

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Buenos Aires (Argentina), 17-21 March 2009

Any other business

TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP – PROCEEDINGS AND PLANS

The Annex to this document has been submitted by Mr Michael Kiehn (for plants) and Mr Andreas Kaufmann (for animals), chairmen of working group PC17/AC23 WG4 on transport of live animals and plants .

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

## TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP – PROCEEDINGS AND PLANS

The Transport Working Group's (TWG) mandate is to decide on the actions needed to implement the instructions in paragraphs 2 and 3 of document AC23 Doc. 16 and set a schedule for this work.

TWG chair participated in the Animal Transport Association's (AATA) Intl. Conference 2008 on behalf of Austria, OIE transport guidelines have been reviewed but show no relevance to the transport of CITES listed animals at the current stage as they address livestock only. OIE is considering undertaking work on wildlife but no expert ad hoc group has been convened yet. Nevertheless OIE will be pleased to receive proposals of expertise and add the TWG chair's name to the OIE expertise database for future meetings on this topic.

The TWG Chair was present at the IATA LAPB Meeting in Montreal in Oct. 2008 and will participate in future meetings on behalf of Austria further on.

TWG also held an informal meeting at IATA Montreal premises during the LAPB meeting:

TWG suggest a number of other ideas to address non-air transport and improve safety in all transport methods. First TWG propose the development of a CD Powerpoint, demonstrating the general principles of transport as well as certain specific universal aspects of animal transportation for distribution to Parties. The CD could also list transport references and a list of specialists to contact for transport advice. Second, TWG recommend setting up a list serve or forum on the CITES or OIE web site to allow transporters to seek information on transport procedures in an effort to increase transport success. Finally, TWG suggest that airline personnel could be trained on a regular basis by local zoo personnel with assistance from the CD described above.

TWG also suggested that the Secretariat send out a notification to encourage purchase of LAR by parties. Notifications to Parties could also be used to inform Parties of unsuccessful transport cases especially if a particular Party has a history of poor transport success.

Ship/sea transport of CITES-listed species appears to be rarely, if ever, used and prior cases and methods should be consulted prior to transport by ship.

TWG can develop a position statement regarding the transport of wild animals, with emphasis on CITES-listed species and funnel it through other groups for dissemination.

TWG will continue to review any available transport methodologies as well as new data on successful and/or problematic transports and incorporate them into a reference document for referral by interested parties.

Shippers must be proactive in determining transport regulations of individual Parties and the TWG recommends that shippers contact the MA of the country of import to determine what - if any - special transport conditions exist in that parties legislation prior to any animal transport, and encourages communication between relevant parties to maximize successful transport of CITES-listed species.

TWG will have another informal meeting during the LAPB in Houston in March 2009. A report will be given at AC24.