

CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES  
AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES

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Quincuagésimo séptima reunión del Comité Permanente  
Ginebra (Suiza), 14-18 de julio de 2008

Informes

Informes de los representantes regionales

EUROPA

El informe adjunto correspondiente a Europa, ha sido presentado por Islandia. Habida cuenta de que se remitió a la Secretaría después de la fecha límite de presentación de documentos, se distribuye únicamente en el idioma original en que fue presentado.

Report of the Regional Representatives for Europe  
to the 57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC57)

Geneva (Switzerland), 14-18 July 2008

On behalf of the European representatives in the Standing Committee, Iceland requested inputs from all 42 European Member States of the Convention, as well as the European Commission. Less than a week before the start of the meeting, national report inputs had been received from 22 European Parties plus the European Commission.

With inputs from 20 European Member States to the Convention still missing, the material available at present is in our view insufficient to fully represent the activities of the European region in a compiled regional report. At this stage we can therefore only forward (in English) the national inputs already received as an enclosed annex.

The remaining Parties will be urged to provide their inputs at their earliest convenience for a full compilation to be made.

Reykjavik, 9 July 2008

Bjarni Sigtryggsson.

Austria

Your Refence/Your File Number Our File Number Official-in-charge/Ext.

Vienna,

Your letter dtd.

NATURE AND SPECIES PROTECTION, NATIONAL PARKS

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Dear Mr. Sigtryggsson,

attached please find Austria's contribution to the EU regional report for the 57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, July 2008.

AUSTRIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE EUROPEAN CITES REGIONAL REPORT

**CITES Animals and Plants Committees, other International Meetings**

- Austria participated at both the 16th (Lima, Peru) and 17th (Geneva) meeting of the Plants Committee and, through its representative Dr. Michael Kiehn, contributed to various working groups (e.g. development of implementable proposals to deal with hy-

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Abensperg-Traun/1404

**Austria's contribution to Regional Report for the 57th CITES Standing Committee Meeting, Geneva, July 2008**

- 2 -

brids and cultivars; intersessional work on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; intersessional work on Bulbophyllum check-list; selection of species for trade reviews following COP14).

- At AC22, Austria was represented by the late Peter Linhart, chair of the CITES-TWG.

At AC23, Austria's Andreas Kaufmann succeeded Peter Linhart as Chair of the intersessional CITES-TWG and represents Austria at IATA and AATA conferences. Austria, through Andreas Kaufmann, will also chair input to the plant transport agenda.

- Austria participated at the Expert Workshop for EU CITES Authorities on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade (Council Regulation 338/97) on the German island of Vilm in November 2006 and chaired the working group on "Internal trade and implementation of Articles 8 and 9 of the Council Regulation and related provisions of the Commission Regulation".

**Broader International Cooperation and Assistance**

Austria made financial contributions of

- € 15.000 towards the MIKE project ("Monitoring of the Illegal Killing of Elephants"),

- € 10.000 towards the sponsored delegates project (COP14),

- € 5.000 towards IUCN for the evaluation of COP14 listing proposals, and

- € 4.000 towards Bulbophyllum CITES checklist (see „CITES-relevant research“ below).

Dr. Michael Kiehn, in his capacity as Austrian PC representative, has continued his invited lectureship at the International University of Andalucia (Spain) for the "Masters Course on Management, Access and Conservation of Species in Trade".

**National Legislation**

Both the Federal Species Trade Act (2006) as well as the Federal Species Marking Ordinance (2006) are currently in the process of being substantially revised. The revisions have their origin

in (1) a national review of CITES implementation by the late Peter Linhart which synthesized ministerial responsibilities, ministerial interfaces and the nature and quality of crossministerial collaboration, and (2) a national CITES conference in 2007 (Austria's 25th anniversary since its ratification of CITES). The latter included all national stake holders and addressed the *status quo* of national implementation of the CITES Convention and identified priority areas for improvement. The latter also produced very specific guidelines towards the development of a National Action Plan (see below).

#### **Law enforcement activities**

- Both the report on national implementation as well as the outcome of the anniversary conference provided the basis for a National Action Plan in accordance with the UK Workshop on CITES implementation in the EU in October of 2005 and the Commission Recommendation of the 13th of June 2007 (2007/425/EC). The National Action Plan is currently under review.
- In 2006, Austrian Customs officers have attended a workshop on CITES sniffer dogs in Bad Schandau, Germany, and participated at the 2nd International CITES Conference "Wildlife Sniffer Dogs" organized by the World Customs Organization in Liberec, Czech Republic, in 2007. Customs at Vienna International Airport now have a trained "wildlife sniffer dog" at their disposal.
- Customs, through its "Competence Centre Internet and Cyber Crime", has initiated a project to profile Austrian trade in the Internet.
- A process has been initiated to establish a national information platform and support service to assist Scientific Authorities in the Provinces.
- Since 2006, there have been significant seizures of land tortoises and a marked increase in the illegal import of medicinal plants (*Prunus africana*, *Saussurea costus*, *Hoodia* spp.), bought from mostly overseas (primarily US) internet providers. In general, however, confiscations have declined since EU enlargement.

#### **Public awareness and information**

- In collaboration with WWF Austria, CITES awareness activities over the 2006 to 2008 period addressed CoP14 issues and outcomes. More specific thematic targets to sensitize the public over the 2006 to 2008 period included keepers and traders, trade in caviar, corals and medicinal plants, the "dos" and "don'ts" at trade fairs and travellers. Despite considerable information efforts aimed at the travelling sector on the part of the Ministry of the Environment in collaboration with WWF, Austrian tourists remain inadequately informed about CITES issues. 2007 was Austria's 25th anniversary since its ratification of the Treaty in 1982 and associated activities included a national conference on CITES implementation (see above) as well as a multitude of information centres at a variety of national public venues.
- The role of sustainable use as a potential conservation instrument has been addressed ([www.cites.at](http://www.cites.at)) and this will be addressed further at a national conference in October 2008 to discuss the role of species and animal protection with regard to CITES. This represents an attempt to establish a constructive dialogue between the national CITES Authorities and relevant NGOs and media representatives where potentially contentious issues, such as animal transport, sustainable use and "livelihoods" in developing countries, are to be priority topics for discussion.
- The statistical analyses of Austrian CITES trade patterns 1997 – 2007 has been further developed and is accessible at <http://www.umweltnet.at/article/articleview/29355/1/8021> (see also [www.cites.at](http://www.cites.at)).

#### **CITES-relevant research and Technical Information**

- The *Bulbophyllum* checklist, prepared by staff of the Botanical Garden of the University of Vienna (PI Dr. Michael Kiehn), in collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew (UK), has been presented at CoP14 in Den Haag in June 2008, and was adopted as CITES nomenclatural reference. An on-line version of the checklist is available on the CITES web page (<http://www.kewbooks.com/asps/search.asp>) and a printed version will be published in 2008. Austria will continue to update this checklist and has also started work on nomenclatural issues on other plants of CITES interest in accordance with the working programme of the CITES Plants Committee.
- The new Master Degree programme for Nature Conservation at the University of Vienna now includes an obligatory course on international nature/species conservation agreements and conventions, including CITES.
- The existing national electronic permitting system has been substantially advanced since the 2006 Regional report. With best regards  
for the Minister:  
Dr. Max Abensperg-Traun

*electronically processed*

1. Introduction
  2. New Parties
  3. Gaborone Amendment to the Convention
  4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings
  5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance
  6. National Legislation
  7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties
  8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement
  9. Public Awareness and Information
10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications

#### **4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings**

The Belgian CITES Management Authority has participated to all scheduled meetings of the Standing Committee (SC 54, 55 and 56), EU SRG, EU Committees and EU Enforcement Group meetings and to CoP 14. The CITES MA took also part in the European Regional CITES Plants Meeting (Perugia, Italy, Oct. 2006), in the "Workshop on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade", (Vilm, Germany, Nov. 2006) and in the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Plants Committee meeting (Geneva, April 2008). A member of the Belgian CITES Scientific Authority also participated to the 23th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee (Geneva, April 2008).

#### **5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance**

The CITES Belgian Management Authority has in 2007 and 2008 assisted the US Fish and Wildlife Service investigating the illegal exports to Belgium of a US caviar firm.

#### **6. National Legislation**

The CITES MA of **Belgium** has submitted to the Belgian Parliament a review of the national CITES law related to minimum penalties for small offences. A renewed version of the CITES law was earlier approved indicating fines being between 1 000 and 50 000 euros and penalties between six months and five years of imprisonment (Act 27/12/2004).

Since enforcement on wildlife trade has become an important issue in relation to the expansion of the EU, the need for more efficient national controls and the re-enforcement of the cooperation of the competent national authorities, Belgium established a national Enforcement Working Group on CITES. This group submitted a proposal for Ministerial decree laying down the composition of this group. This proposal has been approved recently.

#### **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

In March and December 2007, the CITES MA organized in total 3 CITES training workshops for enforcement officers (customs office) with a focus on import of wood. Furthermore, the CITES MA organised 3 days in November 2007 a specific workshop on the new legislation with regards to caviar, for different enforcement officers. This workshop was repeated in February 2008.

#### **8. Combating Illegal Activities**

**Belgium** provides a table in annex with a survey of seized and confiscated specimens during the reporting period.

<< CITES Saisies 2006-2007.doc >>

## **9. Public Awareness and Information**

In June 2008 **Belgium** has started a large scale information campaign to warn and inform tourists about souvenirs made from CITES-species, since there is a lot of unawareness about this subject. A informative brochure has been made which will be distributed at the airport, by travel agencies, customs, municipality (when people apply for their passports), and by the Tropical Institute that handles most of the vaccinations. The information will also be distributed via different websites (airport, foreign affairs, customs, ...) and other media such as travel magazines, in-flight magazines, ...

In 2007 there have also been organised three information days for teachers of the second grade of technical schools, together with WWF on the CITES regulations and FSC-labelling.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the Museum of Central Africa, an exhibition "Knock on Wood" is currently open for the public, which informs the public about all different aspects of tropical wood.

## **10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

TRAFFIC Europe has published in 2007, on behalf of the Belgian CITES Management Authority, a report on the illegal trade and market for CITES species in Belgium.



**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATERS**  
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**Report of Bulgaria  
For the period of 2006 – June 2008  
Preparation of Regional Report for Europe  
for the  
57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC),  
Geneva (Switzerland), 14 - 18 July 2008**

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|----|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. |                                      | Introduction |
| 2. | New                                  | Parties      |
| 3. | Gaborone Amendment to the Convention |              |

Not ratified by Bulgaria.

4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

**Bulgaria has participated in all the meetings of the Standing Committee (SC 54, 55 and 56), EU CITES Management Committees and Enforcement Meetings and the CoP 14.**

**Since COP 14 Bulgaria become a member of the Standing Committee.**

5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

6. National Legislation

Since 1st January 2007 Bulgaria became a Member States of European Union and started to implement Council Regulation (EC) 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein. The Convention has been implemented also through the Biodiversity Act (SG, No 77/ 2002, last amended SG, No 94/2007). The amended Act introduces strict domestic measures for control over the CITES listed species and number of documents that have to be presented upon request by the owners and pet-shops to the regional authorities for proving the legal origin of the specimens. In case that such documents could not be presented the relevant authorities are obliged by the law to seize the specimens. When the owner/pet-shop is not present sufficient documentation within 10 day from the time of inspection the relevant authorities issued a penal decree. If there is no objection from the offenders the specimens could be considered as confiscated. The penal decree could be appealed in the court.

**In the beginning of the year 2008 the Animal Protection Act (SG No 13/8.02.2008) was promulgated. The act prohibited the keeping of monkeys and big cats outside the Zoos and Rescue Centres.**

7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties

**In 2007 the CITES MA have organised a three-day workshop for Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Waters. The purpose of the seminar was to introduce to the regional authorities the requirements of**

the EU CITES Regulations and the new amendments of the Biodiversity Act in respect to the CITES implementation.

One or two times per year the Bulgarian Customs Agency organises 2-days seminars about the implementation of CITES, specialized for the Customs officers. The Agency has invited experts from the CITES MA as lecturers. The last two seminars organised in 2006 and 2007 had aimed to raise knowledge among the customs authorities on the procedures have set by EU Regulations 338/97 and 865/2006.

## 8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement

Confiscations made in the period 2007 - 2008

In 2007

App.	Species	Description	Quantity	Country of origin or re-exports	Source	Remarks
<b>Reptilia</b>						
II	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Taxidermy	2 no.	ID	UNKN	Custom office Varna West
<b>Anthozoa</b>						
II	<i>Anthipates sp.</i>	Peaces/Jewels		US	W	Custom office Shumen, In Mail Box

In 2008

App.	Species	Description	Quantity	Country of origin or re-exports	Source	Remarks
<b>Mammalia</b>						
II	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	LIV	1 no.	UNKN	UNKN	Confiscated from pet shop
<b>Aves</b>						
II	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	LIV	1 no.	UNKN	UNKN	Confiscated from pet shop
II	<i>Psittacus erhitacus</i>	LIV	2 no.	UNKN	UNKN	Confiscated from pet shop,

## 9. Public Awareness and Information

## 10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications

**Input of the Czech Republic into the European Regional Report for the 57th Meeting of the CITES  
Standing Committee (SC57, Geneva, 14 – 18 July 2008)**

Prepared by:

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The report covers a selection of the most important activities by the Czech Republic between SC54 (October 2006) and SC57 (July 2008).

#### **4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings**

The Czech Republic participated in the following international meetings:

- 54<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup> and 56<sup>th</sup> Meetings of the CITES Standing Committee (Geneva, CH, October 2006, and The Hague, June 2007, respectively);
- 6<sup>th</sup> European Regional CITES Plants Meeting, Perugia, IT, October 2006;
- CoP 14. (The Hague, NL, June 2007);
- 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Interpol Working Group on Wildlife (Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge, TZ, September 2007);
- The Workshop “Identification of CITES timber species” hosted by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the German Federal Research Center for Forestry and Forest Products (Hamburg, DE, November 2007);
- 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Plants Committee and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, CH, April 2008).

On the EU level, the Czech Republic took part in the meetings of the EU CITES Committee, the EU Scientific Review Group, the EU Enforcement Group, and the EU TWIX Advisory Group. In addition to that, the Czech Republic participated in:

- The Expert Workshop for the EU-CITES Authorities – „EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade. Experiences, Challenges and Future Perspectives“, Island of Vilm, DE, November 2006;
- the 3rd Polish Wildlife Trade Enforcement Coordination Workshop, Goniadz, PL, April 2007, and
- the RSPCA Workshop „Role of the State Veterinary Service in Implementing the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations“, Bratislava, SK, October 2007.

#### **5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance**

- Altogether 18 Czech CITES experts participated in two one-week-long study trips to the Netherlands organized and sponsored by the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality. The trips took part in December 2006 and January 2007, respectively. The aim was the exchange of experience in the CITES implementation between the Dutch and Czech experts after the Czech Republic's accession to the EU.

- The Czech Environmental Inspectorate and The Department of Conservation of New Zealand signed in 2007 The Arrangement on Co-operation in Protection of Native Species and in the Field of Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The Arrangement reflects the long-time close co-operation between the two CITES-enforcement bodies in the Czech Republic and New Zealand.

## **6. National Legislation**

- The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) prepared a new proposal to amend the Act No. 100/2004 Coll. On Trade In Endangered Species (CITES). The proposal was approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in April 2008, and has been passed to the Parliament for adoption. The proposed entry into force is January 1, 2009. According to the proposal, the MoE would issue new CITES documents according to the Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006, such as the personal ownership certificates, travelling exhibition certificates, sample collection certificates, and pre-issued permits for biological samples.

## **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

- The Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic (MoE) has advised to the CITES Secretariat to add four scientific institutions from the Czech Republic (CZ 003 to CZ 006) to the Secretariat's Register for the purpose of exemption on the exchange of scientific specimens (<http://www.cites.org/common/reg/si/czech.html>).

- The MoE has advised to the CITES Secretariat to add one captive-breeding operation for falconry birds from the Czech Republic (A-CZ-501) to the Secretariat's Register for the purpose of exemption under the Article VII.4 of the Convention (<http://www.cites.org/common/reg/cb/czech.html>).

- The MoE has certified a new rescue centre for confiscated animals in the ZOO Ohrada at Hluboka n. Vlt. There are 5 rescue centres for animals and 3 for plants in the Czech Republic at present, which are financially sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment.

- The Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (ANCLP, the CITES SA) in collaboration with the Prague ZOO organized one-day workshop for the State Authorities on determination of CITES species and specimens in October 2007.

- The ANCLP prepared a Czech translation of the publication „Dr Martin D.A. Le Tissier & Dr Terence P. Scoffin: Distinguishing fossilised and non-fossilised corals in international trade, University of Newcastle, 2001“, which has been distributed to the CITES Authorities.

- The two national CITES enforcement bodies - The Czech Environmental Inspectorate (CEI) and The General Directorate of Customs (GDC) - signed in 2007 an "Agreement on Co-action" which *inter alia* has established the "Standing Working Group" of senior experts from both bodies for mutual investigation of serious infringements against CITES.

- The CEI and the Prague ZOO organized one-day workshop for the State Authorities on the manipulation with live animals in May 2007.

- The CEI has established closer contacts with the Union of Judges and State Prosecutors (UJSP) which resulted in a mutual meeting on CITES enforcement and an information article in a bulletin of the UJSP in 2007.

- The CEI and The GDC organized in February 2008 "The First CITES Enforcement Workshop in the Czech Republic". The workshop took place in the Customs Training Centre in Jiloviste near Prague and was intended for inspection and prosecution authorities (customs, police, CEI inspectors, prosecutors and judges) who deal with cases involving wildlife. Purpose of the workshop was to provide participants with principles of the CITES Convention, inspection work possibilities, new trends and methods of illegal trade with endangered species, successfully prosecuted cases, mutual co-operation possibilities, international experience etc. The workshop was very successful; around 80 wildlife inspectors, customs and police investigators, prosecutors and judges participated. There were also foreign lecturers from the United Kingdom (Chris Kerr - National Wildlife Crime Unit), TRAFFIC Europe (Anastasiya Timoshyna) and the Slovak Republic (Mario Kern, Ivor Tomana - Police Headquaters). A similar workshop is planned for 2009.

- The Czech Customs started to use service dogs specially trained for detection of veterinary goods and CITES specimens. The dogs are trained in the Centre for Service Dogs of the Customs in Hermanice.

## **8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement**

Information for the public about cases of illegalities against CITES which have been detected in the Czech Republic or in which the Czechs have been involved is published by The Czech Environmental Inspectorate on [www.cizp.cz](http://www.cizp.cz) – CITES – CITES news.

## **9. Public Awareness and Information**

- Information on CITES for the Czech public is accessible on internet pages of The Ministry of the Environment (MoE) ([www.env.cz/cites](http://www.env.cz/cites)), The Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (ANCLP) ([www.nature.cz](http://www.nature.cz)) and The Czech Environmental Inspectorate ([www.cizp.cz](http://www.cizp.cz)).

- The following information material for the public has been published by the State Authorities:

- Leaflet "Czech Republic and the International Conventions in Nature Protection", MoE, 2007.
- Czech translation of the leaflet by TRAFFIC „Universal Caviar Labelling Requirements”, MoE & TRAFFIC, 2007.
- Leaflet "CITES & European Union. Information on trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora after the Czech Republic's accession to the EU", ANCLP, 2006, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2007.
- Two articles about CITES CoP14 (Hague 2007) in journals "Ochrana prirody, 5/2007" and "Zpravodaj MZP, 9/2007".

- The following major public awareness projects about CITES with participation of the State Authorities took place in the Czech Republic:

- One-day workshop "Illegalities with protected animals and plants, control and sanctions" was organized by the Czech Association for the Environment Care (CAEC) in Prague in December 2006.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> conference "Questions about CITES" was organized by the Agricultural Faculty of the Southern-Bohemian University in Ceske Budejovice for two-days in May 2007.
- One-day workshop "International Conventions in Nature Protection" was organized by the CAEC in Prague in June 2008.

## **10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

- The Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (ANCLP, the CITES SA) published a methodology manual for the State Authorities "How to mark CITES specimens?" in 2006.

### CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

Estonia has participated in meetings of SRG (except two), COM and Enforcement Meetings and in CoP 14. The CITES MA took also part in the "Workshop on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade", in Vilm, Germany, November 2006.

Representative of our SA participated at EU European Eel Working group meetings (Feb 2008 and May 2008).

### Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

A study tour to the Netherlands for key staff from MA and Customs was undertaken from 15-20 October 2006 in order to get a common background and establish stronger cooperation between the authorities. Meetings with the Dutch MA's and the scientific advisors, customs, museums, zoos were arranged.

### National Legislation

#### 1. Regulation adopted:

"Regulation of the Minister of Environment 12.04.2007 No 29 „Procedure for registration of the keeping of mammals, birds and reptiles listed in Annex A to Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, and prohibition of the keeping of specimens of the Hominoidea family" (adopted 12.04.2007 )"

Brief description of contents: The regulation order the registration and marking of all Annex A mammals, birds and reptiles. All "new" specimens have to register and marked, the "old" ones only if they are sold or exported. It is the responsibility of the seller/exporter to provide documents that prove the legal origin of the specimens

#### 2. Paragraphs added to the Nature Conservation Act (came into force: 1.04.2007):

„55 (3<sup>1</sup>) The Minister of Environment shall establish by a regulation on the basis of Annexes A to D to Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (OJ L 61, 03.03.1997, pp. 1–69) a list of animal species the killing of commercially imported or bred live specimens of which is permitted.“

“56 (5) For specimens of species listed in Annexes A and B of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97, except in the case of sale of food products, the seller shall enclose documentary proof of origin containing:

1. the scientific name of the species;
2. information on the legal origin of the specimen (taken from the wild, artificially propagated, farm-bred, etc.);
3. in the case of specimens imported into the European Union, the special permits issued under the above Regulation;
4. in the case of live specimens of animal species, information on the previous owner and information enabling the identification of the specimen (identification mark, photo, description, etc.)”

#### 3. Section added to the CITES Ratification Act (came into force: 30.03.2007):

„In accordance with Article 15(3) and Article 16(2) of the Convention, the Minister of Environment is empowered to make and withdraw by a regulation reservations to Appendix I, II or III on the basis of decisions of the EC Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora.“

### Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties

In the framework of courses for Customs students (in the Estonian National Defence Academy) there have been lectures about the CITES.

Regular training for customs officers are organized by Customs Board, where one of the subjects is CITES.

At least once in a year Environmental Inspectorate arranges the information day for regional inspectors about relevant subjects including CITES.

### **Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement**

Main seizures in Estonia on 2006 and 2007

- \* From Tallinn Airport Cargo Center big amount of different articles of souvenirs were found (non CITES) shells, butterflies etc. Among others were two wallets from cobra skin (*naja kaouthia*);
- \* Passenger coming from Russia had 8 boxes (4kg) of caviar (Acipenseriformes) hidden under her clothing;
- \* In courier post one wolf skin (*canis lupus*) was found which was sent to private person in Estonia from China;
- \* Passenger coming from Vietnam via Germany had 2 pipes made from ivory and 3 cobras in bottle and one scorpion;
- \* Customs seized 4 pieces of ivory (2 statues and 2 carvings) from the passenger coming from Congo via Prague;
- \* In a warehouse Customs seized 300 boxes of cosmetic products (Valentin Tinkul balsam) that contained bear fat, products wasn't accompanied with CITES permits;
- \* Customs seized 500 g of caviar from passenger coming from Russia, caviar was hidden under the passenger clothing;
- \* Customs seized 580 boxes of cosmetics products, that contained bear fat, products wasn't accompanied with CITES permits;
- \* Customs officers seized a stuffed Alligator in air cargo shipment coming from Singapore;
- \* Tallinn Airport, Customs Seized cobra in the bottle from traveler arriving from USA;

Latest cases have mainly happened in Tallinn airport and have comprised tourists bringing among souvenirs from exotic countries. Souvenirs have been mainly snakes (cobras in the bottles) or leather goods from snakeskin (Cobra and Python skin). One bigger seizure happened in Tallinn warehouse where Customs seized several thousands items of traditional Asian medicine (comprises bear fat), Environmental Inspectorate is carrying forward controls on similar items inland (in drugstores and markets).

There was one case that concerned mammoth ivory. Customs officers seized 6 items of ivory carvings because of suspicion that they are elephant ivory. The owner stated that it was hippo ivory. Customs sent items to initial expertise, which showed that it was rather elephant ivory than hippo ivory. After that owner of the carvings stated, that it was mammoth ivory and our expert conducted second expertise which concluded that carvings were really made from mammoth ivory. Carvings were bought from the Internet ([http://www.atlantaantiquegallery.com/wsm/c-867\\_erotic\\_erotic.html](http://www.atlantaantiquegallery.com/wsm/c-867_erotic_erotic.html)). In that webpage, there are a lot of carvings made from Hippo, Elephant, and Mammoth ivory and whalebone.

### **Public Awareness and Information**

- \* Presentation in Tourest (Travel Trade Fair) in Tallinn (CITES exhibition and presentation of collection of confiscated goods).
- \* CITES exhibition in several Estonian museums and border points.

#### 4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

##### France attended :

###### International CITES meetings :

- SC 55 (2 June 2007)
- CoP 14 (3-15 June 2007)
- SC 56 (15 June 2007)
- PC 17 (15-19 April 2008)
- AC 23 (19-24 April 2008)

###### European CITES meetings :

- European Plants Committee meeting (Perugia, Italy, 18-20 Oct 2006).
- Workshop on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade (Vilm, Germany, 14-17 Nov 2006).
- The Scientific Review Group meetings in Brussels, Belgium : SRG 39 (18 Dec. 2006), SRG 40 (27 March 2007), SRG 41 (14 Sept. 2007), SRG 42 (7 Dec. 2007), SRG 43 (29 Feb. 2008) and SRG 44 (26 May 2008).
- The Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora meetings in Brussels, Belgium : COM 39 (19 Dec. 2006), COM 40 (23 Apr. 2007), COM 41 (28 Sept. 2007), COM 42 (14 Dec. 2007), COM 43 (4 Apr. 2008) and COM 44 (16 June 2008).
- The Enforcement Group meetings in Brussels, Belgium : EWG 13 (6-7 Nov. 2006), EWG 14 (19 Apr. 2007), EWG 15 (25-26 Oct. 2007) and EWG 16 (29-30 Apr. 2008).

