

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

Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Kyoto (Japan), 2 to 13 March 1992

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

Trade in Birds

Trade in Species Subject to High Mortality Rates

TRADE IN LIVE BIRDS EXPERIENCING HIGH MORTALITIES IN TRANSPORT

This document has been prepared and is submitted by the United States of America.

1. Article IV, paragraph 2(c), of the Convention requires that prior to the issuance of an Appendix-II export permit, a Management Authority of the State of export must be satisfied that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment.
2. The transport of live specimens has been an issue at every meeting of the Conference of the Parties. For many species, particularly of birds, either mortality in transport remains unacceptably high or compliance with Article IV, paragraph 2(c), is inadequate, or both.
3. Resolution Conf. 5.18 directed the Technical Committee to establish a working group (the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens, or Transport Working Group) to prepare recommendations for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on any further measures which might be required to improve the conditions in which live specimens are transported.
4. Resolution Conf. 6.1 eliminated the Technical Committee, and the Standing Committee directed the Transport Working Group to report to it. Resolution Conf. 6.24 recommended that CITES export permits be accompanied by a health and welfare checklist, provided a model of the checklist, and recommended that Parties gather mortality data.
5. Resolution Conf. 7.13 noted that few, if any, of the Parties had adopted the recommendations of any of the afore-mentioned Resolutions, and made further recommendations, including: (1) that the dialogue between the CITES Secretariat, through the Standing Committee, and the IATA Live Animals Board, be continued; (2) that applicants for export permits be notified that shipments of live specimens are required to be prepared in accordance with the IATA Regulations and the CITES Guidelines; (3) that export permits are to be accompanied by a container checklist; (4) that Parties gather mortality data and transmit it to the Chairman of the Transport Working Group; and (5) that Parties not clear for export shipments without a checklist or with an unexplained "No" answer. Resolution Conf. 7.13 also provided a model of the checklist, and decided that the Transport Working Group should be a permanent working group reporting to the Standing Committee.
6. The Transport Working Group met in September 1990 and July 1991 to discuss issues of transport of live specimens. In reviewing available mortality information, the Transport Working Group found that transport of live birds for the pet trade is a problem of particular concern, in that mortality remains high for many species and, in many cases, export permits are being issued without live birds being prepared and shipped so as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment.
7. This paper proposes the adoption of the annexed draft resolution, which was adopted by the Transport Working Group at its July 1991 meeting, although the annex of species was not finalized. The Transport Working Group agreed to define transport as: preparation for shipment, including conditioning, veterinary care, handling, packing, and

husbandry; all surface and/or air transportation upon consignment; and all transportation from country of origin until importation into a country of import.

8. The Transport Working Group agreed that high mortality on arrival in a country of import is a direct result of improper transport, and indicates inappropriate implementation of the Article IV, paragraph 2(c), requirements. High mortality during quarantine can be an indicator of improper transport. The Transport Working Group also agreed that due to a number of biological and other factors, some species are more sensitive in transport than others, in that it is far more difficult for those species to be prepared and shipped without risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment.
9. The annexed draft resolution proposed by this paper, creates a two-tiered system: trade for commercial purposes in species of birds that experience significant mortalities in transport would be suspended; trade would be limited to 50 birds per shipment for species of birds for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality. The Transport Working Group would monitor transport conditions and mortalities, particularly for species subject to the reduced shipment sizes. The draft resolution calls on the Parties to review the species subject to this draft resolution, both for birds and for other taxa, at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
10. The Transport Working Group adopted the following criteria for determining those species that are subject to this draft resolution:

Species that experience significant mortalities in transport, for which it is recommended to suspend trade for commercial purposes:

Input from exporting countries; input from scientists, veterinarians, zoological institutions, and other experts; or species with 10% or higher average mortality on arrival in an importing country, or 15% or higher average mortality during quarantine, and for which data are based on 10 or more shipments and 300 or more specimens, to avoid a single "bad" shipment skewing the data.

Species for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality, for which it is recommended to limit shipment sizes to 50 birds per shipment:

Input from exporting countries; input from scientists, veterinarians, zoological institutions, and other experts; significant qualitative information; or species with 5-10% average mortality during quarantine, and for which data are based on more than 10 shipments and more than 300 specimens, to avoid a single "bad" shipment skewing the data.

Note from the Secretariat

As the attached draft resolution concerns the same subject as that attached to document Doc. 8.24.1 submitted by Israel, the Secretariat recommends that the proponents of these draft resolutions join their efforts to submit a single text to the Conference of the Parties.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Trade in Live Birds Experiencing High Mortalities in Transport

WHEREAS Article III, paragraph 2(c), Article IV, paragraph 2(c), and Article V, paragraph 2(b), of the Convention require a Management Authority of the State of export to be satisfied, prior to the issuance of an export permit or certificate, that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment;

CONCERNED that the official figures of mortalities due to the trade have not been reduced significantly, despite recurring efforts by the Parties to improve trade conditions;

NOTING that the Parties represented at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Lausanne, 1989) expressed their awareness that mortalities in transport remain of significant concern, by the adoption of Resolution Conf. 7.13 which established minimal standards of care for live specimens in transport;

