

## CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

*Ara couloni* is proposed for transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I in accordance with Article II (1) of the Convention meeting the criteria D given in Annex 1 of Resolution Conf. 9.24.

B. Proponent

The Federal Republic of Germany (on behalf of the Member States of the European Community).

**Executive Summary**

- An Appendix I listing is proposed for the blue-headed macaw (*Ara couloni*).
- The range of this species covers parts of Peru, extreme western Brazil and north-western Bolivia where *Ara couloni* inhabits the edge of humid lowland evergreen forest in the foothills' area. It is obviously bound to rivers. *Ara couloni* is one of those macaw species (together with *A. maracana* and *A. auricollis*) known to have a very low reproductive output.
- *Ara couloni* is not considered threatened on global level in the 2000 IUCN Red List. However, it has always been regarded as being uncommon or rare. The last population estimates of roughly 10,000 birds are almost 10 years old.
- Numbers occurring in trade have increased significantly in the last few years. Illegal trade is increasing as well. Investigations of the CITES MA in Germany alone have resulted in approximately 30 specimens seized in the 2001. The interest of aviculturist's is obviously rising at a rate of deep concern.
- Taking into account the even for a macaw low reproductive output of the species and the present rate of increase in legal and illegal trade *Ara couloni* meets the Criterium D of Annex 1 that is "The status of the species is such that if the species is not included in Appendix I, it is likely to satisfy one or more of the above mentioned criteria within a period of five years".
- Responses of the range states have been received so far by **Brazil** and **Bolivia**. Brazil has required to act as a co-proponent and the Bolivian SA expressed their wish to support the proposal.

C. Supporting statement1. Taxonomy

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1.1 Class:               | Aves   |
| 1.2 Order:               | Psittaciformes                                     |
| 1.3 Family:              | Psittacidae  |
| 1.4 Genus:               | <i>Ara</i>   |
| Species:                 | <i>Ara couloni</i> (Sclater, 1876)                 |
| 1.5 Scientific synonyms: | <i>Propyrrhura couloni</i> (Miranda-Ribeiro, 1920) |

1.6 Common names:           English:     Blue-headed macaw  
                                  French:     Ara de Coulon  
                                  Spanish:   Guacamayo Cabeciazul  
                                  Dutch:     Blauwkopara  
                                  German:    Blaukopfara, Gebirgsara  
                                  Swedish:   blahuvad ara

1.7 Code numbers:           A-218.003.008.008

## 2. Biological parameters

### 2.1 Distribution

Range states: Peru, Bolivia, Brazil

The range of the Blue-headed macaw reaches from Eastern Peru, where it is recorded in the Huallaga Valley from Loreto to Huánuco and in the Ucayali, Apurímac, and Purú river drainage, to extreme Western Brazil (Acre) south to North-western Bolivia (FORSHAW, 1977; DEL HOYO et al., 1997).

*Ara couloni* inhabits the edge of humid lowland evergreen forest, along rivers and by clearings. Locally it is found in the outskirts of towns. It occurs up to 1550 meters. Recent observations suggest the Blue-headed macaw seems to be more a species of foothills rather than lowland (DEL HOYO et al., 1997). Furthermore, a close association with rivers seems to exist (LLOYD, 1999; CHAMPLIN, 1999; ARMONIA, 2001). The Blue-headed macaw also visits clay licks, which are quiet numerous at least in South-eastern Peru (GILARDI, *in litt.*, 2001; SALAZAR *in litt.*, 2001). They were observed to enter a cavity in a Bamboo tree (GE CHRISTIAN, 1999), which might be used for nesting. The reproductive period is assumed to be between October and April (HOPPE, 1992). In the Manu National Park one pair out of ten cared for a single young in April (MACHADO DE BARROS, 1995). The occurrence of the species can be erratic in the lowland of South-eastern Peru (PARKER et al., 1991), suggesting some nomadism in response to food supplies (COLLAR, 2001).

### 2.2 Habitat availability

In Peru much of the species habitat seems to be in good shape (GILARDI, *in litt.*, 2001). However, the Bolivian forest is threatened by the expansion of the logging industry (SZWAGRZAK, *in litt.*, 2002). DEL HOYO et al. (1997) mentioned that due to the species habitat preferences it might profit from patchwork clearance.

