

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Introduction

2. The Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting adopted a decision directed to the Standing Committee (Decision No. 2) regarding the accession to and the participation in the Convention of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The Standing Committee was instructed to look for ways of facilitating this participation with the assistance of the Secretariat.
3. The Secretariat itself included this task as a separate item in its strategic plan.
4. At its 37th meeting, the Standing Committee discussed the issue, focusing particularly on the region of Oceania, since this was the region with the greatest number of non-party Small Island Developing States. The Standing Committee approved the summary of the Secretary General on the actions taken in the region, which had been discussed at a meeting of the Secretariat with the representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Trinidad and Tobago) and Oceania (Papua New Guinea) to the Standing Committee as well as with representatives of Australia and New Zealand.
5. A wide variety of species, including marine species, for which there are trade problems occur in the territory of SIDS. The Secretariat has visited during the past few years countries in both of the main CITES regions with SIDS and discussed these and other problems of common interest.
6. Following are summaries of the relevant activities in the Caribbean and Oceania.

The Caribbean

7. The Secretariat has developed an important activity regarding the Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean. In fact, the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago are Parties to CITES and Jamaica will be in July 1997. The Secretariat has benefited from the outstanding co-operation of Trinidad and Tobago, regional member of the CITES Standing Committee, in encouraging these countries to become Parties to CITES.
8. In 1991, the Secretariat visited Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to discuss matters related to CITES and to encourage them to become members. As a result of this first visit, in September 1992 the Secretariat carried out a training seminar in Trinidad and Tobago, organized in close co-operation with the Management Authorities of Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service provided the necessary funds. The one-week seminar was held in Port of Spain and was attended by 80 representatives mostly from English-speaking countries and territories of the Caribbean region, including Aruba and Curaçao (Netherlands) and Martinique (France).
9. As a result of this seminar and the good relationship established with the authorities of all countries of the region, Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Dominica and Jamaica, have decided to accede to CITES and the

ratification by the Netherlands has been extended to cover Aruba.

10. At the invitation of the Cuban Management Authority, training seminars were carried out in Havana in 1991 and 1995, one for the Management and Scientific Authorities and one for the Customs Service and the Police.
11. In the near future, the Secretariat has the intention of conducting training seminars in Aruba and the Cayman Islands (United Kingdom).
12. During other regional meetings in the Caribbean, the Secretariat was able to establish good working contacts with the following countries/territories, which are still not members of, or are not covered by, CITES: Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Haiti and Turk and Caicos (United Kingdom).
13. In the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9 on Trade in Wild-caught Animal Specimens, the Animals Committee has identified *Strombus gigas* as a species subject to significant trade. The Secretariat has developed an intense activity in the Caribbean region in an attempt to assist in the development of a regional management plan for the species.
14. Some CITES projects have been successfully carried out in some island countries of the Caribbean, (for example on the status of *Crocodylus acutus* in the Dominican Republic and the status of *Crocodylus rhombifer* and *Crocodylus fuscus* in Cuba).
15. The Secretariat is planning to develop stronger relations with regional Caribbean environment agreements, e.g. the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA/W) and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention). The first discussions with SPA/W took place during the second meeting of the contracting Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Jakarta, November 1995.

Oceania

16. The Secretariat visited Australia and New Zealand in 1996 and in both places the Ministers of Environment promised to support a workshop on CITES and SIDS.
17. The Secretariat also discussed with the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) the convening of such a workshop. SPREP had originally planned to organize a workshop together with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) but the latter Secretariat could not contribute because of other commitments.
18. At the meeting mentioned in paragraph 3 above, it was agreed to hold a regional meeting on CITES for Parties and non-Parties in the Oceanian region.
19. The regional meeting was held from 30 April to 2 May 1997 in Canberra, Australia, with the assistance and hospitality of the Management Authority of Australia. Support for the meeting was provided by UNEP and the Governments of Australia, Japan and New Zealand. The list of participants is attached to the meeting report (see Annex). The meeting was chaired by Dr David Kay, Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Australia and attended by representatives of Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Federal States of Micronesia,

New Zealand, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Samoa. TRAFFIC Oceania and the Secretariat of the South Pacific Environment Programme were also represented at the meeting.