#### 5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

- France participated in the Capacity Building Workshop for Bolivian CITES Authorities (Cochabamba, Bolivia, 14-16 nov 2007).
- In October 2007, France also organized a Capacity Building Workshop in French Polynesia for the local CITES authorities (Management Authority, Scientific Authority and Enforcement)
- France contributed to the funding of the IUCN analysis of the CoP proposals and to their translation into French up to 20 000 €
- As announced at CoP14, France contributed 50 000 USD to MIKE South Asia.

#### 6. National Legislation

A specific law has been enacted and was published on 6 June 2008 with regard to the implementation of CITES in French Polynesia and Wallis & Futuna islands (French overseas territories).

The preparation of the related Decrees is ongoing.

The National MA convened information and exchange meetings for professionals involved in caviar and *Prunus africana* issues.

Germany's contribution to the  
Report of the Regional Representatives for Europe to the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing  
Committee (SC)  
Geneva (Switzerland), 14<sup>th</sup> July - 18<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## **1. CITES Standing-, Animals- & Plants Committee Activities**

Since its adoption at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties Germany continued to contribute actively to the implementation of CITES Decision 14.2 on the development of indicators for the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2013.

### **2. Capacity building activities**

- Within the scope of an EU-Commission funded Twinning-project with a CITES implementation component one official from Germany's CITES Management Authority has contributed as lecturer to a CITES training seminar for national customs officers from 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> July 2007 in Bucharest, Romania.
- From 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> October 2007 a representative from Germany's Federal Agency for Nature Conservation CITES Management Authority attended together with representatives from the CITES Secretariat and as a lecturer a CITES seminar in Chisinau, Moldova.
- The Slovakian CITES Management Authority had invited representatives from Germany's CITES Management Authority to participate actively as a trainer on CITES training seminars for customs officers held from 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and for environment inspection service and police held from 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> April in Slovakia. Both seminars were funded by the EU TAIEX programme.
- From 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 Germany's Management Authority participated in Bucharest as a trainer in an EU TAIEX Seminar for customs officials of Romania.
- On 8<sup>th</sup> May a Chinese delegation comprising five representatives from China's State Forestry Administration (CITES Management Authority) visited for two days Germany CITES authorities. During the discussions held with various representatives from Germany's CITES Management Authority agreement was reached to closer co-operate on better enforcement on ivory issues and on better conservation of the significantly traded and non-CITES listed tropical timber species Merbau.

### **3. Implementation and law enforcement activities**

- During the reporting period Germany contributed actively to the work of the European Union's Enforcement working group to elaborate common training materials for customs authorities or law enforcement officials at the various levels. Germany had been asked to take the lead of a subgroup which had been charged to prepare such common training material for the European Union.
- Germany had taken note of the EU Enforcement Action Plan, published in the official journal of the EU No. L 159/07 (Document 2007/425/EC) and has started after the 14<sup>th</sup> CoP to CITES to nationally implement the recommendations contained in the action plan on which the Community had agreed upon unanimously.

Since September 2007 the CITES Management Authority of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation started several initiatives on a national level to develop a national enforcement action plan in accordance with the provisions of CITES Resolution Conf 11.3 (Rev. CoP 14).

Some of the actions recommended in the above mentioned action plan have been already implemented in Germany such as the rapid exchange of important information by electronic means through an electronic CITES newsletter, public awareness campaigns, training of enforcement officers or strong working relations among German officials in the different authorities and enforcement agencies. The working relations are backed up by formalized but also not formalized agreements and strong government support.

In addition to these activities Germany had nationally started a process to implement further actions recommended in the EU Enforcement Action Plan. All relevant enforcement and management authorities involved in the implementation of CITES in Germany have been invited to collaborate on the creation and implementation of a national action plan. To meet these objectives an Interagency National Action Plan Working Group (IANAP-WG) was established at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. The IANAP-WG met already twice, i.e. in September 2007 and in February 2008. The IANAP-WG includes representatives from German customs services, the police, national and local CITES Management Authorities and other enforcement bodies. The main objectives and targets of this group are:

- to improve overall inter-agency cooperation;
- to collect and distribute relevant information;
- to identify enforcement priorities;
- to coordinate public relation activities; and
- to control and coordinate adequate training activities.

#### **4. Public awareness activities**

Both Germany's CITES Management Authority and its Scientific Authorities presented some selected key areas of their work during the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Bonn, 19<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008). Presentations and posters were provided to the public on problematic areas in CITES enforcement from Germany's perspective, exemplary confiscations, medicinal plants, non-detriment finding process and capacity building tools such as the computer based identification tool for tropical timber species called "[CITESwoodID](#)".



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

Athens 01 - 07-2008

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

AND FOOD

Ref. No: 094565/2692

**GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION  
OF FORESTS AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT  
DIR. OF AESTHETIC FORESTS - NATIONAL PARKS  
& GAME MANAGEMENT**

**CITES / Management Authority**

Information: M. Anastasiou  
Tel: +30 210 2124612

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To: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Department of Natural Resources and  
Environmental Affairs

(Attention of Mr. Bjarni Sigtryggsson)  
email: bjarni@mfa.is

Subject: 'Information for the Regional Report for the Standing Committee 57 from Greece'

Dear Mr. Sigtryggsson,

With reference to the e-mail dated 18-06-2008 regarding information for the Regional Report for the forthcoming Standing Committee meeting, we would like to inform you that some of the activities that could be included in the report are the following:

- National Legislation:

A joint ministerial decision no 99098/5881/16-10-2006 'Trade of Species of Wild Fauna and Indigenous Flora' of the Ministers of Economy and Finance and of Rural Development and Food (published in the government gazette no 1570/B' /26-10-2006) came in force. This decision lies down provisions on the trade of wild fauna and flora under the Council Regulation 338/97 ' on the protection of the species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade there in ', Commission Regulation 1332/2005 ' regarding the amendment of the Council Regulation 338/97' and Commission Regulation 865/2006 on ' laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of council regulation 338/97', as well as provisions on the protection of endangered species of wild fauna and indigenous flora referred into article 2 of the decision.

- Administrative Measures and Capacity Building

1. Training of our 13 regional Management Authorities as well as providing them with electronic equipment (PCs, microchip reading devices)
2. Constant issuing of circulars for facilitating the implementation of CITES by our authorities

- Public Awareness and Information

A special effort has been made on informing the public about the Convention by issuing leaflets and posters distributed to our regional authorities and customs offices as well as launching an Internet site with information about the Convention.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

**THE GENERAL DIRECTOR**

S. SAGRIS

## Hungarian contribution to the European Regional Report

for the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the

CITES Standing Committee

### Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement

CITES specimens have been seized or confiscated in 105 cases since October 2006 due to illegal import, trade or posession. Many of these related to tourist souveniers and Tradicional Asian Medicines. Beside these, there have also been some significant seizures:

- 6 live Tricarinate Hill Turtles (*Melanochelys tricarinata*) (App. I), 12 live Pancake Tortoises (*Malacochersus tornieri*), 20 live Leopard Tortoises (*Geochelone pardalis*), 1 live Elongated Tortoises (*Indotestudo elongata*) and 3 live Hermann's Tortoises (*Testudo hermanni*) smuggled from Serbia. The animals were found hidden in sport bags on a tourist bus.
- 22 live Pancake Tortoises (*Malacochersus tornieri*) smuggled from the direction of Serbia hidden in a carboot
- 264 live Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys picta*) (EU-listed species) illegally imported from the USA
- 1500 live Chinese Stripe-necked Turtles (*Ocadia sinensis*) imported without documents from Taiwan
- 8849 live Medicinal Leeches (*Hirudo medicinalis*) illegally imported from Turkey
- 1 live Vervet Monkey (*Chlorocebus aethiops*) smuggled from Syria
- 2 stuffed bodies of Honey Buzzards (*Pernis apivorus*) illegally imported from Syria
- 2 Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*) skins smuggled from Romania
- 1 Wolf (*Canis lupus*) hunting trophy illegally imported from Bosnia Hercegovina
- 40 kgs of sausages containing 51% of bear meat offered for sale in a butchery in Hungary. The product was made in Romania.

### Capacity building activities

In May 2007 a training seminar was held in Romania for enforcement authorities (customs, police, inspectorates and veteririnary officials). The course was organized by TRAFFIC and co-funded by DEFRA and Rufford Foundation. The training material and the two trainers were provided by the Heathrow Team of UK customs and the Hungarian CITES Management Authority.

In May 2007 the Management Authority organized a seminar on CITES matters for the National Investigation Office of the Hungarian Police.

Regular training course was organized in October 2006 and 2007 for nature conservation inspectors designated to deal with CITES issues- that is CITES, EU Wildlife Trade Regulations and national provisions with regard to the protection of and trade in wild plants and animals.

In October 2007 a training seminar was held in Bratislava, Slovakia on the role of the state veterinary services in CITES enforcement. Officers of the state veterinary services, customs, police and Management Authorities of the 4 Visegrád countries participated the workshop which was facilitated by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Hungarain Management Authority took part in the organization and gave lectures to the participants.

In January 2008, following the training seminar held in Bratislava the hungarian state veterinary service invited the Management Authority to give a lecture on CITES and EC Wildlife Trade Regulations to veterinary officers.

In April, the Hungarian Academy for Training Judges organized a seminar focusing on wildlife crime, where the Management Authority – together with an experienced judge gave lectures to 40 judges from all over the country.

### **Public awareness activities**

The Management Authority initiated a campaign with WWF Hungary and Oracle Hungary with the objective of raising awareness among children in schools. The children were invited for a country-wide tender called 'Wildlife Inspector in Action' where their task was to search for CITES-listed species in their surroundings (pet shops, zoos etc.). The Oracle Hungary ensured an international computer system called Think.com, where the children could create their own webpage on their results. 500 CITES boardgames were made and another CITES game was published in a monthly magazine in 3000 copies – both initially made by children in the previous year's CITES campaign.

### **Inter agency co-operation**

A new official bilateral agreement has been signed between the National Police Headquarters and the Ministry of Environment and Water in October 2007. One important element of this agreement is to co-operate in wildlife trade controls and to combat illegal trade in wild plants and animals.

**4. Public awareness activities.**

A large display cabinet with a leaflet stand was installed in the hall of the main International airport at Keflavik, visible to all passengers departing and arriving. The cabinet displays examples of confiscated material and warnings to travellers.

## **ITALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE REGIONAL REPORT FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

Herewith we provide some information about the activities and achievements of the Italian CITES Management Authority regarding the following points.

4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings
5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance
6. National Legislation
8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement
9. Public Awareness and Information

### **CITES COMMITTEES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS**

Italy since the CoP14 held in Bangkok in October, 2004, is in charge of chairing the Standing Committee Working Group on information technology and electronic permitting systems. The activities of the WG would need finance resources in order to proceed with the objectives set out by Decisions 14.55-14.57. The WG will have to report about its activities of collecting and analysing information by the 58<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee.

During the same Conference of the Parties Italy also joined the Standing Committee Working Group on personal and household effects. The mandate of this WG (chaired by China) has also been renewed during last CoP in Den Haag and Italy is still participating in the discussion.

Italy has participated in the last Plant Committee held in Geneva from 15 to 19 of April 2008; during that meeting another Working Group of the Standing Committee dealing with identification and measurement of timber has been formally established and Italy has been accepted as Chair of the Group.

### **BROADER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE**

In the considered period Italy has financed and supported various international projects through specific agreements with TRAFFIC Italy.

In December 2007 Italy has financed a project in Bolivia on the Red fronted Macaw (*Ara rubrogenys*).

During 2008 financial support to the Secretariat has been provided for the organization of the Workshop on African cherry (*Prunus Africana*), expected in September 2008.

Still during 2008 financial resources have been allocated for the development of activities concerning the Vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*) action plan, involving Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru.

### **NATIONAL LEGISLATION**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 a National Decree on the marking of primary and secondary containers of caviar and registration of producing and repackaging plants has been published. The decree implements the provisions of Res. Conf. 12.7 and of EU Reg. 865/06.

### **COMBATING ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES/ENFORCEMENT**

Following the growing concern expressed during 2007, by many EU Parties and by the Secretariat regarding fraudulent trade of caviar, the Italian Enforcement Authority has started a constant control on the national territory, aimed to verify both the regularity of the producing and repackaging plants and the presence of illegal caviar traded in national markets.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2007 the investigation team of the Forestry Corps (Enforcement Authority), helped for the activities of planning and intelligence by TRAFFIC WWF of Rome, has started the "Operazione Beluga", consisting in the control and inspection of 300 sites among which shops, warehouses, importing firms, repackaging and producing plants. An amount of 190 kilograms of caviar has been seized, the most important seizures being carried out in Rome, Milan and Venice. It is important to notice that the caviar seized in Milan and Rome originated in European countries and was packed in primary containers without label.

