

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

Compliance and enforcement

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

SPECIES SELECTED FOLLOWING CO13, COP14 AND COP15

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Animals Committee selected species for its Review of Significant Trade following the 13th, 14th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004; CoP14, The Hague, 2007; CoP15, Doha, 2010) in compliance with the provisions in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*. An updated status of the cases that remain in the review is 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 [AC21 Summary Record](#), [AC23 Summary Record](#), [AC25 Doc. 9.3](#), [AC26 Doc. 12.2](#), [AC27 Doc. 12.3](#) and [SC65 Doc. 26.1](#). The species remaining in the review after the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC27, Veracruz, April 2014) and the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC65, Geneva, July 2014) are shown in the table below.

**Taxa selected following CoP13 and retained in the review after SC65**

Taxon selected	Status of review in range State concerned
<i>Mantella crocea</i>	Ongoing actions: Madagascar
<i>Mantella viridis</i>	Ongoing actions: Madagascar

4. In February 2014, Madagascar provided comprehensive information on the implementation of the long-term recommendations concerning *Mantella aurantiaca* and, in compliance with paragraph r) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Secretariat, following consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee, has notified the Party that the species has been removed from the review.
5. Regarding *M. crocea* and *M. viridis*, the Animals Committee determined at its 25th meeting (AC25, Geneva, July 2011) that the following recommendations should be implemented by Madagascar:
  - a) a zero quota should be established immediately;
  - b) Madagascar should find the resources for a long-term standardized monitoring programme for the three species to be able to monitor the population trends in protected and unprotected areas and the

effect of trade, should it be resumed. Reference to such standardized monitoring programme may be found in document [AC24 Doc. 9.1](#) – p. 25, *Measuring and Monitoring Biological Diversity – Standard methods for Amphibians*;

- c) on the basis of the information received and the results stemming from these programmes, such as population estimates and NDFs, precautionary quotas may be set in the future; and
- d) adaptive management strategies should be implemented.

6. At its 62nd meeting (SC62, Geneva, July 2012), the Standing Committee decided that Madagascar should implement recommendations b) to d) of the Animals Committee before exports of *M. crocea* or *M. viridis* can take place, and that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, should determine compliance with these recommendations.

#### Species selected following CoP14

7. The background to the Review of Significant Trade in species selected by the Animals Committee at its 23rd and 24th meetings (AC23, Geneva, 2008; AC24, Geneva, 2009), following CoP14, can be found in documents [AC25 Doc. 9.4](#), [AC26 Doc. 12.2](#), [AC27 Doc. 12.3](#), [SC63 Doc. 14](#) and [SC65 Doc. 26.1](#). The Table below indicates the species retained in the review and the status of the review in the range States concerned.

#### **Taxa selected following CoP14 and retained in the review after SC65**

Taxon	Status of review in range States concerned
<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	- Ongoing actions: Cameroon - Suspension: Mozambique
<i>Balearica pavonina</i>	- Suspension: Guinea, Sudan, South Sudan
<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	- Complied with recommendations: Uganda - Suspension: Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania
<i>Heosemys annandalii</i>	- Suspension: Lao People's Democratic Republic
<i>Heosemys grandis</i>	- Suspension: Lao People's Democratic Republic
<i>Testudo horsfieldii</i>	- Ongoing actions: Tajikistan
<i>Chamaeleo africanus</i>	- Suspension: Niger
<i>Triceros (Chamaeleo) feae</i>	- Suspension: Equatorial Guinea
<i>Cordylus mossambicus</i>	- Suspension: Mozambique
<i>Huso huso</i>	- Suspension: 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>	- Suspension: Benin, Ghana, Togo
<i>Tridacna derasa</i>	- Ongoing actions: Solomon Islands
<i>T. crocea</i> , <i>T. gigas</i> , <i>T. maxima</i> , <i>T. squamosa</i>	- Ongoing actions: Solomon Islands

8. Regarding *Hippopotamus amphibius*, the Animals Committee categorized Cameroon as 'of possible concern' and formulated recommendations at its 25th meeting (AC25, Geneva, July 2011). The Standing Committee at its 62nd meeting (SC62, Geneva, July 2012) recommended that all Parties suspend trade in all specimens of *H. amphibius* from Cameroon if the recommendations of the Animals Committee were not implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee.
9. In response to the trade suspension for *H. amphibius*, the Management Authority of Cameroon provided information in January 2013 which met the recommendations of the Animals Committee in part, with the

notable exception of the recommendation to provide a justification for, and details of, the scientific basis by which it has been established that the quantities of *H. amphibius* exported were not detrimental to the survival of the species and in compliance with Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3.

