

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

Species specific matters

Aquatic species

BLACK SEA BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN  
(*TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS PONTICUS*)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Following a discussion based on document [CoP17 Doc. 41](#) at its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 17.299 to 17.301 on *Black Sea bottlenose dolphin* (*Tursiops truncatus ponticus*) as follows:

***Directed to range States for the Black Sea bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus ponticus)***

17.299 Parties are encouraged to:

- a) use genetic analysis to confirm the subspecies of the specimen of *Tursiops truncatus* and its origin prior to the issuance of an export permit;
- b) establish, on a national or regional basis, repositories where relevant genetic identification data are stored and to make these accessible on-line; and
- c) report to the Animals Committee on exports of *Tursiops truncatus ponticus* and their origins.

***Directed to the Animals Committee***

17.300 *The Animals Committee shall consider at its 30th meeting the information submitted by the Parties pursuant to Decision 17.299 to evaluate the effectiveness of the zero annual export quota for Tursiops truncatus ponticus from the wild for primarily commercial purposes, and if necessary make recommendations to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

***Directed to the Secretariat***

17.301 *The Secretariat shall, subject to available resources, cooperate with the Secretariats of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Bern Convention, and the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution (Bucharest Convention), in order to coordinate efforts and to avoid duplication regarding conservation of, and trade in Tursiops truncatus ponticus.*

3. With respect to Decision 17.301, the Secretariat sent letters to the Secretariats of ACCOBAMS, CMS, the Bern Convention, and the Bucharest Convention in April 2017, encouraging them to cooperate with the CITES Secretariat for the management and conservation of *Tursiops truncatus ponticus*, and requesting

them to share information on any measures, activities or initiatives relevant to the conservation of, and trade in *Tursiops truncatus ponticus*.

4. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey has seconded a Fisheries Support Officer to the CITES Secretariat for a period of 12 months (January-December 2017). The Secretariat is particularly grateful to Turkey for this generous offer. During his assignment, the Fisheries Support Officer assists the Secretariat in implementing several tasks and duties relating to CITES-listed aquatic species, including the Decisions on *Black Sea bottlenose dolphin* (*Tursiops truncatus ponticus*).
5. To facilitate the implementation of Decision 17.299, and well in advance of the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee, the Secretariat intends to invite in the course of 2018 the range States of the Black Sea bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus ponticus*) to submit information on possible exports of the species, including source and origin of any specimens exported, and remind them of the recommendations in Decision 17.299, paragraphs a) and b).

#### Recommendation

6. The Animals Committee is invited to note this document.