Fifty-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 6-10 July 2009

Regional matters

Reports of regional representatives

ASIA

The attached report for Asia has been submitted by China, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Japan*. As it was received by the Secretariat after the deadline for submission of documents, it is provided herewith in English only, the language in which it was submitted.

* 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.
Regional Report (Asia)

1. Introduction

This report summarized the activities of Parties between 57th Standing Committee Meeting (July 2008, Geneva) and 58th Standing Committee Meeting (July 2009, Geneva) except when indicated otherwise.

Japan represents Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam for 57th Standing Committee Meeting. China represents Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan. Islamic Republic of Iran represents other parties in Asia. This report has been prepared with the contribution from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

2. Participation in CITES meeting

Brunei Darussalam

The staff and members of CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority of Brunei Darussalam organised events; participated in or attended at the following meetings, conferences or events:-

Participation in National Events
Meeting to propose amendments to update the National Wildlife Act 1978 ( 1st Amendment 1984). This is to discuss the status of the protected species of Brunei and conferment of the legal authority to the relevant enforcement officers.

Participation in Regional Events
1) Second International Conference on Agarwood; 4-11 March 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. Agreement for no ban in trade for Agarwood perfume, agarwood oil, agarwood chips and seedlings for research. However, ban in Agarwood logs is still upheld.


4) Trade and Conservation of Pangolins Native to South and South-east Asia Workshop organised by TRAFFIC; 30 June – 2 July 2008, Singapore Zoo, Singapore.

6) The 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN-WEN; 26-27 May 2008 in Vientiane, LAO PDR.

Participation in International Events
14th Meeting of the Conference of The Parties to CITES (CoP 14); 3-15 June 2007 in The Hague, Netherlands.

Cambodia

Representatives from both Management Authority and Scientific Authorities of Cambodia attended CITES CoP14, June 3-15, 2007 in the Hague, the Netherlands.

Representatives from Scientific Authorities attended Experts group meeting on Agarwood - November 14-17, 2006, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Attended CITES Law Enforcement Seminar (learning wildlife crime issue in Asia) - November 21-23, 2006, Hong Kong SAR

Representative from Scientific Authority attended the 4th Meeting of ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (AEG-CITES) - November 28-30, 2006, Manila, the Philippines

Representatives from CITES-MA and SA attended the 5th Meeting of ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (AEG-CITES) - May 9-11, 2007, Singapore

Senior officials from the Forestry Administration, Customs, Police and Prosecutions participated in ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network and related workshops/meetings in Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

China

China participated the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee as the regional representative, 18th meeting of the Plants Committee and 24th meeting of the Animals Committee as an observer.

Representatives from the CITES Scientific Authority and Management Authority of China participated the International expert workshop on non-detriment findings in Cancún, Mexico from 17 to 22 November. They presented the Case studies on Crab-eating macaque Macaca fascicularis, Rhesus monkey Macaca mulatta and Cibotium barometz.

Representatives of CITES Management Authority of China give a presentation regarding monitoring and control of internet wildlife trade during the International Workshop on Internet Wildlife Trade in Toronto, Canada, January 2009.

Representatives from the CITES Management Authority of China participated the ‘Trade and Conservation of Pangolins Native to South and Southeast Asia’ in Singapore, 30 June- 2 July 2008, and give an introduction on pangolin status and management in China.
Indonesia

1) 19-24 April 2008 - Actively participate on 23rd Animal Committee Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland

2) May 2008 - Actively participate 6th ASEAN Expert Group on CITES Meeting in Thailand

3) May 2008 - Attended 3rd meeting of the ASEAN WEN in Vientiane – Laos

4) 31 October 2008 - Attended the Advisory Committee Meeting ITTO Work Program Activity “Ensuring International Trade In Cites-Listed Timber Species in Consistent With Their Sustainable Management and Conservation” in Yokohama – Japan

5) 20-22 April 2009 - Attended 24rd animal committee meeting in Geneva - Switzerland

Iran

Iran participated in the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee in 2008.

Japan

Japan participated in the 57th Standing Committee Meetings as a representative for Asian region in July 2008.

Dr. Ishii contributed to the Animals Committee as its alternative member of Asia and served as its member at its 24th Session in April 2009, due to the absence of Dr. Pourkazemi of Islamic Republic of Iran. Japan also dispatched its delegation to the 24th session as an observer.

Kuwait

Kuwait Participated in 57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, July 2008.

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

1) Representatives from both Management Authority and Scientific Authorities of Lao PDR attended CITES CoP14, June 3-15 2007 in the Hague, the Netherlands.


5) Representatives from both Management Authority and Scientific Authorities of Lao PDR attended in the 6th Meeting of The ASEAN Experts Group on CITES; 21-23 May 2008 in Chonburi, Thailand.

6) Hosted and Chaired the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN-WEN; 26-27 May 2008 in Vientiane, LAO PDR.

7) Attended in the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN); 6-7 April 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Malaysia**

**International Level**

Malaysia participated in the 17th Plants Committee and 23rd Animals Committee on the 15th to 24th April 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland. Malaysia also participated in the 57th Standing Committee on the 14th to 18th July 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland.