20. There were a number of issues that participants at the meeting felt were particularly important in the context of CITES implementation by SIDS in the Oceanian region. A number of these arose several times during the meeting, as follows.
21. – There is an on-going trade in CITES and non-CITES species of wildlife from the Oceanian region. Trade in aquarium fish is an example of one sector of wildlife trade that is expanding in many Pacific island countries.
22. – There are a number of intra-regional wildlife trade issues of concern, such as trade in tourist souvenirs made from CITES-listed species (coral, giant clams) and trade in flying foxes. Greater regional co-ordination would help to achieve better management of these trade issues. It would assist if countries in the Oceanian region (particularly Australia and New Zealand) would clearly communicate their policies on importation requirements and confiscation procedures to Pacific island countries.
23. – SIDS in the Oceania region have considerable resource constraints, which limit their ability to effectively implement CITES provisions and to control trade in CITES-listed species. This lack of resources can act as a deterrent to non-Parties that might be interested in acceding to the Convention.
24. – Difficulties in co-ordination between the many governmental agencies with responsibility for environment, natural resource exploitation, border control, quarantine and other areas related to control of wildlife trade can limit the ability of a country to effectively manage trade in CITES-listed species.
25. – Developing countries in the Oceanian region would benefit from the capacity to send personnel to attend CITES-related training sessions that are held by government agencies in Australia and New Zealand. The Australian and New Zealand Governments were encouraged to provide details of training opportunities to other countries in the Oceanian region.
26. – SIDS in the Oceanian region have a limited capacity to meet the requirements of a CITES Scientific Authority through the use of in-country expertise alone. However, it should be recognized that there is expertise within the region that countries can draw upon in order to make scientific assessments as to the appropriate levels of trade in CITES-listed taxa. SIDS in the Oceania region were encouraged to draw upon government agencies, research institutions, non-governmental organizations and any other bodies that are able to assist them in making these assessments.
27. – Non-Party SIDS in the Oceanian region require more information, advice and assistance in order for them to meet the requirements relating to non-Parties of CITES, assess the merits of accession and put in place legislative and administrative systems that would allow them to join the Convention and implement its provisions.
28. – Many SIDS in the Oceanian region still lack a good understanding of their wildlife trade, including its scale and trends and of the legal and administrative mechanisms required to control the trade. A

better understanding is needed so that countries can determine their future activities with respect to CITES membership and implementation of CITES provisions.

29. – There are some SIDS in the Oceanian region that are strongly considering accession to CITES and/or are developing legislation that will enable them to implement the Convention. Countries in this category include Fiji, Solomon Islands and Samoa.
30. The regional meeting in Australia made the following recommendations:
31. – Small Island Developing States that are not Parties to CITES should:
32. – provide the Secretariat with the name and contact address of the authority competent to sign CITES permits and certificates, as well as original signatures of personnel authorized to sign permits and certificates (in compliance with the requirements of Resolution Conf. 9.5);
33. – notify the Secretariat as soon as any changes occur regarding the designated competent authority or the authorized signatures;
34. – carry out an in-country assessment of strategic needs to clearly define the assistance required to enable compliance with CITES requirements for non-Parties, or obligations of Parties should they wish to accede to the Convention. The assessment should examine issues such as which CITES listed species are currently in trade, what are the levels of trade and what are the existing legislative and administrative arrangements. Assistance for this assessment could be requested from the CITES Secretariat, UNEP, UNDP, World Bank, SPREP, TRAFFIC, Parties to the Convention, other international organizations and donors.
35. – explore measures such as education and public awareness, to assess, control and minimize any negative impact of growing international trade in tourist souvenirs and marine aquarium species.
36. – The CITES Secretariat should:
37. – continue with its efforts to strengthen its presence in the Oceanian region and provide assistance to SIDS;
38. – consider sending a letter to SIDS not yet party to the Convention in the Oceanian region, inviting them to attend the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CITES, as observers or at least notify them of the meeting, and consider the possibility of providing some financial assistance to support their attendance at the meeting;
39. – prepare and send a package of general information on CITES, providing information on obligations and responsibilities of Parties and non-Parties and advantages and benefits of acceding to CITES. The package should include the text of the Convention, the list of species included in the appendices, a report on assistance provided to Parties during the last biennium, the guidelines for the preparation of national legislation on CITES and any other material that may be relevant for non-Parties considering accession to CITES;
40. – relay the outcome of the discussion at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

