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

Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION ON COP 17 PROP 37 ON DYSCOPHUS ANTONGILII

This document has been submitted by Madagascar in relation to amendment proposal CoP17 Prop.
37 on Dyscophus antongilii showing the document at the proposal of this species in Appendix I in
1987.

* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part
of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country,
territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the
document rests exclusively with its author.
AMENDMENTS 10 APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Dyscophus antongili in Appendix I.

B. PROPOONENT

The Kingdom of the Netherlands.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

   11. Class: Amphibia
   12. Order: Anura (Salienta)
   13. Family: Microhylidae
   14. Species: Dyscophus antongili
   15. Common Names: English:
      French:
      Spanish:

16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: The species is endemic to Madagascar. It is known only from two localities: the Bay of Antongil (Moroantsera, Foizana) and South of Tamatave (Andevoranto). Both areas are small, wellknown and relatively easily accessible.

22. Population: No population data for Dyscophus antongili are available to proponent.

23. Habitat: Hot areas near the coast, with high humidity. In and around ditches. The frogs are large and show a tendency to hide themselves (Kahi, Kamp and Schmidt, 1980; Schulte, 1980).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: No national utilization of the species is known to proponent.

32. Legal International Trade: The species has been imported for the terrarium trade at least since early 1970s (Bergmans, pers. comm.; Schmidt, 1970). It occurs regularly in terrarium literature (see 8. References). Apparently, it is being bred in captivity (Christophel, 1977:98) and an application for one specimen (captive bred) for international trade from the Netherlands to the United Kingdom is recorded (Groombridge, in litt. 1985). There is, however, no official publication known to proponent in which the breeding in captivity is described. Meier (in litt., 1985) denies that it has been bred in captivity, but states that it probably will be possible in due course.
33. Illegal Trade: Export of wildcaughtspecimensisprohibited by law in Madagascar, all import of wildcaughtspecimens of Dyscophusantongiliiscontrary to Malagasy legislation. The speciesiscurrentlyoffered in large quantities in West European pet shops (Meier, in litt., 1985) and importedbackfrom Madagascar, for example, into the FederalRepublic of Germany, wherecollecting trips to Madagascar occasionallyoccur. However, the results of these trips are not (yet) in print (Niekisch, in litt., 1986).

34. Potential Trade Threats: The areas where the speciesoccurs are small and the species’ natural habitat is extremelyvulnerable to destruction (Blanc, in litt., 1986), Mass collections of specimenspossiblywipes out an entire population of the frogs. The frogs are large (female: 90 mm male: 65 mm) and brightlyreddish coloured. Judging from publications in terrarium magazines, many terrarium fanciers show theirinterest in the frogs and in obtaining speciments. It is not clear to the proponentwhether the speciesis bred in captivity.

4. Protection Status


42. International: None.

43. Additional Protection Needs:

5. Information on Similar Species:

Dyscophusantongiliis the only species in the genus which is reddish and more or lessuniformly coloured. The genus Dyscophus consists of two other species, both endemic to Madagascar. Dyscophusquinetis greyish, with a dorsal pattern. Dyscophusinsularisismuchsmaller than the other two species in the genus (40—50 mm) and of variable colour, but mostly grey and always with a dorsal pattern (Guib~, 1978). 13. quineti and D. insularis have a wider distribution on Madagascar and are considered to be less attractive for terrarium keepers.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

7. Additional Remarks

Dr. Charles Blanc (Director of Laboratoire de Zoographie, Univ. de Montpellier, France) urges that Dyscophusantongili and Mantellaaurantiaca (seeproposal to includealsothisspecies in Appendix I of the Convention) require extremely strict protection to ensure their survival. Moreover, also on the scientific level all research should be strictly controlled (Blanc, in litt., 1986).

8. References