## PUBLIC AWARENESS AND INFORMATION

On the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2007 the Minister of the Environment Land and Sea protection has convened a meeting in Rome on the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora resources, during which a particular attention was devolved to the dialogue with business associations related to the trade of timber, skins, furs and textile.

During the meeting was emphasized the importance of Italy for trade in products and derivatives of animal and vegetal species, being Italy one of the biggest markets for this products at international level, with a business utile of about 90 milliards of euro. The role of the Scientific Authority was also discussed and a new fully computerized procedure to speed up the process of evaluating and issuing opinions for imports was presented during the meeting.

## National Report of Latvia

### 4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

Latvian MA together with other EU member states from 02.06.2007. – 16.06.2007 participated in CITES CoP14, in Hague, The Netherlands.

Latvian MA attended all Management and Enforcement group meetings of EU member states in Brussels, and Latvian SA attended several Scientific Review group meetings.

### 5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

On October 2006 Latvian MA visited Slovenian MA and SA to do exchange of experience. During this visit MA officials participated in seminar about CITES for customs. On September 2007 Latvian MA visited and discussed CITES related questions with Portugal SA, MA and enforcement agencies, besides Latvian MA visited several rescue centres for protected animal species and some protected areas to compare nature protection in Latvia and Portugal and to exchange experience in these areas.

On November 2006 one delegate from MA participated on seminar "EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade – Experiences, Challenges and Future Perspectives" in Germany, Isle of Vilm.

### 6. National Legislation

Latvian MA aggregated and actualized information about national legislation on CITES and sent it to CITES Secretariat and European Commission on 02.05.2007. There have been some small changes in national legislation during last years, but important changes in legislation will become effective in the beginning of 2009, e.g. the Project of Minister Regulation "Order of issuance of permits for registration, marking and issue of certificates for endangered wildlife species" and Changes On Law on Animal Protection.

### 7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties

The Nature Protection Board of Latvia (CITES MA) organized several training seminars and meetings on CITES. The objective of the training was to give all authorities more deep knowledge about CITES, including how to control shipments and permits, main groups of species on CITES and EU Regulations. From the November 2006 till May 2008 four training seminars for customs were organized where specialists from MA, SA, Riga Zoo and customs informed about different issues on CITES. About 30 custom officials attended each seminar. Besides on 2007 MA and SA cooperated with Riga Technical University where custom officials could attend 3 day course on CITES twice per year. This course was popular and this cooperation will continue.

On 2007 CITES MA organized separate meetings with SA, police, customs, Wildlife Inspectorate, Sanitary Border Inspection and Ministry of Health to discuss some problems of CITES implementation and to improve cooperation between these institutions and MA.

### 8. Combating Illegal Activities/ Enforcement

In 2007 – 2008 period (till 16.06.2008), the Latvian customs did more than 70 seizures of CITES specimens that resulted with confiscations and fines for violators. Most of the cases were detected at the Riga International Airport (mainly illegal tourist souvenirs), but commercial shipments were confiscated on border with Russian Federation. Several seizures and confiscations were realized by wildlife inspectors, too.

### 9. Public Awareness and Information

CITES MA with a financial support from the Administration of Latvian Environmental Protection Fund established 5 vitrines with CITES specimens – one in Riga Zoo, one in customs post of Riga and three in customs posts with Russian Federation - Terehova, Grebneva and Patarnieki. On summer 2007 CITES Ma organized campaign against illegal trade of protected plant species. On 2007 Natural History Museum of Latvia (CITES SA) and CITES MA organized several exhibitions about CITES. Nature Protection Board

(CITES MA of Latvia) started new tradition and on spring of 2007 and 2008 organized "Day of CITES" when the Minister of Environment gives awards to the best enforcement officials and lot of information about CITES is available in press reviews. New brochure and pocketsize calendars about CITES have been issued on 2007. Besides mentioned campaigns, the Latvian MA and SA tries to raise public awareness about CITES by writing articles, giving presentations in schools and other governmental or public institutions on regular bases.

## **10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

Several projects concerning native CITES species are being carried out in **Latvia**:

- (1) Renewed action plan for the conservation of Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*) in Latvia;
- (2) Renewed action plan for the conservation of Wolf (*Canis lupus*) in Latvia;
- (3) in preparation action plan for the conservation of Medicinal Leech (*Hirudo medicinalis*) in Latvia;

Besides different management activities have been carried out like making and placing of bird cages and nests for eagles, owls and other CITES bird species, management of protected areas to improve habitat of protected species etc.

Supplementary information of the Republic of Moldova for presentation  
of the Forthcoming Standing Committee 57

Republic of Moldova

1. Introduction
2. New Parties
3. Gaborone Amendment to the Convention

Republic of Moldova elaborated (in April, 2008) the draft of the law of accepted the Gaborone Amendment to the CITES Convention (now the draft of the law is examination by Government).

4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

The European Commission, TAIEX, organized in co-operation with Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources from Republic of Moldova training: "**Seminar on Cites Convention Implementation**", on 10/10/2007 - 11/10/2007 in Chisinau, Moldova.

This seminar presented the practical aspects of the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES Convention) in the EU Member States on the following matters:

- Implementation of CITES at national level
  - CITES Customs and Enforcement
  - Overview of the functioning and role of the CITES Scientific Authorities
- 

6. National Legislation
7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties
8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement

The most important case of confiscation in Moldova happened in February, 6, 2008, when one person was stopped by Police with 6 live animals: Varanus salvator (1 year), Iguana iguana salvator (1 year), Pyton regius salvator (3-4 years), Chamaeleo calyptratus salvator (1 year), caiman crocodilus (2 year), Lampropeltis triangulum sinaloae salvator (3 years). Animals was illegal imported from Odessa (Ukraine). This case is still under investigation. The animals stay in the Chisinau ZOO.

9. Public Awareness and Information

Moldova published in 2006 – 2007 years: brochure of CITES legislation; 2 placards of CITES thematic "This species are protected by CITES"; booklet: "Save endangered animal and plant species" and a leaflet informing travelers, which was widely distributed e.g. by Customs, travel agencies, traders, and state.

10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications

1. The Republic of Moldova , in research cooperation with Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania , Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine participated in the developing of the project "Saker Falcon in Southeast Europe – Researchers and Conservation" . The aim of this network is to coordinate efforts for Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug) study and protection in the Southeast European region.

2. In the Republic of Moldova (Tiraspol) was create the sturgeon complex "Aquatir" LTD. It represent unique production complex on growing sturgeon fishes in recirculated system. Our main goal is getting, processing and realization of caviar and sturgeon fishes. The complex is expect to produce 5 tons of caviar per year and 80-100 tons of market fish and approximately 500 thousand of fry reproduction. In future they plan to stock sturgeon in river Nistru.

Montenegro

**From:** Vladimir Pavicevic [mailto:[vladimir.pavicevic@mn.yu](mailto:vladimir.pavicevic@mn.yu)]

**Sent:** 18 June 2008 20:35

**To:** Salmon, Trevor (WSC)

**Subject:** Re: CITES European Regional report - URGENT

Dear colleague,

I wish to express my gratitude and inform you about some relevant developments concerning the implementation of CITES Convention from October 2006 to July 2008.

Firstly, as you are aware, after regaining independence on 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2006, Montenegro has undertaken steps to accede to CITES regulations and on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2007 it managed officially to enter the commune together with the CITES Convention member- states.

Relevant national legislation regarding CITES accession has already been sent to the CITES secretariat.

It should be noted that Montenegro plans to adopt the new Environment Law until the end of this year as well as the Law on Crossborder Traffic and Trade in Endangered species.

In the meantime, we opened a new transfer account pursuant to the Decision on the Control List for Import, Export and Transit of Goods (Official Gazette, no 46/07) and tariff number 77, as envisaged by the Law on Administrative Fees. The contribution for one CITES permit amounts to 50 euros.

From October 2006 to July 2008 two CITES permits were issued.

In addition, we had several appearances on television aiming to promote CITES regulations and activities.

The case of Siberian tigers is still in the judicial process and CITES Secretariat has been recently informed about this case.

We plan to take further steps in future to promote CITES activities like seminars, workshops and media appearance.

Best regards,

Vladimir Pavicevic-Senior advisor

## **CITES Standing Committee 57 (July 2008)**

### **Report from Norway on CITES activities in the period October 2006 and July 2008**

#### **6. National legislation.**

Norway initiated in 2007 a complete revision of the present national CITES legislation (revised the last time in 2002). The aim is to incorporate all relevant CITES resolutions in a new regulation, and to align the national legislation with the EU CITES Regulation as appropriate. It is expected that the new regulation will further restrict the trade and possession of listed specimens, *inter alia* complying with Res. Conf. 12.10 on breeding of Appendix I species. The new regulation is expected to enter into force in 2009.

#### **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building**

A national CITES committee has been operating for some years, but on an informal basis. The first formal meeting of this committee with a draft mandate was conducted early 2008. It is expected that the Committee will meet twice a year and it consists of participants from the National Customs Authority, the national Environmental Crime Unit, the Food and Animal Health Control Authority and the national CITES MA/SA.

#### **8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement**

As part of a Nordic-Baltic Sea task force initiative under the Nordic Council several workshops for customs and police authorities has been conducted in the region. The import and trade in caviar has been a part of the workshops. A CD with information and advice on the trade in caviar directed towards the police and customs has been produced.

#### **9. Public Awareness and Information**

The national CITES brochure was revised and reissued late 2006. A set of two new poster to accompany the brochure were issued shortly afterwards.

After CoP14 Norway has issued a new and revised CITES checklist (7<sup>th</sup> edition since 1993). The list can be accessed at <http://www.dirnat.no/content.ap?thisId=1010031>

**Activities on CITES issues undertaken by Poland since the 54<sup>th</sup> CITES Standing Committee meeting  
(October 2006 – June 2008):**

CITES enforcement related activities:

- 3 trainings for Customs officers on CITES general issues (at the local level);
- 4 workshops for CITES co-ordinators of Customs and Police (organised by WWF Poland);
- training seminar for CITES co-ordinators in Customs consisted in identification of animal's furs;
- seminar course for CITES enforcement co-ordinators on identification of CITES aquatic species;
- workshop for CITES co-ordinators in Customs on safety procedures in case of control and seizures of live animals;
- training seminar for Judges and Prosecutors on CITES (organised by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe)
- 2 regional trainings for Police officers and Prosecutors (carried out by WWF Poland);

International co-operation:

- Polish enforcement officers together with representatives from the UK Customs and Royal Botanic Garden (KEW) participated in a workshop on CITES tropical timber and other flora species (organised by WWF Poland);

Other activities of Polish enforcement authorities:

- CITES coordinators of Customs carried out lectures for pupils and students concerning trade in endangered species. Approximately 4500 persons participated in those lectures.
- in 2007 Polish border points of entry were supplied with cages for temporary keeping and transport of animals (Cages were funded by WWF Poland).

CITES species management activities:

- national conservation programmes were established for the following native CITES species: *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Phocoena phocoena* and *Lutra lutra* (TF 2004/016-829.03.03 Elaboration of plans for re-naturalisation of natural habitats and habitats of fauna and flora species in Natura 2000 sites and elaboration of management plans for certain species listed in Birds Directive and Habitats Directive);
- project on the conservation of *Lynx lynx* was started in 2007 by WWF Poland;

Public awareness and information activities:

Awareness enhancing actions were organised mainly by Polish NGOs dealing with CITES issues. Representatives of the Polish CITES MA and the Enforcement Agencies also participated in providing CITES relevant information to the wider public, mostly through the radio and tv interviews.

Examples of awareness building events carried out by:

the Polish Society for Nature Protection Salamandra:

- educational campaign addressed to regional authorities responsible for registration of CITES animals; handbook on relevant provisions and guidelines was published and distributed;
- creation of internet site on CITES for children <http://www.salamandra.org.pl/cites/dzieci/>;
- monitoring of illegal trade in CITES specimens in shops and in the internet;
- educational campaign for pet-shops' owners;

the WWF Poland:

- educational campaign for school teachers and pupils in Poznan, Gdynia and Wroclaw;
- preparation and publication of leaflets, handouts and posters for tourists; action was undertaken with certain Custom Chambers, travel agencies and the Polish airlines (LOT);

Moreover:

- NGOs and the CITES coordinators of Customs carried out lectures for students concerning trade in endangered species.

Publications:

- WWF Poland published the identification manual on *Brachypelma* spp. spiders and wild cats, which was distributed among Customs and Police, as well as the handbook, addressed to prosecutors, on preparatory proceedings in cases of illicit trade in endangered species.

Other:

- CITES MA of Poland has commissioned the evaluation of the CITES internet trade market, which resulted in compilation of the following report: "Analysis of the internet trade in Poland in specimens of fauna and flora listed in the CITES appendices";
- CITES Working Group consisting of representatives of management and enforcement bodies and NGOs met 3 times, discussing issues concerning improvement of co-operation and effectiveness of domestic CITES related provisions;

1. Introduction
2. New Parties
3. Gaborone Amendment to the Convention
4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings
5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance
6. National Legislation
7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties
8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement
9. Public Awareness and Information
10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications

#### **4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings**

Portugal has participated in all scheduled meetings of the Standing Committee (SC 54, 55 and 56), EU SRG, Committees and Enforcement Meetings and in CoP 14. The CITES MA took also part in the "Workshop on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade", in Vilm, Germany, November 2006.