In 2009, Malaysia participated in the 18th Plants Committee on 17th until 21st March 2009 in Buenos Aires, Argentina and 24th Animals Committee on the 20th to 24th April 2009 in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Regional Level**

Malaysia participated in the 6th Meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (6th AEG-CITES) that was held on 21st until 23rd May 2008 in Chonburi, Thailand. On the 26th until 27th May 2008, Malaysia participated in the 3rd Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) that was held in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

In 2009, Malaysia hosted the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) held from 6th to 7th April 2009 in Kuala Lumpur. Malaysia also attended The International Workshop “A Forgotten Crisis: Arresting Wildlife Depletion In Asia Through Strengthened Regional Cooperation And Effective Partnership” that was held on the 10th until 12th April 2009 in Pattaya, Thailand.

**Philippines**

The 23rd Meeting of the Animals Committee of CITES, 19-24 April 2008, Geneva, Switzerland attended by a representative from PAWB, the CITES Management Authority of the Philippines for terrestrial species. A representative from Birds International Inc., a private breeding facility in the country also attended as observer.
Thailand

The staff of CITES MAs of Thailand participated in and attended at the following CITES meetings or events, such as


(6) 18 -19 November, 2008, at Nairobi, Kenya: UN meeting to tackle escalating rhino poaching.


(9) April 15-18, 2009, ASEAN Workshop on Harmonization of reporting to biodiversity related conventions attended by CITES for plant and officer who work deal with CBD.

(10) June 8-9, 2009, at Phnom Penh, Cambodia: The meeting of the MIKE Sub-regional Steering Committee for Southeast Asia.

3. Cooperation with the Parties and others

Brunei Darussalam

ASEAN-WEN Support Program visit to Brunei Darussalam on the 12-13 December 2007. As part of the ASEAN-WEN Support Program to assist in the facilitation of ASEAN-WEN's development. Officers from TRAFFIC-South East Asia met with Brunei's focal points to update Brunei Darussalam on ASEAN-WEN's support program activities and discuss potential capacity building assistance to enforcement agencies in Brunei Darussalam which pertains to ASEAN-WEN objectives. The Program Coordination Unit as ASEAN-WEN's Secretariat was also discussed.
Cambodia

Within this period, CITES Management Authority communicated with China CITES Management Authority and Vietnam CITES Management Authority to clarify the issued CITES Permits.

China

China worked together with Southern African elephants range states to complete the trade partner auction and follow-up monitor and management activities.

A delegation from the Fish and Wildlife Service of United States is scheduled to visit China from 11-22 May 2009. They will have bilateral meeting with Chinese side (including the CITES MA, SA, State Forestry Administration, Fishery Bureau of Ministry of Agriculture), visit botanic gardens, zoos, safari parks, crocodile farms, border ports, and have some discussion with provincial bureaus of forestry, fishery and customs.

Indonesia

Workshop on Wildlife crime on CITES was held on January 30-31, 2007 in Jakarta. The meeting developed and adopt ASEAN Regional action plan as an ASEAN's collective effort to curb the problems of illegal trade in wild fauna and flora across border, and to work together towards effective implementation of CITES and help member countries to better manage their rich biological diversity in sustainable manner.

Indonesia attended 3rd meeting of the Tri National Ramin Task force on May, 7-8 and 5th meeting of the ASEAN Expert Group on CITES on May, 9-11 in Singapore.

Indonesia hosted the 2nd meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network on May 21-24, 2007 in Cisarua, Bogor.

A workshop on preliminary discussion on the Indonesia position on the species listing proposals to be considered at CoP 14 was held in March and April 2007. The workshop discussed the proposals which were of direct relevant to Indonesia and provided preliminary position of the Republic of Indonesia. The Workshop were involved a wide range of stakeholders, including the government, wildlife industry and NGOs in order to obtained a more transparent position to the public.


There has been increased communication and cooperation between CITES Management Authority-Indonesia and CITES Management Authority-the Philippines in developing Collaborative Conservation Activities to Improve The Captive-Breeding Efforts for some Cacatuas species. The MoU between CITES Management and Scientific Authority Indonesia and the CITES Management Authority of The Philippines is still in the progress.

Iran

Iran participating in regional workshop on "Wild life trading policy", Kuwait 2009.
Japan

Japan participated in a regional technical consultation on international fisheries related issues which reviewed listed proposals on marine species as well as shark and sea cucumber issues to be discussed at CITES CoP14 co-organized by ASEAN and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) in February 2007 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Japan also participated in a fishery consultative group meeting which reviewed the results of CITES CoP14 on marine species and discussed necessary follow-up activities, co-organized by ASEAN and SEAFDEC in November 2007 in Iloilo City, the Philippines.

Kuwait

Kuwait attended the regional meeting of Arab Team for The International Environmental Conventions of Biodiversity and Desertification, in Damascus – Syria October 2008, and Submitted a report about its participation in 57th meeting of Standing Committee, the report highlight CITES major issues related to Arab Speaking Countries.

Kuwait attended the regional meeting of Arab Team for The International Environmental Conventions of Biodiversity and Desertification, in The Arab League – Cairo- Egypt April 2009, and Submitted a report regarding the organizing and the outcomes of the regional workshop on wildlife trade policy reviews that held in Kuwait for the period from 8 – 11 March 2009.

Kuwait participate in the 6th meeting of the standing committee of GCC Convention on wildlife conservation in Riyadh, September 2008 in which CITES issues were discussed.

Kuwait organized a regional workshop for Arabic-speaking countries on wildlife trade policy reviews for the period from 8 – 11 March 2009, with the Cooperation of CITES Secretariats, the Arab League, the United Nation Environmental Program – Regional Office for west Asia UNEP-ROWA, and ISESCO.

