

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of *Buceros bicornis* from Appendix II to Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

The Netherlands.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Aves
12. Order: Coraciiformes
13. Family: Bucerotidae
14. Species: *Buceros bicornis* Linnaeus, 1758
Subspecies: *Buceros bicornis bicornis* Linnaeus, 1758
Buceros bicornis homrai Hodgson, 1832
15. Common names: English: great (Indian) hornbill
French: calao bicorne
Spanish: Calao grande
German: Doppelhornvogel
16. Code Number:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: *B. b. bicornis*: Indonesia (Sumatra), Malaysia (Peninsula), Myanmar, Singapore (vagrant), Thailand.
B. b. homrai: Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Kampuchea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Viet Nam.
22. Habitat: Dense evergreen forests up to 1000 m, sometimes to 1600 m.
23. Food: Mainly fruits, especially figs. Also insects, small reptiles (Sanft, 1960; Kemp, 1979).
24. Population: *B. b. bicornis*: Indonesia: only occurring in Sumatra, where it is uncommon (Suwelo & Martodihardjo, 1991) or rare (Hadipoetranto in litt.). Malaysia: only occurring on the peninsula. Myanmar: only occurring in the extreme south along the border with Malaysia. Thailand: only occurring in the extreme south along the border with Malaysia, considered vulnerable by Round (1988). Recent population estimates are not available. However, populations

throughout the range are declining, mainly due to the destruction of the habitat.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Locally hunted for food, feathers and casques. Sometimes taken as pet. (Round 1988).

32. Legal international trade:

Trade in *B. bicornis* reported to CITES for 1985-1989 (WCMC 1991).

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1985-89
<i>Buceros bicornis</i>	10	6	162	39	57	274

Main exporting country reported to be the Lao People's Democratic Republic. In that country only the subspecies *B. b. homrai* occurs (already listed in Appendix I of CITES). Due to the listing of both subspecies on different appendices it is not clear what part of the trade actually consisted of *B. b. bicornis*.

33. Illegal trade: Considering the trade figures as reported to CITES it is clear that, due to (deliberate) misidentification, specimens of *B. b. homrai* have been traded as *B. bicornis*.

4. Protection Status

41. National: [Data compiled from 'Wildlife Trade Laws of Asia and Oceania' (Gaski & Hemley, 1991)].

B. b. bicornis: Indonesia: All hornbills are fully protected (Annex I of the 'Wildlife Protection Ordinance of 1931' and the 'Wildlife Protection Regulation of 1931'. There is no separate legislation for the implementation of CITES.

Malaysia: All hornbills are protected under the 'Protection of Wildlife Act 76/72', meaning that no trade is allowed and that taking, shooting and keeping wild birds is possible only with special permits (Siti Hawa Yatim in litt.).

Myanmar: Not a Party to CITES. Hornbills are partially protected within 'reserved forests' or 'sanctuaries' under the 'Burma Wildlife Protection Act 1936', preventing hunting and capture. Outside these areas, only special species are still protected but these do not include hornbills.

Singapore: 'The Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act, 1989' implements CITES. Other legislations are the 'Animals and Birds Act, 1965 (Chapter 7)' and the 'Wild Animals and Birds Act, 1965 (Chapter 351)'. Under these, all wild animals, including hornbills, are fully protected.

Thailand: All hornbills are protected by listing in Annex II (protected non-food and non-game animals of the first category; hunting only with special permission) of the 'Wild Animals Reservation and Protection Act, B.E. 2053 (1960)'. There is no separate legislation for the implementation of CITES.

42. International: At present, *Buceros bicornis* is listed in CITES Appendix II, with the subspecies *B. bicornis homrai* in Appendix I. *B. bicornis* is listed in annex C1 of EC (CITES) regulation 3626/82 as amended by regulation 197/90, which gives the same protection regime as CITES Appendix-I species.

43. Additional Protection Needs. As the species is considered vulnerable or threatened throughout its range, and as the identification of the two different subspecies of *Buceros bicornis* is very difficult and possible only by specialists and certainly not during border controls (which accounts for the high proportion of *B. bicornis* individuals of unknown subspecific status reported in trade), the species as a whole should be listed in Appendix I of CITES.

5. Information on Similar Species

At present, the following hornbill taxa are already in CITES appendices: *Aceros narcondami*, *Buceros rhinoceros*, *B. bicornis*, *B. hydrocorax hydrocorax* (all in Appendix II), and *Buceros bicornis homrai* and *Rhinoplax vigil* (Appendix I). In another proposal also submitted to the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, all Australasian hornbill species of the genera *Aceros* (including *A. comatus* = *Berenicornis comatus* according to Morony *et al.* 1975), *Anorrhinus*, *Anthracoceros*, *Buceros*, *Penelopides* and *Ptilolaemus*, are proposed to be listed, if not already in the appendices, in Appendix II.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

Being sought.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Gaski, A.L. & Hemley, G. (eds.), 1991. Wildlife Trade Laws of Asia and Oceania. WWF-Traffic USA, Washington.

Kemp, A.C., 1979. A review of the hornbills: biology and radiation. *Living Bird* 17: 105-136.

Morony Jr., J.J., Bock, W.J. & Farrand Jr., J., 1975. Reference list of the birds of the world. American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Round, P.D., 1988. Resident forest birds in Thailand: their status and conservation. ICBP Monograph 2. Cambridge.

Sanft, K., 1960. Aves/Upupae – Bucerotidae. *Das Tierreich* 76. Berlin.

Suwelo, I.S. & Martodihardjo, P., 1991. Bucerotidae of Indonesia. CBSG Asian Hornbill Conservation Workshop, 24-26 September 1991, Singapore.

WCMC, 1991. Trade data on Hornbills. World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge.

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