### 2.3 Population status

According to the latest IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (HILTON-TAYLOR, 2000) the global status of the species *Ara couloni* is not endangered. However, this species has always been recorded as uncommon or rare, only locally common around settlements (DEL HOYO et al., 1997). Sightings vary greatly between sites. In Peru it is always reported as very rare in the Tambopata Research Centre (GILARDI *in litt.*, 2001; SALAZAR *in litt.*, 2001; MUNN *in litt.*, 2002a) with a mean group size of 1.8 birds (LLOYD, 1999), whereas small groups are regularly seen in Posada Amazonas (KRATTER, 1999; SALAZAR *in litt.*, 2001) or in San Lorenzo (SALAZAR *in litt.*, 2001). The highest numbers seem to occur in the Lower Urubamba with 10 – 30 individuals appearing daily at clay licks (MUNN *in litt.*, 2002a,b). There are nearly no records available for the northern part of the distribution in Peru. MUNN (*in litt.*, 2002b) reported that the Blue-headed macaw was seen in the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve in Northern Amazon of Peru. In Bolivia the species was recorded seven times in the Pando region between 1986 to 1990 along various rivers (Armonia, 2001). A few individuals were observed in the Bolivian foothills near Rio Beni, its southernmost distribution,

in 1989 (PARKER et al., 1991). In 1997 four individuals were sighted near Chivé (Department Pando) during an expedition of FOPAMADE (SZWAGRZAK, 1997 in SZWAGRZAK *in litt.*, 2002).

Population guesses were roughly 10,000 individuals in 1990 (LAMBERT et al., 1993 in COLLAR, 2001).

#### 2.4 Population trends

At present there are no population trends available. In 1990 the species was categorised as stable (LAMBERT et al., 1993 in COLLAR, 2001). SZWAGRZAK (*in litt.*, 2002) reports that the species was bought by illegal timber traders and that it has become very rare in Bolivia.

#### 2.5 Geographic trends

The Blue-headed macaw has a limited distribution with nearly no recent records from its northern distribution. In the southern part, this species is reported as rare. At present, no geographic trends are available.

#### 2.6 Role of the species in its ecosystem

The role of the Blue-headed macaw in its ecosystem is insufficiently known. However, this species feeds on figs (RICALDE, 1999) and probably other fruits and might play a role in the distribution of plants.

Although *Ara couloni* has not as yet been recorded as the prey of other predators, it is likely that reptiles prey upon eggs and nestlings and birds of prey might take young and adult Blue-headed macaws. Eagles might be possible predators because macaws (*Ara ambigua*, *Ara ararauna* but also *Ara couloni*) have been observed to leave clay licks, e.g. in Tambopata, when an eagle approaches (Anon., 2001).

#### 2.7 Threats

Trade can become a threat for the Blue-headed macaw taking into account its low reproduction rate. Like the Illiger's macaw (*Ara maracana*) and the Yellow-collared macaw (*Ara auricollis*), with which it forms a superspecies (DEL HOYO et al., 1997), the Blue-headed macaw has a very low reproductive output. The only available record from the field reports that only one pair out of ten was observed to feed a single young (MACHADO DE BARROS, 1995). In captivity clutch size is 2-4 eggs (VIT, 1996; VIT, 1997). This species was nearly unknown in international trade until 1997 (DEL HOYO et al., 1997). However, at present about 150 birds are in captivity in the Czech Republic and Slovakia alone (COLLAR, 2001). Prices are very high with 3,500 \$ per individual in Peru in 2000 (LIPPERT *in litt.*, 2000b) and 12,500 US \$ in the Czech Republic and Slovakia (LIPPERT in COLLAR, 2001). In Bolivian markets prices were about 15 to 20 US \$ in 1991 and 1995 (SZWAGRZAK, *in litt.*, 2002). The same author reports that the 'Mini Macaw FAQ' (April 2002) mentioned prices between 300 – 1,100 US \$ in 2002, but says that the source is unknown (SZWAGRZAK, *in litt.*, 2002). In Europe the species was offered for about 4,000 to 7,000 US \$ in 1999 (LIPPERT, *in litt.*, 2002). WRIGHT et al. (2001) showed that high prices are set in part by demand, and demand for a particular species is influenced by its rarity and attributes related to the species value as a pet. In their investigation, prices above 500 US \$ were significantly related to higher poaching rates. Thus, it can be assumed that trade will continue and even increase. GILARDI (*in litt.*, 2001) pointed out that the species can face a similar fate as the Blue-throated macaw (*Ara glaucogularis*), which was always rare and trapped to numbers in the wild of around 100 individuals in less than ten years.

