

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



Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
The Hague (Netherlands), 3-15 June 2007

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade control and marking issues

TRADE IN APPENDIX-I SPECIES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat on behalf of the Standing Committee.
2. At its 13th meeting (Bangkok, 2004), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 13.20 on Trade in Appendix-I species, as follows:

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) *conduct a review of trade in Appendix-I plant and animal species, through UNEP-WCMC. The review should take into account all exports, re-exports, and imports of Appendix-I specimens, including the species name, the source and purpose codes, existing exemptions and all other relevant information for the last five years. The identity of individual Parties should be protected in the report; and*
 - b) *consider the UNEP-WCMC report and draft recommendations, if necessary, based on the analysis of Appendix-I trade, at its 54th meeting, and present these recommendations for consideration at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*
3. At its 53rd meeting (Geneva, June – July 2005), the Standing Committee agreed on the terms of reference for the required review. The review was then carried out by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, funded by the Government of Ireland, to which the Secretariat wishes to express its appreciation.
 4. The report of the review was presented to the Standing Committee at its 54th meeting (SC54, Geneva, October 2006) in document SC54 Doc. 20.
 5. After discussion of the report and of the recommendations of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee agreed to the following:
 - a) The Secretariat should examine the evidence of cases where it appears that there might have been a contravention of the Convention and discuss this with the States concerned. If necessary, it should initiate the procedure provided in Article XIII of the Convention and, in this case, it should inform the Standing Committee.
 - b) Where records from annual reports appear to indicate that a Party has been authorizing commercial exports of captive-bred animal specimens that do not originate from operations included in the Secretariat's Register, the Secretariat should ask the Parties concerned to investigate and remind them that such trade is contrary to the agreement in Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP13).

- c) The Clearing House should be asked to advise the Standing Committee as to which body should consider how to deal with the problem that Management Authorities may be unaware of imports that have taken place when specimens are shipped by mail (seeds of cacti and orchids for example).
 - d) With regard to the use of source codes on permits and in annual reports, the Animals and Plants Committees should take into consideration the comments in the report from UNEP-WCMC when preparing their document for CoP14 regarding production systems.
 - e) The Secretariat should investigate the cases of anomalous records and seek to solve any problems in consultation with the Parties concerned.
6. In Decision 13.20 the Conference of the Parties instructs the Standing Committee to make recommendations for consideration at CoP14 if appropriate. However the Committee did not make any recommendations for consideration at the present meeting. The Conference of the Parties is therefore invited to take note of the actions taken by the Standing Committee and the follow-up, as reported above.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The follow-up to the recommendations referred to in paragraph 5 above has been as follows:

- a) The Secretariat has contacted the States concerned and, at the time of writing, had no reason to initiate proceedings under Article XIII.
- b) The Secretariat wrote to all of the Parties concerned and will inform the Standing Committee if it appears that there are persistent problems.
- c) At the time of writing (January 2007), this issue was under consideration by the Clearing House. An oral update will be provided at the present meeting.
- d) The Chairman of the working group of the Animals and Plants Committees on the review of production systems undertook to take into account the report of UNEP-WCMC when preparing their document for the present meeting.
- e) The Secretariat has been in contact with UNEP-WCMC to ensure that, when the data from the annual reports of the Parties are being entered into the CITES trade database, any anomalies are drawn to the attention of the Party concerned, either directly by UNEP-WCMC or where appropriate through the Secretariat, so that mistakes in the data can be corrected and substantive problems can be discussed and solved. The Secretariat will bring any persistent problem to the attention of the Standing Committee.