- regarding SIDS in the Oceanian region, and inform them of proposed follow-up;
41. – extend the planned assessment of training needs of Parties to non-party SIDS in the Oceanian region; and
 42. – organize a regional training seminar on CITES in Oceania during the biennium 1998-1999.
 43. – The Conference of the Parties at its 10th meeting should:
 44. – request the Secretariat to continue providing strong support to SIDS during the next triennium;
 45. – requests the Secretariat to seek external funding to assist SIDS in the Oceanian region in their undertaking of the process of accession to CITES, according to the results of assessments of in-country needs;

46. – allocate financial resources to provide technical assistance to SIDS Parties to the Convention to strengthen their capabilities to fully implement the Convention.
47. – International Organizations, external donors and non-governmental organizations should:
48. – provide financial assistance to enable SIDS in the Oceanian region not party to the Convention to attend the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as observers;
49. – taking into account the results of the assessment in-country needs, provide technical and financial assistance to SIDS in the Oceanian region to allow them to strengthen their national capabilities to comply with the obligations of non-Parties, as well as to take the necessary legal and administrative measures to accede to CITES.

Doc. 10.33 Annex

PACIFIC ISLAND STATES REGIONAL MEETINGS ON CITES

Canberra, Australia, 30 April – 2 May 1997

Report of the Meeting

INTRODUCTION

At the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Parties discussed the issue of participation in, and accession to, the Convention by Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A Decision was taken by the Parties as follows:

Ways of facilitating Small Island Developing States' participation in, and accession to, the Convention shall be investigated, and, assisted by the Secretariat, a report shall be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conferences of the Parties on means of implementation of the Convention in Small Island Developing States appropriate to their circumstances.

Such action could involve visits by the Secretariat to discuss issues and particular problems that Small Island Developing States face and to promote a greater understanding of CITES processes and requirements. Points to be considered should include the documentation requirements for Parties and non-Parties, and whether any steps could be taken to simplify processes and requirements to accede to CITES, such as the provision of joint authorities.

Pacific Island Small Island Developing States and CITES

Pacific Island countries fall within the Oceania region of CITES. There are currently only two Pacific Island States that are members of CITES – Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. There are twelve non-Party Pacific Island SIDS – Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. A further seven territories located in the Oceania region are covered by the accession of other CITES Parties – French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna (France), Tokelau (New Zealand), Pitcairn Island (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island), American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam (United States of America).

Resolution Conf. 9.5 on Trade with States not Party to the Convention, recommends that Parties only accept CITES documentation from non-Party States if details of the competent authorities and scientific institutions of such States

are included in the most recent updated list of the Secretariat, or after consultation with the Secretariat. Less than half the non-Party States in the Oceania region have provided this information to the Secretariat and, of those that have, recent information suggests that in some cases the information provided is no longer current.

REGIONAL MEETING OF PACIFIC ISLAND STATES ON CITES

In order to progress the implementation of the Decision passed at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES regarding SIDS, the Secretary-General of the CITES Secretariat travelled to Australia and New Zealand and held discussions on this matter with Australia, New Zealand and the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

It was decided to hold a regional meeting on CITES for CITES Parties and non-Parties in the Oceania region. Support to hold this meeting was secured from UNEP and the governments of Australia, New Zealand (through SPREP) and Japan. The meeting was held from 30 April to 2 May 1997 in Canberra, Australia, with the assistance and hospitality of the Management Authority of Australia. The list of participants is attached (Annex 1). The meeting was chaired by Dr David Kay, Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Australia.

The agenda for the meeting is attached (Annex 2). Main points of discussion under the agenda items are outlined below. This is followed by a section that outlines the key issues which were identified by the participants and a list of recommendations arising from the meeting.

