

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

Twenty-seventh meeting of the Animals Committee  
Veracruz (Mexico), 28 April – 3 May 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Compliance and enforcement

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species  
[Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]

SPECIES SELECTED FOLLOWING COP13 AND COP14

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Animals Committee selected species for its Review of Significant Trade following the 13th and 14th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004; CoP14, Den Hague) in compliance with the provisions in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*. The actions that the Animals Committee undertook between the 15th and the 16th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15, Doha, 2010; CoP16, Bangkok, 2013) to progress the review of these species are detailed below.

Species selected following CoP13

3. The background to the Review of Significant Trade in *Mantella* spp., which was selected by the Animals Committee at its 21st meeting (AC21, Geneva, 2005), following CoP13, can be found in documents AC25 Doc. 9.3 and AC26 Doc. 12.2. The species remaining in the review after CoP15 were *Mantella aurantiaca*, *M. bernhardi*, *M. crocea*, *M. expectata* and *M. viridis*, all endemic to Madagascar. The reviews of these five species were conducted together with the reviews of species selected following CoP14, as described hereunder.

Species selected following CoP14

- 4.. Following CoP14, the Animals Committee selected 18 taxa for the Review of Significant Trade at its 23rd meeting (AC23, Geneva, 2008), and a further 10 taxa at its 24th meeting (AC24, Geneva, 2009), in compliance with paragraphs b) and c) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13). In accordance with the process outlined in paragraphs d) to p), following consultation with the range States, compilation of information and preliminary categorization, review of information, and confirmation of the categorizations, the Animals Committee formulated recommendations for 19 of these taxa at its 25th and 26th meetings (AC25, Geneva, 2011; AC26, Geneva, 2012), which were transmitted to the range States concerned
5. Concerning the measures taken regarding the implementation of the recommendations mentioned above [paragraphs q) to t)], the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, determined whether they had been implemented, and informed the Standing Committee accordingly at its 62nd and 63rd meetings (SC62, Geneva, 2012; SC63, Bangkok, 2013). The Secretariat also recommended appropriate action to the Standing Committee where, having consulted the Chair of the Animals Committee, it was not satisfied that the range State had implemented the recommendations of the Animals Committee (see documents SC62 Doc. 27.1 (Rev. 1) and SC63 Doc. 14). The actions that the Standing

Committee decided to take, or the recommendations that it made to the range States concerned, are contained in the summary records of SC62 and SC63 (see SC62 summary record; SC63 summary record).

6. The table below provides an overview of the taxa that were selected following CoP13 and CoP14, and the status of the review of significant trade in the range States concerned indicating: where recommendations have been met; where deadlines for the implementation of the recommendations from the Animals or Standing Committee have not yet passed, i.e. where actions are ongoing; or where the Standing Committee decided a suspension of trade in the affected species with that State. For those reviews that are ongoing, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, will need to determine whether the recommendations have been implemented, and informed the Standing Committee accordingly.

Taxon	Status of review in range States concerned
<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	- Ongoing actions: Solomon Islands
<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	- Ongoing actions: Cameroon - Suspension: Mozambique
<i>Balearica pavonina</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Nigeria - Suspension: Guinea, Sudan, South Sudan
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	- Ongoing actions: Uganda - Suspension: Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania
<i>Mantella aurantiaca</i> , <i>M. crocea</i> , <i>M. viridis</i>	- Ongoing actions: Madagascar
<i>Mantella bernhardii</i> , <i>M. expectata</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Madagascar
<i>Heosemys annandalii</i>	- Suspension: Lao People's Democratic Republic
<i>Heosemys grandis</i>	- Suspension: Lao People's Democratic Republic
<i>Testudo horsfieldii</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Uzbekistan - Ongoing actions: Tajikistan
<i>Amyda cartilaginea</i>	- Ongoing actions: Indonesia
<i>Uroplatus ebenau</i> , <i>U. fimbriatus</i> , <i>U. guentheri</i> , <i>U. henkei</i> , <i>U. lineatus</i> , <i>U. malama</i> , <i>U. phantasticus</i> , <i>U. pietschmanni</i> , <i>U. sikora</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Madagascar
<i>Chamaeleo africanus</i>	- Suspension: Niger
<i>Chamaeleo feae</i>	- Suspension: Equatorial Guinea
<i>Cordylus mossambicus</i>	- Suspension: Mozambique.
<i>Scaphiophryne gottlebei</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Madagascar
<i>Huso huso</i>	- Suspension: Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation
<i>Hippocampus kelloggi</i>	- Ongoing actions: Thailand
<i>Hippocampus spinosissimus</i>	- Ongoing actions: Thailand
<i>Hippocampus kuda</i>	- Ongoing actions: Thailand - Suspension: Viet Nam
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	- Ongoing actions: Ghana - Suspension: Benin, Togo
<i>Tridacna derasa</i>	- Ongoing actions: Solomon Islands
<i>T. crocea</i> , <i>T. gigas</i> , <i>T. maxima</i> , <i>T. squamosal</i>	- Ongoing actions: Solomon Islands

