

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

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Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Kyoto (Japan), 2 to 13 March 1992

Committee Reports and Recommendations

ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. Terms of Reference

1.1 At the sixth regular meeting, the Conference of the Parties established the Animals Committee by the adoption of Resolution Conf. 6.1 Annex 2 under which the Animals Committee shall:

- i) assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardized animal names list;
- ii) assist the Identification Manual Committee in the preparation of an identification manual on animal species;
- iii) establish a list of those animal taxa included in Appendix II which are considered as being significantly affected by trade and review and assess all available biological and trade information including comments by the range States on these taxa;
- iv) assess information on those species for which there is evidence of a change in the volume of trade or for which specific information is available to indicate the necessity for review;
- v) undertake a periodic review of animal species included in CITES appendices;
- vi) make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range States requesting such assistance;
- vii) draft resolutions on animal matters for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
- viii) perform any other functions that may be entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
- ix) report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities it has carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference.

1.2 Membership

The following Parties have provided representatives of the six regions as follows:

AUSTRALIA	OCEANIA
KENYA	AFRICA
CHINA	ASIA
GERMANY	EUROPE
URUGUAY	CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
CANADA	NORTH AMERICA

Canada chairs the Committee.

2. Work of the Committee

2.1 The Animals Committee met four times after the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A brief organizational meeting was held in Lausanne before members departed, to assign tasks and set goals for the two-year period. The fourth meeting of the Animals Committee was held in Darwin, Australia, from 12 to 16 November 1990. From 19 to 23 August 1991, the fifth meeting of the Animals Committee was held in Vancouver, Canada. Finally, a meeting was scheduled for 1 March 1992 in Kyoto, Japan, to clear up outstanding issues related to COP 8 and to continue the work on Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species.

2.2 A meeting of the Pet Bird Trade Working Group was held from 1 to 2 July 1991 in Brussels, to discuss the problems of trade in wild-caught birds and to draft a resolution on this topic for COP 8. The Significant Trade Working Group was reformed at the Vancouver meeting and met in Washington, D.C. on 22 October 1991.

3. Summary of Activities\Decisions

3.1 General

3.1.1 The following working groups of the Animals Committee were active:

- a) Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species (chaired by the United States of America)
- b) Marking (chaired by Australia)
- c) Pet Bird Trade (chaired by Germany)
- d) Ten Year Review Species (chaired by Germany)

3.1.2 The Animals Committee continues to be very concerned about the status and role of Scientific Authorities in many countries. Some Parties still have not identified Scientific Authorities for their countries. Apparently there is very little if any consultation between Management and Scientific Authorities before a permit is issued by many other Parties. The United States, with full support from the Animals Committee, has prepared a draft resolution on this subject for review by the Conference of the Parties.

3.1.3 The Berne Criteria were reviewed by the Animals Committee on its own initiative during the Darwin meeting and subsequently in Vancouver through several related issues. It was noted that the Criteria are applicable to birds, terrestrial mammals, reptiles and amphibians but are not appropriate for plants, marine mammals, fish and invertebrates. The Animals Committee deliberated on this issue without conclusion and without proposing revision of the existing Criteria. The Committee is willing to consider this issue further upon specific direction by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee. It is suggested that a special working group composed of experts on each of the major taxa be formed if the review is to continue.

3.1.4 Several field studies related to the biological status of species or taxa which are candidates for inclusion in the appendices have been undertaken through the Secretariat with little consultation with the Animals Committee. However, the Animals Committee did review a field study proposal for *Rhea americana* and provided helpful suggestions to the proponent on survey techniques and methodology. It is recommended that any new study proposals received from a proponent or initiated by the Secretariat be reviewed by the Animals Committee to ensure that the investigative methodology is satisfactory and that the objectives will be met.

3.1.5 The Animals Committee continued the review of Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species in co-operation with the Secretariat, IUCN and the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit. There is a separate report (Doc. 8.30) of this Group, chaired by Charles Dane of the United States, which will provide the required leadership and co-ordinate this large task on behalf of the Committee. There are two major aspects of the review that require the full support of the Parties: a) the analyses of existing biological and trade data on those species thought to be in high-volume trade; and b) studies to obtain biological and trade data on those species for which there is insufficient information.

3.1.6 The Animals Committee was asked by the Parties during the 7th COP to continue a review of issues related to marking of ranched specimens as well as of marking methods for quota species and look-alike species. The Marking Working Group has prepared documents for further consideration during this meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3.2 Ten Year Review Species

The Animals Committee considered 35 species, subspecies or taxa as part of the Ten Year Review and identification issues. All of the initial Ten Year Review species have now been considered. Identification of subspecies is often very difficult for experts and virtually impossible for Customs officials. It is more practical to list the taxa by country, rather than by subspecies. For some taxa there has never been any significant trade recorded and it is proposed that these be delisted.

