

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

Exemptions and special trade provisions

CAPTIVE-BRED AND RANCHED SPECIMENS  
(Agenda item 17)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Co-Chairs: representative of Europe (Mr Fleming) and the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Calvar Agrelo);
- Parties: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, South Africa and United States of America; and
- IGOs and NGOs: European Commission, IUCN, Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Colombian Agroindustrial Company, Cheetah Conservation Fund, Conservation International, Defenders of Wildlife, Eurogroup for Animals, Fundación Cethus, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, International Professional Hunter's Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, ProWildlife, Responsible Ecosystems Resourcing Platform, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International, Wildlife Conservation Society and WWF.

Mandate

Taking account of discussions in plenary and using information in document AC27 Doc. 17, and recognizing: a) that not all of the outputs requested under Decision 16.63.a) are yet available; and b) that discussions under other AC agenda items are relevant, the working group shall:

1. Identify common themes, difficulties and challenges with respect to the trade in specimens [claimed to be] derived from captive breeding, captive production or ranching (source codes D, C, R & F);
2. Review and consider the factors that result in these difficulties and challenges and elucidate any conservation implications arising from the concerns identified;
3. Suggest mechanisms which may help to mitigate the issues identified; and
4. Draft recommendations for consideration by the Committee and submission to the Standing Committee in accordance with Decision 16.63.

## Recommendations

1. The working group recommends that the Committee endorses the the conclusions of the TRAFFIC report in Annex 1 of AC27 Doc. 17; the group recommends that the Animals Committee note these reports and that they identify many of the common themes and challenges with respect to trade in specimens derived from captive-production systems.
2. The working group also recommended that the Animals Committee notes that the issues identified in the reports might have a range of implications for conservation of wild populations but that these issues require greater analysis.
3. The working group recognised that in considering mechanisms to mitigate the issues identified, there were two separate issues: a) one being where source codes were being incorrectly applied and b) where source codes were being deliberately mis-used to enable trade in specimens which might not otherwise be permitted. As these are separate issues, they call for separate and distinct actions.

a) Incorrect application of source codes

The working group recommends that the Animals Committee:

- i. agrees that, with respect to Decision 15.52, there is no need to seek to modify the number or definitions of the source codes currently available;
- ii. emphasise, therefore, that implementation of Decision 15.52 remains a high priority to help Parties to determine the correct source code to apply to specimens derived from captive production systems.
- iii. advise the Secretariat, when commissioning the report required under Decision 15.52, that it should ensure that the guide commissioned under this Decision should provide examples of the full range of different captive production systems and advise on the correct source code which should be applied to each;
- iv. note that the implementation of other Decisions related to captive breeding and other production systems (such as Decisions 16.63 a) vii) and Decision 16.102 f) i) would also assist Parties in interpreting and applying source codes for such systems.

b) Deliberate mis-use of source codes

The working group recommends that the Animals Committee agrees:

- i. that a mechanism is required, under the Convention, to enable concerns regarding the potential mis-use of source codes for specimens derived from captive production systems to be investigated and for measures to be taken in a timely manner to ensure compliance with the Convention;
- ii. that revision of existing mechanisms should be considered as well as new mechanisms;
- iii. that these conclusions should be provided to the Standing Committee at its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting as a contribution to its work under Decision 16.66.

## Future work

The working group recommends that the Animals Committee:

- a) agrees that, in order to complete the tasks directed to it under Decision 16.65, the working group should continue to work inter-sessionally; the role of this group shall be:
  - i. to consider in more detail the conservation implications of the concerns identified with respect to specimens claimed to be derived from captive production systems;

- ii. to consider and review additional outputs arising from Decision 16.63 as they become available;
- iii. to liaise with, and take account of, the outcome of other Animals Committee working groups also addressing issues related to captive production systems;
- iv. to consider means and criteria by which regular monitoring and analysis of trade data can be used to identify cases where trade in specimens reported to be produced in captive production systems suggests there are concerns which require further analysis and consideration;
- v. to consider possible mechanisms to address concerns identified with deliberate mis-use of source codes for specimens reported to be derived from captive production systems and suggest options to address these, noting that the emphasis should be, where feasible, on using or amending existing mechanisms available under the Convention rather than creating new mechanisms;
- vi. to provide a report to the 28th Animals Committee detailing the conclusion of their work.

Directed to the Standing Committee

The working group recommends that the Animals Committee advise the Standing Committee at its 65 meeting that the Animals Committee:

- i. has not been able to complete its tasks in full under Decision 16.65 as not all the outputs of Decision 16.63 were available to it at its 27<sup>th</sup> meeting;
- ii. will continue to work inter-sessionally to complete the tasks required of it in order to conclude its work by its 28<sup>th</sup> meeting and so provide a full report to the 66<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting;
- iii. has concluded, in the interim, that a mechanism is required under the Convention to address concerns arising from the trade in specimens reported to be produced in captivity;
- iv. will provide recommendations to the Standing Committee on potential measures that could be adopted to identify and address issues of concern.