

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

Summary record of the ninth session of Committee I

11 June 2007: 11h00-12h00

Chairman: G. Leach (Australia)

Secretariat: T. De Meulenaer
D. Morgan

Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell
J. Hepp

The Chairman opened the session with some announcements. Mexico raised a point of order, believing the meeting was not quorate. The Chairman ruled that there was a quorum.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Amendment of the Appendices

68. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

Kenya and the United States of America introduced proposal CoP14 Prop. 17 for inclusion of seven species of *Pristidae* in Appendix I. They noted that all sawfish species were considered critically endangered globally by IUCN – The World Conservation Union and the *Ad Hoc* Expert Advisory Panel of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) found that all species meet Appendix I listing criteria.

Australia noted support for the efforts to end trade in meat, fins and rostra of *Pristidae* and introduced an amendment concerning live *Pristis microdon* for the aquarium trade. They reported the population of *Pristis microdon* in Australia was robust and therefore could support a limited trade for displays in public aquaria which would raise public awareness and increase conservation benefits. They proposed an amendment to include *Pristis microdon* in Appendix II and an annotation to read:

For the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in live animals to appropriate and acceptable aquaria for primarily conservation purposes.

Australia remarked that they were the only Party to export live specimens of sawfish and they anticipated putting in place contracts between the Australian Government, exporters and importers to ensure a focus on scientific analysis, interpretive displays, cooperative research and welfare of the animals. They noted that, if their amendment were approved, all other species of sawfish would be listed on Appendix I.

Brunei Darussalam, India, New Zealand and the United States offered their support for Australia's amendment. Germany, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, pointed out

that identification materials were needed urgently. They also believed that all species of *Pristidae* should be listed on Appendix I but would not oppose the amendment. FAO remarked that their *ad hoc* Expert Advisory Panel concluded that the full biological and trade criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP13) had been met and they supported the proposal. The Panel had not considered the proposed amendment and therefore FAO could not comment.

Ecuador, on behalf of 31 countries of the South and Central America and the Caribbean region, and Nicaragua stated their support for the proposal. Mexico also supported the proposal but could not currently agree to the amendment as they had insufficient data to make a decision regarding *Pristis microdon*. They requested that Australia submit an information document.

Norway supported the proposal but questioned whether it was more appropriate to list all species on Appendix I and to apply for an export quota for live specimens. Thailand concurred with this suggestion and stressed the importance of developing adequate identification tools. Greenpeace International, speaking on behalf on Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare and the Species Survival Network, supported the original proposal.

China rejected the proposal noting their doubts regarding the potential conservation benefits of an Appendix-I listing. Qatar and Indonesia, as well as Species Management Specialists, rejected the proposal and noted conservation efforts for sawfish should focus on local and national fishery management and in this case, CITES was not an effective management tool. These two Parties also noted there was merit to Australia's proposed amendment to list *Pristis microdon* on Appendix II.

After a vote, the amended proposal was accepted, there being 67 votes in favour, 31¹ against, and 7 abstentions. Austria and Romania requested that their vote in favour be recorded as they believed that their voting equipment was faulty. Antigua and Barbuda reported similar problems and requested that their vote against the proposal be recorded.

After some announcements the session was closed at 12h00.

¹ Note from the Secretariat: corrected after the meeting, originally indicated "30".

Results of the vote

Yes (1)	67	68.37%
No (2)	31	31.63%
Abstain (3)	7	
Total votes	105	

Key: 0 = did not vote, 1 = yes, 2 = no, 3 = abstain

Parties	Vote 1
Afghanistan AF	0
Albania AL	0
Algeria DZ	1
Antigua and Barbuda AG	2 ²
Argentina AR	2
Australia AU	1
Austria AT	1 ³
Azerbaijan AZ	1
Bahamas BS	2
Bangladesh BD	0
Barbados BB	0
Belarus BY	0
Belgium BE	1
Belize BZ	0
Benin BJ	0
Bhutan BT	0
Bolivia BO	1
Botswana BW	3
Brazil BR	2
Brunei Darussalam BN	0
Bulgaria BG	1
Burkina Faso BF	0
Burundi BI	1
Cambodia KH	1
Cameroon CM	1
Canada CA	2
Cape Verde CV	0
Central African Republic CF	0
Chad TD	0
Chile CL	2
China CN	2
Colombia CO	1
Comoros KM	0
Congo CG	0
Costa Rica CR	2
Côte d'Ivoire CI	0