7. The Standing Committee agreed at SC63 that the cases: *Tursiops aduncus*, *Tridacna derasa*, *T. crocea*, *T. gigas*, *T. maxima* and *T. squamosa* from Solomon Islands; *Balearica regulorum* from Uganda; and *Hippopotamus amphibius* from Cameroon would be decided by postal procedure (principally because these range States had submitted information after the deadline for submission of documents to SC63). The outcome of this procedure was communicated to the Parties in Notification to the Parties No. 2013/049 of 8 November 2013.

8. In the light of information received from Uganda in the course of the postal procedure concerning *Balearica regulorum* and the need for the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, to determine whether the recommendations had been implemented, the Standing Committee agreed to discuss the case at its 65th meeting (Geneva, July 2014). The recommendations of the Animals Committee regarding the other species, details of the responses from the range States concerned, the determination of their implementation that the Secretariat made in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, and the decisions of the Standing Committee, are presented in Annex 1 to this document.
9. Concerning the Solomon Islands, the Secretariat informed the country about the decisions of the Standing Committee in November 2013, and requested that it provide full information in response to recommendations d) and g) for *Tridacna deresa*, and to recommendations c) and i) for *Tridacna crocea*, *T. gigas*, *T. maxima* and *T. squamosal*, in time for consideration by the Animals Committee at AC27. These recommendations require: (1) details of the methods and facilities used to produce *Tridacna* spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production; and (2) measures to ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild-harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of the Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.
10. The Solomon Islands responded in January 2014 to the letter of the Secretariat, recognizing and appreciating all decisions of the Standing Committee, and the publication of zero export quotas for *Tridacna* spp. of wild origin from Solomon Islands. No information that would be relevant for AC27 was included. However, the Secretariat is aware of CITES capacity building activities in the country that may help generate the required information, and will provide an update accordingly at the meeting. The Solomon Islands submitted their response to recommendations d) and g) mentioned above to the Secretariat on 12 March 2014 (see Annex 2).
11. The Secretariat draws the attention of the Committee to the decision concerning *Hippopotamus amphibius* that Cameroon should report at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee (2015) on a national population survey of *H. amphibius*, and progress with the establishment of science-based quotas and non-detriment findings for the species.