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Lao RDR is a Member of ASEAN Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN)


GMS Countries Wildlife Enforcement cooperation.

Delegation from Nghe-An Province of Viet Nam visited Laos to exchange the lesson learned on trans-boundary cooperation, 9-12 Dec 2008.

Mongolian wildlife law enforcement officials visited Lao CITES MA, 12 Jan 2009.
A delegation from China visited Lao PDR to exchange lessons about wildlife trade control, March 2009.

**Malaysia**

Malaysia has signed an Agreement with The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) on the implementation of projects under the “ITTO – CITES Program for Implementing CITES Listings of Tropical Timber Species”. The program aims to ensure that international trade in CITES-listed tropical timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation. Currently there are 5 projects approved in Malaysia, and all projects are currently underway.

Malaysia also participated in “The International Workshop on Merbau: Sustainable Management of Merbau (*Instia* spp.) for Trade” that was held on the 17th until 19th November 2008 at YMCA, Singapore. The workshop was organized by TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and with funding from the *Bundesamt fuer Naturschutz* (BfN or Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Germany). The Workshop presented the results of TRAFFIC’s study on Merbau and discussed the merbau management, demand and its associating timber technology.

**Philippines**


Representatives from PAWB, Bureau of Customs and the National Bureau of Investigation attended the 3rd Regional Meeting of the ASEAN–WEN, 26-27, May 2008 at Vientiane, Lao PDR.

Legal Officer from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources attended the 4th Meeting of the ASEAN–WEN, 6-7 April 2009.

**Thailand**

1) July 25, 2008, cooperation with Sea Horse Traders.
2) September 12, 2008, cooperation with Crocodile’s Traders and Crocodile Industrial Factory.
3) January 16, 2009, at Nakhorn Ratchasima Province, Thailand: Thai-Lao Ranger Training in wildlife investigation conducted by ASEAN-WEN.
4) January 23, 2009 CITES 3 MAs of Thailand discussed with Secretariat (Mr. Marcos Silva) about CITES e-permitting and the Thai project on electronic documentation and the single window environment at APEC Symposium on Data Harmonization towards the Single Window Paper Environment which was organized on January 19 – 23, 2009 by the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation).
4. Implementation of CITES including legislation and law enforcement activities

Brunei Darussalam

As of 31st December 2007, “The Wild Fauna and Flora Order, 2007” of Brunei Darussalam has come into force. It was enacted and endorsed as a national legislation to support the enforcement of CITES in Brunei.

Cambodia

Cambodia CITES Management Authority will submit Annual and Biennial reports to CITES Secretariat in October 2009.

Sub-decree on International Trade in Endangered Wild Animal and Plant Species was approved by the Council of Ministers in May 2006. This Sub-decree regulates international trade of species listed on CITES Appendices, and also regulates registered farming of CITES appendices for commercial primary purposes. English version of this Sub-decree sent to CITES Secretariat in 2007. This sub-decree covers all provisions regulated by CITES.

A declaration on Criteria for selecting species and Wildlife Classification under the Forestry Law (2002) had been signed on 25 January 2007. This declaration regulates all national terrestrial wildlife species.

China

At the end of 2008, CITES Management Authority of China jointly with General Customs Administration promulgated the new version of Wildlife Products International Trade Monitoring Referential HS-code book.

The Macao SAR of China is drafting a new legislation on CITES implementation in Macao. The new legislation is now in the procedure of verification and expected to be promulgated during 2009.

Indonesia

1) Significant Trade Review
   - Indonesia submitted procedure to make non-detriment findings for trade in *Heosemys spinosa, Indotestudo forstenii* and *Amyda cartilaginea* in Indonesia in accordance with the Significant Trade Review Process.
   - Indonesia submitted non-detriment findings for trade of *Cyathea contaminans* in Indonesia accordance the significant trade review on 31 Maret 2009
   - CITES-SA Indonesia conducted Stakeholder meeting regarding significant trade review of Aquilaria on 14 April 2009

2) CITES Project
   - Annual report. The Indonesian CITES Management Authority has submitted Annual report on December 2008.
- CITES Handbook
  CITES MA Indonesia has published the CITES Handbook in Bahasa Indonesia. The Handbook consists of list appendices, Decision, Text Convention, and Resolution

- Leaflet of CITES appendix species

3) MA-CITES Indonesia determined quota of CITES appendix’s species captured annually.

4) Registration of operations breeding Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes:
   34 private companies had been registered in the CITES Secretariat as capture breeder of *Scleropages formosus* species for commercial purpose in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP13). There are 6 private companies are in process to be registered in the CITES secretariat on 2009.

5) Establishment of National Task Force as part of the ASEAN WEN
   Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation has enacted the Decree of the Establishment of National Task Force in related to the Wildlife Enforcement Network. The Task Force consists of Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation, NCB Interpol, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Customs, Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Justice, and Police.

6) CITES MA Indonesia is developing coordination with other stake holders such as Customs, Quarantine, Ministry of Marine Affairs, on the matters related to CITES implementation and wildlife trade monitoring in Indonesia. Memorandum of Understanding between CITES MA with Customs, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Quarantine are in progress.

7) Some meeting and coordination has been arranged by The CITES MA Indonesia with the private sector in regard to dissemination some regulation in related to CITES Implementation and to discuss better CITES implementation in Indonesia.