Introductory Statements

The meeting was opened by Mr Roger Beale, Secretary, Australian Department of Environment, Sport and Territories. Opening and welcoming statements were then made by the SPREP Secretariat, CITES Secretariat and Australian Management Authority. The SPREP Opening Statement emphasized that the workshop was a start of a process to look at effective implementation of CITES in the Oceania region. SPREP advised that the non Parties from Oceania needed urgent support to meet non Party obligations when trade with Parties. Such an initiative would also prove a constructive process in which awareness and

understanding of CITES could be raised in the region and assessment of the merits and obligations of joining CITES could be effectively followed through. Pacific Island states also may need in-country assistance to understand the size of trade in CITES species and that this was important to assessing importance of possible CITES membership. SPREP also emphasized that existing Pacific Island Parties may also need support in meeting their CITES Obligations.

1. The Convention – An Overview

The CITES Secretariat presented an overview of CITES, covering issues such as its origins, structures, the appendices, general terminology, budgets, funding, documentation, requirements for accession and so on. Issues raised in the discussion included: problems with achieving good internal coordination between government departments with an interest in controlling wildlife trade; access to funding from the CITES Secretariat by non-Parties; and advantages and disadvantages of becoming a CITES Party.

2. Experiences of Parties to the Convention

AUSTRALIA. Australia briefly outlined its experiences since becoming a CITES Party in 1976 and informed participants of the legislative and administrative structures it has in place to implement CITES. The need for good coordination with, and education of, other government departments with an interest in wildlife trade was stressed. The Australian Management Authority facilitates this through the provision of training on CITES matters to other government departments. This led to a general discussion of training and SIDS participants expressed a strong interest in being able to access existing training programs that are already being run by CITES Parties in the region. There was also some discussion of the importance of public awareness in assisting with implementation of the Convention.

VANUATU. Vanuatu acceded to CITES in 1989. The presentation by Vanuatu covered details of legislation, administrative structures, public awareness campaigns and a description of the country's trade in CITES-listed species. Issues identified as affecting CITES implementation in Vanuatu included: lack of staff; insufficient information to make scientific assessments about harvesting levels; enforcement difficulties in an archipelago such as Vanuatu; the lack of a designated Scientific Authority; financial constraints; and the system of land tenure and custom ownership of the country. Vanuatu indicated that it found membership to be beneficial and is endeavouring to fulfil its obligations as a Party. A number of suggestions were proposed by Vanuatu to limit the amount of illegal trade in CITES-listed species in the region, including: non-Party SIDS in the Oceania region joining CITES; provision of financial and technical resources to Pacific Island SIDS to assist in the management of wildlife trade; and greater interaction in the Oceania region by the CITES Secretariat.

It was pointed out that the Oceania region has yet to make a request to the Secretariat for external funding support for a CITES-related project. This led to some discussion of the resources required to implement CITES and potential funding sources for these, including opportunities through other conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity. Non-Party participants suggested that it would be advantageous to provide assistance to countries intending to become Parties to allow them to address legal, administrative and other issues prior to becoming Parties. This would better enable them to meet their obligations on accession to the Convention. It was felt that it was important to have a process whereby Pacific Island SIDS could

assess the level of their wildlife trade, determine whether or not they should accede to CITES and then put in place structures to enable them to accede to and implement CITES, or meet non-Party requirements.

3. Experiences of Non-Parties

FIJI. Whilst Fiji is not yet a CITES Party, it recognises the importance of the Convention. It has notified the Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits for trade in CITES-listed species and has procedures in place for the issuing of export permits and the transit of wildlife through the country. Constraints for Fiji relating to trade in CITES-listed species and in becoming a CITES Party include: difficulty in accessing up-to-date lists of the appendices; shortage of information on the status of exploited wildlife populations; lack of data exchange with other countries in the region regarding wildlife trade; no institutional framework in place to implement the Convention; shortage of resources; and government priorities lying in other areas. Fiji is currently preparing umbrella environmental legislation, which would include provisions relating to CITES; it is currently timetabled for passage through Parliament in late 1997.

KINGDOM OF TONGA. Tonga has notified the Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits for trade in CITES-listed species. Tonga is exporting captive bred specimens of two South Pacific endemic parrot species and also exports giant clams. Tonga expressed positive experiences regarding communication with the Secretariat and Parties to which it was exporting CITES-listed species. It encouraged regulation of wildlife trade within the CITES framework, even for those Pacific Island countries who were not CITES Parties.