#### Recommendations

12. The Animals Committee is requested to take note of this document.
13. With regard to *Tridacna* spp. from the Solomon Islands, the Animals Committee is requested to consider the information provided by the Solomon Islands, as explained in paragraphs 9 and 10 above.
14. The Committee, and particular its representatives from Africa, may wish to remind Cameroon of its reporting requirements as indicated in paragraph 11.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE FOR SPECIES SELECTED FOR THE  
REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE; RESPONSES FROM THE RANGE STATES CONCERNED; DETERMINATION OF IMPLEMENTATION;  
AND DECISIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Recommendations by the Animals Committee	Summary of responses from the range States	Determination of implementation; Decisions of the Standing Committee
<b><i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> (hippopotamus)</b>		
<p><b>Cameroon (Possible concern)</b> <u>Within 90 days (by 4 January 2012):</u></p> <p>a) The Management Authority should clarify what legal protection is afforded to this species in Cameroon and provide an explanation for the perceived discrepancies between reported Customs data (imports) and CITES data (exports) referred to in AC25 Doc 9.4;</p> <p>b) Provide available information to the Secretariat on the distribution, abundance and conservation status and any current management measures in place for <i>H. amphibius</i> in Cameroon; and</p> <p>c) Provide justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the quantities of <i>H. amphibius</i> exported were not detrimental to the survival of the species and in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3.</p>	<p>The Management Authority of Cameroon provided information in January 2013 in response to the trade suspension for <i>H. amphibius</i> that took effect as of 26 August 2012, in accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee taken at SC62. The information is summarized below.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The species is totally protected. However, exceptionally, animals are allowed to be killed in certain areas and linked to problem animals. The resulting trophies and other specimens of <i>H. amphibius</i> are allowed to be exported.</li> <li>– The Management Authority suggests that the perceived discrepancies between reported trade data between Cameroon and importing countries (i.e. more imports than exports are recorded) may be due to illegal trade. The Management Authority stresses for all Parties that all hippo specimens should be covered by valid Cameroonian export permits, and informs that it will start issuing electronic permits in 2013.</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendations b) and c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– An average of 45 animals is being taken per year. The Management Authority considers that this is sustainable if the population would be 1,500 animals as indicated in the UNEP-WCMC report that was analyzed by the Animals Committee. It considers however that the population of hippopotamus in Cameroon may be 5 times higher.</li> <li>– Information is provided regarding the distribution of the species in the country and the river systems in which it occurs. It is present in</li> </ul>	<p><u>The Secretariat and Animals Committee Chair's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>The recommendations of the Animals Committee were met in part, with the notable exception of recommendation c). Cameroon addressed several of the Animals Committee recommendations, stating to be committed to make concerted efforts to improve the protection and management of wildlife. Cameroon stresses the negative impact of the current trade suspension on the management of <i>H. amphibius</i> in the country, and indicates that it is planning a survey to establish the conservation status of the species.</p> <p>The size of the wild population of <i>H. amphibius</i> in Cameroon and the manner in which Non Detriment Findings are made remain unclear.</p> <p><b><u>Decision of the Standing Committee</u></b> <b>Cameroon should:</b></p> <p>a) <b>as an interim measure, limit the exports of specimens of <i>H. amphibius</i> for 2013, 2014 and</b></p>

	<p>5 of the 10 regions (or provinces) in Cameroon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The species is not believed to be threatened. A survey of the species is reportedly in preparation to confirm this general assessment. The species also benefits from measures that Cameroon is stated to take to fight the illegal exploitation of wildlife in the country, improve wildlife protection and combat poaching. These include: an action plan to secure the protected areas in Northern Cameroon; the creation of an inter-ministerial task force to coordinate information flows and actions; the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with local communities bordering protecting areas to improve their engagement in protection efforts; and the establishment of a new hippopotamus reserve in West Cameroon.</li> <li>– The Management Authority requests that the current trade suspension be lifted so that trophies can again be exported, arguing that this enhances the management of hippos by generating benefits for local people. It considers it important to rally riverine populations and economic hunting operators to the cause of conservation by allowing a legal, controlled offtake, rather than turn them into poachers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2015 to a maximum of 10 trophies per year, to be published on the CITES website;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>b) report at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee (2015) on a national population survey of <i>H. amphibius</i>, and progress with the establishment of science-based quotas and non-detriment findings for the species; and</b></li> <li><b>c) submit a report to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 66th meeting (2015), on its compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, of the Convention, including information on the establishment of non-detriment findings for trade in <i>H. amphibius</i>, and population status information</b></li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Tursiops aduncus</i> (Indo-Pacific bottle-nosed dolphin)</b></p>		
<p><b>Solomon Islands (Possible concern)</b>  <u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Immediately establish an annual export quota for this species of no more than 10 specimens as an interim measure and communicate this to the Secretariat;</li> <li>b) Provide to the Secretariat a report of the most recent surveys on the status, estimated abundance, site fidelity and population genetics of <i>T. aduncus</i> in the Solomon Islands; and</li> <li>c) Report on measures taken to ensure that any captures for export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species or sub-populations and will be in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6.</li> </ul> <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p>	<p>The Secretariat received a reply from the Management Authority of the Solomon Islands in the course of February 2013. This addresses the short-term recommendations, and is summarized below.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Since February 2012, the Solomon Islands Government, through the Management Authority, has introduced strong measures in compliance with Cabinet directives and relevant Animal Committee's resolutions. Beginning with the reduction of the annual quota of 100 to 50 specimens, the Cabinet further directed that this new, cautious quota be continually reviewed and that dolphin surveys be conducted as a basis for this review to be realized.</li> <li>– Dolphin surveys have been conducted in the country from 2009 to 2011. The last exports of dolphins from Solomon Islands occurred in the final quarter of 2011.</li> <li>– The Management Authority has taken further steps in the last</li> </ul>	<p><u>The Secretariat and Animals Committee Chair's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendations a) to c) of the Animals Committee have been complied with.</p> <p>The results of the surveys required under recommendation b) are contained in the reply from the Management Authority, rather than reported separately.</p> <p>The Solomon Islands developed a management strategy which can assist in addressing recommendation d) by March 2014.</p> <p><b><u>Decision of the Standing Committee</u></b></p> <p><b>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that the Solomon Islands</b></p>

