (Harare, 1997), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 10.21 on transport of live animals. As a consequence, the TWG was reconvened at the 14th and 19th meetings of the Animals Committee (AC14, Caracas, May 1998 and AC19, Geneva, August 2003) to support the AC with the implementation of this Resolution. The TWG's work was the subject of document CoP12 Doc. 25 presented by the Secretariat at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP12, Santiago, 2002). Parties showed interest in this subject and some, such as Ghana, Guinea, Saudi Arabia and Uganda, asked for help in improving the conditions that animals are transported in, for information about bad practices and transport and announced their interest in strengthening collaboration with the CITES Secretariat on this issue. At CoP12, Decision 12.85 was adopted on *inter alia* the development of recommendations regarding transport of live animals, as well as Decision 12.86 which directs the Secretariat to liaise with IATA and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) with a view to concluding a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The present document summarizes activities since AC19.
3. During the meeting of the TWG in Geneva, it was agreed to set priorities to achieve the implementation of Decision 12.85.

Evaluation of the IATA Live Animals Regulations (IATA-LAR) for transport other than by air (Decision 12.85)

4. In accordance with paragraph a) of Decision 12.85, namely to "develop recommendations regarding transport of live animals by road, rail or ship to supplement, where necessary, the IATA Live Animals Regulations", a number of members of the TWG reported knowledge of a variety of studies and standards and it was agreed to collect all this information for distribution amongst the members. The Chairman has been acting as a focal point.
5. Only two pieces of information from NGOs were submitted to the Chairman and these were circulated to all TWG members. No response had been received from the members at the time of writing.

6. New information from specialists from the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) and the Animal Transport Association (AATA) representative at the EAZA-TWG has been circulated as a basis for discussion at the present meeting.
7. In accordance with paragraph c) of Decision 12.85, namely to "assist in identifying model practices concerning the transport and preparation for shipment of live wild animals, and develop recommendations to the Parties regarding the proper handling and transportation of live animals, particularly in exporting countries", it was agreed that all TWG members would collect information from experts in the animal transport industry and that the results would be submitted to the Chairman for discussion at the present meeting. No information has been submitted or received.

Collaboration with IATA

8. The TWG contacted the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board. The Chairman attended the 14th Board meeting in Montreal in October 2003. Proposals for amendments to the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) were submitted in advance for the (subsequently cancelled) 13th IATA-LAPB meeting by the TWG. These proposals were amended during the 14th meeting.

Collaboration with AATA

9. The TWG has maintained contact with AATA. The Chairman will participate in the AATA annual conference in April 2004.
10. The 30th AATA conference will be held in Vienna from 19 to 21 April 2004. The main focus of this conference will be the enlargement of the European Union in the east and the problems this may cause. The conference will be mainly focused on the transfer of exotic species. Issues of concern to the AC and the TWG will be included in a report by the representative of the Austrian Government on *The environment and biosecurity* and a report by the TWG Chairman (moderator of the session) on *International Cooperation between CITES, IATA, WAZA, OIE and AATA*.

Collaboration with EAZA

11. The Chairman of the TWG attended the 20th EAZA Annual Conference in Leipzig (Germany) on 17 September 2003. He asked the EAZA-TWG for assistance on the subject of developing recommendations for rail, road and sea transport. Only one paper was transmitted (see paragraph 6 above).

Preparation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CITES Secretariat, IATA and WAZA

12. The representative of the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board discussed the draft MoU during its 14th meeting and submitted the following statement to the TWG Chairman:

I herewith would like to inform you that the MoU. initiative did not come to fruition during this meeting, as I failed to obtain support towards it. The LAPB still wishes however to continue our collaboration and has asked the training department in IATA to make contact as required. Perhaps the difficult situation many of our members and our industry face have complicated the picture even further. I nevertheless wish to thank all of you for the time and efforts spent towards this and assure you of my continued interest in working together to the benefit of the animals in our care.