8) Conservation strategy on Orang Utan, Rhino, Sumatran Tiger and Sumatran elephant has been adopted in 2007

9) Decree of Ministry of Forestry no P.57/2008 regarding conservation strategy of national species


**Iran**

The Iran MA had proposed to revise CITES regulations and implementation in Iran.
Japan

Numbers of Export/Import Permits and Prior Confirmation

- As CITES Management Authority, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) issued 1,877 export licenses in 2007 and 1,976 in 2008.
- METI also issued 784 import licenses with CITES import permit in 2007 and 812 in 2008.
- Furthermore, METI implements a regulation entitled the "Prior Confirmation System" to confirm each import of specimens of certain species listed in Appendix II or III, not only to verify the authenticity of documents but also to detect any fraud before anything can be imported with incorrect documents. METI confirmed 5,753 cases in 2007 and 5,806 in 2008.
- In some cases, METI exchanged relevant information with the Secretariat and some Parties concerned to ensure appropriate implementation of relevant decisions of CITES.

Measures for Illegal Import and Involvement in Deposit Management and Return of Living Specimens

- METI looks after the welfare of living specimens which have been confiscated by Japan Customs in case of such confiscation have been done when they prevent at the moment entering the country, and National Police Authorities and Public Prosecutors Office in case of such confiscation have been done in the country. Those specimens are entrusted to rescue centers (i.e. zoological gardens and botanic gardens etc.) which have been supported by government budget.
- METI, also holds opportunities for consultation with the State of export for returning such specimen to that State.

Cooperation among Ministries

- For promoting information exchange and coordination within the Government, the inter-ministerial coordination committee to CITES is held among relevant ministries and agencies related to CITES issues.

Kuwait

The Environment Public Authority revised the modified of the current CITES national legislation “Resolution No.93/2003 regarding Sale and Trading in Endangered Wild Species”, to fulfill the requirement for classification the current legislation to grade I.

The Public Authority of Agriculture and Fish Resources (PAAF) issued “Resolution No 134 /2008 regarding fisheries trading, to fulfill the requirement of CITES.

The Public Authority of Agriculture and Fish Resources (PAAF) issued “Resolution No 521 /2008 regarding prevent hunting of turtles, sea mammals, sharks and some rare fishes.

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Currently, the Forest protection and utilization of wildlife resources are regulated by legal documents such as:

- Forestry law (2008).
- Aquatic and Wild Animals law (2008). This law regulates international trade of species listed in CITES appendices.

- Prime Minister Degree No 164 (1993) on the establishment of National Protected Areas System (NPAs).

- Ministerial Regulation No 0360 (2003) on the management of NPAs and Aquatic & wild Animals conservation.

- Dissemination of Forestry Law and Wildlife Law conducted national wide

- Organized the national meeting to discuss and exchange ideas and experiences on curbing illegal logging and wildlife trade (participants from Police, Customs, Judiciary and others Law Enforcement staff attended)

- Organized an add-hoc committee to conduct the wildlife farms inspection

Malaysia

Malaysia has gazetted the International Trade In Endangered Species Act 2008 [Act 686] on 14th February 2008. Malaysia is currently in the process of drafting the regulations under this Act.

Philippines

Recent laws/policies were approved to strengthen the protection of Philippine wildlife species. These are as follows: a) Republic Act No. 9512, “Environmental Awareness and Education Act of 2008”, and b) DENR Administrative Order No. 2009-01, “Guidelines Establishing the Wild Fauna Marking and Identification System”.

Proposed policies in support to the implementation and enforcement of Republic Act 9147 (the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of the Philippines) are being finalized, as follows:

1) DENR Administrative Order (DAO) establishing the list of economically important wildlife species for collection and direct trade purposes;
2) DAO establishing the list of threatened wild fauna which may be collected and utilized for commercial breeding/ propagation purposes;
3) DAO establishing the list of look-alike species of threatened wildlife for protection and conservation purposes; and
4) Guidelines on the humane treatment, care and handling of wild fauna in captivity.

The “Manual of Operation for Wildlife Law Enforcement” which aims to provide our enforcement officers nationwide with a set of standards and protocols in law enforcement was finalized with the USAID support. These include standard actions and documentary requirements to be complied by enforcers during trade surveillance, specimen confiscation, case prosecution and specimen disposal;

Creation of the Task Force Kalikasan (TFK) per DENR Adm. Order 01, Series of 2008, which shall spearhead the enforcement of all environmental laws in the Philippines.
Seizure/confiscation of illegal shipments of 1,186 pieces of assorted flora and 664 head of various species of wild fauna throughout the country. An illegal shipment (in two crates) of 49 pieces of elephant tusks/ivory with gross wt. (including crates) of 245 kgs allegedly from Kenya was likewise confiscated by enforcement operatives.

Singapore

Singapore joined CITES on 30 November 1986 and implemented the Convention on 9 February 1987. The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) is the designated Management and Scientific Authority for the implementation and enforcement of CITES in Singapore.

Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 2006

AVA administers and enforces the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act [ESA], which was enacted in March 1989 to give effect to CITES in Singapore. The Schedules to the ESA list CITES Appendices I-III species. The ESA was reviewed and the new Act came into operation on 1 March 2006.

Under the Act, it is an offence to import and export any scheduled species without a CITES permit from AVA. The Act empowers AVA to investigate, take enforcement actions against offenders and seize illegal consignments of endangered species. The new Act now empowers AVA to investigate transshipment or transit cases, search, inspect, detain and seize any illegal CITES-protected species found in such transhipments.