3.2.1 The following 17 taxa were recommend for decision at COP 8:

<i>Buceros*</i>	Netherlands	List genus in II
<i>Rhynchotus rufescens*</i>	Uruguay	Delist species
<i>Cyrtonyx montezumae</i> and <i>mearnsi</i>	U.S.A.	Delist species
<i>Rhea americana</i> <i>albescens</i>	Argentina	List species in II
<i>Phrynosoma</i> <i>coronatum blainvillei</i>	U.S.A.	List species in II
<i>Capra falconeri</i>	U.K.	List in I
<i>Cygnus columbianus</i> <i>jankowski</i>	Germany	Delist species
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> <i>princes</i>	Nomenclature	Update in taxonomic status
<i>Felis rufa escuinapae</i>	U.S.A.	Transfer species to II
<i>Ursus arctos</i> <i>isabellinus</i>	Denmark	Transfer to II
<i>nelsoni</i>	Mexican pop. to I	
<i>pruinosis</i>	Include China pop.	
<i>Antilocapra Americana</i>	U.S.A.	Delist U.S. pop. List Mexican pop. in I
<i>Anas aucklandica</i>	New Zealand	List species in I
<i>Conraua goliath</i>	U.S.A.	List species in II
<i>Nasua nasua solitaria</i>	Honduras	Delist species
	Uruguay	

3.2.2 For the following Appendix-II taxa additional information is required and they are under further review:

Unionidae
Trichechus senegalensis
*Cynolebias spp.**
Equus hemionus
Ovis ammon hodgsoni
Lissemys punctata punctata
Felis bengalensis
Tamandua tetradactyla chapadensis
Struthio camelus
Columba livia
Pangasianodon gigas

3.2.3 No change in the listing is recommended for the following four taxa:

Crax mitu mitu
Equus zebra hartmannae
Damaliscus lunatus konigum
Aburria pipile pipile

3.2.4 Other action by the Secretariat or a Party is being taken on the following three species outside of COP8:

Odocoileus virginianus
mayensis

Secretariat will ask Guatemala to drop III listing

<i>Felis concolor</i> ssp.	U.S.A. and Canada will identify ssp. on export permit
<i>Grus canadensis</i> ssp.	U.S.A. will indicate ssp.

* Considered at COP7

3.3 Eight Draft Resolutions Considered by the Animals Committee and Submitted by the Secretariat or Parties for COP8:

- Guidelines for a Procedure to Register and Monitor Operations for Breeding Appendix-I Animal Species for Commercial Purposes, CANADA
- Travelling Wildlife Exhibitions, SECRETARIAT
- Marking Requirements for Trade in Live Animals, Parts and Derivatives of Look-alike Taxa, AUSTRALIA
- Criteria for the Transfer of Crocodilians from Appendix I to Appendix II, GERMANY
- Trade in Wild-Caught Animals for Commercial Purposes, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- Trade in Live Wild-Caught Birds for Commercial Purposes, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- Role of Scientific Authorities, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
- Universal Tagging System for the Identification of Crocodilian Skins in International Trade, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

4. Financial Support

4.1 During the 1990-92 period, the Animals Committee received support from the CITES budget for travel of regional representatives to Animals Committee meetings in Darwin, Australia, and Vancouver, Canada. The following summarizes the budgeted and actual costs:

Year	Allocated	Expended
1990	CHF 15,500	CHF 10,625
1991	CHF 15,500	CHF 11,242
1992	CHF 15,500	None to date.

4.2 The United States provided USD5,000 in additional funds to support the travel of Scientific Authorities from Thailand and Indonesia to the Darwin meeting of the Animals Committee.

4.3 The Animals Committee wishes the Parties to recognize the present contribution of several Parties and NGOs who sponsor an annual meeting of the Committee and the travel of regional representatives, beyond the present CITES budget allocation of CHF 15,500. Adding meeting and travel costs together for one year based on 1991, the additional cost is CHF 6,000 for sponsoring a five-day meeting and CHF 15,000 in travel costs for four of the six regional members. At present, World Wide Fund for Nature International, Canada, Germany and Australia support this latter cost. At the present level of expected activity, excluding the current costs of the review of significant trade in Appendix-II species, the Animals Committee is requiring CHF 36,500 in order to meet once a year and complete all assignments.

4.4 As indicated in 4.1, the Animals Committee has operated within the revised allotments provided by the Standing Committee since the 7th COP. Given the basic travel requirements for 2-3 representatives to annual meetings and no other costs expected beyond the review of Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species, the basic annual support from CITES required for the Animals Committee for 1992-1994 should remain at CHF 15,500 annually. Unanticipated costs or added responsibilities requiring financial support resulting from the 8th COP would have to be added to this base figure.

4.5 Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species

4.5.1 FIELD PROJECTS – IUCN/SSC has indicated a need for CHF 60,000 annually in partial support of Significant Trade field projects; they intend to supplement this support with an additional CHF 60,000 in grants obtained from other sources.

4.5.2 REVIEWS – IUCN and WCMC will require the following to review Significant Trade Species:

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>
IUCN	CHF 20,000	CHF 15,000	
WCMC	CHF 30,000	CHF 70,000	

5. Evaluation and Recommendations

5.1 The Animals Committee addressed all of the issues referred to it by the Parties at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties and by the Standing Committee in the interim and has presented the products for consideration at the eighth meeting.

5.2 It is RECOMMENDED that:

5.2.1 the Parties approve the proposed draft resolutions and proposals submitted for the Ten Year Review, Marking and Significant Trade Species;

5.2.2 the Parties approve the financial support requested to continue the review of Significant Trade in Appendix-II Species;

5.2.3 the Parties provide the Animals Committee with an operating budget of CHF 36,500 annually, in order to conduct its business until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

5.2.4 the Parties or the Standing Committee provide written confirmation of all new members appointed to the Animals Committee.

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Chairman of the Animals Committee