RECALLING that Resolution Conf. 7.13 established the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens as a permanent working group of the Standing Committee, and called upon the Working Group to gather information on mortality occurring during transport;

NOTING that in reviewing mortality information, the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens has found that transport of live birds for the pet trade is a problem of particular concern because mortality remains high for many species and, in many cases, export permits are being issued for live birds which are not prepared and shipped so as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment;

MINDFUL that due to a number of biological and other factors, some species are more sensitive to significant mortalities in transport than others, in that it is far more difficult for those species to be prepared and shipped without risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RECOMMENDS

- a) that all Parties suspend trade for commercial purposes in shipments of species of birds that experience significant mortalities in transport. The Annex to this Resolution contains a list of these species;
- b) that all Parties limit export to 50 birds per shipment for species of birds for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality. The Annex to this Resolution contains a list of these species; and
- c) that the Parties record and maintain data on the mortalities of live animals in trade, with particular emphasis on live birds, and periodically submit those data to the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens;

DIRECTS the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens, in co-operation with the Secretariat, to monitor the transport conditions of species of live birds, and to report to the Standing Committee on any changes in mortalities due to the reduced shipment sizes and greater attention during transport;

RECOMMENDS that the Parties review the species listed in the Annex to this Resolution, both for birds and for other taxa, based on new data that become available, at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and

URGES the Parties and all organizations interested in the utilization, conservation, and transportation of wildlife to provide the necessary financial and technical support for projects, studies, and training pertaining to the transport of live animals, with particular focus on species that experience or are suspected of experiencing significant mortalities.

Trade in Live Birds Experiencing High Mortalities in Transport

The following is a PROVISIONAL, PRELIMINARY list of species subject to this draft resolution. They have been selected on the basis of the criteria agreed upon by the Transport Working Group and described in the preamble to this draft resolution. This list will be finalized prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following is a list of species that satisfy the criteria for both sample size and transport or quarantine mortality, based on United States import statistics, with the following exception: any species that satisfies the criterion for experiencing significant quarantine mortalities (>15%), but experienced only 1% or 2% mortality on arrival in the United States, is placed instead in the list of species warranting further attention and reduced shipment sizes.

Species that experience significant mortalities in transport, for which it is recommended to suspend trade for commercial purposes:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Common name</u>
<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	Peach-faced lovebird
<i>Ara manilata</i>	Red-bellied macaw
<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	Orange-chinned parakeet
<i>Brotogeris versicolorus</i>	Canary-winged parakeet
<i>Myopsitta monachus</i>	Monk parakeet
<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	Meyer's parrot
<i>Poicephalus rufiventris</i>	Red-bellied parrot
<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	Alexandrine parrot

Species for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality, for which it is recommended to limit shipment sizes to 50 birds per shipment:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Common name</u>
<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>	Fischer's lovebird
<i>Amazona aestiva</i>	Blue-fronted amazon
<i>Amazona albifrons</i>	White-fronted amazon
<i>Amazona farinose</i>	Mealy amazon
<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	Yellow-headed amazon
<i>Aratinga aurea</i>	Peach-fronted conure
<i>Aratinga canicularis</i>	Orange-fronted conure
<i>Aratinga mitrata</i>	Mitred conure
<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>	Brown-throated conure
<i>Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae</i>	Red-fronted parakeet
<i>Derophtus accipitrinus</i>	Hawk-headed parrot
<i>Eos bornea</i>	Red lory
<i>Eos squamata</i>	Violet-necked lory
<i>Forpus passerinus</i>	Green-rumped parrotlet
<i>Lorius garrulous</i>	Chattering lory
<i>Neophema bourkii</i>	Bourke's parrot
<i>Pionites melanocephala</i>	Black-headed caique
<i>Pionus maximiliani</i>	Scaly-headed parrot
<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	Blue-headed parrot
<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Crimson rosella
<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	Eastern rosella
<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	Cape parrot
<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	Senegal parrot
<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>	Red-rumped parrot
<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>	Moustached parakeet
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	African grey parrot
<i>Tanygnathus megalorhynchos</i>	Great-billed parrot
<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Rainbow lory
Trochilidae	Hummingbird

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Trade in Species Subject to High Mortality Rates

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The attached draft resolution has been prepared and is submitted by Israel.

Note from the Secretariat

As the attached draft resolution concerns the same subject as that attached to document Doc. 8.24 submitted by the United States of America, the Secretariat recommends that the proponents of these draft resolutions join their efforts to submit a single text to the Conference of the Parties.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Trade in Live Birds Experiencing High Mortalities in Transport

MINDFUL that in adopting Resolution Conf. 1.6 at its first meeting (Berne, 1976), the Conference of the Parties recognized that mortality in trade and captivity was high for many species of animals popular in the pet trade;

CONCERNED that since the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 1.6 the official figures of mortalities due to the trade have not been reduced significantly, despite recurring efforts by the Parties to improve trade conditions;