In the new ESA, the maximum penalty for unauthorized import, export, re-export and introduction from the sea, of endangered species is $50,000 per scheduled species (not exceeding an aggregate of $500,000) and/or 2 years' imprisonment.

The following were gazetted to align the ESA Schedules with the revised CITES Appendices:


On 31 July 2008, we enacted the Endangered Species (Import and Export) (Composition of Offences) Rules 2008 to provide for composition of wildlife offences under the ESA.

Implementation of CITES regulations for European eel (Anguilla anguilla)

On 13 March 2009, AVA implemented the CITES regulations for the trade of European eel (Anguilla anguilla) following its listing on CITES Appendix II. CITES permits would be required to trade in live eel fish and the parts and products in frozen, chilled, canned or processed forms of the fish. Traders were informed to make a declaration to AVA if they had existing pre-Convention stocks of the eel.
Enforcement cases

AVA works closely with the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) and Police Coast Guard (PCG) and would exchange enforcement information with the two enforcement agencies. They provide assistance to AVA in detection of wildlife smuggling at the designated entry/exit points and coastal waters. The following are some significant enforcement cases investigated between July 2008 – May 2009:

1) In October 2008, a private collector was compounded $1,000 for the import of 18 pitcher plants from Malaysia without CITES permits. The plants were all forfeited.

2) In February 2009, a traditional Chinese medical shop was caught by AVA for the illegal display and sale of ‘bear bile’ capsules. The capsules were seized and tested by an AVA laboratory for its authenticity. They were eventually found to contain pig’s bile instead. Nonetheless, the shop was compounded $2,500 for illegally trading medicinal products, which were claimed to be from the bears.

3) In March 2009, a Chinese national student was compounded $2,500 for an attempt to import 40 vials of bear bile from China. The bear bile were analysed and found to be authentic. They were confiscated by AVA.

4) In March 2009, AVA conducted an islandwide blitz on several residents believed to be keeping exotic pets. Seven households were found to have reptiles such as ball pythons, tortoises (star tortoises, ploughshare tortoises), leopard geckos, tarantulas and scorpions). The offenders were compounded $100 to $2,000 for possession of illegally imported wildlife species. The animals were forfeited and rehomed at the Singapore Zoological Gardens.

5) In May 2009, an Asian arowana dealer was compounded $5,000 for the import of 100 heads of Asian arowanas from Indonesia in September 2008. Although the consignment was accompanied by an Indonesian CITES export permit and a Singapore CITES import permit, the fish were not implanted with microchips. The fish were forfeited by AVA.

Registration of Asian Arowana Captive-Breeding Operations

The following Asian arowana captive-breeding farms were registered with the CITES Secretariat for breeding the fish for commercial purposes:

1) 15 July 2009 – i) Hong Long Fishery Centre, ii) Formosus (S) Pte Ltd and iii) Imperial Arowana Breeding Farm Pte Ltd.

2) 20 January 2009 – i) Ho Li Tropical Fish Farm, ii) Hup Soon Aquarium Co, iii) Pang Long Pte Ltd and iv) Raffles Arowana Pte Ltd.

ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and related workshops/meetings

On 6 – 7 May 2009, Singapore participated in the 4th ASEAN-WEN meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting comprised of CITES, Customs and Police officers from the 10 respective ASEAN member countries, together with donor agencies and representatives from other partner organizations such as the ASEAN-WEN Support Program and the US Department of Justice. The meeting discussed and provided updates
on the progress of the working groups (Special Investigations, Capacity Building and Fund Raising/Public Communications) and the Sustainability and Operational Plan for ASEAN-WEN Programme Coordination Unit (PCU). Each ASEAN member country also delivered their respective country reports, highlighting the recent successes in curbing wildlife trade within and between countries.

Thailand

1) Registration of operations breeding Appendix-I animal specie for commercial: there are 3 crocodile farms and 1 fish farm (Mekong giant catfish: *Pangasodon gigas*) are in the process of operation breeding Appendix I animal species for commercial.

2) Annual report submission.

3) The report on field assessment of Cobra (*Naja spp.*) exploitation in Thailand was submitted to the CITES Secretariat.

4) Regarding implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 as followed:
   a. Control of internal ivory trade.
      As a result of the latest (14th) CITES CoP in the Netherlands in June 2007, the Thai Cabinet has deliberated on stringent measures to combat and control internal trade of domestic ivory;
      a.1) Elephant Act has been drafted by The National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department to protect and conserve elephants and to control all activities that relevant to live elephants, ivory, carcasses and products made by elephant carcasses.
      a.2) The Notification of the Ministry of Commerce regarding the control of domestic ivory stores has been issued.
      a.3) The Department of Livestock Development has specified conditions for ivory trade permission within the country.
      a.4) The National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department, incorporating with the Royal Thai Customs, are drafting a MoU regarding disposal of illegally confiscated ivory, wildlife and carcasses thereof.
      a.5) All Thai missions aboard have been instructed to inform foreign visitors that it is illegal to import/export ivory and its products to/from Thailand. Such campaign is being vehemently pursued nowadays. Furthermore, public awareness program also has been domestically launched in order to publicize to residents and foreigners.
      a.6) The relevant organizations work together to curb illegal ivory trade.
   b. MIKE (Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants)
      As a member of elephant range states, Thailand has implemented the MIKE project in two pilot sites: Salak Pra Wildlife Sanctuary and Kuiburi national Parks. Information collected from two sites were reported to the head quarter at the MIKE Central Office, National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department.