NIUE. Increasing tourist travel and travel by Niue citizens to CITES Party countries in the region is resulting in more requests for permits to export CITES-listed species such as coral and giant clams. However, facilitating the export of such taxa in a manner acceptable to CITES importing Parties is hindered by a lack of information on CITES and its provisions and requirements. Measures to control exploitation of a range of CITES-listed and non CITES-listed species were outlined. New environmental legislation is being prepared but does not address CITES requirements in its current draft form.

Participants discussed problems that a number of Pacific Island SIDS face with intra-regional trade in CITES-listed species, particularly by tourists or Pacific islanders travelling into Australia and New Zealand. Problematic taxa include black and hard corals and giant clams. Some Pacific Island countries issue permits for the export of these species but these may be unacceptable to the importing country and result in the specimen being seized.

COOK ISLANDS. The Cook Islands have introduced an export permit system for CITES-listed species, in order to comply with provisions relating to trade with non-Party States. These permits are also used for non-CITES taxa. Public awareness initiatives regarding CITES requirements have been carried out. This appears to have contributed to an improved awareness of the need to obtain export permits for certain species and the number of requests for permits has been increasing. Nevertheless, countries such as New Zealand are still seizing significant quantities of coral and other CITES-listed taxa originating from the Cook Islands. Like other SIDS in the Oceania region, the Cook Islands also faces difficulties in determining exploitation levels that are sustainable.

KIRIBATI. Trade in CITES-listed species from Kiribati primarily consists of personal effects such as turtle shells, giant clam shells and coral which are taken from the country by departing expatriates. Blue coral *Heliopora coerulea* export has occurred in the past but is now prohibited. Kiribati relies heavily on its marine resources for its economic development. Therefore, while recognising the importance of CITES, Kiribati has concerns regarding accession relating to possible future CITES restrictions in trade in marine species, that could affect Kiribati's future economic development opportunities.

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA. Trade in CITES-listed species is limited, although there is potential problems with trade in marine products. Although the FSM is not a party to CITES, there are National and State laws controlling and regulating the exploitation of various fish and wildlife species. Accession to international treaties like CITES is a National Government function, but would require consultation with the states. Trade in marine species is of interest to the FSM as would be the CITES initiatives relating to marine fish species.

SOLOMON ISLANDS. The Solomon Islands recognises the importance of CITES and would like to become a Party in the future. They have notified the CITES Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits in CITES-listed species. Trade in CITES-listed species from the Solomon Islands includes reptiles, insects and parrots. The government restricts export dealer licences to Solomon Islanders and sets annual quotas for certain species subject to export. They also have problems with internal coordination between government departments, lack of resources, insufficient information on population levels of exploited species and so on. Legislation is being prepared which would allow for more comprehensive control of wildlife trade.

WESTERN SAMOA. Western Samoa is interested in becoming a CITES Party and recognises the benefits this would bring to controlling the country's wildlife trade. It too has problems with internal coordination between government departments. Other issues relating to becoming a CITES Party include: the lack of institutional capacity to implement the Convention, particularly with respect to the obligations of a Scientific Authority; linkages and complementarities between CITES and other national, regional and international instruments; and the relative position of wildlife trade control issues on the national agenda.

4. Training

Participants discussed their training needs with respect to CITES and possible training opportunities and/or needs both at the in-country and external level. Pacific Island representatives requested that the governments of Australia and New Zealand consider providing opportunities for attendance at their CITES training sessions by Pacific Islanders and inform them of any such opportunities. Initiatives such as the International Seminar Support Scheme of the Australian government was suggested as a possible avenue to explore for support for training. It was recognised that different countries will have different requirements with respect to training. The Secretariat outlined the current training needs assessment that they are planning to carry out for the Parties; participants felt it would be beneficial to expand this to include non-Party SIDS in the Oceania region. The participants also discussed the importance of carrying out in-country training, particularly as this approach allows more people of a given country to be trained. Participants suggested that Australia, New

Zealand, SPREP, TRAFFIC and the CITES Secretariat consider the possibility of providing assistance on this matter.

5. Role of the Management and Scientific Authorities

The Secretariat outlined the role and obligations of the CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority. The discussion which followed concentrated on the Scientific Authority and particularly how and where SIDS in the Oceania region may find the expertise necessary to carry out this role. While this presents a significant challenge for SIDS in the region, it was also recognised that there is considerable expertise within and outside the region that can be drawn upon, and that use of such networks will assist in making scientific assessments about levels of trade and status of species.