<p>d) Before amending or revising the interim annual quota established in accordance with paragraph a) and, pending the results of the recent survey referred to in paragraph b), provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the export quota will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and is in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6.</p>	<p>quarter of 2011 to ensure that a proper management regime is in place for the dolphin trade. A Cabinet directive [Extract Conclusion C 27 (2011) 4] on Ban on Dolphin Export came into force on 1 January 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– This was followed by another Cabinet directive [Extract Conclusion C 29 (2011) 3] for a Joint Oversight High Level CITES Management Committee to be established.</li> <li>– In May 2012, a national workshop on the Dolphin Survey Assessment project was convened in Honiara. The purpose of workshop was to present and discuss the results of the Dolphin Assessment Project Field Surveys 2009 - 2011. It was the ultimate aim of the workshop to identify common issues and develop a framework for formulation of the National Dolphin Management and Development Plan for Solomon Islands.</li> <li>– The issue of quota setting is being addressed in the National Dolphin Management and Development Plan with information largely made available from the Dolphin Survey Assessment project. The National Dolphin Management Committee is responsible for the development of the Dolphin Management Plan.</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendation b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Government of Solomon Islands, through the Management Authority and Scientific Authority, collaborated with South Pacific Whale Research Consortium (SpWRC) on the Solomon Islands Dolphin Project 2009 - 20011, over a period of two years.</li> <li>– The objectives of the dolphin surveys were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to gain an improved understanding of the population status and dynamics of Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins (<i>T. aduncus</i>) in the Solomon Islands and to contribute to a robust science-based assessment of the sustainability of current authorized levels of live-capture removal, and</li> <li>b) to provide the Government of Solomon Islands with scientific advice, based on robust data, to help in management decisions involving the removal of dolphins from their wild populations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>– The series of surveys produced some useful and relevant information about the level of site fidelity and population distribution and abundance of <i>T. aduncus</i> in all but one island (Malaita) included in the field surveys. The surveys show that a similar pattern is observed elsewhere for this species which</li> </ul>	<p><b>is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. aduncus</i>. In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures concerning this species, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>T. aduncus</i> from Solomon Islands on its website.</b></p>
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	<p>usually constitute small resident populations limited to coastal habitat. The fairly high level of re-sighting at Guadalcanal, Florida Islands and Santa Isabel is suggestive of small population sizes. Summing of the four <i>T. aduncus</i> populations abundance estimates suggest a total abundance of around 700-1,300 dolphins in the area.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The last dolphin export from Solomon Islands occurred in the final quarter of 2011. A ban on dolphin export is in force since 1 January 2012.</li> <li>– See also responses to recommendation a).</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Tridacna derasa</i> (deresa clam)</b>		
<p><b>Solomon Islands (Urgent concern)</b>  <u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Clarify to the Secretariat the legal status of the species in the Solomon Islands and inform the Secretariat whether present policy or legislation allows for the export of wild-taken specimens of the species;</li> <li>b) Establish immediately a zero export quota for wild-taken specimens;</li> <li>c) Provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that any exports will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and are in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3;</li> <li>d) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production;</li> <li>e) Initiate measures to ensure that descriptions on all CITES permits are standardized so that trade is only permitted at the species level and that, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15), Section XIV, paragraph e), trade ceases to</li> </ul>	<p>The Secretariat received a reply from the Management Authority of the Solomon Islands in the course of February 2013. This addresses the short-term recommendations made concerning <i>Tridacna</i> spp., and is summarized below.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Trade in wild clams is prohibited and regulated under Fisheries Regulation 1996 Legal Notice (LN) 3/1996, Protection of Wild Clams, which reads " Any person who has in his possession for sale, sells or buys or exports any clam meat or the product of clams of the genus <i>Tridacna</i> and <i>Hippoppus</i> harvested from the wild, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of one hundred dollars or to imprisonment for three months or to both such fine and imprisonment".</li> <li>– The Regulation therefore constitutes a management measure restricting any exports and local sales of wild-taken specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. From and within Solomon Islands.</li> <li>– Legal Notice (LN) 3/1996 has not been amended and is still effectively in force. This Regulation was introduced following the unsustainable harvest of these species in the country in the past.</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendation b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– This Recommendation is no longer considered relevant because of the validity of Legal Notice (LN) 3/1996 protection of Wild Clams.</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendation c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– This Recommendation is no longer considered relevant because of</li> </ul>	<p><u>The Secretariat and Animals Committee Chair's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendation a) has been complied with.</p> <p>As a consequence of the existing prohibition to export wild specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. from the Solomon Islands, recommendations b), c) and g) of the Animals Committee are not or no longer relevant.</p> <p>Recommendation d) is partially complied with although the Management Authority does not provide details on production levels of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, as recommended.</p> <p>The implementation of recommendations e) and f) is related to the development of a new permitting system and legislation, which is ongoing.</p> <p>The long-term recommendations h), i) and j) remain to be implemented, noting that they may not be relevant in case Solomon Islands' present regulations for trade in <i>Tridacna</i> spp. remain in effect.</p>