Habitat destruction can be a further threat at least in Bolivia (SZWAGRZAK, *in litt.*, 2002).

### 3. Utilization and trade

#### 3.1 National utilization

Nearly nothing is known about national utilisation. The Blue-headed macaw is offered in markets in Brazil in hundreds possibly originating from Peru (YAMASHITA *in litt.*, 2001). There is one report of a tame bird in Timpia, Peru, collected as a nestling (LIPPERT *in litt.*, 2000a). The species is also hunted for its meat (MUNN *in litt.*, 2002b). The species seems to be well known on markets in Bolivia (SZWAGRZAK, *in litt.*, 2002). In 1991 two birds were sold on a market in Cobija and in 1995 20 – 30 individuals were sold to foreign traders. The traders showed their interest to buy more individuals of *Ara couloni* for a much higher price. SZWAGRZAK (*in litt.*, 2002) suspects that 1) this was not an isolated case and 2) no controls exist.

#### 3.2 Legal international trade

*Ara couloni* was virtually unknown in trade until 1995. From 1995 to 2000 trade in this species has increased tremendously (see Fig. 1). The proportion of specimens reported to be captive born or bred (sources: C, F) increased steadily (see Fig. 2), making up 100 % in 2000. Peru has reported direct exports of altogether 16 wild-caught birds from 1983-1999 whereas importing countries have reported only the direct import of 2 wild specimens from Peru plus 7 confiscated ones, making a total of 9 specimens.

These diverging data do not necessarily indicate that illegal trade has taken place. They may derive from different reporting systems used for the compilation of the CITES Annual Reports of the member states as well as year-overlapping transfers.

The species is a high valuable resource. Formerly, there was only low interest of aviculturists in this species, however, since 1999 interest has been increased resulting in very high prices of e.g. 12,500 USD in the Czech Republic and Slovakia (LIPPERT in COLLAR, 2001).

#### 3.3 Illegal trade

Illegal trade of *Ara couloni* is of increasing significance (see Table 1) and the high prices lead one to assume that illegal trade will continue with even higher numbers.

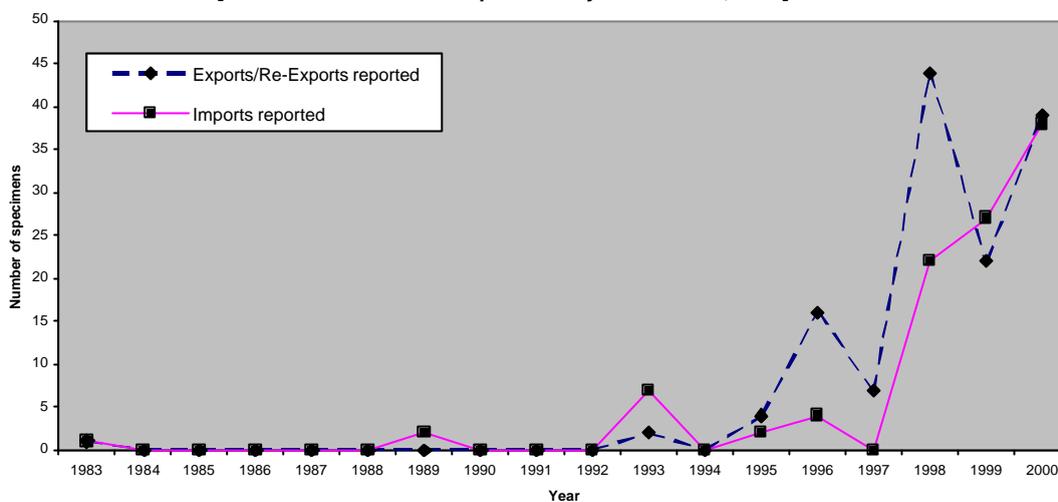
In the 1990s at least 50 Blue-headed macaws were smuggled over Russia to the Czech Republic. Of these several were transferred to western Europe (VIT, 1996). It is very likely that all captive *Ara couloni* in Europe and possibly anywhere in the world are illegal, except those confiscated and entrusted to zoos (SAP, 1997). In Germany investigations of the CITES Management Authorities are ongoing with regard to illegal trade of *Ara couloni*. These have resulted in approximately 30 specimens seized, some of them already even confiscated (pers. comm. German MA, 2001).

**Table 1:** Number of confiscated specimens of *Ara couloni* involved in trade transfers 1983-1999  
(Source: World Trade Data provided by WCMC 2001, 2002)

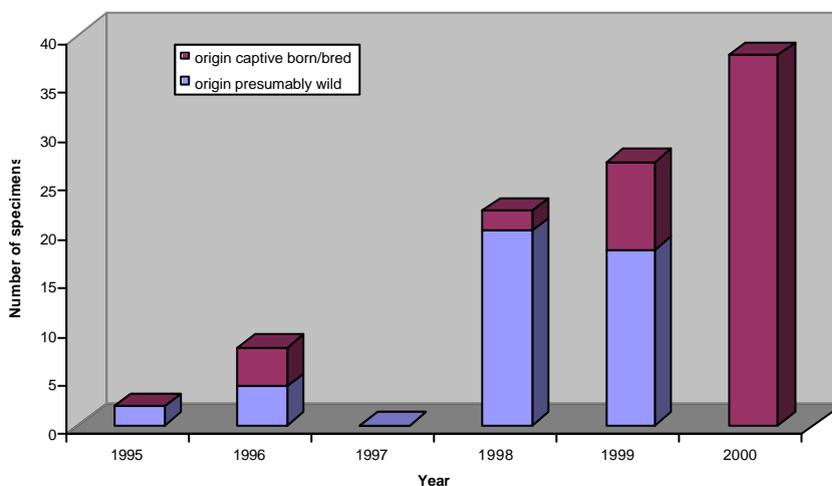
Year	Numbers of confiscated birds mentioned in	
	imports reported	exports/re-exports reported
1983 - 1994	0	0
1995	2	0
1996	0	0
1997	0	7
1998	20	15
1999	18	6

**Figure 1: Specimens of *Ara couloni* (all sources) turning up in trade transfers 1983-2000**

[Source: World trade data provided by WCMC 2001, 2002]



**Figure 2: Number of captive born/bred specimens of *Ara couloni* compared to numbers of presumably wild-taken specimens (code: W, I, U) turning up in trade transfers 1995-2000 (according to imports reported; data provided by WCMC 2001, 2002)**



### 3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

There is an increasing interest in the Blue-headed macaw by aviculturists and commercial breeders. Due to its rarity, low reproductive output and limited distribution an increasing trade in this species can possibly damage the existing population seriously in the future.

The high numbers of birds kept illegally are alarming. Furthermore, the high prices since 1999 (LIPPERT in COLLAR, 2001) lead assume a high demand in this species (WRIGHT et al., 2001).

Therefore, it is likely that capture pressure will increase for *Ara couloni*. Although total trade numbers are not extremely high, collection of nestlings or capture of adult birds can have a negative impact on the species' demography due to its overall rarity. The former can lead to a low recruitment rate and an increasingly geriatric population (JONES et al., 1995). Removal of potential breeding pairs can further decrease the already low reproductive output. Trappers catch the Blue-headed macaw at clay licks (MUNN *in litt.*, 2002b). This incurs the danger that whole populations might be removed from the wild. Therefore, trade can have detrimental effects on the species survival in the future.

### 3.5 Captive breeding for commercial purposes (outside country of origin)

There are only few data available about breeding for commercial purposes. The World Conservation Monitoring Centre has provided data about international trade with captive bred (second generation) birds (WCMC, 2001). Between 1983 and 2000 around 16 captive bred birds were traded all of them in 1999. Commercial breeding centres on the Philippines and Tenerife produced 37 young between 1998 and 2001 (Table 2; REINSCHMIDT *in litt.*; 2001; Bundesamt für Naturschutz, 2002).

**Table 2:** Breeding success of *Ara couloni* in two commercial breeding centres

	1998	1999	2001
Birds International, Philippines	3	14	12
Loro Parque, Tenerife	-	-	8

Most Blue-headed macaws are in private collections. Breeding records are available from the Society of Species Conservation and Aviculture (AZ), the largest society for private breeders in Germany. In 1998 six young were produced from two pairs (AZN, 2000). It is not known how many of these and further birds are sold commercially.