6. Reporting Obligations

The Secretariat detailed the requirements under the Convention for the provision of annual and biennial reports. The content and purpose of these reports was discussed. The Secretariat can provide assistance to developing countries to prepare their CITES annual reports.

7. Financial Obligations

The scale of contributions to the CITES Trust Fund expected of Party States was outlined and information on future financial obligations of non-Parties, if they were to join the Convention, was provided. It was pointed out that some countries use systems such as charging for permit issuance in order to recover costs associated with their membership to the Convention, running of the Management Authority or undertaking of priority projects.

8. Permit Issuing and Confirmation

The Secretariat gave a general overview of the provisions of the Convention relating to the issuing of permits and explained the difference between the requirements for species listed in Appendix 1, 2 and 3. The requirements of Parties and non-Parties in this regard were discussed and the permit form annex to the resolution Conf. 9.3 was distributed.

9. Legislation

The importance of having national legislation which enables a Party to implement the provisions of CITES was stressed. Elements that should be covered by CITES legislation were outlined. There was discussion of the options available to Parties regarding legislation to implement the Convention, particularly those who have only recently ratified CITES. It was pointed out that it is not necessary to have a separate piece of legislation that is solely designed to implement CITES; it is possible to include the necessary provisions within new or existing legislation which may also cover other issues. The participants asked the Secretariat to send them copies of the IUCN publication which provided guidance on the preparation of CITES legislation.

10. Role of Customs and other Compliance and Enforcement Agencies

Issues highlighted during discussion of this agenda item included: the importance of good cooperation between agencies with responsibility for law enforcement and border control; advantages of prevention of illegal activities in the first place, rather than concentrating on catching perpetrators once illegal wildlife trade has occurred; and the need for public awareness about wildlife trade and trade controls. It was noted that some SIDS in the Oceania region were issuing export permits for CITES-listed species but these

exports were still being seized in the destination country because of stricter domestic regulations. Provision of information to SIDS on the import requirements of countries such as Australia and New Zealand would allow them to better inform their citizens and avoid the ongoing seizure of CITES-listed specimens. The Australian government indicated that it would send details of its trade control provisions to participants at the meeting.

11. Listing Criteria for CITES Appendices

The basic principles of the criteria for adding and deleting species to and from the CITES appendices were outlined as well as the procedure to be followed to include or transfer species from one appendix to the other.

12. Trade with Non-Parties

The Secretariat outlined the requirements for CITES Parties to trade in CITES-listed species with non-Parties. Parties should follow the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.5, including the recommendation that they only accept documentation from non-Party States if they have communicated details of competent authorities and scientific institutions to the Secretariat, or if they have consulted with the Secretariat. Non-Party SIDS of the Oceania region were urged to communicate details of their competent authority to the Secretariat. It was suggested that non-Parties could send a copy of the permits they use for trade in CITES-listed species to the Secretariat for comment on its adequacy for CITES purposes.

The information available to non-Party States to assist them in controlling trade in CITES-listed species was discussed. Non-Party States felt that they currently lack information on CITES and would benefit greatly from the provision of more facts. This would assist them in determining what is required of them as a non-Party should they wish to trade in CITES-listed species and also allow them to better consider the merit of becoming a CITES Party.

13. Illegal Trade

The nature and extent of illegal trade in wildlife was outlined. Taxa and issues where there were believed to

be problems with illegal wildlife trade in the region include: parrots and cockatoos; reptiles; poor law enforcement; and difficulties in ascertaining the extent of illegal trade. It was pointed out that illegal wildlife trade not only undermines attempts to conserve or sustainably use species, but it also has a negative impact on potential government revenue.

