

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

28. African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*) AC29 Doc. 28

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 28.

16. Quotas for leopard hunting trophies..... AC29 Doc. 16

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 16.

30. African grey parrots from DRC (*Psittacus erithacus*) AC29 Doc. 30

The Committee noted document AC29 Doc. 30. It further noted concerns about illegal trade in *Psittacus erithacus* and agreed to refer the issue of trade in *Psittacus erithacus* from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

The Committee further agreed that experimental export quotas for *Psittacus erithacus* should not be part of scientific surveys of the species in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

18. Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations' AC29 Doc. 18

The Committee established an intersessional working group on the implementation of Decision 17.179 and the requirements in Article III, paragraph 3 (b) and 5 (b) of the Convention with the following mandate:

Review the study undertaken by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 17.178 and draft findings and recommendations for consideration at the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mensah) and North America (Ms. Gnam), and the acting representative of Asia (Mr. Ishii);

Parties: Argentina, Canada, China, Estonia, European Union, France, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Born Free Foundation, Conservation Force, Fondation Franz Weber, German Society of Herpetology (DGHT), Global Eye, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Lewis and Clark College - International Environmental Law Project, ProWildlife, Safari Club International, 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.

19. Progress in the development of an identification guide for the species of the genus *Abronia* (Alligator lizards)..... AC29 Doc. 19
- The Committee noted the progress of Mexico in the development of the identification guide for the species of the genus *Abronia*; and invited Parties and other relevant players to review the identification guide included as an annex to document AC29 Doc. 19 and share their feedback with the Mexican Scientific Authority (CONABIO) by 31 August 2017 at the following address: ac-cites@conabio.gob.mx.
37. Regional reports
- 37.1 Africa..... AC29 Doc. 37.1
- The Committee noted the report in document AC29 Doc. 37.1.
- Adoption of executive summary AC29 Sum. 1
- The Committee adopted executive summary AC29 Sum. 1.
31. Snakes (Serpentes spp.)
- 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 adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 1 as follows:
- The Committee welcomed the guidance on making non-detriment findings for snakes and asked the Secretariat to make the guidance available to Parties on its website.
- The Committee encouraged Switzerland to submit document AC29 Doc. 31.3 to the Standing Committee working group on traceability for its consideration
35. Report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature..... AC29 Doc. 35
- The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 2 with the following amendments:
- Include Zoological Society of London as a member of the working group;
 - Insert in recommendation 10 “commercial and” before “intellectual property rights”; and
 - In recommendation 11, replace “in its database” by “in the Species+ database”.
20. Sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)
- 20.1 Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish AC29 Doc. 20.1
- The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 4 with the following amendments:
- Delete “the” before Ukraine in recommendation 1) iv); and
 - Insert “subject to the availability of relevant scientific data and consultation with other Parties from the region” at the end of recommendation 1) iv).
23. Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)..... AC29 Doc. 23
- The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 3 with the following amendments:
- Insert after recommendation 11 the following new recommendation: “The Animals Committee urges Parties to recognise the value that the FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) offers in compliance of CITES provisions for listed shark and rays species.”; and

- Delete “national and regional” at the end of line 3 in paragraph 9 and replace “obtaining advice from” with “cooperating with” in paragraph 9) iv).

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

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 adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 5 with the following amendments:

- Insert on page 4 under “Additional recommendations”, “*Triceros montium*. The working group discussed trade in *Triceros montium*, a Cameroonian endemic, as identified in table 3 of Annex 1 to document AC29 Doc. 13.2. The group noted wild-caught exports of this species from Equatorial Guinea which is not a range State. The working group recommends that this issue be referred to the Standing Committee.”
- For all the short term actions referring to “based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information”, insert “best” between “make use of” and “available scientific information”;
- On page 7, under *Malayemys subtrijuga*/Indonesia, at the end of paragraph i) under short term action, insert “until the non-native status of the population in Indonesia is confirmed and the new management plan is established”;
- On page 5, under *Amazona festiva*/Guyana, at the beginning of paragraph i), insert “, including field studies,” between “undertake science-based studies” and “on status of the species”;

33. Periodic Review of the Appendices

33.2 Selection of species for the Periodic Review AC29 Doc. 33.2

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 7 with the following amendments:

- Insert Portugal as a member of the working group;
- On page 2, at the end of the list of the range States for *Phoebastria albatrus*, delete “[full range to be added]”; and
- Delete the taxon *Chinchilla* spp. from the table on page 2.

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

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 8 with the following amendments:

- On page 3, at the end of paragraph F iii), replace “reef-boiling” by “reef-building”.

