

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

FRESHWATER STINGRAYS (DECISION 17.249)
(agenda item 24)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar Agrelo);

Parties: France, Netherlands, Peru, Spain, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: IUCN, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Zoological Society of London.

Mandate

Taking into consideration Document AC29 Doc. 24 and its Annexes, the working group shall make recommendations on how to proceed with the information compiled in Annexes 1 to 9 in the context of the development of population trend models for freshwater stingrays, including the identification of suitable ways to undertake modelling, potential sources of collaboration, time frames, etc.

Recommendations

1. The working group considered the information compiled in the annexes and commends the Parties for this information. While this information is very useful, it was deemed insufficient as the basis for population modelling.
2. The Animals Committee encouraged Parties, organizations and other relevant stakeholders to:
 - i) identify data gaps and research required to support modelling of populations;
 - ii) carry out field studies to gather additional data on key life history, population parameters, and international trade, as well as studies of the taxonomy of this group;
 - iii) identify the type of population modelling that will inform whether harvest for international trade is detrimental to the species in the wild; and
 - iv) provide financial assistance to the range States to undertake field studies and conduct research.