From 1998 to 2001 fourteen confiscated Blue-headed macaws were kept at Fundación ARA, Mexico, where they successfully raised four young. Lack of financial support to Fundación ARA caused that the entire group was moved to Bronx Zoo in 2001 (INIGO-ELIAS *in litt.*; 2002a). It is planned to establish a breeding programme for conservation purposes for *Ara couloni* (BRUNING *in litt.*, 2002).

## 4. Conservation and Management

### 4.1 Legal status

#### 4.1.1 National

In Brazil *Ara couloni* is protected by the Brazilian legislation for Fauna and Flora, which states that all species with distribution and/or occurrence in Brazilian territory are legally protected and only can be assessed with the authorization of the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Natural Renewable Resources (IBAMA). Although the species is absent from the Brazilian Official List of Endangered Fauna, the species is under protection according to the Brazilian laws for wildlife fauna. At the moment the Brazilian Official List of Endangered Species is being revised and the situation of *Ara couloni* is being evaluated (BAMPI AND TAVARES, *in litt.*, 2002).

*Ara couloni* is not protected in Peru and Bolivia. However, Peru appears to have a quota system for export of birds for more than thirteen years. It allows export of few species only and requires a permit. The Blue-headed macaw is not included in the list of tradable species

(SAP, 1997). Since 1995 the Timpia tribe banned hunting and capture of macaws and other parrots in the Lower Urubamba near Manu National Park, Peru (MUNN, 1998).

#### 4.1.2 International

In 1981 *Ara couloni* was listed in CITES Appendix II. There is an EU import suspension for the Blue-headed macaw from Bolivia since 23 October 1986 (import suspension art. 10.1.(b) under old regulation EC Reg. 3626/82, now under EC Reg. 338/97) and from Brazil since 19 October 1988 [(import suspension art. 10.1.(b) under old regulation EC Reg. 3626/82, now under EC Reg. 338/97; WCMC, 1999]. In 1997 the species was included in Annex B of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulation.

The US Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992 bans all CITES Appendix II species, which included *Ara couloni*, unless the Secretary of the Interior is satisfied that a scientifically-based management plan exists for the species (PHPA/LIPI/BirdLife International-IP, 1998).

### 4.2 Species management

#### 4.2.1 Population monitoring

At present, the Blue-headed macaw is not monitored. Recent information is available only from the southern part of its distribution where tourists and scientists record this species in the national parks near and around clay licks.

Population monitoring of the Blue-headed macaw is urgently needed to assess population status, breeding success and population trends.

#### 4.2.2 Habitat conservation

Few of the areas inhabited by *Ara couloni* are protected, most are located in the southern part of its distribution. In Peru, the species was observed in the Manu National Park (MACHADO DE BARROS, 1995; GILARDI *in litt.*, 2001), and at and around clay licks in the Tambopata-Candamo Reserve Zone and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park (LLOYD, 1999; CHAMPLIN, 1999). The Tambopata-Candamo Reserve Zone was given National Reserve status in 2000 (Anon., 2000). Despite the excellent protection of the Manu National Park there are still serious problems. Colonists are encroaching on park boundaries and oil and mining concerns are interested in this region. Furthermore, park's boundaries have never been adequately mapped. It should be mentioned that the status of the Reserve zones is only temporary (MUNN, 2002c). In the Northern part of Peru the species occurs in the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve (MUNN *in litt.*, 2002b). In Brazil, in the range where the Blue-headed macaw occurs, protected areas are the Parque Nacional Da Serra do Divisor and the Floresta Nacional do Macaúba (YAMASHITA *in litt.*, 2001). Furthermore, there are at least three other areas (extrativism reserves) with potential occurrence of the species, the total area (conservation units) under protection by Brazilian law is approximately 1,750,000 hectares. Considering this number, there is no information about the percentage of habitat and/or area used by *Ara couloni* (BAMPI AND TAVARES, *in litt.*, 2002). The species might also occur in the Madidi National Park in Bolivia.

#### 4.2.3 Management measures

There are no management measures proposed at present, although urgently needed.

Surveys should be undertaken to assess population size in the different locations and to answer the following questions. Is there a continuous distribution of the species or is it fragmented? How rapid does the population of this species decline or does it remain stable?