The Committee established an intersessional working group on precious corals with the following mandate:

- a) to analyse the study commissioned in response to Decision 17.191 and to formulate recommendations for consideration at the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee;
- b) to analyse the outcomes of the study and prepare recommendations on actions to enhance the conservation and sustainable harvest;
- c) to review other relevant issues, such as identification of corals and coral products in trade issues;
- d) to think about potential future enforcement issues such as synthetic corals.

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

Parties: China, Estonia, European Union, France, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Food and Agriculture Organization; Conservation Force, Environmental Investigation Agency, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sea Save Foundation, SWAN International, TRAFFIC, and World Wildlife Fund.

Adoption of executive summary AC29 Sum. 2

The Committee adopted executive summary AC29 Sum. 2.

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

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 6 with the following amendments:

- Include Zoological Society of London as a member of the working group;
- Transform paragraph 2 iii) into paragraph 2 i) and transform paragraph 2 i) into paragraph 2 iii);
- Insert a new paragraph 2 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;”;
- Delete current paragraph 2 ii); and
- Include a new paragraph 2 iv): “provide financial assistance to the range States to undertake field studies and conduct research”.

The new recommendation 2 reads as follows:

The 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.

25. Banggai cardinalfish (*Pterapogon kauderni*)

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

and

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

The Committee commended Indonesia on its initial progress report and adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 10 with the following amendments:

- Include Hungary as a member of the working group;
- Amend paragraph 4 on page 3 as follows: “Based on these observations, the Animals Committee recommended the Secretariat, in consultation with Indonesia, to commission a study to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of *Pterapogon kauderni*, and recommended that this study should analyse the utilization and trade of the species including specimens sourced from the

wild and captive breeding within and outside of Indonesia, and further assess the potential conservation risks and benefits from international trade in specimens of Banggai Cardinalfish from these sources.”; and

- Replace 20 in paragraph 2 e) by 22.

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

The Committee requested the Secretariat to publish the Notification to the Parties contained in document AC29 Com. 9.

14. Captive-bred and ranched specimens

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

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC29 Com. 11 with the following amendments:

- Include Kenya and Saudi Arabia as members of the working group;
- Amend the column “Explanation for selection” in the table on pages 3 to 7 so that it accurately reflects the source codes listed in document AC29 Doc. 14.1 and amend accordingly the column “Questions to be asked”. In the case of *Centrochelys sulcata*, the source codes should be amended as follows: Benin (add R), Ghana (add R, F), Guinea (add C), Mali (add C), Togo (F, R);
- When (iii) shift is indicated in the “Criterion met” column, include Q1 in the column “Questions to be asked”;
- Insert at the end of paragraph 5 b) on page 12: “The Animals Committee could consider or clarify whether this is necessary or whether it would be appropriate or possible to make relevant recommendations relating to making of NDFs under the captive-breeding and ranching process.”;
- Insert in paragraph 5 c) on page 12 “by the Standing Committee” after “may be an issue to be considered”; and
- Delete the introductory paragraph for paragraph 6 on page 13 and replace it by “Terms of reference for the intersessional working group or consultant”.

The Committee agreed to ask for a description of production methods in the letter sent to Parties by the Secretariat.

The Committee established an intersessional working group on captive-breeding with the following mandate:

- a) Compare and contrast the nature of non-detriment findings (NDFs) for specimens originating from production systems that meet the definitions of source codes R and F, with NDFs for specimens originating from the wild (source code W) using case studies, existing guidance and input from Parties, as follows:
 - i) Case studies should be compiled representing a wide variety of life histories, life stages, and production systems from terrestrial and marine species. Examples could include: amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, corals, humphead wrasse, giant clam, queen conch, etc.;
 - ii) Consider existing guidance that may be applicable to NDFs for source codes R and F, including NDF guidance on tortoises and freshwater turtles that is contained in AC28 document 15.2, and NDF guidance for snakes contained in document AC29 Doc. 31.1, or any other existing guidance; and
 - iii) Solicit and consider input from Parties on NDFs for source codes R and F, including examples, guidance, or concerns/issues that have arisen in their country during the course of implementation of the Convention.

- b) Based on the review and analysis above, develop draft guidance on making NDFs for specimens from source codes R and F for consideration by the Animals Committee or the consultant through an intersessional working group.

Chair: the AC Chair (Mr. Lörtscher);

Parties: Canada, China, European Union, France, Hungary, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Born Free Foundation, Center for Biological Diversity, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Lewis and Clark College - International Environmental Law Project, Parrot Breeders Association of Southern Africa (PASA), Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Animal Protection, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).