

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

1. Proposal : Transfer of *Acerodon jubatus* and *Acerodon lucifer* from Appendix II to Appendix I.
2. Proponent : Republic of the Philippines
3. Supporting Statement:

3.1 Taxonomy

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|---------------|---|---------------------------------------------|
| 3.1.1 Class | : | Mammalia |
| 3.1.2 Order | : | Chiroptera |
| 3.1.3 Family | : | Pteropodidae |
| 3.1.4 Species | : | <i>Acerodon jubatus</i>
(Escholtz, 1831) |
| | | <i>Acedoron lucifer</i>
(Elliot, 1896) |

3.1.5 English Common Names:

- a) Golden crowned flying fox - *A. jubatus*
- b) Panay giant fruit bat - *A. lucifer*

3.2 Biological Data

3.2.1 Distribution:

These species are endemic to the Philippines. They have been recorded on the following areas and specific islands:

A. jubatus - Occuring in Abra, Cotabato, Zamboanga (Taylor 1934); found throughout the country except Palawan (Heaney, et al 1987); Basilan, Biliran, Cebu, Dinagat, Leyte, Luzon, Mindoro, Negros, Panay, Samar, Sulu Archipelago (Heideman and Heaney in Mickleburg, et al 1992).

A. lucifer - Occurs in Concepcion in Panay Island (Taylor, 1934) reported as no longer seen since 1893 (Heaney, et al 1987).

3.2.2 Population - There are no population estimates for the two species. However, populations throughout the range have declined due to destruction of its habitat.

A. jubatus - Occured in large mixed species colonies (with *Pteropus vampyrus*) of 100,000 or more individuals on all major islands except Palawan (Taylor 1934); widespread and locally common (Heaney, et al 1987); population declined drastically (from often 100,000 to rarely over 1,000) in almost all areas of the Philippines; probably threatened with imminent extinction; vanished from a number of small and medium-sized islands and believed to have completely disappeared from larger islands like Cebu (Heideman and Heaney in Mickleburg, et al 1992).

A. lucifer - J. Steere (quoted in Elliot, 1896) noted that hundreds of bats were thickly clustered in bamboo thickets (Taylor, 1934; Mickleburg, et al 1992); not seen since 1893; presumed extinct but needs intensive investigation (Heaney, et al 1987; Utzurrum, 1992).

3.2.3 Habitat

A. jubatus - near sea level to primary montane forest at 1100 m. (Taylor 1934, Heaney, et al 1989); mixed agricultural and rainforest (Heideman and Heaney, 1989).

A. lucifer - forest; clumps of spiny bamboos among ricefields and over some of the native houses (Taylor 1934).

3.3 Trade Data

The Philippines is one of the major sources of bats for the Guam market. The recorded total number of fruit bats imported in to Guam from the Philippines in 1982, 1986, 1987 and 1988 was 3,092. The peak year was in 1986 with 2,571 (Wiles 1992 in Mickleburg, et al 1992).

Bats are also exported from the Philippines to the Commonwealth of the North Mariana Islands. A total of 2,477 was exported between 1986 to 1989 (Stinson, et al in Mickleburg, et al 1992). Since then, trade was no longer allowed and several hundreds of frozen bats were intercepted on an illegal export attempts (1992).

3.4 Protection Status

The Philippines has been a Party to CITES since 16 November 1981. Although all wildlife species are protected under Act 2590, there is no specific policy however that protects fruit bats. In 1988, the collection of the species were banned under DENR A.O. 90 Series of 1988.

A captive breeding program is being implemented with *A. jubatus* as one of the species being maintained but had no breeding success yet (Utzurum, 1992)

3.5 Additional Remarks

Threat to the existence of these species are hunting (for subsistence and commercial purposes) and deforestation.

Considered as one of the largest bats, *A. jubatus* are often hunted with guns, modified nets and aerial fish hook lines.

4. References:

- Heaney, Lawrence R., P.C. Gonzales and A.C. Alcalá, 1987. An annotated checklist of the taxonomic and conservation status of land mammals in the Philippines. Silliman Journal. 54 (1-4). p. 32-66
- Heaney, Lawrence R., P.D. Hiedeman, E.R. Richart, R.C.B. Utzurum and J.H.S. Klompen. 1998. Elevational zonation of mammals in the central Philippines. J. Trop. Ecol. 5:259-280

- Heideman, Paul C., and L. R. Heaney. 1989. Population biology and estimates of abundance of fruit bats (*Pteropodidae*) in the Philippines submontane rainforest. *J. Zool.* London: 218. p. 565-586.
- Mickeburg, Simon P., Anthony M. Hutson and Paul A. Racey. 1992. Old World Fruit Bats: An Action Plan for their Conservation. IUCN-World Conservation Union: United Kingdom. 252 pp.
- Taylor, Edward H. 1934. Philippine Land Mammals. Manila: Bureau of Science, Monograph 30. 548 pp.
- Utzurum, Ruth. 1992. Conservation status of the Philippine fruit bats (*Pteropodidae*). *Silliman Journal* 36 (1). p. 27-45.

amendment