7) Enforcement officer in collaboration with local administrative along the neighboring cross border confiscate 12 cases of abuse import to Thailand.
5. Training/capacity Building and public awareness activities

Brunei Darussalam

Ceremony to Launch the Gaharu (Aquilaria spp) Planting in Tasek Merimbun Heritage Park. Gaharu is one of the local tree species protected under CITES.

Exhibition marking the World Customs Day 2008 with a theme of “Customs and Environment – Protecting Our Natural Heritage on 27 January – 5 February 2009. This exhibition was to promote understanding, educate and bring awareness to students and the general public towards the importance of protecting and conserving the natural heritage. It was focused on species listed under CITES. The exhibition was to promote interest amongst students and children to highlight the shared responsibility of all people to preserve and protect Brunei's environment and natural biodiversity.

As part of Brunei's Department of Agriculture Enforcement Division program, introductory lectures about CITES and its functions and processes were given to local stakeholders that were involved in the import and export of plants and animals.

Cambodia

On 08-10 August 2007: CITES Management Authority and TRAFFIC Southeast Asia conducted the training on controlling illegal wildlife trade and CITES Implementation in Phnom Penh, at the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries. There were 90 participants from Forestry Administration, Fisheries Administration, Customs and Polices attended the training.

China

The Identification Manual for Orchids in China was compiled and published by the CITES Management Authority of China in early 2009. It was distributed to custom officials for enforcement purpose.

Training Course on CITES Implementation was jointly organized by the CITES Management Authority of China and the Fishery, Agriculture and Nature Conservation of Hong Kong in October 2008. About 10 persons from the headquarters and branch offices participated the course.

Indonesia

Training on CITES

Regular (annual) Training on CITES Law Enforcement for field enforcement officers such as Customs, Quarantine and Provincial Conservation Agencies is conducted annually. The training has been undertaken regularly since 1995 to enhance the capacity and knowledge of the field officers on CITES in order to implement better control of trade in wild fauna and flora. The training materials include Introduction to Species Conservation, Introduction to CITES, Permit Systems and Procedures, Wildlife Crime and Law Enforcement Procedures, Customs Procedures, Quarantine Procedures.
In the year 2008, the trainings on CITES were conducted in North Sumatera and West Kalimantan Provinces. Some training on CITES and its implementation also has been carried out by some Regional Conservation Unit Office in Jakarta and Bali Provinces.

In the year 2009, CITES MA-Indonesia in cooperation with Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Affairs conducted training on CITES in West Sumatera, Batam Island, South Sumatera, South Sulawesi and Jakarta.

As the preparation to hand over the CITES issues related to marine, training on CITES has been done for field officers of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries.

**Training on CITES listed identification**

In year 2008, Regular annual training on the CITES listed identification were held back to back with the Regular Training on CITES.

**Iran**

The Iran MA had taken steps to improve public awareness by preparing of brochures.

**Japan**

A manual consisting of identification of slow loris (*Nycticeus* spp.), measures for protection of human working with loris, and relevant domestic legislation was issued by the Ministry of the Environment (MoE) and widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcement authorities. MoE also published a leaflet on slow loris. It provided information on biological facts, domestic regulation and other relevant matters related to slow loris. This leaflet is also widely distributed. MoE published a manual on identification of boas (Boidae) and pythons (Pythonidae) and widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcements authorities.

MoE participated in some orchid related association’s meetings as well as a meeting of veterinary medical association and delivered a lecture on LCES and CITES.

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) has been promoting various public awareness activities. METI is not only preparing basic information to aware CITES-related items especially targeting tourists, but also drawing up specimen-specific information especially to focus European eels (*Anguilla anguilla*) and Candelilla (*Euphorbia spp.*) etc.

**Kuwait**


The National Standing Committee of Organizing Trade in Endangered Species is implementing a national capacity building plan to for the period 2008 – 2010.
Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Two MA staff participated in the training course on the Plant identification system (Orchids) organized by the NUoL in collaboration with EU (Participants included CITES implementation agencies: Polices, Customs and forest staff who responsible for checking at the International check points), in March 2008.

Department of Forestry partnered with IUCN Lao PDR to implement project: “Piloting CITES implementation in Lao PDR”:

- Organized executive study tour to Malaysia, March 2008 (CITES MA, SA, Customs and Police).
- Scientific Authority workshop, May, 2008

Malaysia

Malaysia hosted the ASEAN-WEN 2nd Workshop on Taskforce and Working Group Development on the 28th until 30th January 2008. The objectives of the Workshop were to facilitate the sharing of information among ASEAN-WEN members about their progress and challenges in developing National Committees or Task Force.

Malaysia Timber Industry Board (MTIB) has organized Identification on Agarwood Products Course to their officers on the 15th until 16th April 2008. This course includes briefings and visits to agarwood process factory and farm. MTIB together with America Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) has also co-host an Identification of American Timber Course on the 4th December 2008. The focus of this Workshop to identify CITES-listed timber species from USA.

Department of Agriculture Malaysia (DOA) and Department of Wildlife and National Parks Malaysia (DWNP) have organized several courses on Introduction of CITES, International Trade In Endangered Species Act 2008 (Act 686) and identification of most traded species in Malaysia throughout 2008 until mid 2009. DOA has also printed and distributed 10,000 copies of pamphlet on Regulate of CITES Terrestrial Plant in Peninsular Malaysia to all stakeholders including exporter, importer, agent, industry, orchids association, government agencies and individual for the awareness and publicity programs on CITES.

