

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

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Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Ottawa (Canada), 12 to 24 July 1987

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

SIGNIFICANT TRADE IN APPENDIX II SPECIES

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

INTRODUCTION

1. At its first meeting (Brussels, 1984), the Technical Committee (TEC) established a Working Group to examine the problem of Appendix II species which might be traded in quantities sufficient to affect their populations detrimentally. The mechanism recommended by the Working Group as a review procedure for Appendix II fauna was approved at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Buenos Aires, 1985; Resolution Conf. 5.3).
2. At the second meeting of TEC (Lausanne, 1986), the Working Group reported on its consideration of the report prepared by the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre (CMC). The outcome of these deliberations was described in documents Plen. TEC. 2.6 and WGR. TEC. 2.2.
3. This document reports on progress since the second TEC meeting with respect to the recommendations agreed by TEC. Only those items for which some progress has been made are included in this report.

IUCN-CMC REPORT

4. TEC agreed that the species reports prepared by CMC for the Working Group should be published as soon as possible, following review, editing, etc., in three volumes covering a) mammals, b) birds and c) reptiles and invertebrates. The Secretariat eventually obtained the necessary funding for this from the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, WWF-Switzerland and the Commission of the European Communities.
5. Work has continued on the report, but has been delayed substantially; firstly because funds were not forthcoming and, secondly, because review comments were submitted late. However, the report is near completion (a "final draft" will be available in Ottawa)\* and publication of all three volumes is anticipated before the end of 1987.

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\* This was not the case. (Note from the Secretariat).

6. It should be emphasized that all range states for all species under consideration were sent copies of the draft species reports in January 1987, for comment and review. Copies were also sent to relevant specialists and NGOs.

#### LIST C1 SPECIES

7. The Secretariat managed to obtain sufficient funding to conduct the recommended field survey of Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus. The report of this project will be available at Ottawa and the findings support the view that the species is being detrimentally affected by exploitation for international trade. Therefore, it is recommended that the species be transferred to Appendix I.
8. A proposal has been submitted by Papua New Guinea to transfer Probosciger aterrimus to Appendix I.
9. Regarding Caiman crocodilus, the field work for the Secretariat's project has been completed in Bolivia and Paraguay and the reports on the situation in these countries should be available by the end of 1987. The field work for the Brazilian part of this project is scheduled to start on 1 July 1987.

In addition, the Secretariat has obtained funding for a similar project covering northern Brazil (Amazonian basin), Venezuela, Colombia and Guyana. This study will start in 1988.

10. The Secretariat has initiated a study of the status of Tupinambis spp. in northeastern Argentina with the financial support of an Argentinian trade association. This four-year project started on 1 June 1987 and the first report should be available in June 1988.

#### LIST C2 SPECIES

11. The Secretariat has obtained the necessary funds to carry out the project on the biological and trade status of Asian Varanidae. The study, which was identified by TEC as the top C2 priority, is scheduled to start on 1 July 1987.
12. A report has been prepared by the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit (WTMU) on the harvest and trade in Latin American spotted cats (Felidae) and otters (Lutrinae), copies of which will be available at Ottawa.

#### FUTURE WORK

13. The Secretariat is continuing to seek funds to conduct the species projects which were identified by TEC as requiring priority attention.
14. TEC agreed that the Working Group's work should continue as a process of continuous review of the effects of trade on Appendix II species (of fauna). The mechanism for this process has already been approved by the Conference of the Parties and, therefore, no further resolution is required. However, the review of current CITES Committees discussed under Agenda item XI should include a decision as to the position of the Working Group and to which CITES forum it is responsible.