

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2011

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

SPECIES SELECTED AT AC24

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In accordance with paragraph c) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in Specimens of Appendix II Species*, in exceptional cases where new information indicates an urgent concern, the Animals Committee may add a species to the list of species of concern outside the usual selection stage.
3. At its 24th meeting (AC24, Geneva, April 2009), on the basis of information available, the Animals Committee added a number of taxa for review as urgent cases. The list of taxa included in the review on that occasion is provided below.
4. The Secretariat notified range States on 23 July 2009 of the species selected, providing an explanation for this selection and requested comments regarding possible problems in implementing Article IV. Range States were given 60 days to respond.

Table: Taxa included in the Review of Significant Trade at AC24 in accordance with paragraph c) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)

Taxon	Range State	Responses received from range States – paragraph d) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)
<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands (see paragraphs 5 – 7 below)
<i>Balearica pavonina</i>	Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo, Uganda	No response
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe	Swaziland, Zimbabwe
<i>Huso huso</i> *	Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine	Azerbaijan, Croatia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

Taxon	Range State	Responses received from range States – paragraph d) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)
<i>Hippocampus kelloggi</i>	Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Taiwan (Province of China), Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam	Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam
<i>Hippocampus spinosissimus</i>	Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan (Province of China), Thailand, Viet Nam	Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam
<i>Hippocampus kuda</i>	American Samoa, Australia, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Fiji, French Polynesia (France), Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, New Caledonia (France), Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Taiwan (Province of China), Thailand, Tonga, United States of America, Viet Nam	Indonesia, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, New Caledonia (France), Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Togo	No response (see paragraphs 8 – 10 below)
<i>Tridacna</i> spp.	Solomon Islands	No response (see paragraphs 11 – 12 below)

* See also information from range States in document AC24 Doc. 7.5.

Tursiops aduncus – population of Solomon Islands

5. At AC24, the Committee included *Tursiops aduncus* from Solomon Islands in the Review of Significant Trade as an urgent case and recommended Solomon Islands set a more cautious quota.
6. The Secretariat wrote to Solomon Islands on 6 August 2009 to inform the Management Authority about this selection and recommendations by the Animals Committee and to seek the comments regarding any problems it had in the application of Article IV for this species.
7. In its letter of 28 September 2009, the Management Authority of Solomon Islands explained that its government had allocated 500,000 USD to help with dolphin surveys in the country. These surveys were expected to begin in November 2009 with some financial assistance from the South Pacific Whale Research Consortium (SPWRC). In line with the AC24 recommendation, in August 2008, the Cabinet of Solomon Islands Government gave its endorsement to halve the annual export quota of *Tursiops aduncus* from 100 to 50 specimens. The cabinet also endorsed that this quota be continuously reviewed. A national technical committee has been established to oversee organizational arrangements for the surveys. The government of Solomon Islands believes that, through these surveys, desired information will become available to produce a robust non-detriment finding.

Pandinus imperator

8. The formal inclusion of *P. imperator* in the Review of Significant Trade was postponed for several years because a report on the trade in this species was not published. The missions to the range States had been carried out before AC24 by the French *Muséum national d'histoire naturelle* and the resulting report was under discussion between the author and the range States concerned. However, since this report was still not available at AC24, the Committee decided to include this species in the Review of Significant Trade as an urgent case. It also recommended that the report be submitted to the AC as soon as possible. The Secretariat wrote to Benin on 21 September 2009 to inform it about this inclusion.
9. The Secretariat tried to resolve the obstacles in the report from the French *Muséum national d'histoire naturelle* and has also asked the regional representative for Africa, M. Khaled Zahzah, to contact the Management Authority of Benin in order to clarify the problems that prevented publication of the report.

10. Since no response has been received from Benin at the time of writing of this document (March 2011), the Secretariat decided to make it available to the Committee. The report in French is available as document AC25 Inf. 3.

Tridacnidae from Solomon Islands

11. At AC24, the Committee included the Solomon Islands population of *Tridacna* spp. in the Review of Significant Trade as an urgent case. It instructed the Secretariat to write to Solomon Islands and include in its letter *inter alia*:
 - a) An explanation of the differing information provided by Solomon Islands in its letter of 10 June 2004 and the published trade data from UNEP-WCMC;
 - b) An update on the status of captive-production facilities; and
 - c) Information on any recent quantitative surveys that have been conducted on giant clam abundance in Solomon Islands for all six species.
12. The Secretariat wrote to Solomon Islands on 6 August 2009 to inform the Management Authority about this selection and recommendations by the Animals Committee, and to seek comments regarding any problems it has in the application of Article IV for this species. No response had been received from Solomon Islands at the time of writing of this document (March 2011).

Actions required by the Animals Committee

13. In accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Committee is invited to review the available information, and if satisfied that Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), is correctly implemented eliminate the above mentioned species from the review with respect to the State concerned. In the event that the species is not eliminated from the review, in accordance with paragraph g) of the same resolution, the Secretariat will proceed with the compilation of information regarding the species.