Parties	Vote 1
Croatia HR	1
Cuba CU	1
Cyprus CY	0
Czech Republic CZ	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo CD	2
Denmark DK	1
Djibouti DJ	0
Dominica DM	2
Dominican Republic DO	2
Ecuador EC	1
Egypt EG	1
El Salvador SV	0
Equatorial Guinea GO	0
Eritrea ER	1
Estonia EE	1
Ethiopia ET	2
Fiji FJ	0
Finland FI	1
France FR	1
Gabon GA	0
Gambia GM	0
Georgia GE	1
Germany DE	1
Ghana GH	0
Greece GR	1
Grenada GD	0
Guatemala GT	2
Guinea GN	3
Guinea-Bissau GW	0
Guyana GY	1
Honduras HN	1
Hungary HU	1
Iceland IS	2
India IN	1
Indonesia ID	1
Iran (Islamic Republic of) IR	0
Ireland IE	1
Israel IL	2
Italy IT	1
Jamaica JM	1

² Note from the Secretariat: corrected after the meeting, originally indicated "0".

³ Note from the Secretariat: corrected after the meeting, originally indicated "0".

Parties	Vote 1
Japan JP	1
Jordan JO	0
Kazakhstan KZ	0
Kenya KE	2
Kuwait KW	2
Lao People's Democratic Republic LA	3
Latvia LV	1
Lesotho LS	0
Liberia LR	0
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya LY	0
Liechtenstein LI	0
Lithuania LT	1
Luxembourg LU	1
Madagascar MG	0
Malawi MW	0
Malaysia MY	3
Mali ML	0
Malta MT	1
Mauritania MR	0
Mauritius MU	1
Mexico MX	2
Monaco MC	2
Mongolia MN	2
Montenegro ME	0
Morocco MA	2
Mozambique MZ	2
Myanmar MM	0
Namibia NA	1
Nepal NP	1
Netherlands NL	1
New Zealand NZ	1
Nicaragua NI	1
Niger NE	1
Nigeria NG	0
Norway NO	2
Pakistan PK	2
Palau PW	1
Panama PA	0
Papua New Guinea PG	0
Paraguay PY	0
Peru PE	0
Philippines PH	1
Poland PL	1
Portugal PT	1
Qatar QA	1
Republic of Korea KR	2
Republic of Moldova MD	1
Romania RO	1 ⁴
Russian Federation RU	1

Parties	Vote 1
Rwanda RW	1
Saint Kitts and Nevis KN	0
Saint Lucia LC	0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines VC	0
Samoa WS	0
San Marino SM	1
Sao Tome and Principe ST	0
Saudi Arabia SA	0
Senegal SN	0
Serbia RS	1
Seychelles SC	0
Sierra Leone SL	0
Singapore SG	2
Slovakia SK	0
Slovenia SI	1
Solomon Islands SB	0
Somalia SO	0
South Africa ZA	1
Spain ES	1
Sri Lanka LK	0
Sudan SD	0
Suriname SR	2
Swaziland SZ	1
Sweden SE	1
Switzerland CH	2
Syrian Arab Republic SY	3
Thailand TH	2
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia MK	0
Togo TG	3
Trinidad and Tobago TT	0
Tunisia TN	1
Turkey TR	1
Uganda UG	1
Ukraine UA	0
United Arab Emirates AE	3
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland GB	1
United Republic of Tanzania TZ	2
United States of America US	1
Uruguay UY	1
Uzbekistan UZ	0
Vanuatu VU	1
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) VE	0
Viet Nam VN	2
Yemen YE	0
Zambia ZM	1
Zimbabwe ZW	1

⁴ Note from the Secretariat: corrected after the meeting, originally indicated "0".