<p>be reported or permitted at higher taxon levels (genus or family); and</p> <p>f) Ensure that appropriate units are recorded on permits for trade in specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp., namely to record meat in kilograms, live specimens by number, and shells by number of pieces (weight as secondary unit).</p> <p><u>Within 180 days (by 20 September 2012)</u></p> <p>g) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild-harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p> <p>h) Prepare, adopt and implement a fishery management plan for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. which should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) stock assessments of clam populations subject to harvest, including estimates of abundance, distribution and age/size classes;</li> <li>ii) adaptive management measures, including sustainable catch and export quotas based on monitoring of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, including catch and effort data and a long-term population monitoring programme;</li> <li>iii) appropriate regulatory measures, such as limited entry, licensing of fishermen, size limitations, fishing seasons and no-take zones, compatible with any customary systems of marine tenure, and ensure sufficient provisions for the enforcement of such regulations; and</li> </ul>	<p>the validity of Legal Notice (LN) 3/1996 protection of Wild Clams.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation d):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The World Fish Centre has established a breeding facility for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in the western part of the country and supplies certain farmers only with aquarium-size specimens.</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendations e) and f):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The New Zealand government, through the Department of Conservation, has been very helpful to the Management Authority of Solomon Islands over the past several years by providing technical and financial support for effective implementation of CITES in Solomon Islands. During a high level meeting in Honiara in December 2012, the New Zealand government offered to assist Solomon Islands to review and subsequently draft a new CITES implementing legislation for the country to replace the current Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998.</li> <li>– Drafting of the new legislation will ensure that Solomon Islands' permitting system will fully comply with CITES requirements, and it is expected to commence in the second quarter of 2013.'</li> </ul> <p>Concerning recommendation g):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– See replies to recommendations a).</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Decision of the Standing Committee</u></b></p> <p><b>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that Solomon Islands is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. derasa</i>.</b></p> <p><b>The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations d) and g) by 1 February 2014, in time for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.</b></p> <p><b>In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. of wild origin from Solomon Islands on the CITES website. This quota could be reviewed in the light of Solomon Islands' further implementation of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.</b></p>
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<p>iv) measures to enable the recovery of depleted populations, including re-stocking with hatchery-produced specimens, and restoring population densities to enable effective reproduction;</p> <p>i) Supply the management plan and supporting evidence of implementation to the Secretariat for validation; and</p> <p>j) Based on the management plan, establish precautionary export quotas, separately for wild and captive-produced specimens (if export of wild specimens is permitted), on a species-specific basis.</p>		
<b><i>Tridacna crocea, T. gigas, T. maxima, T. squamosa (clams)</i></b>		
<p><b>Solomon Islands (Possible concern)</b>  <u>Within 90 days (by 22 June 2012):</u></p> <p>a) Clarify to the Secretariat the legal status of the species in the Solomon Islands and inform the Secretariat whether the present policy allows for the export of wild-taken specimens of the species;</p> <p>b) Provide to the Secretariat the justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that any exports will not be detrimental to the survival of the species and are in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3;</p> <p>c) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce and/or raise <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production;</p> <p>d) Initiate measures to ensure that descriptions on all CITES permits are standardized so that trade is only permitted at the species level and that, in compliance</p>	<p>The Secretariat received a reply from the Management Authority of the Solomon Islands in the course of February 2013. This addresses the short-term recommendations made concerning <i>Tridacna</i> spp., and is summarized below.</p> <p>Concerning recommendation a) to e):</p> <p>– See responses for <i>T. derasa</i>.</p>	<p><u>The Secretariat and Animals Committee Chair's determination regarding implementation of the recommendations</u></p> <p>Recommendation a) has been complied with.</p> <p>As a consequence of the existing prohibition to export wild specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. from the Solomon Islands, recommendation b) of the Animals Committee is not relevant.</p> <p>Recommendation c) is partially complied with although the Management Authority does not provide details on production levels of <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, as recommended.</p> <p>The implementation of recommendations d) and e) is related to the development of a new permitting system and legislation, which is ongoing.</p> <p>The long-term recommendations f) to i) remain to be implemented, noting that they may not be relevant in case Solomon Islands' present regulations for</p>

