

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of the Vu Quang ox (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*) in Appendix I.

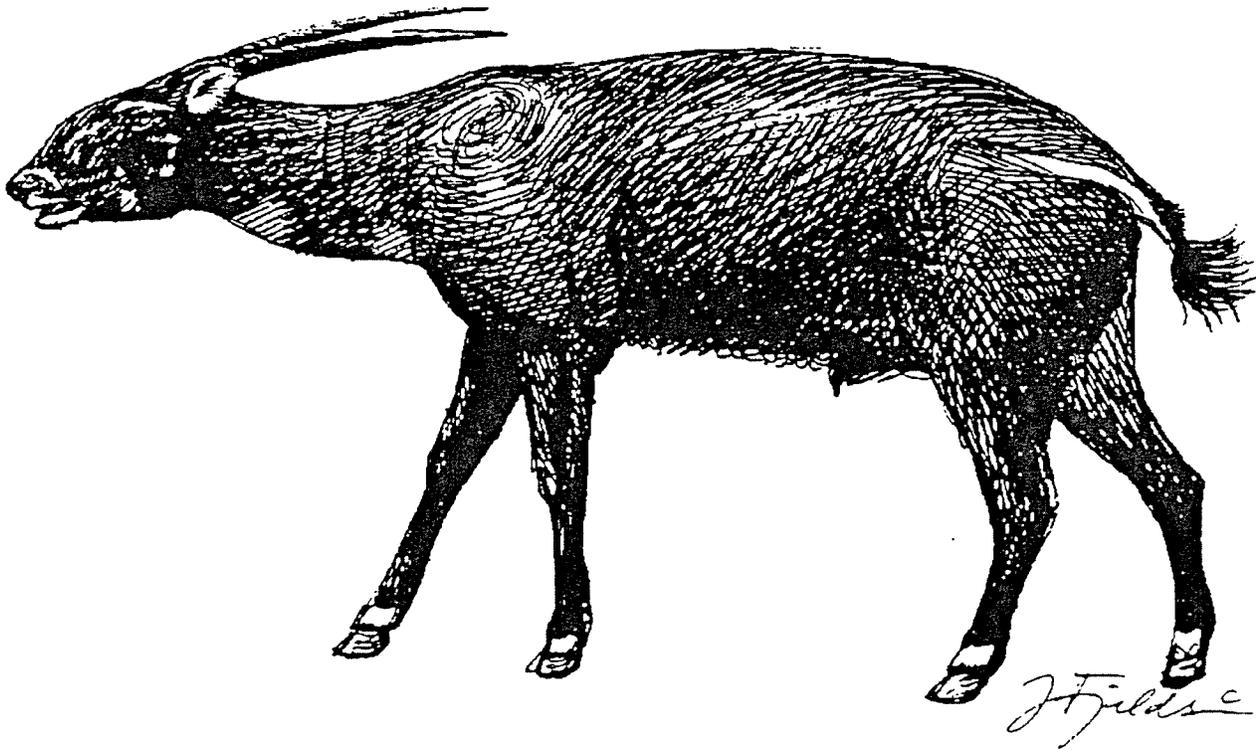
B. PROPONENT

Denmark.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Mammalia  
12. Order: Artiodactyla  
13. Family: Bovidae  
14. Species: *Pseudoryx nghetinhensis* (Dung *et al.*, 1993)  
15. Common Names: English: Vu Quang ox, Sao la  
French:  
Spanish:  
Danish: Vu Quang okse  
Vietnamese: Dê sừng dài, Sao la



16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: The Vu Quang ox has been found in the Ha Tinh and Nghe An provinces in the northern Viet Nam along the Lao-Viet Nam border in the only extensive pristine forest in Viet Nam between 104° 5'E by 19° 25'N and 105° 50 (Dung *et al.* 1993). The species possibly also occurs on the Lao side of the border.

The currently known range totals about 4000 km<sup>2</sup> and the species appears to use all forest levels in different seasons from about 200 m to over 2000 m above sea level (Dung *et al.* 1993).

22. Population: Unknown, but may amount to some hundred individuals (John MacKinnon pers. comm.).
23. Habitat: Montane forests dominated by conifers with *Fokienia hodgsoni* down to rich evergreen mixed-broadleaf, dominated by *Hopea mollissima*.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: The ox is hunted for its meat and skin by the villagers and probably also for the production of locally produced medicines.

32. Legal International Trade: No information available.

33. Illegal Trade: No information available.

34. Potential Trade Threats

341. Live Specimens: As this species has been discovered recently, collecting attempts for zoological gardens and private animal keepers can be expected.

342. Parts and Derivatives: The very special horns and the fact that the species has been recently discovered is likely to create an interest among collectors and trophy hunters.

4. Protection Status

41. National: Not exactly known, but the Vietnamese authorities have already taken action to protect the animal and its habitat. International organizations are involved (WWF, IUCN).

42. International: None.

43. Additional Protection Needs: Strict control to stop illegal international trade is required.

5. Information on Similar Species

No similar species.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

None.

7. Additional Remarks

In May 1992 a joint expedition of scientists from the Vietnamese Ministry of Forestry and WWF found evidence of a new species of bovid living in the Vu Quang Nature Reserve in the forested mountain range near the Lao border in the Ha Tinh province, Viet Nam. The animal has yet to be seen alive by the scientists, but a total of over 20 specimens have been located, mostly only cut-off pairs of horns, but additionally 3-4 skulls and mandibles have been collected, and also 3 skins. Most of this material is in Viet Nam but, in March 1993, a couple of Danish free-lance journalists,

visited Viet Nam to see and photograph the animal. They failed in this, but managed to buy a whole skin, three sets of horns, and a fragmented skull from local hunters - and to bring this material to Denmark where they have given it to the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen.

The fact that the Vu Quang ox, with its very special horns, is now known to the public, could easily create an interest among collectors and trophy hunters. The limited local hunting for meat and skins has probably not been a threat to the species, but an increased hunting and collecting would no doubt be a threat to the survival of the species and all measures should be taken to prevent this as soon as possible.

#### 8. References

Dung, V. V., P. M. Giao, N. N. Chinh, D. Touc, P. Arctander & J. MacKinnon, 1993: A new species of living bovid from Vietnam. Nature Vol. 363, 433-445.

