

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Opening of the meeting..... No document

Participants were welcomed by Mr. John E. Scanlon, Secretary-General of CITES and Mr. Mathias Lörtscher, Chair of the Animals Committee, who delivered opening remarks.

The Chair of the Animals Committee, Mr. Lörtscher, then opened the meeting.

The Committee noted that no member present declared any financial interests that he or she considered calling into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the meeting agenda.

1. Agenda..... AC29 Doc. 1

The Committee adopted the agenda in document AC29 Doc. 1.

2. Working programme..... AC29 Doc. 2

The Committee adopted the working programme in document AC29 Doc. 2 with the following amendment: moving agenda item 24 on *Freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae spp.)* from Thursday 20 July to the afternoon session of Tuesday 18 July.

3. Rules of Procedure

3.1 Adoption of the Rules of Procedure..... AC29 Doc. 3.1

The Committee noted the Rules of Procedure of the Animals Committee as amended at the 28th meeting and contained in the Annex to document AC29 Doc. 3.1.

3.2 Revision of the Rules of Procedure..... No document

The Committee agreed to consider the issue of the revision of the Rules of Procedure at its 30th meeting.

4. Admission of observers .....AC29 Doc. 4 (Rev. 1)

The Committee noted the list of observers provided in document AC29 Doc. 4 (Rev. 1).

5. Animals Committee strategic planning for 2017-2019 (CoP17-CoP18)

5.1 Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Animals Committee..... AC29 Doc. 5.1

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 5.1.

5.2 Animals Committee workplan..... AC29 Doc. 5.2 (Rev. 1)

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 5.2 (Rev. 1).

13. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

13.1 Overview of the Review of Significant Trade ..... AC29 Doc. 13.1

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 13.1 and the update on the Review of Significant Trade tracking and management database.

13.2 Species selected following CoP16 ..... AC29 Doc. 13.2

and

13.3 Selection of species for trade reviews following CoP17 ..... AC29 Doc. 13.3

The Committee established a working group on the Review of Significant Trade (agenda items 13.2 and 13.3) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 13.2:

For the 25 species/country combinations retained in the review after the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee:

In accordance with paragraph 1) g) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17):

- a) review the report in Annex 1 to document AC29 Doc. 13.2 and the responses received from range States contained in Annex 2 (and any additional information) and, if appropriate, revise the preliminary categorizations proposed by the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) for the species/country combinations;
- b) recategorize species/country combinations of 'unknown status' as either 'action is needed' or 'less concern', and provide a justification for such recategorization;
- c) formulate 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 Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) and the guidance on the formulation of recommendations contained in Annex 5 to document CoP17 Doc. 33; and
- d) identify and refer to the Secretariat problems that are not related to the implementation of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a).

Concerning agenda item 13.3:

In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17):

- a) review the information contained in the annexes to document AC29 Doc.13.3, as well as information available to the Animals Committee, the Secretariat, Parties or other relevant experts; and
- b) on the basis of that information, recommend a limited number of species/country combinations of greatest concern for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam);

Parties: Argentina, Austria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme- World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Northeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free Foundation, Born Free USA, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Force, Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), German Society of Herpetology (DGHT), Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), International Professional Hunter's Association (IPHA), Japan Wildlife Conservation Society, Lewis and Clark College - International Environmental Law Project, Natural Resources Defense Council, Ornamental Fish International, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa (PASA), Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council., ProWildlife, Safari Club International, Safari Club International Foundation, Sea Save Foundation, Society for Wildlife And Nature International (SWAN), Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, The European Federation of Associations for Hunting & Conservation (FACE), TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Animal Protection, World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Zoological Society of London, and Zoological Society of San Diego.

### 33. Periodic Review of the Appendices

33.1 Overview of species under review..... AC29 Doc. 33.1

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 33.1 and the comments made the representative of Europe and by the United States of America.

33.2 Selection of species for the Periodic Review ..... AC29 Doc. 33.2 (Rev. 1)

The Committee established a working group on the Periodic Review (agenda item 33.2) with the following mandate:

In accordance with paragraph 2 b) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17):

- a) identify a list of animal taxa to review during the next two intersessional periods between the 17th meeting [CoP17 (2016)] and the 19th meeting [CoP19 (2022)] of the Conference of the Parties based on outputs indicated in paragraphs 8 to 12 of document AC29 Doc. 33.2 (Rev. 1);
- b) consider possible funding necessary to continue with the Periodic Review; and
- c) agree on ways to facilitate the periodic reviews, as suggested in paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17).

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the representative of North America (Ms. Gnam);

Parties: Australia, Canada, China, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), UNEP-WCMC; IUCN; Association of Western Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Conservation Force, EIA, FACE, Fondation Franz Weber, German Society of Herpetology (DGHT), Humane Society International, IPHA, Japan Wildlife Conservation Society, PASA, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Safari Club International, Safari Club International Foundation, Sea Save Foundation, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Animal Protection, and Zoological Society of London.