14. Capacity Building

The Secretariat outlined assistance available to Parties through programmes such as technical assistance to Parties, scientific research projects, support for developing countries to participate in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, training, education and public awareness. Discussion on capacity building in the CITES context covered issues similar to a number raised under Agenda Item 12. Other issues discussed included: possible funding opportunities for strengthening the capacity of SIDS in the Oceania region to implement CITES; the need for countries to undertake a needs assessment to ascertain how best to manage their trade in CITES-listed species; and the need for more assistance from the CITES Secretariat to SIDS from the Oceania region to assist them in fulfilling Party obligations or to move towards accession to the Convention. Non-Parties also felt that they would receive benefit from attending meetings of the Conference of the Parties and discussed possible options for securing resources to attend these meetings, particularly the upcoming tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

15. Role of the CITES Technical Committees

The Chairman of the CITES Animals Committee discussed the four permanent committees of CITES, in particular the role and work of the Animals Committee. He informed participants of the 'significant trade' process which is one of the important areas of work of the Animals Committee, and outlined how this process operated, its outcomes and benefits.

(The final part of the report [Summary of main issues raised and Recommendations] is contained in paragraphs 20 to 49 of this document).

Annex 1

List of Participants

AUSTRALIA

Dr David Kay
Assistant Secretary
Wildlife Australia
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank, Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500240
Fax: (616) 2500399
Email: david.kay@dest.gov.au

Mr Robert Moore
Deputy Director
Policy, Management & International
Wildlife Protection
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank
Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500290
Fax: (616) 2500303
Email: robert.moore@dest.gov.au

Mr Hank Jenkins
Director
International Programs
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank
Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500392
Fax: (616) 2500243
Email: hank.jenkins@dest.gov.au

Mr Andrew Crawford
Deputy Director
Compliance, Wildlife Protection
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank
Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500343
Fax: (616) 2500303
Email: andrew.crawford@dest.gov.au

Mr Mick Trimmer
Director
Wildlife Protection
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank, Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500270
Fax: (616) 2500303
Email: mick.trimmer@dest.gov.au

Mr Chris Mobbs
Deputy Director
Environmental Assessment & Trade
Wildlife Protection
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank, Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500752
Fax: (616) 2500303
Email: chris.mobbs@dest.gov.au

Dr Tony Bigwood
Director
Wildlife Population Assessment Section
Nature Conservation House
153 Emu Bank
Belconnen ACT 2617
(GPO Box 636, Canberra ACT 2601)

Tel: (616) 2500730
Fax: (616) 2500243
Email: tony.bigwood@dest.gov.au

COOK ISLANDS

Mr Ned Howard
Tu'anga Taporoporo (Environment Service)
Ministry of Works, Environment and Physical Planning
P.O. Box 102
Arorangi
Rarotonga

Tel: (682) 20034
Fax: (682) 21134

FIJI

Mr Kenneth Cokanasiga
Director of Animal Health and Production
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries,
Forests and ALTA
PO Box 15829
Suva

Tel: (679) 315322
Fax: (679) 301368

KIRIBATI

Mr Tebao T. Awerika
Assistant Secretary
Ministry of Natural Resources Development
P.O. Box 64
Bairiki
Tarawa

Tel: (686) 21099
Fax: (686) 21120

Ms Tooti Tekinati
Senior Fisheries Officer
Fisheries Division
c/o Ministry of Natural Resources Development
P.O. Box 64
Bairiki
Tarawa

Tel: (686) 21099
Fax: (686) 21120

MICRONESIA

Mrs Tanya Harris Rodriguez
Foreign Service Officer
UN/Multilateral – Treaties Division
FSM Department of External Affairs
PO Box PS-123
Palikir, Pohnpei FM 96941

Tel: (691) 3207666/2613/2544
Fax: (691) 320 2933

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand High Commission
Commonwealth Avenue
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Australia

Tel: (616) 2704211

NIUE

Mr Sauni Tongatule
Director
Department of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries
Government of Niue
P.O. Box 74
Alofi

Tel: (683) 4032
Fax: (683) 4079

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Mr Bernard Telei
Principal Environment Officer
Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation
PO Box G24
Honiara

Tel: (677) 25848
Fax: (677) 21245

TONGA

Haniteli'O Fa'anunu
Director of Agriculture and Forestry
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
P.O. Box 14
Nuku'alofa

Tel: (676) 23402
Fax: (676) 24271

VANUATU

Ernest Bani
Head, Environment Unit
Private Mail Bag 063
Port Vila

Tel: (678) 25302
Fax: (678) 23142
Email: envedvin@padok.peg.apc.org

WESTERN SAMOA

Mr Sailimalo Pati-Liu
Assistant Director
Division of Environment and Conservation.
Department of Lands, Surveys and Environment
Private Bag
Apia

