

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

Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade control and marking

Standard Nomenclature

STANDARD NOMENCLATURE FOR *HIPPOCAMPUS* SPECIES

1. This document has been submitted by Switzerland\*.
2. During the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee the Nomenclature Working Group recommended to adopt the "Catalogue of Fishes" extract (<http://www.cites.org/common/com/AC/26/E26-20-A4.pdf>) as nomenclature standard reference for all fish species, with the exception of the genus *Hippocampus*. The primary reason for excluding *Hippocampus* was due to the numerous differences identified between the species names currently accepted under CITES which have been derived from several publications and the Catalogue of Fishes. The members of the Working Group agreed to recommend to retain the existing nomenclature references for *Hippocampus* species [listed in the Annex of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15)], **with the addition of the five new *Hippocampus* species described** and referred to on page 14 of Annex1 of AC26 Doc 20 (<http://www.cites.org/common/com/AC/26/E26-20-A1.pdf>)

Unfortunately, due to an oversight, this latter recommendation of accepting the five new *Hippocampus* species was missed from the WG's report to the Animals Committee and therefore could not be considered by the AC members.

The species concerned are:

- *Hippocampus paradoxus* Foster & Gomon, 2010
- *Hippocampus pontohi* Lourie & Kuitert, 2008
- *Hippocampus satomiae* Lourie & Kuitert, 2008
- *Hippocampus severnsi* Lourie & Kuitert, 2008
- *Hippocampus tyro* Randall & Lourie, 2009

The corresponding references are:

FOSTER, R. & GOMON, M. F. (2010): A new seahorse (Teleostei: Syngnathidae: *Hippocampus*) from south-western Australia. – *Zootaxa*, **2613**: 61-68. [for *Hippocampus paradoxus*]

LOURIE, S. A. & KUITERT, R. H. (2008): Three new pygmy seahorse species from Indonesia (Teleostei: Syngnathidae: *Hippocampus*). – *Zootaxa*, **1963**: 54-68. [for *Hippocampus pontohi*, *Hippocampus satomiae*, *Hippocampus severnsi*]

RANDALL, J. & LOURIE, S. A. (2009): *Hippocampus tyro*, a new seahorse (Gasterosteiformes: Syngnathidae) from the Seychelles. – *Smithiana Bulletin*, **10**: 19-21. [for *Hippocampus tyro*]

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\* 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.

It is therefore proposed to accept the five new *Hippocampus* species referred to above as valid under CITES and request that nomenclature references also mentioned above be adopted and added to the fish section under “Elasmobranchii and Actinopterygii” in the “Annex - List of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties” in Resolution. Conf. 12.11 (Rev CoP15).

#### COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat supports the proposal from Switzerland to amend the Annex ('List of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties') to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15) on *Standard nomenclature* by including three additional references for the genus *Hippocampus*, referring to five new *Hippocampus* species. These should be indicated under the section dealing with Fauna, *Elasmobranchii*, *Actinopterygii* and *Sarcopterygii*.
- B. The Secretariat notes that the proposal from Switzerland is compatible with and complements the recommendations made by the Animals Committee in document CoP16 Doc. 43.1 Annex 2, regarding the adoption of a new, updated CITES nomenclatural standard reference for fish species (except the genus *Hippocampus*).