#### **5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance**

Colleagues from the Scientific and Management Authorities of Latvia visited Portugal, September 2007 and saw the functioning of CITES Portuguese administrative bodies of the SA and the MA, as well as role of customs.

In July 2007, representatives of the Ministry of Environment of Angola, also visited Portuguese CITES authorities and study its work.

CITES MA of Portugal and Spain signed an agreement that allows the Portuguese authorities use the Spanish CITES permits database which is more complete than the Portuguese one.

#### **6. National Legislation**

MA of Portugal is carrying out a major study reviewing all national legislation related to CITES,

including offences, penalties and police powers, restrictions to detention of some species, marking and registration of keepers of CITES species.

Offences, penalties and police powers have already a new law – Law n.<sup>o</sup> 50/2006, of 29 August, and Penal Code was also changed allowing that some offences will be crimes – Law n.<sup>o</sup> 59/2007, 4 September.

Portugal is approaching the problem of use and keeping of Primates, Crocodylia, Carnivora, Boidae and Pythonidae species which is forbidden by internal legislation. Portugal is studying publication of new legislation for circuses and temporary expositions that will forbid the use and keeping of those species. Expositions and circuses that have already got those specimens would be allowed to keep but not breed them.

For the moment, enforcement agencies are seizing illegal specimens as can be demonstrated by number of seizures (see Chapter 8).

#### **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

CITES MA of Portugal organized a 2-day CITES training workshop in November 2006 in Madeira and a 5-day training workshop in Azores for regional enforcement authorities and MAs. The CITES MA is also organizing regular training workshops for national enforcement authorities two times a year.

In 2006 – 2008, the CITES MA of Portugal provided various confiscated objects of CITES species for training and educational purposes as a loan to enforcement authorities and museums.

Portuguese CITES MA has also initiated a feasibility study on the need for improving existing and/or establishing new CITES rescue centres. Part of the study was an inspection tour and several meetings to identify potential rescue centres in Portugal that took place in the first semester of 2008.

Portuguese CITES MA was designate Coordinator of the National Enforcement Group which encompasses representatives from all CITES-relevant organizations (Portuguese Customs Authorities, CITES MA, SA, Police, etc.) to streamline better information exchange and to deal with changes in trade patterns of CITES-listed species.

## **8. Combating Illegal Activities**

**Portugal** provided the following table with a survey of seized and confiscated specimens during the reporting period.

SEIZURES 2006

	Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
MAMMALS						
	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
	<i>Panthera leo</i>	II	B	LIV	3	UNK
	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
	<i>Cercopithecus sp</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	ZA
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	20	MZ
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	4	ES
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	10	UNK
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	GW
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	7	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	4	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	ZA
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	20	MZ
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	1	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	1	BR
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	5	AO
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	2	MZ
	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	I	A	IVP	1	ZA
AVES						
	<i>Asio otus</i>	I	A	LIV	3	PT
	<i>Arara chloroptera</i>	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
	<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
	<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	II	B	ELG	2	Unk
	<i>Trichoglossus hemanotodus</i>	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
	<i>Strix aluco</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
<i>Strix aluco</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Tyto alba</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
<i>Amazona</i> sp.	II	B	LIV	1	UNK
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	I	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Bubo bubo</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	I	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	II	B	LIV	1	PT
<i>Amazona aestiva</i>	II	B	LIV	1	PT
<i>Psittacus erithacus erithacus</i>	II	B	LIV	1	PT
<i>Ara macao</i>	II	A	LIV	1	PT
<b>REPTILES</b>					
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	I	I	A	1	Unk
<i>Phyton</i> sp.	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
<i>Phyton regius</i>	II	B	LIV	2	Unk
<i>Trachemys scripta</i>		B	LIV	11	UNK
<i>Chelonidade</i> sp.	I	A	CAP	1	CV
<i>Chelonidade</i> sp.	I	A	CAP	1	CV
<i>Crocodylia</i> sp.	II	B	SKU	1	US
<i>Chelonidade</i> sp.	I	A	CAP	1	CV
<i>Chelonidade</i> sp.	I	A	CAP	1	CV
<i>Crocodylia</i> sp.	II	B	SKI	1	GW
<i>Chelonidade</i> sp.	I	A	CAP	1	CV
<i>Crocodylia</i> sp	II	B	LPL	2	AO
<i>Phyton</i> sp.	II	B	LPL	2	CM
<i>Phyton</i> sp.	II	B	LPL	3	AO
<i>Crocodylia</i> sp.	II	B	LPL	4	UNK
<i>Crocodylia</i> sp.	II	B	LPL	4	CG
<i>Phyton</i> sp.	II	B	LPL	28	TG
<i>Phyton</i> sp.	II	B	SKI	1	GW

**ANTHOZOA**  
**ACTINOPTERYGII**

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
Hippocampus sp.	II	B	BOD	10	BR
Hippocampus sp.	II	B	BOD	50	BR

**FLORA**

SEIZURES 2007

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
CERCOPITHECUS AETHIOPS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
CERCOPITHECUS AETHIOPS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
CERCOPITHECUS AETHIOPS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
CERCOPITHECUS AETHIOPS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	BRASIL
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	CONGO
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	7	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	4	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	13	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	BRASIL
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	11	CONGO
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	33	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	AUSTRALIA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	4	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	TOOTH	0,800KG	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	HAIR	1	BRASIL
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	12	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	HAIR	1	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	II	B	IVORY PIECES	3	AFRICA DO SUL
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	12	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	4	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	MOÇAMBIQUE
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	4	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	4	R.C.AFRICANA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	6	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	7	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	2	ANGOLA
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	7	UNK
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	1	UNK
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	8	UNK
LOXODONTA AFRICANA	I	A	IVORY PIECES	3	ANGOLA
MACACA MULATTA	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
MACROPODIDAE	II	B	SKIN	10	AUSTRALIA
PAPIO SP.	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
PAPIO SP.	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
AVES	AMAZONA AESTIVA	II	B	LIVE	2
	AMAZONA AESTIVA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA AESTIVA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA AESTIVA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA AMAZONICA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA AMAZONICA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA AMAZONICA	II	B	LIVE	1
	AMAZONA FESTIVA	II	B	LIVE	1

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
ARA ARARAUNA	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
ARA CHLOROPTERA	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
ASIO OTUS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
ASIO OTUS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
ATHENE NOCTUA	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
ATHENE NOCTUA	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
ATHENE NOCTUA	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	3	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	2	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
BUTEO BUTEO	II	A	LIVE	3	PORTUGAL
CYANOLISEUS PATAGONUS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
CYANOLISEUS PATAGONUS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
CYANOLISEUS PATAGONUS	II	B	LIVE	4	UNK
FALCO TINNUNCULUS	II	A	LIVE	2	PORTUGAL
FALCO TINNUNCULUS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
FALCO TINNUNCULUS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
MILVUS MIGRANS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
MILVUS MIGRANS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
MILVUS MIGRANS	II	A	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
MILVUS MIGRANS	II	A	LIVE	2	PORTUGAL
PARABUTEO UNICINCTUS	II	B	LIVE	2	PORTUGAL
PLATYCERCUS ELEGANS	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
PLATYCERCUS EXIMIUS	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
POLYTELIS ALEXANDRAE	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
POLYTELIS ANTOPELUS	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
PSEPHOTUS HAEMATONOTUS	II	B	LIVE	2	UNK
PSEPHOTUS HAEMATONOTUS	II	B	LIVE	3	UNK

Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
PSEPHOTUS HAEMATONOTUS	II	B	LIVE	3	UNK
PSITTACUS ERITHACUS	II	B	LIVE	2	
PSITTACUS ERITHACUS	II	B	LIVE	1	
PSITTACUS ERITHACUS	II	B	LIVE	1	
PSITTACUS ERITHACUS	II	B	LIVE	1	
PSITTACUS ERITHACUS	II	B	LIVE	1	
STREPTOPELIA TURTUR	-	A	LIVE	7	
STREPTOPELIA TURTUR	-	A	LIVE	2	
STREPTOPELIA TURTUR	-	A	LIVE	3	
STREPTOPELIA TURTUR	-	A	LIVE	5	
TYTO ALBA	II	A	LIVE	2	PORTUGAL
<b>REPTILES</b>					
BOIDAE	II	B	SKIN	1	VENEZUELA
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	CABO VERDE
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	CABO VERDE
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	ANGOLA
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	ANGOLA
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	ANGOLA
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	CARAPACE	1	ANGOLA
CHELONIDAE SP.	I	A	BODY	1	TUNISIA
CROCODYLUS SP.	II	B	SKIN	1	GUINÉ-BISSAU
CROCODYLUS SP.	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	1	NIGERIA
CROCODYLUS SP.	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	1	ANGOLA
CROCODYLUS SP.	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	2	ANGOLA
PYTHON MOLURUS					
BIVITTATUS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
PYTHON RETICULATUS	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	SKIN	1	GUINÉ-BISSAU
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	SKIN	2	GUINÉ-BISSAU
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	SKIN	1	GUINÉ-BISSAU
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	2	NIGERIA
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	4	SENEGAL
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	10	CABO VERDE
PYTHON SEBAE	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	2	CABO VERDE
PYTHON SP.	II	B	SKIN	1	VENEZUELA
PYTHON SP.	II	B	LEATHER PRODUCT	2	VENEZUELA

	Taxa	App. CITES	App. EU	Description	Quantity	Country of origin
ARACHNIDA	TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA ELEGANS	-	B	LIVE	1	PORTUGAL
	BRACHYPELMA ALBOPILOSUM	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
	BRACHYPELMA ALBOPILOSUM	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
	PANDINUS IMPERATOR	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
	PANDINUS IMPERATOR	II	B	LIVE	1	UNK
ANTHOZOA	CORAL	II	B	CORAL	18,3 KG	MOÇAMBIQUE
	CORAL	II	B	CORAL	3,6 KG	TAHITI
	CORAL	II	B	CORAL	2	MOÇAMBIQUE
	DALBERGIA NIGRA	I	A	CARVING	3	BRASIL
FLORA						

## **9. Public Awareness and Information**

**Portugal** reported that a significant up-date of its CITES homepage ([www.icnb.pt](http://www.icnb.pt), and links) has been completed.

Portuguese authorities organized courses and lectures on CITES issues, especially implementation and enforcement, for scientists, amateurs, keepers and breeders, and veterinary bodies.

In May 2007, CITES MA organized a 5-day meeting with all the national entities which have competences on CITES issues, and with the media, where the Convention and the EU regulations were explained and also CoP 14 was discussed.

A new booklet of CITES was published.

## NATIONAL REPORT FOR REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

### prepared for 57th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC)

Regarding the preparation of the Regional Report of Europe for the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee of the CITES Convention, we are submitting the following data on the implementation of this convention in Republic of Serbia.

#### - CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

- Representatives from Serbia participated on the Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, The Hague, 3-15 June 2007

#### - Capacity Building Activities

Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection-Directorate for Environmental Protection, during years 2006 and 2007 organized promotions of publication 'Guide for implementation for Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) in Serbia', for representatives of Institute for Nature Protection of Serbia, Faculty of Biology – University of Belgrade, Institute for Biological Research 'Sinisa Stankovic', Natural Museum of Belgrade, Customs, Border Police, Veterinary Inspection, Phytosanitary Inspection, as well as the owners of small zoos and farms of small and exotic animals. More than 300 hundred people participated on these promotions which took place in several regions of Serbia and more than 800 copies of the 'Guide for CITES Convention Implementation' was distributed. During EKO WEEKEND meeting in November 2006, more than 50 copies were distributed to radio and TV stations, as well as non-governmental organizations from Serbia.

#### - Combating Illegal Activities

**According to the Strategy on the integration and management of the border, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (Directorate for Plant Protection and Directorate for Veterinarian Medicine) signed the agreement on transfer of a part of the competence on control of trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora on all border crossings. According to the agreement, the Border Phytosanitary Inspection and Veterinary Inspection are in charge on control of export and import of CITES fauna and flora species and derivates, while the Republic Inspection of Environmental Protection is in charge of regulations inside the country. The agreement entered into force on 1 January, 2008.**

During years 2007 and 2008, Management Authority of Serbia and Republic Inspection of Environmental Protection stopeed several attempts of illegal exports / import of CITES species. In March 2007 a valuable collection of butterflies (51 specimens of *Ornithoptera priamus urvillianus*, 41 specimens of *Ornithoptera victoriae* and 6 specimens of family *Papilionidae*) from Solomon Islands without necessary CITES documentation, was confiscated. After the Court decision, the collection shall be returned to Solomon Islands.

#### - Public Awareness Activities

Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection – Directorate for Environmental Protection published 'Guide for implementation for Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES)' in Serbia. This publication is of educational and informational significance for the personnel working on control and implementation of the Convention, as well as for the general public. The publication together with CITES posters were distributed to all border crossing in Serbia. The

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), United Kingdom, supported and financed the publication.**

**- CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information**

The Scientific Advisory Board for the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), include the representatives from different scientific institutions that are specialised for different groups of fauna and flora.

