

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



Twenty-ninth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2017

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

General compliance and enforcement

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

SPECIES SELECTED FOLLOWING COP16

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 27th meeting (AC27, Veracruz, April 2014) and following the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Animals Committee selected 20 taxa for the Review of Significant Trade in compliance with paragraphs a) and b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*, which was the relevant Resolution in force at the time of selection (see documents [AC27 Doc. 12.5](#) and [AC27 WG1](#)).
3. At its 28th meeting (AC28, Tel Aviv, August 2015), the Committee reviewed the available information on these taxa, including responses from the range States in accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13). In instances where the Committee was satisfied that Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), were correctly implemented, the species were eliminated from the review with respect to the range State concerned, and these range States were notified accordingly by the Secretariat (see document [AC28 Doc. 9.4 \(Rev. 2\)](#) and the [summary record of AC28](#)).
4. The taxa and range States that were selected following CoP16 and retained in the review following AC28 are shown in table 1 below.

Table 1. Taxa selected following CoP16 and retained in the review after AC28

Species Name	Range States to be retained
<i>Manis gigantea</i> *	<p>All the range States below, except those that prohibit the species' export by national legislation, as identified by the AC:</p> <p>Angola, Benin (uncertain), Burkina Faso, Burundi (uncertain), Cameroon, Central African Republic (uncertain), Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire (uncertain), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau (uncertain), Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania (uncertain), Niger, Nigeria (uncertain), Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan (uncertain), Togo, Uganda,</p>

* Transferred from Appendix II to Appendix I at CoP17.

Species Name	Range States to be retained
<i>Manis tricuspis</i> *	All the range States below, except those that prohibit the species' export by national legislation, as identified by the AC: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso (uncertain), Cameroon, Central African Republic (uncertain), Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau (uncertain), Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal (uncertain), Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Zambia
<i>Amazona festiva</i>	Guyana
<i>Uromastix aegyptia</i>	Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic
<i>Triceros montium</i>	Cameroon
<i>Varanus ornatus</i>	Togo
<i>Ophiophagus hannah</i>	Indonesia, Malaysia
<i>Malayemys subtrijuga</i>	Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia
<i>Notochelys platynota</i>	Indonesia
<i>Chelonoidis denticulata</i> (= <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i>)	Guyana, Suriname
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i> (= <i>Centrochelys sulcata</i>)	Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Sudan, Togo
<i>Testudo graeca</i>	Jordan, Syrian Arab Republic
<i>Ornithoptera croesus</i>	Indonesia
<i>Ornithoptera rothschildi</i>	Indonesia
<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	Turkey (distribution uncertain)

5. The 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016) adopted amendments to Appendices I and II of the Convention which, *inter alia*, transferred *Manis gigantea* and *M. tricuspis* from Appendix II to Appendix I, making further activities under the Review of Significant Trade no longer relevant for these species.
6. CoP17 also agreed to amend Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on *Review of Significant Trade in Specimens of Appendix-II species* to improve and streamline the process, which resulted in some changes in the procedures and the conduct of the reviews.
7. The review of the remaining cases selected after CoP16, although initiated in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), is to the extent possible going forward under the new provisions outlined in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17). The Secretariat engaged the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC) to compile a report about the biology and management of and trade in the species selected for retention at AC28 to be submitted for consideration by the Animals Committee at the present meeting. Such a report is requested by both the previous and the present version of the Resolution, as indicated in paragraph h) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) and paragraph 1) d) ii) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), albeit within slightly different timeframes.
8. The UNEP-WCMC species report is found in Annex 1 to this document. It presents conclusions about the effects of international trade on the selected species, the basis on which such conclusions are made, as well as problems with the implementation of Article IV of the Convention. It provides preliminary categorizations of each species into one of the three revised categories outlined in paragraph 1) e) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), namely:
 - i) 'action is needed' shall include species/country combinations for which the available information suggests that the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), are not being implemented;

- ii) *'unknown status' shall include species/country combinations for which the Secretariat (or consultants) could not determine whether or not these provisions are being implemented; and*
- iii) *'less concern' shall include species/country combinations for which the available information appears to indicate that these provisions are being met.*

9. The responses received from the range States mentioned in Table 1 will be made available to the Animals Committee in the format and language as received.

Recommendations

10. In accordance with paragraph 1) g) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the Animals Committee is invited to:
- a) review the report and the responses and additional information received from the range States concerned. For each selected species/country combination, the Animals Committee shall recategorize species/country combinations of 'unknown status' as either 'action is needed' or 'less concern' and provide a justification for such recategorization. Additionally, if appropriate, the Animals Committee shall revise the preliminary categorization proposed for species/country combinations of those where 'action is needed' or those of 'less concern' and provide a justification for the revision; and
 - b) formulate, in consultation with the Secretariat, time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, and transparent recommendations directed to the range States retained in the review process, using the principles outlined in Annex 3 of the Resolution. The recommendations should aim to build the range State's long term capacity to implement Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a) of the Convention. The Animals Committee may also take into consideration the guidance on the formulation of recommendations for the review of Significant Trade, presented in Annex 5 to document [CoP17 Doc. 33](#).
11. In accordance with paragraph 2 of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the Animals Committee is invited to formulate separate recommendations directed to the Standing Committee for problems identified in the course of the review that are not directly related to the implementation of Article IV paragraph 2(a), 3 or 6(a), following the principles outlined in Annex 3 of the Resolution.