

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



Twenty-eighth meeting of the Animals Committee
Tel Aviv (Israel), 30 August-3 September 2015

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

FRESHWATER STINGRAYS (FAMILY POTAMOTRYGONIDAE)
(DECISIONS 16.131 AND 16.132)
(Agenda item 18)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Chair: Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar) ;
- Parties: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Peru and United States of America; and
- IGOs and NGOs: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC International and Wildlife Conservation Society.

Mandate

1. Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:
 - a) examine the information in the document AC28 Doc. 18 and other relevant information;
 - b) consider how the Animals Committee and its working group should complete the tasks entrusted to it in Decisions 16.131 and 16.132;
 - c) consider and advise on the discussions and conclusions presented in the Annex of document AC28 Doc. 18, including options for the possible inclusion of freshwater stingrays in the CITES Appendices; and
 - d) consider the reporting by the Animals Committee to the 17th Conference of the Parties on the progress made by the working group, and its recommendations and conclusions, in accordance with Decision 16.132 c).
2. The working group shall make recommendations accordingly for the Animals Committee to consider.

Recommendations:

1. Urge Parties to take note of the report of the Freshwater Stingray (family Potamotrygonidae) Expert Workshop in Colombia (October 28-29, 2014) contained in the Annex to AC28 Doc. 18, including the identified priority species of concern* and the need to enhance currently available population information

2. That all the range States of freshwater stingrays (family Potamotrygonidae) add all species of concern* in the family to Appendix III
3. Urge Parties, particularly range States, to continue to consider options for listing on Appendix II".
4. Continue to exchange information on these species between the range States
5. Request that the CITES Secretariat, NGOs, IGOs (including FAO) and Parties provide range States with support for mathematic modeling of population trends for freshwater stingrays
6. Urge Parties and NGOs to research the captive breeding industry for freshwater stingrays (family Potamotrygonidae) at the global level, including the species involved, numbers produced, and source of parental stock as well as the international trade demand.
7. Parties take note of additional information provided in AC28 Inf. Doc. 25
8. The report to CoP 17, requested in Decision 16.132 c), should include the recommendations above in paragraphs 1-7 and the report of the Freshwater Stingray (family Potamotrygonidae) Expert Workshop in Colombia (October 28-29, 2014 contained in Annex I if AC 28 Doc. 18

* Species of priority concern (identified in the Annex to AC28 Doc. 18).
Paratrygon "aiereba" species complex (Amazon and Orinoco basins).
Potamotrygon leopoldi (Amazon basin)
Potamotrygon schroederi (Amazon and Orinoco basins)
Potamotrygon brachyura (other catchment basins)
Potamotrygon "motoro" species complex (all catchments)
Note that the priority species identified includes both undescribed species and clusters of species.