14. Captive-bred and ranched specimens

14.1 Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity ..... AC29 Doc. 14.1

and

14.2 Non-detriment findings for specimens with source code W, R and F ..... AC29 Doc. 14.2

The Committee established a working group on captive-breeding (agenda item 14.1) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 14.1:

Taking account of discussions in plenary and using information presented in document AC29 Doc. 14.1, the working group shall, in accordance with paragraph 2 c) of Resolution Conf. 17.7:

- a) select a limited number of species/country combinations for review;
- b) prepare a brief explanation of the reasons for each selection;
- c) draft general or specific questions for the countries selected for review;
- d) determine a prioritised list of species for which a short review of the breeding biology, captive husbandry and any impacts, if relevant, of removal of founder stock from the wild should be requested;
- e) identify any urgent enforcement matters which need to be referred to the Secretariat and the country concerned, and subsequent reporting to the Standing Committee; and
- f) take note of any observations and recommendations regarding the first iteration of Resolution Conf. 17.7, including opportunities for harmonisation with the process in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) and other opportunities to achieve the aims of the Resolution most effectively and cost efficiently, for transmission to the Standing Committee after the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee.

Concerning agenda item 14.2:

Based on the information presented in document AC29 Doc. 14.2, the working group shall decide on the terms of reference for an intersessional working group to continue the implementation of Decision 17.104 and, in case it can be undertaken, assess the outcomes of the consultancy mentioned in paragraph 8 of document AC29 Doc. 14.2.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the AC Chair (Mr. Lörtscher);

Parties: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC; IUCN; Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free Foundation, Born Free USA, Center for Biological Diversity, Cruelty Free International (BUAV), Defenders of Wildlife, EIA, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, FACE, Fondation Franz Weber, Global Eye, Humane Society International, IFAW, IWMC World Conservation Trust, Japan Wildlife Conservation Society, Lewis and Clark College - International Environmental Law Project, Natural Resources Defense Council, Ornamental Fish International, PASA, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, ProWildlife, Safari Club International, Society for Wildlife And Nature International (SWAN), Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, TRAFFIC, VERDEVELENO SL., Wildlife Conservation Society, World Animal Protection, WAZA, World Parrot Trust, WWF, Zoological Society of London, and Zoological Society of San Diego.

35. Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature..... AC29 Doc. 35

The Committee established a working group on nomenclature (agenda item 35) with the following mandate:

Review document AC29 Doc. 35 and its annexes, and the proposals made therein, and make recommendations for the Animals Committee to consider.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the nomenclature specialist (Mr. Van Dijk);

Parties: China, Italy, South Africa, Switzerland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC; IUCN; Blue Resources Trust, Center for Biological Diversity, EIA, Humane Society International, and Zoological Society of San Diego.

23. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)..... AC29 Doc. 23

The Committee established a working group on sharks (agenda item 23) with the following mandate:

In support of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP17), the working group shall:

- a) consider document AC29 Doc. 23 and examine the information provided by range States in Annex 1, the trade data contained in Annex 2, and any other relevant information;
- b) identify information pertinent to addressing the scientific and technical challenges for the implementation of the Convention for sharks, identified in Decisions 17.209 to 17.216;
- c) identify any new challenges faced by Parties in the implementation of the Convention for sharks with a particular focus on the species included at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) based on the above, consider how the Animals Committee can fulfil its mandate given in Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP17) to make recommendations on improving the conservation status of sharks at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, if necessary.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson);

Parties: Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Estonia, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: CMS, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNEP-WCMC; IUCN, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC); Abercrombie & Fish, Blue Resources Trust, Defenders of Wildlife, Florida International University, Humane Society International, IFAW, Japan Wildlife Conservation Society, Natural Resources Defense Council, Paul G. Allen Philanthropies, Sea Save Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Zoological Society of London.

20. Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)

20.1 Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish ..... AC29 Doc. 20.1

The Committee established a working group on sturgeons (agenda item 20.1) with the following mandate:

Taking into account the information provided in document AC29 Doc. 20.1 and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

- a) consider the information submitted by range States of Acipenseriformes in the Annex to document AC29 Doc. 20.1 and propose a consolidated version of the table of shared stocks for consideration by the Animals Committee and subsequent reporting to the Standing Committee; and

- b) consider the issue of the definition of “country of origin of caviar” and provide scientific advice, as appropriate, on the definition in document CoP17 Doc. 50 and, where appropriate, make recommendations to be brought to the attention of the Standing Committee in that regard.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Caceres);

Parties: Canada, China, Estonia, European Union, France, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Northeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies, IWMC World Conservation Trust, TRAFFIC, and WWF.

20.2 Identification of sturgeons and paddlefish specimens in trade..... AC29 Doc. 20.2

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 20.2.