<p>with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP15), Section XIV, paragraph e), trade ceases to be reported or permitted at higher taxon levels (genus or family); and</p> <p>e) Ensure that appropriate units are recorded on permits for trade in specimens of <i>Tridacna</i> spp., namely to record meat in kilograms, live specimens by number, and shells by number of pieces (weight as secondary unit).</p> <p><u>Within 2 years (by 24 March 2014)</u></p> <p>f) Prepare, adopt and implement a fishery management plan for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. which should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) stock assessments of clam populations subject to harvest, including estimates of abundance, distribution and age/size classes;</li> <li>ii) adaptive management measures; including sustainable catch and export quotas based on monitoring of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, including catch and effort data and a long-term population monitoring programme;</li> <li>iii) appropriate regulatory measures, such as limited entry, licensing of fishermen, size limitations, fishing seasons and no-take zones, compatible with any customary systems of marine tenure, and ensure sufficient provisions for the enforcement of such regulations; and</li> <li>iv) measures to enable the recovery of depleted populations, including restocking with hatchery-produced specimens and restoring population densities to enable effective reproduction;</li> </ul> <p>g) Supply the management plan and</p>		<p>trade in <i>Tridacna</i> spp. remain in effect.</p> <p><b><u>Decision of the Standing Committee</u></b></p> <p><b>The Standing Committee takes note of the progress that Solomon Islands is making in implementing the recommendations of the Animals Committee concerning <i>T. crocea</i>, <i>T. gigas</i>, <i>T. maxima</i> and <i>T. squamosa</i>.</b></p> <p><b>The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations c) and i) of the Animals Committee by 1 February 2014. The information provided should be considered by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.</b></p> <p><b>In support of Solomon Islands' current trade measures, the Secretariat should publish a zero export quota for <i>Tridacna</i> spp. of wild origin from Solomon Islands on the CITES website. This quota could be reviewed in the light of Solomon Islands' further implementation of the recommendations of the Animals Committee.</b></p>
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<p>supporting evidence of implementation to the Secretariat for validation;</p> <p>h) Based on the management plan, establish precautionary export quotas, separately for wild and captive-produced specimens (if export of wild specimens is permitted), on a species-specific basis; and</p> <p>i) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.</p>		
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Solomon Islands Government

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES**

**P. O. Box G13**

**Honiara**

**Solomon Islands**

*Please reply to the  
Permanent Secretary*

Phone: (+677) 39143  
Fax: (+677) 38730

**Your Ref: DHM/ELK  
MFMR Ref: F/15/36**

12 March, 2014

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Chair  
Animal Committee  
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora  
International Environmental House  
Chemin des Anemones  
CH-1219 Chatelaine  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf.12.8 (Rev.CoP13) paragraph]**

I thank you for posting the Notification to Parties (No. 2013/049, dated: 8 November, 2013) on the decision made by the Standing committee, based on the recommendation by the Animal committee, on the review of Significant trade in specimens of Appendix -II for *Tridacna derasa* (derasa clam) and *Tridacna crocea*, *T.gigas*, *T.maxima*, and *T. squamosa* (clams) for Solomon Islands.