On 22 December 2008, the Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOF) has organized a special discussion and talk on status of illegal trade of fisheries species under CITES list with special invitation from TRAFFIC Southeast Asia. The audience are from all relevant DoFM divisions responsible for the fisheries resource development, management, conservation and rehabilitation, fisheries bio-safety and bio-security, international trade and promotion, resources control, surveillance and monitoring, and also human resources development and capacity building.

DOF has also organized several series of mini workshops and brainstorming sessions discussing on specific issues involving targeted groups. The first series of mini workshop was conducted on the 24 December 2008 targeting the Department’s legislation group. On the 14 January 2009, the mini workshop was held specifically for the Leech Expert group looking at the policy matters, legislation and trade issues. On the 17 February 2009, the
third mini workshop was held for the Department’s policy and decision makers. During this mini workshop, special briefings on the International Trade of Endangered Species Act 2008 and discussions on plan of actions and the proper set up for the special task forces dealing with specific issues were held.

Following that Workshop, the Rescue Centre Planning and Management, and Scientific Authority Task Force Group have held a special discussion groups where three separate discussions were conducted on the 1 Mac 2009, 10 April 2009 and 7 May 2009. The most recent event was the successfully organized Leech Technical Talk on 14 May 2009. Based from all the information gathered from technical discussions, the Department of Fisheries is in the process of formulating an identification kit to differentiate between local leeches and CITES listed leeches.

Philippines

The Philippines participated in the CITES Secretariat’s Capacity Building Project through the organization of Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop in the Philippines held at the University of the Philippines, Quezon City on 24-26 June 2008. The said activity was participated in by the Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEO) from the 16 regions of the country evaluated and pre-selected by the USAID. The said activity was sponsored jointly by the USAID, ASEAN-WEN and TRAFFIC South East Asia.

Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop, June 24-26, 2008 with support from the USAID, TRAFFIC and ASEAN-WEN Support Program.

Singapore

Singapore/AVA participated in the following trainings and capacity-building programmes:

1) 29 - 30 July 2008: AVA and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA), participated in a Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop conducted by TRAFFIC at the Home Team Academy. The workshop covered basics of CITES and the roles enforcement agencies could play in the curbing of illegal wildlife trade through ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network.

2) 8 – 14 & 22 – 26 September 2008: AVA undertook a study trip to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to learn how the US implements and enforces CITES. The visit included meetings and discussions of various CITES issues with USFWS and US Customs, attachments to ports as well as a visit to the USFWS Forensics Laboratory to understand their techniques used in wildlife forensics analyses.

3) 18 – 19 September 2008: AVA organized an ‘Intelligence training’ for AVA officers. The programme was conducted by the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) of Singapore and focused on role of intelligence, proactive vs reactive intelligence, intelligence cycle, essential elements of information and interview techniques.

4) 13 - 15 October 2008: Singapore participated in the 20th Interpol Wildlife Working Group meeting in Lyon, France. The meeting consisted of presentations from non-government organizations and working group meetings whereby members discussed on wildlife matters such as strategies in the prosecution of wildlife crimes, smuggling techniques guide for wildlife enforcement officers, Eco-message to file wildlife crime data with Interpol General Secretariat, and cutting-edge forensics tool to aid with investigations on wildlife crimes. Breakout groups were also formed to tackle pertinent issues such as the illegal trade in ivory and reptiles.
5) 20 - 21 January 2009: AVA arranged for a training course by the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) of Singapore. The course focused on investigation techniques such as interviews and recording statements. It also emphasised the roles and responsibilities of the investigation officer, as well as crime scene analysis.

6) 24 – 26 February 2009: Singapore participated in the CITES e-Commerce Workshop in Vancouver, Canada. The workshop discussed enforcement problems related to Internet wildlife trade, the scale and nature of wildlife trade cyber-crimes and the effectiveness of measures that Parties had taken to regulate the Internet wildlife trade, including the use of codes of conduct, cooperation with Internet Service Providers and Internet auction sites eg, eBay. The workshop also made recommendations on measures to regulate legal wildlife trade and ways to curb the illegal wildlife trade through the Internet, which would be tabled for consideration by the 58th Standing Committee Meeting.

Thailand

1) Training for Fish Trade Inspection officers to identify endanger species.

2) Protected Species Handbook and distributed to stakeholder.

3) May, June and July 2008, CITES MA for plant organized the training course on implementation and identification of plant under CITES listed for Plant Quarantine Officer in 34 Checkpoint for 5 times.


5) July 1-2, 2008, Bangkok, Thailand: Slow Loris Identification Training conducted by Tricia Parish, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom.

6) August 15, 2008, annual seminar on CITES implementation for flora of Thailand, this regular seminar has been undertaken since 1997 to enhance the implementation and coordination among MA, SA, Customs, enforcement officers and the people who dealing with export and import of plant.

7) January 7-9, 2009, at International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Bangkok, Thailand: Special Investigation Group (SIG) Workshop on Pangolins and Big Cats launched by ASEAN-WEN.

8) February, March and April 2009, CITES MA for plant organized the meeting to educated and discussed the problem about the nursery registration for plant under CITES listed, for 120 nursery men for 3 times and have a plan for 2 times in next month.

9) March 10-20, 2009, at Suvarnabhumi Airport, Thailand: The Wildlife Trade Regulation Course launched by ASEAN-WEN.