22. Precious corals (Order Antipatharia and family Coralliidae) ..... AC29 Doc. 22

The Committee established a working group on precious corals (agenda item 22) with the following mandate:

Taking into account the information provided in document AC29 Doc. 22 and its annexes, as well as discussions in plenary and any additional information, the working group shall:

- a) analyse the outcomes of the precious corals survey, and the information provided by range States and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations;
- b) taking into account the outcomes of paragraph a), if necessary, identify other issues to be covered by the study by species experts called for in Decision 17.191, the results of which are to be considered in the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC30); and
- c) define the terms of reference for an intersessional working group on corals, which will facilitate the analysis of the study referred to in Decision 17.191 and the formulation of recommendations for consideration at AC30.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the representative of Asia (Mr. Giyanto) and the acting representative of Europe (Mr. Nemtzov);

Parties: European Union, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Conservation Force, EIA, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sea Save Foundation, SWAN International, TRAFFIC, and WWF.

24. Freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae spp.)..... AC29 Doc. 24

The Committee established a working group on freshwater stingrays (agenda item 24) with the following 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.

The membership was decided as follows:

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, and Wildlife Conservation Society.

25. Banggai cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*)

25.1 Report of the Secretariat..... AC29 Doc. 25.1

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 25.1.

25.2 Indonesia's initial progress report..... AC29 Doc. 25.2

The Committee established a working group on the banggai cardinalfish (agenda item 25) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 25.2:

Taking into consideration document AC29 Doc. 25.2, as well as discussions in plenary and any additional information, the working group shall:

- a) make recommendations on Indonesia's plan to conserve and manage *Pterapogon kauderni*;
- b) based on the above, provide guidance to the Secretariat on how the study requested in Decision 17.260 can best assist and support Indonesia in its efforts to conserve and manage this species; and
- c) suggest ways to improve the presentation, structure and content of the report that will be submitted to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC30).

Concerning agenda item 25.1:

Taking into consideration the information presented by Indonesia in document AC29 Doc. 25.2, as well as discussions in plenary and any additional information, the working group shall provide recommendations to the Secretariat on the nature and scope of the study that will be carried out in fulfilment of Decision 17.260.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Caceres);

Parties: Austria, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: FAO; SEAFDEC; Abercrombie & Fish, Animal Welfare Institute, Fondation Franz Weber, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Sea Save Foundation, Species Survival Network, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Zoological Society of London.

26. Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)..... AC29 Doc. 26

The Committee established a drafting group on queen conch (agenda item 26) with the following mandate:

Taking into account the information in document AC29 Doc. 26, as well as discussions in plenary, the drafting group shall draft a Notification concerning the setting of quotas, including scientific quotas, for trade in queen conch.

The membership was decided as follows:

AC members: the acting representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Álvarez Lemus), the representative of Europe (Mr. Vincent Fleming), and the representative of North America (Ms. Rosemarie Gnam);

Parties: France, Mexico, and the Netherlands; and

IGOs and NGOS: FAO.

### 31. Snakes (Serpentes spp.)

31.2 Information from Benin, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia and Togo ..... AC29 Doc. 31.2

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 31.2.

31.1 Conservation, sustainable use of and trade in snakes ..... AC29 Doc. 31.1

and

31.3 Standards for pythons traceability ..... AC29 Doc. 31.3

The Committee established a working group on snakes (agenda item 31) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 31.1:

- a) review the guidance concerning the making of non-detriment findings for trade in Appendix-II listed snakes in the Annex to document AC29 Doc. 31.1; and
- b) make recommendations to the Standing Committee as appropriate.

Concerning agenda item 31.3:

In compliance with Decision 17.279, directing the Animals Committee to “review new information on the trade in, and sustainable use and conservation of snakes, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee as appropriate”:

- a) review the information contained in document AC29 Doc. 31.3; and
- b) make recommendations to the Standing Committee as appropriate.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the AC Chair (Mr. Lörtscher);

Parties: Austria, Canada, China, European Union, France, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC; IUCN; Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies; Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies; German Society of Herpetology (DGHT), GS1 Switzerland, Humane Society International, IWMC World Conservation Trust, Species Survival Network, Sustainable Users Network, SWAN International, TRAFFIC, VERDEVELO SL, and World Animal Protection.



37. Regional reports

37.1 Africa..... No document

The Committee noted that, upon receiving information from the Parties in its region, the representative of Africa (Mr. Kasoma) would provide an oral update to the Committee.

37.2 Asia..... AC29 Doc. 37.2

The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.2.

37.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean..... AC29 Doc. 37.3

The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.3.

37.4 Europe..... AC29 Doc. 37.4

The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.4.

37.5 North America..... AC29 Doc. 37.5

The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.5.

37.6 Oceania..... AC28 Doc. 37.6

The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.6.