Zoo Palic near Subotica was declared in 2004, as a rescue centre for abandoned and confiscated animals. In 2006, this institution began planning for the program of active protection of the endangered birds of prey through the shelter, rehabilitation and reintroduction into their natural habitat. During 2007, the capacity was expanded to accommodate a number of CITES animals.

Natural Museum of Belgrade was declared in 2007 as a centre for confiscated CITES derivates and collections.

The National Management Plan for sturgeon species was finalised in 2005, and the implementation will be done in stages over several years.

The group of experts from Institute for Biological Research 'Siniša Stanković' in June 2007 published the report on the phase one of the project 'Standardization and harmonization of techniques for the population study and artificial spawning of the fish from family *Acipenseridae*'.

Institute for Multidisciplinary Research, Belgrade, also works on Cross-border Cooperation Programme Hungary - Serbia - project 'Sustainable use of sterlet and development of aquaculture in Serbia and Hungary'.

The Management Authority of Ministry of Environmental Protection started cooperation with a non-governmental organization 'Vier Pfoten', Austria in rescuing 'Dancing Bears' of Serbia.

Slovakia

Odbor ochrany prírody a starostlivosti o krajinu

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**Our ref.:**

8001/2008-2.1

**Date:** 11.06.2008

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**Subject:** Standing Committee 57 – contribution for the Europe Regional Report

Dear Mr. Sigtryggsson,

In response to the e-mail of Mr. Salmon Trevor from 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008 we would like to inform you about the following CITES activities in Slovakia since October 2006:

1. Participation in the international meetings:

- 14.11. – 17.11..2006, Expert Workshop for EU-CITES Authorities on EC Legislation on Wildlife Trade – Experiences, Challenges and Future Perspective in Germany (Vilm);
- Seminar "The Role of State Veterinary Service in the Implementation of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations was organised by RSPCA (25 – 26 October 2007) for MA, veterinaries and customs officers, environmental inspectors, Scientific authorities and police;
- 19. 4. – 24. 4. 2008, Animals Committee in Switzerland (Geneva) – representatives of SA participated in meeting;

2. Capacity building activities:

- During the reporting period (October 2006 – June 2008) several training courses for District Offices for Environment and Slovak Environmental Inspection on the EC CITES regulations and the national CITES legislation were organised;
- Seminar for Customs officers (coordinators for CITES) in relation to EU Wildlife Trade Regulations took place on 12.12.2008;
- Training seminar for customs officers as well as Customs Criminal Office (32 participants) with TAIEX support was organised (16. – 18.10.2007) with speakers from Germany and United Kingdom;
- Training seminar for police and Slovak Environmental Inspection (28 participants) with TAIEX support was organised (08. – 10.04.2008) with speakers from Germany and United Kingdom;
- Training seminar for police officers – specialist for environmental crime was organised by the Presidium of the Police Force (21.04.2008) with speakers from MA, SA and Slovak Environmental Inspection;

- Representatives of MA, SA and Slovak Environmental Inspection participated at international workshop on "Identification of CITES traded timber" (22 – 23. 11.2007) Hamburg, Germany.
3. Members of the Expert's Coordinative Body to combat the environmental crime aimed at illegal wildlife trade (representatives of the Presidium of The Police Force, the Attorney General, MA, the Customs Criminal Office, Slovak Environmental Inspection, Revenue Authority and State Veterinary Authority) have met 3-times during the reporting period. Preparation of the national enforcement action plan was discussed among others issues.
- Slovak Environmental Inspection made several inspections of traders with CITES species targeted on the control of the obligation of traders to inform buyers about EU and national legislation related to bought CITES specimens.

In November 2006 District Office for Environment (Authority of internal control) confiscated 2 specimens of Callithrix (Cebuella) pygmaea. Legal origin of specimens was not declared.

In 2007 police and Criminal customs office investigated 2 cases of internet offer of sale various CITES specimens - Tragopan caboti, Pan troglodytes, Acinonyx jubatus, Primates spp., Felidae spp., Naja naja, Naja kaouthia, Naja philippensis, Naja siamensis, Ophiophagus hannah, Geochelone pardalis, Daboia russelii, Crotalus durissus (Appendix I – III) without any documents of origin. Specimens were seized. Case is still being investigated.

In April 2007 Slovak Environmental Inspection confiscated 1 specimen of Testudo horsfieldi, 2 specimens of Iguana iguana and 1 specimen of Lynx lynx held in one facility without proving legal origin.

#### 4. Public awareness activities:

- On webpage [www.cites.sk](http://www.cites.sk) – new CITES information regarding new legislation, new EU regulations and contacts were updated

Kind regards,

Ladislav A m b r ó š  
in charge of director

## **Report on activities since 54<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee in the Republic of Slovenia**

1. Introduction
2. New Parties
3. Gaborone Amendment to the Convention
4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings
5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance
6. National Legislation
7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties
8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement
9. Public Awareness and Information
10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications

### **Ad. 4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings**

Slovenia has participated in most scheduled meetings of the EU Commission SRG, Committees and Enforcement Meetings, meeting of the EU Council Working Party on International Environmental Issues (15 March 2007), meeting of the 54th Standing Committee and in 14th meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties.

Slovene Management Authority also participated in the work of the European Regional CITES Plants Meeting (Perugia, Italija, 18 - 21th October 2006) and workshop 'The Role of the State Veterinary service in the Implementation of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations' (Bratislava, Slovakia 25 - 26th October 2007).

### **Ad 6. National Legislation**

A new *Decree on the course of conduct and protection measures in the trade in animal and plant species* (Official Gazette of RS, No 39/08) come into force in June 2008, with certain updates in accordance with the requirements of the Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 (e.g. registration of caviar producers, travelling exhibitions, pets etc.). The Decree transposes Council Directive 83/129/EEC concerning the importation into MS of skins of certain seal pups and products derived there from. The Decree also incorporates some resolutions of the Conference of Parties to the CITES (the disposal of seized and confiscated specimens, and conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish).

The current Decree lays down the course of conduct and protection measures in the trade in specimens of animal and plant species protected under the regulations governing the protection of wild animal and plant species, and the conditions for breeding specimens of wild animal species in captivity, the registration of scientists and scientific institutions, conditions for licensing and registration of caviar plants and caviar labelling, the competencies of authorities and sanctions.

### **Ad. 7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

Slovene Management Authority organized a two-day seminar for Slovene Criminal Police in June 2006.

A three-day regular training for Customs and Environmental inspectors took place in October 2006.

A representative of Slovene Management Authority is a member of the EU Working group on Training.

In January 2008 a representative of Slovene Management Authority gave lectures to traders and breeders on implementation and provisions of CITES, EU wildlife trade regulations and national legislation.

#### **Ad. 8. Combating Illegal Activities**

Customs officers seized and confiscated a number of parts and derivatives of CITES appendix I, II and III species (small reptilian leather products, bottles containing snakes in alcohol, skins). During the reporting period Slovene Customs reported 65 seizures of wildlife specimens, 32 of CITES specimens.

Slovene Customs seized 70 specimens of stony corals and 2 shells of Tridacnidae spp. Of mammals, 9 worked specimens of Elephantidae (*Loxodonta africana*), one *Ursus arctos* hunting trophy and parts and derivatives of *Equus zebra hartmannae* have been confiscated. Of reptiles, several specimens of *Crocodylia* spp., hand bag and a pair of boots of skins of *Python reticulatus*, hand bag, ashtray and two stuffed specimens of *Crocodylus niloticus*, two skulls and stuffed specimen of *Crocodylus siamensis* and 16 bottles containing *Xenochophis piscator* have been confiscated. A shipment of live specimens of *Testudo hermanni* (12) and *Trachemis scripta elegans* (1) was confiscated and placed in a rescue centre. In 2007 two illegal shipments of Date mussel (*Lithophaga lithophaga*) were uncovered.

In all cases, the border customs offices asked the Management Authority to verify if the seized specimens belong to CITES listed species. If the Management Authority had established, on the basis of the opinion of the Scientific Authority, that the specimens in question did not belong to CITES species, the shipment was released. Where the violation of the Convention had been approved, customs officers seized the specimens and the owners renounced them to the benefit of the State. In some cases a criminal procedure has been instigated against the offender.

Since 2002, a special inter-sectoral Committee for the Prevention of Illegal Wildlife Trade has been operating in Slovenia. The Committee consists of permanent members from the Criminal Police Directorate (Interpol Central Bureau for Slovenia), the General Customs Directorate (Investigation Division) and the Ministry of the Environment and Physical planning/Environmental Agency. Its objective is concerted action in the prevention and control of illegal trade in endangered animal and plant species.

#### **Ad. 9. Public Awareness and Information**

A representative of the Management Authority regularly gives lessons to Students of Masters degree programme »Nature Heritage Protection« at the University of Ljubljana and Masters programme "Conservation, Management and Control of Species in International Trade: The international Framework" at the International University of Andalusia/Spain.

In February 2007 a course for the members of the Society of the tour guides of Slovenia has been organized, and a representative of Slovene Management Authority gave lecture on CITES. A lecture for public was also performed in April 2007.

The Slovenian Museum on Natural History invited Slovene Management Authority to give lecture on CITES. Two lectures were performed for public in April 2008, one related to CITES animal species and the second dedicated to plant issues.

The Management Authority launched an upgraded new version of the CITES homepage in 2007, with information directed to the public and relevant sectors.

Slovenian Management Authority assisted TRAFFIC in preparing new and updated homepages on CITES in EU in Slovene language.

In 2006 posters and leaflets were published on European large carnivores (brown bear, wolf and lynx) and distributed to schools, hunters, museums etc., together with other CITES related material including bookmarks, leaflets suitcases lockets and posters.

The Management Authority released a new book "Report on the attempts of smuggling of wild birds into the Republic of Slovenia" in July 2008. The aim of the report is to present cases of attempted smuggling of endangered wild birds into the Republic of Slovenia that have been uncovered by Slovenian customs

authorities at the international border crossings with the Republic of Croatia in the period from 2002 to 2006. This report also analyse cases, shows examples of good practice and give proposals for improving measures by competent authorities in Slovenia.

An upgraded CD on the implementation of CITES in Slovenia was also published in July 2008.

#### **Ad. 10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

The Management Authority financially supported the following research activities in relation to CITES species:

- Analysis of the contents of the alimentary canal of Brown bear specimens taken from the wild. The aim of the project is to gain information on brown bear's diet in the wild and its habituation to anthropogenous food sources. Project duration: 18 October 2006 – 31 January 2007.
- Conservation genetics of Brown bear, Lynx and Red deer in Slovenia. Applicative research project – use of molecular biology in management of populations of large mammals in Slovenia. Project duration: February 2004 – January 2007.
- Public awareness on large carnivores in Slovenia. Public information campaign on large carnivores, started in December 2006.
- Rescue centre for wild animals. Rescue centre for temporary care of seized and confiscated animals due to illegal keeping in captivity, illegal trade, export or import or other reasons specified by law is provided by a contract with the Management Authority. 5-year contract, currently 2006 – 2011.

Slovenia is in process of developing an information system SIRENA including different databases: Register of marked animals, CITES database, Register of endangered and protected species.

- "Register of marked animals" includes data on registered markers and suppliers of marks, species of acquired or marked animals, and obtaining, breeding, loss, death or escape of an animal.
- "CITES database" a computerised system for the issuance of permits and registering of trade in endangered species enables electronic processing and printing of documents, management of record of offences, reporting, analyses of data, management of the records of captive breeding, etc.
- The most recent in 2007 developed database "Register of endangered and protected species" contain the information on species names, higher taxa, legal status, administrative and legal measures. Database will include all species, protected by national legislation, ratified international agreements and common EU legislation.

This Database is accessible to public on the web-site <http://sirena.arso.gov.si/>, it will also be introduced to enforcement bodies.

## **SPANISH REPORT FOR THE CITES EUROPEAN REGIONAL REPORT**

Period covered: Between October 2006 and July 2008

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. New Parties**
- 3. Gaborone Amendment to the Convention**

### **4. CITES Committees and Other International Meetings**

Spain has attended regularly all the meetings of the European Union: SRG meetings, Committee and Enforcement Meetings. Also has attended the 14 CoP, and the meetings of the Standing Committee, Fauna Committee and Plants Committee.

The Spanish SA has attended the VI European Regional Meeting on CITES Flora held at Perugia, Italy, on October 2006. In January 2007, has attended the meeting of the CITES Strategic Plan Working Group held in Geneva, Switzerland. In April 2007, has attended the International Workshop of Experts on NDFs guidelines for *Swietenia macrophylla*, held in Cancun, Mexico. In August 2007, has attended the Workshop addressed to the CITES Parties of the Central America and Dominican Republic, organized by the World Bank on the implementation of CITES and *Swietenia macrophylla* that was held in Managua, Nicaragua.

### **5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance**

#### **6.**

In July 2007, the Spanish SA has attended the First Meeting of the Scientific Committees Chairmen of the Conventions related to Biodiversity, held in Paris, France. In November 2007, has given a lecture in the Second International Congress on Andean Orchids held in Loja, Ecuador. As well, has participated in a Seminar on Plants issues and the role of the Scientific Authority in Ecuador organized by the University of Loja.