10. At its 63rd meeting (SC63, Bangkok, March 2013), the Standing Committee agreed that the case of *H. amphibius* from Cameroon would be decided by postal procedure. The outcome of this procedure was communicated to the Parties in Notification to the Parties [No. 2013/049](#) of 8 November 2013. The Standing Committee decided that Cameroon should:
  - a) as an interim measure, limit the exports of specimens of *H. amphibius* for 2013, 2014 and 2015 to a maximum of 10 trophies per year, to be published on the CITES website;
  - b) 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; and
  - c) submit a report to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 66th meeting, 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 *H. amphibius*, and population status information.
11. In July 2015 the Management Authority of Cameroon provided a synthesis of a management plan for *H. amphibius* in Cameroon. It can be found in Annex 1 to this document in the language in which it was received.

#### Species selected following CoP15

12. Following CoP15, the Animals Committee at its 25th meeting (AC25, Geneva, 2011) selected 24 taxa for the Review of Significant Trade, in compliance with paragraphs a) and b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) (see documents [AC25 Doc.9.3](#) and [AC25 Doc. 9.6](#)).
13. At its 26th meeting (AC26, Geneva, 2012), the Committee reviewed the available information on these taxa in accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13). In instances where the Committee was satisfied that Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), was correctly implemented, it eliminated the species from the review with respect to the range State concerned, and these range States were notified accordingly by the Secretariat (see document [AC26 Doc.12.3](#) and the [summary record of AC26](#)).
14. At AC26, the Committee also agreed that prior to the compilation of information called for in paragraph g) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), range States that had been kept in the process due to a lack of response but where no commercial trade had been recorded over the most recent 10 years, would be removed from the process in consultation with the Animals Committee.
15. At AC27, following consultation with the range States concerned and based on the compilation of information and preliminary categorization, a review of information, and the confirmation of the categorizations, the Animals Committee formulated recommendations for 17 of the taxa that were retained in the review after AC26, in accordance with the process outlined in paragraphs d) to p) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13). These taxa and the relevant range States are shown in the table below.

#### **Taxa selected following CoP15 and retained in the review after AC26**

Taxon selected	Range States
<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet Nam
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	Central African Republic
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Benin, Ghana, Togo
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Benin, Ghana
<i>Kinyongia fischeri</i>	United Republic of Tanzania
<i>Kinyongia tavetana</i>	United Republic of Tanzania
<i>Triceros melleri</i>	Mozambique
<i>Triceros quadricornis</i>	Cameroon
<i>Ptyas mucosus</i>	Lao People's Democratic Republic
<i>Python reticulatus</i>	Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia
<i>Podocnemis unifilis</i>	Peru
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Benin, Togo

Taxon selected	Range States
<i>Hippocampus algiricus</i>	Guinea, Senegal
<i>Hippocampus trimaculatus</i>	Thailand
Order Antipatharia	Taiwan Province of China
<i>Plerogyra simplex</i>	Fiji
<i>Plerogyra sinuosa</i>	Fiji

16. The recommendations that the Animals Committee formulated at AC27 included requests for additional information from selected range States, that should be provided to the Secretariat for transmission to the Animals Committee for review at its 28th meeting (AC28) (see document [AC27 WG1 Doc.1](#)). This concerned Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam regarding *Macaca fascicularis*; Central African Republic regarding *Psittacus erithacus*; Cameroon regarding *Triceros quadricornis*; Lao PDR regarding *Ptyas mucosus* and *Python reticulatus*; Peru regarding *Podocnemis unifilis*; and Benin and Togo regarding *Kinixys homeana*.
17. In accordance with paragraph p) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Secretariat transmitted the recommendations of the Animals Committee to the range States concerned on 2 June 2014.
18. At the time of writing (June 2015), the Secretariat had received information on the implementation of the recommendations from the following range States:
  - Cambodia with information concerning *Macaca fascicularis* (possible concern) (August 2014)
  - Viet Nam with information concerning *Macaca fascicularis* (possible concern) (October 2014)
  - Malaysia with information concerning *Python reticulatus* (possible concern) (September 2014)
  - Mozambique with information concerning *Triceros melleri* (possible concern) (July 2014)
  - Thailand with information concerning *Hippocampus trimaculatus*. (urgent concern) (January 2015)
19. The detailed information concerning *Macaca fascicularis* that Cambodia and Viet Nam submitted for review by the Animals Committee at AC28, can be found in Annexes 2 and 3 to this document in the language it was received.
20. In accordance with paragraph q) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Secretariat shall, in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, determine whether the recommendations have been implemented, and report to the Standing Committee accordingly.

#### Recommendations

21. The Animals Committee is invited to take note of the information contained in this document.
22. The Animals Committee is invited to review the information provided by Cameroon concerning *Hippopotamus amphibius*, and assess the pertinence of the information with regard to a national population survey of *H. amphibius*, and the establishment of science-based quotas and non-detriment findings. The Animals Committee is also invited to formulate findings and recommendations for consideration in the context of the implementation of paragraph q) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).
23. The Animals Committee is further invited to review the information provided by Cambodia and Viet Nam concerning *Macaca fascicularis*, and formulate its findings and recommendations for consideration in the context of the implementation of paragraph q) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).