10) March 26 -27, 2009, CITES MA for plant organized the workshop among the authorized officer who was designated for issue CITES permit, to discuss about the implementation and enforcement.
11) April 21-24, 2009, CITES MA for plant organized the training course on the basic of identification and differentiation of wild and propagated orchid for enforcement officers.

12) Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) has partnered with the Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited (AOT) to launch a joint campaign to stop wildlife trafficking at Suvarnabhumi Airport, Thailand.

6. Other CITES-related activities

China

The CITES Management Authority, working together with Scientific Authority, carried out a non-detrimental finding investigation on the reptile reproduction enterprises in Zhejiang province. Based on the report, the administration formalities had been modified accordingly.

The Annual Meeting for CITES Coordination and Implementation of Tri-parties (Mainland, Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR China) was held in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province from Oct. 21 to 24, 2009. The representatives shared updated information and experience in CITES implementation.

The annual meeting between the CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority was held in January 2009.

Indonesia

CITES-ITTO Indonesia Project has 2 activities to support implementation of CITES:

1) Improving inventory Design to Estimate Growing stock of Ramin (*Gonystylus bancanus*) in Indonesia
   - 21-22 January 2009, National workshop on the Ramin has been held in Bogor, Indonesia
   - 24 April 2009
     Under this activity, Forestry Research and Development Agency as a Project coordinator has conducted technical workshop on Review Current Status of Non *Gonystylus bancanus* and survey location identification.


Japan

For the purpose of supporting CITES activities, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided voluntary contribution amount of 88,190 USD to MIKE project in March 2009.
Kuwait

The CITES Management Authority of Kuwait is in process to electronically connect with Kuwait Customs system which facilitate and improve CITES enforcement in Kuwait.

Kuwait submitted a National Report for Asia representative the 24th Animal Committee Meeting in April 2009.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Two Lao police officials attended the special investigation group workshop on Pangolins and Big Cats held in Bangkok, Thailand from 7-9 January 2009.

20 Protected areas rangers attended an intensive training course on protected area enforcement and wildlife trade patrolling in Khao Yai NP, Thailand.

Two staff attended the International Workshop on “A forgotten crisis: arresting wildlife depletion in Asia through strengthened regional cooperation and effective partnerships”, April 10-12, 2009, at Chonburi Province, Thailand.

Philippines

The proposed national policy adapting the list of Philippine wildlife species included in the CITES Appendices for law enforcement purposes has been drafted and being reviewed.

Aside from the CITES Scientific Authorities, this Bureau taps the assistance of various scientists/ experts in the review of applications covering wildlife use, including trade as well as in policy formulation and resolving wildlife-related issues. The involvement of local scientists/experts is formalized through their official membership in the National Wildlife Management Committee created by the DENR under Special Order No. 2006-967 dated November 16, 2006.

Cooperation with stakeholders and NGOs

The Philippines through this Office, made collaborative partnership with both local and international institutions/NGOs (e.g. Field Museum of Natural History, U.S.A, Conservation International Philippines, HARIBON Foundation, Katala Foundation, etc.) for research/ studies on Philippine wildlife species; and Certain NGOs provide advice and recommendations to the CITES MA/SA regarding applications for the collection or use of wildlife for trade, bioprospecting, conservation breeding or propagation of threatened species, scientific researches, special uses or other purposes.
Singapore

AVA hosted the following meetings with CITES counterparts:

1) 16 December 2008: Meeting with the Malaysian Department of Agriculture (DoA) from various States of Malaysia. The meeting learned how CITES is implemented in both countries, including the electronic processing of CITES permits.

2) 19 March 2009: Meeting with the Ministry of Economic, Trade and Industry (METI). The meeting discussed about permit exemptions for exchange of herbarium and museum specimens by CITES-registered scientific institutions. The Japanese visitors also visited the Herbarium, Singapore Botanic Gardens (which is a CITES-registered scientific institution).

CITES Annual Report

On 28 October 2008, Singapore submitted the electronic version of the 2007 CITES annual report to the CITES Secretariat. The report recorded how Singapore implemented and enforced the Convention and also the details of Singapore's CITES wildlife trade for 2007.

Public Outreach Programmes

AVA produced an in-house pamphlet on “Traveller's Limit for Ornamental Fish”, for distribution to trade visitors and members of the public at the AQUARAMA – The 11th International Ornamental Fish and Accessories Exhibition (28 – 31 May 2009). The pamphlet covers AVA’s and CITES requirements for the import and export of ornamental fish (CITES and non-CITES species) by travellers.

Thailand

1) National
   a) February 26-29, 2008, at Prajoubkirikun Province, Thailand: Meeting with Local Officer and Fish Trade Inspection Officers to “Identification of Aquatic Animal follows Wild Animals Reservation and Protection Act BE.2535”.
   c) February 2009, Thailand WEN has been set up the project to stop wildlife trade along cross border.
   e) February – May 2009, CITES MAs have been attended the monthly meeting of PCU of ASEAN WEN meeting
   f) June/July 2009: Training workshop on ivory stocking report by traders and training workshop for enforcement officers to determine ivory stocking report.

2) International
   Thai representatives attended the following meetings:
   a) October 13-17, 2008, at Lyon, France: The 6th International Conference on Environmental Crime conducted by INTERPOL.
b) April 10-12, 2009, at Chonburi Province, Thailand: International Workshop “A forgotten crisis: arresting wildlife depletion in Asia through strengthened regional cooperation and effective partnerships”.