WHEREAS Article III, paragraph 2(c), Article IV, paragraph 2(c), and Article V, paragraph 2(c), of the Convention require a Management Authority of the State of export to be satisfied that any living specimen will be so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment prior to the issuance of an export permit or certificate;

NOTING that the Parties to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Lausanne, 1989) expressed special concern at the continuing high mortalities of live specimens, through adoption, by consensus, of Resolution Conf. 7.13 which established minimal standards of care for live specimens in transport;

RECALLING that Resolution Conf. 7.13 established the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens as a permanent working group of the Standing Committee, and called upon the Working Group to gather information on mortality occurring during transport;

RECALLING that Parties recommended in Resolution Conf. 7.13 that applicants for export permits or re-export certificates be notified that, as a condition of issuance, they are required to prepare and ship live specimens in accordance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations for air transport and the CITES Guidelines for Transport of Live Specimens for marine or terrestrial shipments;

RECALLING that the Parties urged in Resolution Conf. 7.3, adopted at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Lausanne, 1989), that Section 5 of the standard permit indicate that a permit or certificate concerning live animals is valid only if the transport conditions conform to the Guidelines for Transport of Live Animals or, in the case of air transport, to the IATA Live Animals Regulations;

NOTING that in reviewing mortality information, the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens has found that transport of live birds for the pet trade is a problem of particular concern, because mortality remains high for many species and, in many cases, export permits are being issued for live birds which are not prepared and shipped so as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;

MINDFUL that due to a number of biological and other factors, some species are more sensitive to significant mortalities in transport than others, in that it is far more difficult for those species to be prepared and shipped without risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RECOMMENDS

- a) that all Parties suspend trade for commercial purposes in shipments of species of birds that experience significant mortalities in transport. The Annex to this Resolution shall include a list of these species;
- b) that all Parties limit exports to 50 birds per shipment for species of birds for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality. The Annex to this Resolution shall include a list of these species; and
- c) that the Parties record and maintain data on the mortalities of live animals in trade, with particular emphasis on live birds, and periodically submit those data to the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens;

DIRECTS

- a) the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens, in co-operation with the Secretariat, to monitor the transport conditions of species of live birds, and to report to the Standing Committee on any changes in mortalities due to the reduced shipment sizes and greater attention during transport; and
- b) the Working Group on Transport of Live Specimens to compile lists of avian species which experience significant mortalities in transport and to submit such lists for approval by the Standing Committee for inclusion in the Annex to this Resolution; and

URGES the Parties and all organizations interested in the conservation, and transportation of wildlife to provide the necessary financial and technical support for projects, studies and training pertaining to the transport of live animals, with particular focus on species that experience or are suspected of experiencing significant mortalities.

Trade in Live Birds Experiencing Significant Mortalities in Transport

Transport is defined as: Preparation for shipment, including conditioning, veterinary care, handling, packing, and husbandry; all surface and/or air transportation upon consignment; and all transportation from country of origin until importation into country of import.

High mortality on arrival in a country of import is a direct result of improper transport, and indicates inappropriate implementation of the requirement of the Convention to prepare and ship live specimens so as to minimize injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment. High mortality during quarantine can be an indicator of improper transport.

Species that experience significant mortalities in transport, for which it is recommended to suspend trade for commercial purposes

Criteria for inclusion include any of the following:

Input from government agencies;

Input from scientists, veterinarians, competent non-governmental organizations and other experts;

Significant qualitative information;

Species with 10% or higher average mortality on arrival in an importing country, or 15% or higher average mortality during quarantine, and for which data are based on 10 or more shipments and 300 or more specimens, to avoid a single "bad" shipment skewing the data.

Species for which information exists to indicate that improved attention is warranted in order to reduce mortality, for which it is recommended to limit shipment sizes to 50 birds per shipment

Criteria for inclusion include any of the following:

Input from government agencies;

Input from scientists, veterinarians, competent non-governmental organizations and other experts;

Significant qualitative information;

Species with 5% to 10% average mortality on arrival in an importing country, or 10% to 15% average mortality during quarantine, and for which data are based on more than 10 shipments and more than 300 specimens, to avoid a single "bad" shipment skewing the data.

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AMENDMENT TO DOCUMENTS DOC. 8.24 AND DOC. 8.24.1

This document is submitted by the delegations of the United States of America and Israel.

Preamble to document Doc. 8.24 Annex unchanged.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RECOMMENDS

- a) that all Parties maintain records of shipment size and mortalities of Appendices-I, -II and -III birds during shipment and whilst they are held in quarantine, and publish these data annually;
- b) that Parties suspend trade for commercial purposes in species of birds that, based on either their own data or data supplied by the Transport Working Group, have an average mortality rate which is above 5% in shipments comprising more than 100 specimens in total;
- c) that the Transport Working Group seek information from Parties, based both upon data on shipment size and mortality, and upon information from scientists, veterinarians, zoological institutions, and other experts and, in co-operation with the Secretariat, make recommendations to the Parties designed to minimize mortality; and
- d) that Parties only reopen trade which has been suspended under b) above, where significant changes in circumstances lead the Management Authority to conclude that future mortality will be less than 5% in shipment and quarantine, or 2% in shipment.