The Spanish SA has participated in a course related to the application of CITES in Moldavia that was organized by this country and the European Union. In November 2007, the Spanish SA has participated in the National Workshop on International Trade of Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, that was organized by the MA of Bolivia and the CITES Secretariat.

The CITES MA of Spain also took part in the "Workshop on illegal trade between SE Asia and the EU" organized by TRAFFIC held on April 2008 in Brussels, Belgium.

The CITES MA of Spain and Portugal signed an agreement in 2008 that allows the Portuguese Authorities to use the Spanish Permit Database to authorize and issue CITES permits.

### **6. National Legislation**

Spain has published the "Real Decreto 1333/2006 de 21 de noviembre, por el que se regula el destino de los especímenes decomisados de las especies amenazadas de fauna y flora silvestres protegidas mediante el control de su comercio" on 30th November 2006. The main aim of the Royal Decree is to regulate the final destination of the seized specimens according to the provisions and objectives of the CITES Convention and the EU Regulations, creates a database of the seized specimens, sets the conditions to place a specimen in a proper institution, the conditions for the cession, donation, auction, sold, return to the country of origin or other actions related to the final use or destination of the seized specimens.

Spain has implemented a tax that must be paid by the applicant when submitting an application for a CITES import of (re)export permit or an internal EU Certificate. This tax has been approved by "Ley 32/2007 de 7 de noviembre, para el cuidado de los animales, en su explotación, transporte, experimentación y sacrificio", published on 8th November 2007.

Spain has published the "Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre, del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad" on 14th December 2007, which replaces important legislation of the 90's setting out the outlines of the national legislation related to the protection of wild fauna and flora.

The "Ministerio de Medio Ambiente" to which the SA belongs, has been re-named as "Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, y Medio Rural y Marino" by "Real Decreto 432/2008, de 12 de abril, por el que se reestructuran los departamentos ministeriales", published on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

## **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

The MA and SA of Spain has participated providing funds and teachers for two editions of the "Master's Degree Course in "Management, Access, Conservation and Trade of Species: the International Framework"; the first one (the VI Master) has held between the 8th of January and the 23rd of March of 2007, and the second one (VII Master) was held between the 7th of April and the 20th of June of 2008. In both editions participated teachers of the Spanish CITES MA and SA, CITES Secretariat, some MA of SA staff of other countries and some representatives of Customs and other departments. In 2007, participated 28 persons from 19 Parties, and in 2008, 25 participants of 16 Parties, such as: Albania, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine, Uganda, Venezuela, Vietnam and Yemen.

The Spanish SA has participated as a teacher in a Master that took place at the University of Salamanca on November 2006. Also, has given lectures in a course destined to forest officials in Asturias organized by the regional government (Comunidad Autónoma). In April 2008, the SA and MA gave lectures on a course related to alien species organized by the regional government (Comunidad Autonoma) of Castilla – La Mancha at Toledo.

During 2006, 2007 and 2008, the Spanish MA has participated in training courses on CITES for Regional Governments (Comunidades Autónomas), such as Asturias and Castilla-La Mancha. Also participates in training courses organized each year by the Spanish Custom Department addressed to Custom's staff of Latin-America. Also participates in courses addressed to the Spanish Custom's staff.

Regularly, staff of the Spanish MA and SA is giving assistance in capacity building courses destined to staff of the Enforcement Authorities (SEPRONA, Policía Municipal) focussed on CITES issues.

As part of the national provisions to reduce the administrative burden, since the last 13<sup>th</sup> June 2008, the citizens can submit their CITES applications by telematic means.

## **8. Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement**

Attached to the Biennial Report of the years 2005-2006 were enclosed details of the Administrative and Court cases opened during these years related to infractions or violations of CITES dispositions. We enclose the annexes of the Biennial Report 2005-2006. Details concerning the penal prosecutions or administrative sanctions related to the years 2007 and 2008 are not yet available.

## **9. Public Awareness and Information**

The Spanish CITES webpage [www.cites.es](http://www.cites.es), which began to work by the end of 2006, has been re-structured and updated during 2007 to make it more accessible and comprehensible.

The Spanish MA has participated also in specific courses addressed to traders in reptiles and birds organized by different associations.

## **10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

The Spanish CITES SA has participated in the Significant Trade Review of two species (*Rhea Americana* and *Tupinambis merianae*). Its conclusions were sent in time for the celebration of the 23rd meeting of the Fauna Committee held between the 19th and 24th April 2008.

Regarding the works related to the Significant Trade Review carried within the Plants Committee, the Spanish MA has reviewed Custom information on timber species and is following the *Hoodia* trade. Spain in participating in the *Prunus africana* Working Group, MA and SA attended an informal meeting during the CoP 14 organized by the Co-Chairs of the *Prunus africana* WG with the exporters and importers countries. Spain is going to collaborate with funding for a meeting in Kenya of the WG.

In the Plants Committee, the Spanish SA participated in the review of the Appendix, the MA follows supervising the nurseries with the SA.

The Spanish MA has asked the cooperation of other institutions to identify timber of *Dalbergia* species, *Fitzroya cupressoides*, *Swietenia macrophylla*, *Gonystylus*, *Pericopsis elata* and other species by DNA and microscope identification techniques.

The Spanish SA has published and distributed to the Parties the publication "Evaluation of the Harvest of *Prunus africana* Bark in Bioko (Equatorial Guinea): Guidelines for a Management Plan", published by the Publishing Service of the University of Córdoba in 2006.

Sweden

We just have some new information under heading 6. National legislation

and 8. Combating illegal Activities/Enforcement.

From 1st of January 2008 we have adopted a new Species Protection Ordinance (2007:845). There have been some minor changes compared with the former one- mainly have regulations from other national legislation been transferred to the mentioned Ordinance. Such regulations are for instance rules for preservation of species of animals and plants.

Under heading 8. we can report on a swedish cooperation project between the County Administrative Boards (regional enforcement authorities) and also with the CITES MA and SA, National Police Board, the swedish Customs, the Prosecution development Centre in Malmö and WWF/TRAFFIC Sweden. The project concerns supervision of endangered species in alternative medicin as for instance TAM. You can find a report about this project on CIRCA.

Best regards

Ernst Mehnert

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## UK Contribution to the European Regional Report

### Introduction

#### New Parties

#### Gaborone Amendment to the Convention

#### CITES Committees and Other International Meetings

The United Kingdom's SA (Flora), Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, continues its active participation in CITES matters. This included, *inter alia*, attending and participating at the:

- 4th European Regional CITES Plants Meeting, Perugia, Italy (18-21 October 2006) – the UK SA (Flora) was on the organizing committee for this meeting and gave a presentation on orchid species that may be found in illegal trade. It also prepared, along with UK HM Revenue & Customs 'Illegal trade in Cacti, Succulents and Orchids' – a CITES training exercise run at the meeting for all participants.
- CoP14 (The Hague, the Netherlands, June 2007) – the UK SA (flora) advised the German Presidency on timber proposals.
- PC17 (Geneva, Switzerland, April 2008) – the UK SA (flora) was Chair of PC17 Working Group (WG) 4 on the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species and participated in WG3 (Tree species annotations) and WG10 (Timber issues).
- Herbarium Techniques Course (International Conventions Module), Istanbul, Turkey (October 2006) and Trinidad & Tobago (November 2007) – over 60 students received training on CITES and CBD.

The UK Scientific Authority for Fauna (the Joint Nature Conservation Committee) participated at the:

- CoP14 (The Hague, the Netherlands, June 2007)
- AC23 (Geneva, Switzerland, April 2008) – the UK SA (fauna) participated in working groups on significant trade, sturgeons, and in a joint working group on ranching.

#### Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

The Government of the United Kingdom has provided financial and technical support for many CITES-related conservation projects in the period covered by this report. Defra contributed to the following programmes and projects:

- Flagship Species Fund - GBP 75,000: contribution to the fund administered by Fauna and Flora International supporting field conservation projects in developing countries. Support has been provided since the launch of the fund in 2001. Defra has provided over GBP500,000 to date which has helped leverage a similar total from the corporate sector. The fund focuses on species belonging to three main groups; primates, turtles and trees.
- CITES Elephant Trade Information System - GBP 30,000: payment supports the ETIS project, which collects data on legal and illegal trade in elephant products.
- CITES Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants – GBP 25,000: payment supports the MIKE project which collects data on illegal elephant killing. The UK has been an important financial contributor to both ETIS and MIKE in recent years.
- African Elephant Specialist Group - GBP 30,000: contribution to the costs of this IUCN Group, which is made up of specialists, conservationists and administrators in the range states of the African elephant. Its work supplements the MIKE and ETIS work. The UK has supported this Group in previous years. This payment together with that for the work of MIKE and ETIS demonstrates the UK commitment to elephants and fight against the trade in illegal ivory.

- African Elephant Dialogue Meeting – GBP 10,000: contribution towards the costs of a meeting of southern African countries, other range states and potential consumer nations which sought to secure common ground on the issue of resuming ivory trading.
- CITES Workshop on livelihoods – GBP 15,000: support for work on the impacts of CITES-listing decisions on the livelihoods of the poor. The UK sees this as an essential aspect of conservation work.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger – GBP 50,000: funds practical conservation projects that are taken forward by 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger - a partnership between London Zoo and Global Tiger Patrol. The UK has provided support in previous years.
- Global Tiger Forum (GTF) – USD 15,000: The UK continues to play an active role in promoting wild tiger conservation and holds a seat on the Executive Committee of the GTF. Additionally, Defra's Biodiversity Minister has been active in encouraging both range and non-range states to join GTF and has been supportive of the World Bank initiative on tiger conservation. The UK continues to be committed to tiger conservation.
- IUCN (World Conservation Union) Shark Specialist Group – GBP 30,000: contribution to the funding of an officer at the Shark SG to include travel costs to International meetings.
- South East Timber Trees Regional Workshop – GBP 20,000: contribution towards the cost of running the workshop

Other developments, initiatives and activities include:

- UK enforcement authorities regularly liaise with other countries' enforcement agencies (police and customs) on international investigations and intelligence through Interpol etc and the UK was represented on the Interpol Wildlife Working Group.
- The Heathrow CITES Team have worked with other MS to identify the best options for the re-homing of live animals.
- HMRC work closely with other countries when illegal CITES goods are found in transit and use controlled deliveries when possible.
- The UK Management Authority and the Scientific Authority regularly provide advice and training to UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies. The RBG Kew continued as an active member of the United Kingdom's Overseas Territories Conservation Forum and a number of its subgroups, including the South Atlantic Working Group and Wider Caribbean Working Group.
- The UK Management Authority and Scientific Authority (Fauna) - participated in a mission to the UK Overseas Territory of the Cayman Islands from 28<sup>th</sup> January-3<sup>rd</sup> February 2007 to advise on their implementation of CITES legislation. Subsequently, a CITES training course was held on the islands from 25-29th Feb 2008 with the involvement of the UK MA, SA (Fauna) and HM Revenue & Customs and to which the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Kew contributed information and training materials on plants
- In 2007/8 the UK (through the Scientific Authority for Fauna) assisted Montserrat with preparations for a CITES Training workshop with funding from the UK Government's Overseas Territories Environment Programme.
- A completed raptor project in Guinea funded by the UK MA and SA (Fauna) included an element of capacity building in species identification and survey techniques for local CITES Authorities.
- The UK has continued to work with other CAWT partners to identify opportunities where the profile of wildlife crime can be highlighted and has allowed us to include wildlife crime aspects in UK briefing for meetings (ie the UN Crime Commission) that we would otherwise have been unaware of or not involved. It is also helpful in keeping abreast of enforcement developments like the US Congressional Hearing on wildlife crime, the launch of the South Asia Wildlife Trade Initiative (SAWTI), the World Bank Tiger initiative and new developments in wildlife crime technologies like satellite tracking of jaguars in forest areas. The UK also took part in the launch of the US Public Service Announcements (PSAs) featuring Harrison Ford on 5 June 2008. This was a CAWT initiative (led by the US) to raise public awareness of the illegal trafficking of endangered species.

