

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

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Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Santiago (Chile), 3-15 November 2002

Committee I meeting

First session: Tuesday 5 November 2002: 14h10-17h00

Chairman: D. Morgan (United Kingdom)

Secretariat: T. De Meulenaer  
M. Lindeque  
J. Sellar

Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell  
H. Gillett  
T. Inskipp  
T. Van Norman

The Chairman opened the meeting and announced which documents would be discussed during the session.

**Interpretation and implementation of the Convention**

**Regular and special reports**

23. Appendix-I species subject to export quotas

a) Leopard

i) Report on implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.14 on quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use

The Secretariat introduced document CoP12 Doc. 23.1.1, noting that Malawi was still subject to an export ban as reports had not been received for 2000 or 2001, and observing that although the United Republic of Tanzania appeared to have exceeded its quota, this was because of exports of skins from specimens obtained in earlier years. It drew attention to paragraph 10 that recommended either repeal of the Resolution or deletion of two of its paragraphs.

The delegation of the United States of America did not support the proposal as they believed the existing measures were the only way to ensure quotas were adhered to. The delegation of India echoed this view. The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania encouraged deletion of the paragraphs but believed the rest of the Resolution still served a useful purpose. This view was supported by the delegation of Denmark, on behalf of the Member States of the European

Union (EU), who noted the duplication of effort in including the same data in special as well as regular annual reports. The observer from IWMC-World Conservation Trust believed that maintaining the Resolution was in the best interests of producer countries but that the two paragraphs were superfluous. The delegation of South Africa commended the United Republic of Tanzania on its wildlife management and recommended deletion of the whole Resolution.

After clarification of some points by the Secretariat, the delegation of India withdrew their objection and the delegation of the United States of America withdrew their objection to deletion of paragraph e), the latter delegation encouraging Parties to be diligent in submitting annual reports. The Committee agreed to the deletion of paragraph e) under RECOMMENDS and the whole paragraph under DIRECTS of Resolution Conf. 10.14.

ii) Amendment to the quota of the United Republic of Tanzania (United Republic of Tanzania)

The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania introduced the proposal in document CoP12 Doc. 23.1.2. The proposal was supported by the delegations of Botswana, Denmark, on behalf of the Member States of the EU, and Uganda, who noted the good wildlife management system in the United Republic of Tanzania. The Chairman noted that there were no Parties opposed to the proposal which was endorsed.

b) Markhor

The Secretariat introduced document CoP12 Doc. 23.2 and noted that the omission from paragraph 7 of reference to the paragraph under 'DIRECTS' in Resolution Conf. 10.15 (Rev.) was a typographical error.

The delegation of Pakistan drew attention to the benefits of trophy hunting to markhor conservation, as 80 per cent of the income produced went to local communities. However, the quota of six animals was insufficient for the number of hunting areas. They requested that either Resolution Conf. 10.15 (Rev.) be repealed or that the quota be increased from six animals to 12.

The delegations of Denmark, on behalf of the Member States of the EU, and the United States of America accepted that the reporting requirements in the Resolution could be met through the regular annual reports but were reluctant to delete it in its entirety. Pakistan's view was supported by the delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Qatar and Zimbabwe. The delegation of Saudi Arabia supported full repeal of the Resolution. The observer from IUCN – The World Conservation Union reported that the Chairman of the Caprinid Specialist Group had recommended no increase in quota or repeal of the Resolution until further population surveys had been carried out, while the observer from Conservation Force stated that the quota was not filled currently because of stricter domestic measures in importing countries.

The Chairman noted that although there was little support for repeal of the Resolution, there was general consensus that paragraph e) under RECOMMENDS and the whole of the paragraph under DIRECTS in Resolution Conf. 10.15 (Rev.) be deleted. This was agreed.

The delegation of Malawi asked for clarification regarding the possible suspension of quotas if annual reports were not submitted. The Secretariat clarified that the paragraphs referring to possible trade sanctions had been proposed for deletion. Regarding the request for an increased quota without previous documentation, the delegation of the United States of America sought clarification. After consulting with the Secretariat, the Chairman ruled that there were precedents for this, and noted that the relevant Resolution Conf. 9.21 was ambiguous in regards to increases in quotas and in need of revision. After some further debate, the Committee agreed that the quota for Pakistan be increased to 12 animals per year.

