

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

Terrestrial species

AFRICAN GREY PARROTS (*PSITTACUS ERITHACUS*)
FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 66th meeting (SC66, Geneva, January 2016), the Standing Committee made the following recommendations regarding the management of exports of *Psittacus erithacus* (African grey parrot), (see Summary record SC66, item 28):
 - a) *all Parties suspend commercial trade in specimens of the species Psittacus erithacus from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) forthwith, except for an export in 2016 of 1,600 specimens already collected and ready for export, but subject to confirmation of authenticity of export permits by the Secretariat, until it:*
 - i) *develops a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of the species in the country;*
 - ii) *develops a National Management Plan for the species and commences implementation of the Plan; and*
 - iii) *provides a copy of the survey and Management Plan to the Secretariat;*
 - b) *a quota be established by DRC, in consultation with the CITES Secretariat, provided the steps referred to above are first completed.*
3. Pursuant to these recommendations, commercial trade in specimens of the species *Psittacus erithacus* from DRC is currently suspended (see Notification to the Parties No. 2016/021 of 16 March 2016).
4. At its 67th meeting (SC67, Johannesburg, September 2016), the Standing Committee discussed the implementation of these recommendations by the DRC (see documents SC67 Doc. 12.2.1 and SC67 Doc. 12.2.2). The Standing Committee took note of the reports of the DRC contained in documents SC67 Doc. 12.2.2 and SC67 Doc. 20, informing of its remedial actions; acknowledged the commitment and initial progress demonstrated; and requested the DRC to step up its efforts to fully implement the Standing Committee's recommendations.
5. The Standing Committee requested the DRC, *inter alia*, to complete the field study on *Psittacus erithacus* by 30 April 2017, and submit it to the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee, together with a National Management Plan, including a proposed quota, subject to any decision of the Conference of the Parties in relation to *Psittacus erithacus*.

6. The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to report to its 69th meeting on progress made by the DRC in implementing the Standing Committee's recommendations.
7. The Conference of the Parties decided to include *Psittacus erithacus* in Appendix I at its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016). The listing entered into effect on 2 January 2017. The DRC, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates entered reservations regarding this inclusion.
8. In April 2017, the Secretariat wrote to the Management Authority of the DRC, reminding it of the Standing Committee's recommendations concerning a scientifically-based field survey to establish the population status of *Psittacus erithacus* in the DRC, and develop a National Management Plan for the species. The Secretariat suggested that the DRC's National Management Plan could take into consideration the modified status of *Psittacus erithacus* under CITES. At the time of writing of this document (May 2017), the DRC had not responded to the Secretariat's reminder letter.

Recommendation

9. The Animals Committee is invited to consider any information that the DRC may submit concerning the field survey of *Psittacus erithacus* in the DRC, and the National Management Plan for the species. The views and comments by the Animals Committee will be conveyed by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee.