

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Thirtieth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 16-21 July 2018

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

SPECIES SELECTED FOLLOWING COP17

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Selection of species/country combinations to be reviewed

2. Following the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), 19 animal species/country combinations were selected for the Review of Significant Trade at the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC29, Geneva, July 2017) on the basis of information provided in document [AC29 Doc. 13.3 Annex 2 \(Rev 1\)](#).
3. The Secretariat notified the range States concerned on 20 September 2017 of the selected taxa; explained the reason for this selection; and requested comments regarding possible problems with the implementation of Article IV of the Convention for trade in these species. Range States were given 60 days to respond (i.e. until 19 November 2017). The Secretariat emphasized that the main purpose of the request was to obtain the information required to assess the implementation of Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a) in the relevant range State. The letter was accompanied by the text of the Resolution, a summary schedule on the conduct of the Review of Significant Trade, guidance on how to respond to the enquiry, as well as details of the sort of information that would be taken into account by the Animals Committee when assessing the selected cases at its thirtieth meeting (AC30, Geneva, July 2018). The Secretariat also pointed out that in the absence of a reply or sufficient information, the Animals Committee could come to the conclusion that "action is needed" and formulate recommendations directed to the range State, which, if not implemented, could lead to action by the Standing Committee, including ultimately the possibility of a suspension of trade in the relevant species. Parties were encouraged to work closely with their Scientific Authorities as well as other relevant stakeholders to ensure that their responses were as complete as possible.
4. The selected species/country combinations concerned, and the justification for their selection, are shown in the table below. Range States that responded to the consultation are indicated in bold, and their responses are presented in the language in which they were submitted in Annex 1. Following the selection process, it was discovered that some countries were not range States for the species concerned, and these are indicated with an asterisk*.

Taxa included in the Review of Significant Trade following CoP17

Taxon	Range State concerned	Justification for selection
1. <i>Balearica pavonina</i>	Mali	High volume (globally threatened)
2. <i>Amazona farinosa</i>	Guyana, Suriname	High volume (globally threatened)
3. <i>Ara ararauna</i>	Guyana, Suriname	High volume (globally threatened)
4. <i>Ara chloropterus</i>	Guyana, Suriname	High volume (globally threatened)
5. <i>Poicephalus gulelmi</i>	Mali*, Democratic Republic of the Congo	High volume; Sharp increase (Mali)
6. <i>Uromastix geyri</i>	Mali, Ghana*, Benin*, Togo*	High volume; Sharp increase (Togo)
7. <i>Brookesia minima</i>	Madagascar	Endangered; Sharp increase (Madagascar)
8. <i>Brookesia peyrierasi</i>	Madagascar	Endangered; Sharp increase (Madagascar)
8. <i>Cuora amboinensis</i>	Indonesia	High volume
9. <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria	Endangered; Sharp increase (globally threatened); Sharp increase (Morocco, Tunisia)

Consultation with the range States and compilation of information

5. In accordance with paragraph 1 d) ii) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species*, the Secretariat engaged the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC) to compile a report about the biology and management of, and trade in the species selected for retention at AC29, to be submitted for consideration by the Animals Committee at the present meeting. In doing so, the consultants actively engaged with the range States and relevant experts on behalf of the Secretariat in the compilation of the report.
6. UNEP-WCMC's species report is found in Annex 2 to this document. It presents conclusions about the effects of international trade on the selected species, the basis on which such conclusions are made, as well as problems with the implementation of Article IV of the Convention. It provides preliminary categorizations of each species into one of the three categories outlined in paragraph 1) e) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), namely:
 - i) *'action is needed'* shall include species/country combinations for which the available information suggests that the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), are not being implemented;
 - ii) *'unknown status'* shall include species/country combinations for which the Secretariat (or consultants) could not determine whether or not these provisions are being implemented; and
 - iii) *'less concern'* shall include species/country combinations for which the available information appears to indicate that these provisions are being met.
7. In accordance with paragraph 1 f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the Secretariat will draw the attention of the relevant range States to Annex 2 of this document ahead of the present meeting, and invite them to provide any additional information for consideration by the Animals Committee.
8. Four species/country combinations were selected at AC29 where the exporting Party does not appear to be a range State for the species concerned (*Poicephalus gulelmi*/Mali and *Uromastix geyri*/Benin, Ghana and Togo). These combinations have consequently been categorised as "less concern". However, the Secretariat notes that these species/country combinations had originally been selected for review due to reported high volumes of trade, with sharp increases, of specimens of wild, ranched and unknown sources. The exports reported from wild source may be due to misreporting, but further investigation by the Secretariat may be warranted, with referral to the Standing Committee as appropriate, in accordance with paragraph 1 i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17).

Categorization and recommendations by the Animals Committee

9. In accordance with paragraphs 1 g) and i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the Animals Committee shall at the present meeting:
 - a) review the responses from the range States in Annex 1 and the report from UNEP-WCMC in Annex 2, along with any additional information received from the range States concerned. If appropriate, the Animals Committee shall revise the preliminary categorization proposed for species/country combinations of those with 'unknown status', those where 'action is needed' or those of 'less concern', and provide a justification for the revision;
 - b) for cases where 'action is needed', formulate, in consultation with the Secretariat, 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). The recommendations should aim to build the range State's long term capacity to implement Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a), 3 and 6 (a) of the Convention; and
 - c) also take into consideration, as appropriate, the guidance on the formulation of recommendations for the Review of Significant Trade, presented in Annex 5 to document CoP17 Doc. 33.
10. In accordance with paragraph 1 g) i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), in cases where the species/country combination is categorized by the Animals Committee as of 'less concern' due to the establishment of a zero export quota, any change to this quota should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and the Chair of the Animals Committee, along with a justification.
11. In accordance with paragraph 1 i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the Animals Committee is to formulate separate recommendations directed to the Standing Committee for problems identified in the course of the review that are not directly related to the implementation of Article IV paragraph 2(a), 3 or 6(a), following the principles outlined in Annex 3 of the Resolution.

Recommendations

12. The Animals Committee is invited to:
 - a) undertake the tasks outlined in paragraphs 9 to 11, in accordance with paragraphs g) and i) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17); and
 - b) request the Secretariat to follow up with Benin, Ghana, Mali and Togo on the cases brought to its attention in paragraph 8 above, and refer any implementation issues to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.