## 25. Transport of live animals

The Secretariat introduced document CoP12 Doc. 25 noting that the report was produced following extensive discussion within the Animals Committee Transport Working Group (TWG).

The Chairwoman of the TWG thanked all participants involved in preparing the report but noted that only a few countries had participated in the process. She appealed to all interested parties to provide input to the TWG and suggested inclusion of transport issues in the National Legislation Project.

The observer from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) stated that it had discussed document CoP12 Doc. 25, and supported the establishment of an official training policy of officers involved in transport of live animals. He, the delegation of Austria, and the observer from the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, suggested development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IATA and CITES.

The delegations of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the Member States of the EU, and Saudi Arabia fully supported the document while the delegation of Ghana, also in favour of the document, recommended that importing countries should inform exporting countries of any mortality during transport.

The Committee endorsed the Annex to document CoP12 Doc. 25 and asked the Secretariat to draft a decision in order to bring an MoU into force.

### **Species trade and conservation issues**

## 39. Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles

The Secretariat introduced document CoP12 Doc. 39 and particularly thanked China for hosting the workshop.

The delegation of Indonesia, supported by the delegations of Denmark, on behalf of the Member States of the EU, India, and the United States of America pointed out that the implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 had been ineffective owing to the large number of species not listed in the CITES Appendices. They supported the adoption of the draft resolution and draft decisions in the Annexes to document CoP12 Doc. 39. They also supported the adoption of the proposals to list additional species in Appendix II and the maintenance of the working group established by the Animals Committee. The observer from Pro Wildlife expressed concern over the proposed alteration to the sentence containing the words 'have increased significantly' in the third paragraph of Annex 1 of the document.

The Committee endorsed the draft resolution and draft decisions in the Annexes to document CoP12 Doc. 39. In addition, Decisions 11.93 and 11.150 were recommended for repeal.

## 45. Trade in sea cucumbers in the families Holothuridae and Stichopodidae

The delegation of the United States of America introduced document CoP12 Doc. 45 and suggested after discussion that it should be passed to the Animals Committee for further discussion. The delegation of Costa Rica expressed their support for this proposal. The delegation of Japan stated that owing to limited information in the document on the biology of sea cucumbers and the lack of harvest data, it was difficult to discuss this issue. They further pointed out that it was not clear that the current harvest levels were unsustainable. They recommended that the issue be handled by organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) rather than CITES. This suggestion was supported by the delegations of Cuba, Norway and Malaysia. The delegation of China stated that the harvest of sea cucumbers in China was strictly controlled. They offered to share their expertise in aquaculture techniques with other countries. The observer from the International Wildlife Coalition

expressed appreciation for the United States of America's efforts and called for greater cooperation among Parties to address this issue. The observer from IUCN – The World Conservation Union clarified that the document was not a listing proposal and considered that the level of exploitation was such that CITES should assess the situation further. The delegation of Ecuador expressed concern regarding illegal trade and noted that Ecuador was considering listing some species in Appendix III. The delegation of the United States of America, supported by the delegations of Canada, Kenya and Sweden, requested that a working group be formed. The Chairman stated that there did not appear to be sufficient support from the Parties for this and asked the delegation of the United States of America to prepare a very brief draft decision to be presented at a future session.

#### 46. Biological and trade status of *Harpagophytum*

The Chairman of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP12 Doc. 46 and stated that the Plants Committee supported further discussion on this issue. The delegation of Denmark, on behalf of the Member States of the EU, and the delegations of South Africa and Uganda, supported the draft decisions in Annex 2 of the document and suggested that range States consider Appendix-III listing of these species. The delegations of Botswana, Guinea, Mexico and Namibia supported the draft decisions. The draft decisions and repeal of Decisions 11.63 and 11.111 were endorsed.

### **Strategic and administrative matters**

#### 10. Committee reports and recommendations

##### a) Animals Committee

##### i) Report of the Chairman

The Chairman of the Coral Working Group of the Animals Committee introduced the relevant parts of document CoP12 Doc. 10.1. The draft resolution in Annex 1 was agreed. He expressed the need for further discussion within the Working Group on the problems with distinguishing fossilized from non-fossilized corals. He also recommended agreement on the following decision:

*Directs the Animals Committee to consider and recommend a practical means of distinguishing fossilized corals from non-fossilized corals in international trade, and provide a report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Following support from the delegation of the United States of America, the draft decision was agreed.

The session was closed at 17h00.