What are the limiting factors for the low reproductive output (poaching, natural predation, diseases, number of suitable nest trees etc.)? The feeding spectrum of the species should be investigated. Is the Blue-headed macaw a feeding generalist or specialist, which depends on particular plant species? Is there a conflict between the species' and man's requirements? To which amount does capture influence population numbers? Can trade be controlled? Last but not least, is there a threat because of habitat destruction?

A tight cooperation between the three countries where the Blue-headed macaw occurs is essential for a successful management.

#### 4.3 Control measures with regard to international trade

International import restrictions seem not to be effective, although legal trade of wild caught *Ara couloni* into the European Union dropped to zero. However, increasing numbers of this species have been traded illegally (WCMC, 2001). Furthermore, the quota system developed by the Peruvian government (SAP, 1997) is currently insufficient to prevent trade with the Blue-headed macaw.

#### 5. Information on Similar Species

The Blue-headed macaw is closely related to *Ara auricollis* and *Ara maracana* with whom it forms a superspecies (DEL HOYO et al., 1997). However, all three species are very distinct in their plumage coloration (FORSHAW, 1977).

#### 6. Other Comments

Both, Management and Scientific Authorities of the range states, were contacted in March 2002. Responses were received from Bolivia and Brazil.

The Bolivian Scientific Authority recommends to support the proposal (Fax of Bolivian SA of April 15 2002, see attachments). Additional information on the status of this species in Bolivia was transmitted as well by A. SZWAGRZAK, consultant to the Bolivian SA.

The Brazilian Management Authority ( Fax of April 15 2002, see attachments) provided additional information as well and agreed to participate as co-proponent.

#### 7. Additional Remarks

-----

#### 8. References

**Anon.**, 2000: Tambopata given national reserve status. NEOORN, 23 September 2000.  
<http://www.neotropicalbirdclub.org>.

**Anon.**, 2001: Rainforest Expeditions, Wildlife Info of Tambopata.  
<http://www.perunature.com/info05.htm>.

**Armonia**, 2001: Armonia database provided by Asociación Armonía, Bolivia.

**AZN**, 2000: AZ-Nachzuchtstatistik 1998. AZN 3: 175-187.

**BAMPI, M.I. & F.C. TAVARES**, *in litt.*, 2002: Information provided by the Management Authority to CITES – Brazil (Fauna General Coordination) to the German Scientific Authority to CITES.