Tel: (685)22481 23800
Fax: (685) 23176
Email: Manumea@pactok.neg.org

Sue Miller
SPREP
P.O. Box 240
Apia

Tel: (685) 21929
Fax: (685) 20231
Email: smiller@talofa.net

TRAFFIC OCEANIA

Simon Habel
Director TRAFFIC Oceania
GPO Box 528
Sydney, NSW 2001
Australia

Tel: (612) 92996582
Fax: (612) 9299 6557
Email: traffico@msn.com

CITES SECRETARIAT

Margarita Astrálaga
Head of Capacity Building Unit/
Regional Co-ordinator for Oceania
CITES Secretariat
15, chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine/Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: (4122) 9799151
Fax: (4122) 7973417
Email: astralam@unep.ch

Debra Callister
Rapporteur
8 Conder Street
Weston ACT 2611
Australia

Tel: (616) 2886409
Fax: (616) 2889354
Email: debcall@ozemail.com.au

Annex 2

Agenda

Wednesday 30 April

- 10h00-10h30 Registration
- 11h30-12h00 Opening
Opening of the workshop by Mr Roger Beale, Secretary, Department of Environment,
Sport and Territories
Opening statement of SPREP
Welcome by the CITES Secretariat
- 12h00-14h00 *Lunch*
- 14h00-14h15 Adoption of the agenda
Organization of the meeting
Introduction
What we hope to achieve – CITES and the South Pacific
- 14h15-15h30 The Convention – An Overview
– its origins
– its structures
– the appendices
– the role of the Parties (Management and Scientific Authorities, reporting obligations,
financial contributions)
– requirements for accession
- 15h30-16h00 *Coffee break*
- 16h00-16h30 Continuation of the Convention
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
- 16h30-17h00 Experiences of Parties to the Convention

Thursday 1 May

- 09h00-10h30 Experiences of Parties to the Convention
- 10h30-11h00 *Coffee break*
- 11h00-12h30 Experiences of non-Parties
- 12h30-14h00 *Lunch*
OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
- 13h30-14h30 Training
TRAFFIC Oceania
Role of the Management and Scientific Authorities
- 14h30-15h00 Reporting obligations
- 15h00-15h30 Financial obligations
- 15h30-16h00 *Coffee break*
- 16h30-17h00 Permit issuing and confirmation-Appendices I, II and III

Friday 2 May 1997

- 09h00-09h30 Legislation
- 09h30-10h00 Role of Customs
- 10h00-10h30 Listing criteria for CITES appendices
- 10h30-11h00 *Coffee break*
- 11h00-12h30 Trade with non-Parties
- 12h30-14h00 *Lunch*
- 14h00-14h30 CITES and its role in sustainable use of resources
- 14h30-15h00 Illegal trade
- 15h00-15h30 *Coffee break*
- 15h30-16h00 Capacity building for developing states Parties to the Convention
- 16h00-16h20 Role of the Technical Committees (Hank Jenkins, Chairman of the Animals Committee)
- 16h20-16h45 Recommendations
- 16h45-17h30 Adoption of the report
- 17h30 Closing of the meeting

List of Documents

- Experiences of Parties to the Convention, presentation by Robert Moore.
 - Vanuatu country report.
 - Fiji situation: current experiences/involvement in international trade in wildlife.
 - Draft Sustainable Development Bill overview, Fiji.
 - Pamphlet on Tongan Wildlife Centre.
 - Report on a survey of Fanualei and Late Islands for the Koki and the Malau, endangered bird species of the Kingdom of Tonga.
 - Photocopy of overheads used during the presentation of the representative of the Kingdom of Tonga.
- Example of CITES-acceptable export permit used by the Cook Islands.
 - Table showing the number of export permits issued by the Cook Islands, 1995-1997, by species and destination country.
 - Pamphlet on collection of shells and coral in the Cook Islands.
 - Presentation notes by Kiribati.
 - Presentation notes by Western Samoa.
 - SPREP opening statement.
 - Opening statement by Roger Beale, Secretary, Department of Environment, Sport and Territories.