In response to information required by the Standing Committee, Solomon Islands is herein submitting current status (see attached) on clam breeding facilities and method for selection and identification of wild stock and bred stock.

I thank you for understanding and consideration into this matter.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James Teri'.

James Teri  
Director  
**For Permanent Secretary**  
Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

**Solomon Islands' response to the recommendations of the Standing Committee Notification No. 2013/049**

<b>Recommendations of the Animals Committee</b>	<b>Decision by Standing Committee</b>	<b>Solomon Islands Response</b>
<i>Tridacna derasa</i> (derasa clam)		
d) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production.	The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations d) and g) by 1 February 2014, in time for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.	Currently, there are no facilities that are in operation to produce <i>Tridacna</i> spp in captivity. The World Fish Center facility that used to produce clam species had ceased operation at the end of 2012, with the funding period ended.
g) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild-harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of the Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITIES permits.	The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations d) and g) by 1 February 2014, in time for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.	As advised in Solomon Islands response to recommendation (d), there are currently no facilities in operation and also, the Solomon Islands Government had imposed a ban (regulation is been recently amended in 2014) for the "wild harvest for export" on all clam species, with exception for dead clams. Dead clams, are those been harvested for consumption or died naturally with shells been discard and exposed to be weathered for a year. A copy of the regulation is herein attached for your information.
<i>Tridacna crocea, T.gigas, T.maxima and T. squamosal</i> (clams)		
c) Provide details to the Secretariat of the methods and facilities used to produce and/or raise <i>Tridacna</i> spp. in captivity, and current and anticipated levels of production	The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations c) and i) of the Animals Committee by 1 February 2014. The information provided should be considered by the Animals Committee at	Response is already provided above in response to recommendation (d) under <i>Tridacna derasa</i> (derasa clam).

	its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.	
i) Ensure that specimens produced from captive-production systems are distinguished in trade from genuine wild harvested specimens, that separate export quotas are established and that, with the assistance of Secretariat, source codes appropriate to the production system are used on CITES permits.	The Secretariat should request Solomon Islands to provide full information in response to recommendations c) and i) of the Animals Committee by 1 February 2014. The information provided should be considered by the Animals Committee at its 27th meeting, and by the Standing Committee at its 65th meeting.	Response is already provided above in response to recommendation (g) under <i>Tridacna derasa</i> (derasa clam).



James Teri

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources  
Solomon Islands Government

[Legal Notice No. 10]

**THE FISHERIES ACT 1998  
(No. 6 of 1998)**

**THE FISHERIES (CLAM) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2014**

**IN** exercise of the powers conferred by section 25 and 59 of the Fisheries Act 1998, I, **ALFRED GHIRO**, MP, Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources, do hereby make the following regulations:

1. This Regulation may be cited as the Fisheries (Clam) (Amendment) Regulation 2014, and shall come into operation on the date of the publication in the *Gazette*.

2. The Fisheries Regulations 1972, is hereby amended by deleting Regulation 15 of the Fisheries Regulations 1972 and substituting with the following:

“15(1) Any person who, damages, harvest from the wild, retain or in possession of, or buys for sale or export any clam meat or clam products of the genus *Tridacna* and *Hippopus*, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of 5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for five months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Regulation 15(1) shall not apply to dead clam shells.

(3) A person may apply to the Director for a Dead Clamshell Export Permit for the export of dead clam shells.

(4) A person in contravention of these Regulation 15(3) commits an offence:

(a) shall be liable to fine of not exceeding 100,000 penalty units; and

(b) the Director may cancel any licence issued to such person under these Regulations.

Dated this seventeenth day of February, 2014.

**HON. ALFRED GHIRO, MP**  
Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources

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