**BRUNING, D.**, 2002: email from 15 Feb. 2002. New Wildlife Conservation Society Bronx Zoo.

**Bundesamt für Naturschutz**, 2002: Data provided by Birds International to the German Scientific Authority to CITES.

- CHAMPLIN, P.**, 1999: email to NEOORN, 22 Sept. 1999 provided by Manuel Plenge.
- Collar, N.**, 2001: Blue-headed macaw *Ara (Propyrrhura) couloni*. Provided by Birdlife International.
- DEL HOYO, J., A. ELLIOTT & J. SARGATAL (eds.)**, 1997: Handbook of the birds of the world, Vol. 4, Sandgrouse to Cuckoos. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- FORSHAW, J. M.**, 1977: Parrots of the world. T.F.H. Publications, Inc., Neptune.
- FRIAS, M.S.**, *in litt.*, 2002: Information provided by the Scientific Authority to CITES - Bolivia (Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, La Paz).
- GE CHRISTIAN, D.**, 1999 : email to NEOORN, 24 Sept. 1999 provided by Manuel Plenge.
- GLARDI, J.D.**, *in litt.*, 2001: email from 4 Dec. 2001. The World Parrot Trust.
- HILTON-TAYLOR, C. (compiler)**, 2000: 2000 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK. xviii + 61pp.
- HOPPE, D.**, 1992: Aras: Die Arten und Rassen, Haltung und Zucht. Vol. 2, Verlag Eugen Ulmer, Stuttgart.
- INIGO-ELIAS, E.**, *in litt.*, 2002a: email from 1 Feb. 2002. Conservation Program, Cornell Lab. of Ornithology.
- INIGO-ELIAS, E.**, *in litt.*, 2002b: email from 28 Jan. 2002. Conservation Program, Cornell Lab. of Ornithology.
- JONES, M.J., M.D. LINSLEY & S.J. MARSDEN**, 1995: Population sizes, status and habitat associations of the restricted-range species of Sumba, Indonesia. Bird Conservation International 5 (1): 21-52.
- KRATTER, A.**, 1999: email to NEOORN, 23 Sept. 1999 provided by Manuel Plenge.
- LIPPERT, J.**, *in litt.*, 2000a: letter from 12 April 2000 to German Scientific Authority to CITES. Landesumweltamt Brandenburg.
- LIPPERT, J.**, *in litt.*, 2000b: letter from 5 June 2000 to German Scientific Authority to CITES. Landesumweltamt Brandenburg.
- LIPPERT, J.**, *in litt.*, 2002: email from 14 March 2002 to German Scientific Authority to CITES.
- LLOYD, H.**, 1999: email to NEOORN, 21 Sept. 1999 provided by Manuel Plenge.
- MACHADO DE BARROS, Y.**, 1995: Der Gebirgsara *Ara couloni*, Beobachtungen im Manu Nationalpark. Papageien 8: 241.
- MUNN, C.**, 1998: Letter from the field. Parrotdata. [www.parrotdata.com/articlesny/artikler.asp?aid=115](http://www.parrotdata.com/articlesny/artikler.asp?aid=115).
- MUNN, C.**, *in litt.*, 2002a: email from 28 Jan. 2002.
- MUNN, C.**, *in litt.*, 2002b: email from 28 Jan. 2002.
- MUNN, C. A.**, 2002c: Conservation efforts in Manu and cooperation with local peoples. The Living Edens 'Manu'. Wysiwyg://14/http://www.pbs.org/edens/manu/conserven.htm.
- PARKER, T. A. III, A. CASTILLO, M. GELL-MANN & O. ROCHA**, 1991: Records of new and unusual birds from northern Bolivia. Bull. B.O.C. 111 (3): 120-138.
- PHPA/LIPI/BirdLife International-IP**, 1998: Yellow-crested Cockatoo Recovery Plan. PHPA/LIPI/BirdLife International-Indonesian Programme, Bogor, Indonesia.
- REINSCHMIDT, M.**, *in litt.*; 2001: email from 5 Dec. 2001. Curator Loro Parque.
- RICALDE, D.**, 1999: email to NEOORN, 20 Sept. 1999 provided by Manuel Plenge.
- SALAZAR, E.**, *in litt.*, 2001: email from 23 Nov. 2001. Investigador en Ornitología Proyecto BIODAMAZ - IIAP.
- SAP**, 1997: Achtung – illegale Aras. Report of the 'Stiftung Avifauna Protecta'. Gef. Welt 6: 194.

- SZWAGRZAK, A.**, *in litt.*, 2002: Information provided to the German Scientific Authority to CITES.
- VIT, R.**, 1996: Der Blaukopf- oder Gebirgsara. *Gef. Welt* 11: 375-376.
- VIT, R.**, 1997: Der Blaukopf- oder Gebirgsara. *Gef. Welt* 6: 193-194.
- WCMC**, 1999: Review of Annex B species, Part 12. – Datasheets provided by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre for the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Review Group of the European Community, June 23, 1999: 47-48.
- WCMC**, 2001: World trade data, 1983-2000. provided by World Conservation Monitoring Centre.
- WCMC**, 2002: World trade data, 1998-2000. provided by World Conservation Monitoring Centre.
- WRIGHT, T. F., C.A. TOFT, E. ENKERLIN-HOEFELICH, et al.**, 2001: Nest poaching in neotropical parrots. *Conservation Biology* 15 (3): 710-720.
- YAMASHITA, C.**, *in litt.*, 2001: email from 30 Nov. 2001.

Attachment to Ara couloni

1.1



MINISTERIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE  
INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DO MEIO AMBIENTE E DOS RECURSOS NATURAIS RENOVÁVEIS

Oficio 082/2002 – CGFAU

Brasília-DF, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2002.

Dear Colleagues,

We acknowledge receipt of your letters dated from February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup> including the Proposal's Draft attached, concerning the status changing of *Ara couloni* to the Appendix I of CITES, which we analyzed and have some comments. Before that, we would like to make available some information that preceded your letters:

2. Last year we received a letter from Dr. Eduardo Iñigo-Elias of the Cornell University, United States, in which he suggested to the Brazilian government to evaluate the possibility of drawing a proposal for the elevation of *Ara couloni* CITES' status, consulting the CITES Authorities in Peru and Bolivia and submitting the proposal during CITES meeting in the current year. The Brazilian CITES Management Authority consulted the Authorities of these countries twice. Only Peru replied in February 7<sup>th</sup> of 2002, and solicited us more information on the subject.

