

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



Twenty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Lima (Peru), 7-13 July 2006

FOSSIL CORALS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Following the adoption of proposal CoP13 Prop. 36, amending the annotation for Helioporidae spp., Tubiporidae spp., Scleractinia spp., Milleporidae spp. and Stylasteridae spp. to define the fossil specimens that are not subject of the provisions of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties agreed at its 13th meeting (Bangkok, 2005) to the following complementary Decisions on this matter:

Directed to Parties

13.95 The Parties that are involved in the trade in stony corals should, by the end of 2005, determine how they will interpret the annotation exempting fossil corals from the provisions of the Convention and provide this interpretation to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties.

Directed to the Animals Committee

13.96 The Animals Committee shall proceed with an analysis of the Parties' interpretation of the annotation on fossil corals and other tasks necessary to undertake a review of Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP12) and report to the Secretariat by the end of 2006.

Directed to the Secretariat

13.97 The Secretariat shall communicate the report of the Animals Committee regarding the interpretation of the annotation exempting fossil corals to the Parties via a notification before the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3. The Secretariat reminded Parties of these Decisions in Notification to the Parties No. 2005/065 of 22 November 2005.
4. The Secretariat has received information from China, Mexico, Switzerland, the United States of America and the European Commission (on behalf of the 25 Member States of the European Union), on their interpretation of the annotation exempting fossil corals from the provisions of the Convention. These are presented in the Annex to the present document.

Issues for consideration

5. The Animals Committee is invited to conclude its implementation of Decision 13.96 by analysing the responses from the Parties presented in the Annex, reviewing Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP12) if necessary, and ensuring timely reporting to the Secretariat so that it can fulfil Decision 13.97.