3. In March this year, we received the German proposal for *Ara couloni* that is being analyzed by the Brazilian government. In the first instance we agree and support the general idea, however we understand that some rectification must be done in the original text, so as you proposed we are glad to participate as the proposal's co-proponent. In this regard, we have the following comments on the Draft submitted:

To Mr.  
Harald Martens  
German Scientific Authority to CITES (Zoology)  
Head of Division  
Federal Agency for Nature Conservation  
Konstantinstr. 110  
53179 Bonn, Germany.

C/C (via e-mail and fax only):  
Dr. Ermonds (Head of Division)  
Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit

> About Conservation and Management (No. 4); Legal Status (4.1); National (4.1.1): we solicit for the sentence rectification: ... "*Ara couloni* is not protected in Peru, Bolivia or Brazil." The Brazilian legislation for Fauna and Flora states that all species with distribution and/or occurrence in Brazilian territory are legally protected and only can be assessed with the authorization of the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Natural Renewable Resources (IBAMA) which means that, despite the absence of *Ara couloni* in the Brazilian Official List of Endangered Fauna, the species is under protection according to the Brazilian laws for wildlife fauna. We also would like to inform that the Brazilian Official List of Endangered Species is being revised and the situation of *Ara couloni* is being evaluated.

> About Species Management (4.2); Habitat Conservation (4.2.2): According to the information of Carlos Yamashita (*in litt.* 2001) about the presence of *Ara couloni* in two protected areas (conservation units - Parque Nacional da Serra do Divisor and Floresta Nacional de Macaúã) we would like to inform that, considering the geographical position of those areas together with at least three other areas (extrativism reserves) with potential occurrence of the species, the total area (conservation units) under protection by Brazilian law is approximately 1,750,000 hectares. Considering this number, we have no information about the percentage of habitat and/or area used by *Ara couloni*.

> About Other Comments (item 6): We kindly solicit to remove this item from the Draft, considering that Brazil accept to act as a co-proponent of this proposal.

3. Considering the appointments above for the aforementioned document, we would like to reinforce our desire to act as a co-proponent for the proposal in the CITES next meeting. Any further information we have to improve the Draft would be promptly available in time.

4. Any comments or questions you have please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

  
MARIA IOLITA BAMPÍ  
Fauna General Coordination  
Coordinator

Management Authority to CITES – Brazil

  
FRANCISCO CAMARA TAVARES  
Fauna General Coordination  
Management Authority to CITES – Brazil

Attachment to Ara couloni 2



**MUSEO NACIONAL DE HISTORIA NATURAL**

Calle 26 de Cole - Coza - Telef. 795364 - Fax: 770876 - Casilla 8706 - La Paz - Bolivia

MNHN/061/2002

La Paz 15 de abril del 2002

Señor  
Harald Martens  
AUTORIDAD CIENTÍFICA CITES ALEMANA (ZOOLOGÍA)  
Fax: 49 (228) 8491-119

Distinguido Señor:

Agradecemos el enviarnos la documentación de la propuesta para que Ara couloni pase al apendice I de CITES. Al respecto, nosotros enviamos esta documentación a varios expertos ornitólogos que trabajan o han trabajado en nuestro país, pero sólo recibimos respuesta del Dr. Andrzej Szwagrzakrezej y en base a esto y al análisis de la Lic. Carmen Quiroga, Ornitóloga del Museo, es que respondemos de forma positiva a su propuesta, ya que se trata de una especie con población limitada (no es común encontrarla); se encuentra en un área en la que la actividad humana (cría de ganado y aprovechamiento forestal, principalmente) afecta a su hábitat, siendo vulnerable la especie a estos cambios y esta sujeta, además, a comercio y tráfico ilegal.

Mayor información sobre el análisis de la propuesta, será enviada vía e-mail, en el transcurso del día.

Ssin otro particular, hago llegar mis consideraciones más distinguidas, atentamente

**Lic. Mariana Subieta Frías**  
DIRECTORA EJECUTIVA a.i.  
Museo Nacional de Historia Natural

c.c Arch.