## National Legislation

### Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties

- RBG Kew has provided capacity building for approximately 300 UK enforcement officers and 30 officers from other EU member States during this reporting period. Kew has also a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CITES Secretariat to collaborate on training.
- An Officer from HMRC CITES Team attended an EU Regional Plants Seminar in Perugia Italy. He delivered a presentation on commercial orchid smuggling focusing on the lessons learned and experience gained in dealing with a prosecution case. With the UK CITES SA for flora a training module was developed and presented covering CITES Permits and document fraud. (October 2006).
- UK Management Authority staff has assisted in TAIEX programme for accession states : In October 2007 and April 2008, a HMRC CITES team officer based at Heathrow Airport participated as a member of the EU Commission (Taiex) sponsored training delivery team. Working with colleagues from the CITES Management Authority of Germany, CITES enforcement seminars were provided for Slovakian National Police officers with responsibility for enforcing the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations. In May 2008, a similar event was provided for officers from the Romanian Customs Service National Police officers with responsibility for enforcing the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations EU Wildlife Trade Regulations at the European Union external borders.
- A CITES team officer attended a Police and Customs CITES coordinators training workshop in Goniadz, Poland organised by WWF Poland. Gave presentations on four CITES enforcement related subjects including working with experts and rehoming of CITES species (an escalating problem it would seem) and the development of the NWCU. This was a follow up to two previous training events given by HMRC in Poland; it was further evidence of the positive work undertaken by both the Police and Customs services in Poland (April 2007).
- A CITES team officer attended a CITES Enforcement training event in Cluj-Napoca, Romania organised by WWF Hungary. As the joint trainer on the event he presented all the enforcement related sessions and exercises (May 2007).
- RBG Kew and HM Revenue & Customs designed and delivered a timber training course for over 30 Polish frontline Customs and Police officers and staff from the Polish Customs laboratory. The course covered timber species in trade, identification and enforcement issues for CITES-listed tree species. The two day timber course formed part of the Traffic Poland sponsored Polish Enforcement officers training week (February 2008).
- 5th Master's Degree Course on "Management, Access, Conservation and Trade in Species" at the International University of Andalusia, Spain (March 2007 and June 2008) - RBG Kew contributed to the course providing lectures on the Significant Trade process and identifying plants in trade and JNCC (SA Fauna) contributed to the modules on the scientific aspects of fauna in trade (March 2007 & May 2008).
- Kent and Sussex Police – RBG Kew and HM Revenue & Customs provided training on plants in trade for approximately 20 officers.
- CITES wood Identification course, Hamburg, Germany (Nov 2007) – Kew attended this wood identification workshop along with HM Revenue & Customs and UK Wildlife Inspectors.

### Combating Illegal Activities/Enforcement

The Government of the UK provided funding for the following two events:

- International workshop on the internet trade – GBP £15,000. The UK has contributed towards the cost of holding an in specimens of CITES listed species. Domestically we have consulted on a proposed code for internet trade.
- CITES Enforcement Expert Group – GBP 15,000. The UK provided this contribution to help facilitate the arrangement of a meeting of this group following a UK proposal at CoP 14.

National Wildlife Crime Unit

- The UK Government is contributing £300,000 to the National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) in each of the next three years. This should enable a higher degree of enforcement activity to flow from the work of the NWCU.
- Following a Strategic Assessment of wildlife crime in the UK, a number of priorities for enforcement were identified. An annual meeting of a Wildlife Law Enforcement Working Group, a meeting of UK conservation agencies and enforcement agencies, identifies priorities for enforcement effort from a conservation perspective - the illegal trade in CITES species was identified as a priority in 2007/08, and continues to be a priority in 2008/09.
- The NWCU provide support by collecting, analysing and disseminating intelligence to the police service and HMRC.
- The NWCU has Investigative Support Officers to enhance enforcement capability in conjunction with National Priorities
- Other developments, initiatives and events aimed at combating illegal activities include:
  - the UK Management Authority has seconded a Police Officer onto their staff to improve enforcement professionalism
  - A specialist post has been established within our dedicated CITES Heathrow customs team to develop computer risk profiles for high risk CITES items.
  - JNCC continues to host and provide the secretariat for an annual meeting of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Working Group (comprising representatives of police and other enforcement bodies, Defra, statutory UK conservation and other relevant agencies and some NGOs) to determine conservation priorities for enforcement effort; the group also has a CITES sub-group
  - The UK Management Authority together with Customs and TRAFFIC are collaborating on production of TAM identification guide for enforcement officers
  - Work is currently under way to make better use of veterinary and other border inspection staff to carry out CITES checks
  - Kew continues to assist UK enforcement agencies with the identification and maintenance of seized and detained material.
  - UK Management Authority is a participant in a UK government scheme to improve targeting and intelligence led inspection on regulatory programmes ("The Hampton Agenda")
  - Through our Sustainable Development Dialogue (SDD) process with key developing countries we are aiming at mutual learning on how to incorporate sustainable development values into government policy. This includes use of natural resources and wildlife crime enforcement is a key element within that. In our SDD with India the UK is funding a project aimed at training Indian wildlife enforcement officials on the implementation of CITES. A training plan has been developed in conjunction with TRAFFIC with modules aimed at customs officers, police and forensic officers and the judiciary. It is hoped this will be rolled out in 2008 and that it can be used elsewhere in due course.

UK Management Authority, Customs and Scientific Authorities (for Fauna and Flora) have delivered a number of training programmes to assist enforcement and inspection staff in CITES awareness & understanding. The following events have taken place:

- A new style CITES awareness training to HMRC Aircraft rummage teams (Detection) staff at Heathrow covering methods of smuggling, document fraud derivative identification and Health and safety (October 2006) .
- The work of HMRC in CITES enforcement and links to other forms of criminality at the UK Police Airport Crime Seminar in Southampton (October 2006).
- UK CITES Enforcement Course for Customs officers and Police Wildlife crime officers at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, fourteen students attended the event (October 2006).
- CITES awareness training and practical exercise to the Ministry of Defence Police and Royal Navy Police at Portsmouth Naval base covering CITES document fraud, implementation of EU legislation in the UK, smuggling routes, derivative exercise and Health and Safety (November 2006).
- UK CITES Enforcement Course at RBG Kew. Sixteen students attended the event including two Customs Officers from the Peoples Republic of Viet Nam (March 2007).

- Day visit to Heathrow Animal Reception Centre from Devon & Cornwall Police Wildlife Officers. The visit to the facility covered Health and Safety, animal Handling and species recognition. A CITES awareness training event followed covering smuggling methods, document fraud and derivative identification (June 2007).
- Training module for approximately 50 Customs officers working in the Red Channels at Heathrow. The module covered CITES plants in trade, document fraud, Health and safety and smuggling trends (July 2007).
- CITES awareness training for UK Police officers during the Police Wildlife Crime Officers course at Wethersfield (September 2007)
- CITES enforcement course covering legislation, enforcement techniques, document fraud, Health and Safety, wildlife forensics and identification. The course was attended by both Police and Customs staff responsible for enforcing both the EU and domestic wildlife legislation (March 2008).
- Police Wildlife Crime Officers (PWCO) Annual Conference – RBG Kew provided training and identification material for the 100 or so enforcement officers at their annual conference (October 2007) and JNCC (SA Fauna) contributed to the event on matters relating to fauna. [Note this is UK training only and should be in the section further down]

### **Public Awareness and Information**

- UK has attended various trade shows (antiques, falconers, auctioneers, reptile, tropical aquaria) and has placed articles in trade press to improve the general CITES awareness amongst significant trade groups
- UK has contributed £11,000 towards the publication of a CITES Manual for Botanic Gardens. This publication is for use by the 600 member gardens of Botanic Gardens Conservation International and covers translation into Spanish and Chinese and distribution to members.
- The JNCC (United Kingdom's SA Fauna) and the RBG Kew (United Kingdom's SA Flora) both provide scientific input at meetings of the Sustainable User's Network (SUN) and the LINK meetings (NGOs), providing updates for both groups on CITES issues relevant to fauna and flora.
- Assistance to traders – Kew continues to assist Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Animal Health with the development of 'Additional Guidance for Timber Importers and traders', a guidance note on tree species in trade.
- In October 2006 HMRC Officers from the Heathrow CITES team delivered a presentation on work of HMRC in CITES enforcement to 50 members of the Portsmouth Reptile Society. This highlighted the work undertaken by the department and how members of the public can assist in reporting wildlife crime.
- In November 2006 HMRC CITES team officer undertook a CITES awareness seminar for Senior Managers and Staff at the Eden Project in Cornwall. The seminar covered EU licensing requirements, UK CITES overview, NWCU & Enforcement regimes.
- In November 2006 and February 2007 an HMRC CITES team officer gave a presentation on HMRC's work in CITES enforcement to approximately 70 students at Hadlow College, Kent.

### **CITES Relevant Research, Scientific & Technical Information and Publications**

- UK has commissioned research by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre on the Impact on Livelihoods and Illegal Trade of the wild bird ban. A report containing the results of this research will be published electronically by July 2008.
- The UK contributed GBP 10,000 to an IUCN/Traffic project involving the analysis of the proposals to amend the CITES Appendices for CoP 14.
- The UK commissioned the Overseas Development Institute and Durrell Institute to undertake an 'Assessment of Recent Bushmeat Research and Recommendations to Her Majesty's Government', to inform discussions about UK policy on the bushmeat trade. There is particular interest in the effects of bushmeat on endangered species and on the livelihoods of the poor in producing countries. The report was published in September 2007.
- UK has commissioned research by the Royal Botanic Gardens into Development of Genetic Techniques for the forensic identification of CITES listed timber and wood products . The aim of

the project was the use of DNA barcoding techniques to identify timber as they are traded and to develop a forensically valid and affordable test. Work was carried out at the Jodrell Laboratory in Kew in association with a wildlife forensics laboratory – Wildlife DNA Services. The project focused on producing a validated method for the forensic genetic identification of ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) timber and wood products, for use by enforcement agencies (customs / border inspection) and commercial traders. The results of this pilot study pave the way for a full-scale project to develop a broader range of techniques to tackle timber trade issues in a number of species. Samples for the project were kindly supplied by Malaysia and the project was funded by Defra, the UK CITES MA [Development of genetic techniques for the forensic identification of Cites-Listed timber and wood products](#)

- Kew chairs a UK Timber Group bringing together UK enforcement officers, policy makers, scientists and forestry officers to discuss implementation of CITES for tree species within the UK.
- Following a study into the status of raptors of Guinea, commissioned by the UKMA and SA (Fauna) in collaboration with the CITES authorities of the Republic of Guinea, a first report of the work (*Survey of the occurrence and relative abundance of raptors in Guinea subject to international trade*) is available in French and English at <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4314> and will be distributed as hard copies shortly. Further reports from the work are in preparation.
- A study was also commissioned by the UK SA (Fauna) to produce an '*Annotated checklist of the CITES-listed corals of Fiji with reference to Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa and American Samoa*'. This study will be published shortly and will also be available electronically.
- Conservation and sustainable use of Geophytes in Turkey and Georgia – Kew is in discussion with colleagues from Turkey and Georgia to develop a project that will assess the impact of collection on geophyte species and methods of sustainable collection of bulbs for trade

The following publications and articles have been produced or are under review by RBG Kew:

- CITES Cactaceae Checklist 2nd Edition (1999) - work on a third edition has recently commenced in collaboration with the Italian SA
- Orchid Checklist Volume 5 (*Bulbophyllum*) – new information has been added to the checklist and it is in press
- Orchid Checklist 1 (the genera *Cattleya*, *Cypripedium*, *Laelia*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phragmipedium*, *Pleione* and *Sophronitis*) – this checklist is under review to add new data
- Trade in Choice Plants (2007) – this publication covered the specialist plant collector trade from China to UK. It involved co-operation with CITES MA of China, reviewed and assessed the trade, conservation status and cultivation status of those species identified in trade and agreed recommendations with the MA of China
- CITES Manual for Botanic Gardens (2007) - RBG Kew was co-author with Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) in the production of this manual. It covers CITES issues such as use of the Registered Scientific Institute label scheme under CITES
- McGough, H. N. (2006). Legislation: a key user of taxonomy for plant conservation and sustainable use. In Jury, S. & Leadlay, E. (eds) Taxonomy and Plant Conservation. 255-265. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press
- McGough, H.N., Roberts, D. L., Brodie, C. & Kowalczyk, J. (2006). CITES and Slipper Orchids,

## EU activities undertaken in 2006-2008 on CITES issues

### 1. Introduction

### 2. New Parties

### 3. Gaborone Amendment

The Gaborone amendment to CITES would allow the European Community to become a Party to CITES and to play a full role in the work of the Convention. The European Commission has continued its demarche towards Parties that have not yet ratified the Gaborone amendment. In that regard, the European Commission very much welcomes the recent decisions of Colombia, Madagascar and Guyana to ratify the amendment and hopes that other countries will also do so shortly.

### 4. CITES Committees and other International Meetings

In 2006, the European Commission representing the European Community attended as observer the 54th CITES Standing Committee as well as the CITES Animals and Plants Committees in 2006 and 2008, where it participated in a number of working groups.

In June 2007, the European Commission representing the European Community attended as observer the 55<sup>th</sup> CITES Standing Committee as well as CoP 14, both events held in the Netherlands.

### 5. Broader International Cooperation and Assistance

MIKE: The European Commission contributes EUR 9,814,000 to establishing a long-term system for monitoring the illegal killing of elephants (MIKE). This project will run over a period of 5 years and is considered as contributing to the EC Development Policy objectives to reduce poverty as it entails a support for sustainable economic, social and environmental development, based, *inter alia*, on the wise use of natural resources.

CITES-ITTO project: The European Commission contributes EUR 2,5 million, with co-funding from other partners, to the CITES-ITTO project ensuring international trade in CITES-listed timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation. This project will assist the relevant countries in meeting the scientific, administrative and legal requirements for management and trade in these timber species. It will provide capacity building for scientific authorities to make "non-detriment findings" for the harvest of these species and the development of regional management plans by supporting co-operation between countries.

CoP14 decisions: In order to assist in the implementation of certain decisions adopted at CoP14, the European Commission envisages a grant to the CITES Secretariat for an amount of 500.000 EUR with a view to improve the implementation and enforcement of the Convention and achieve greater synergies with other Conventions and organisations. The concrete activities covered under this grant are yet to be decided.

CITES Capacity building: The European Commission is considering support to a "CITES capacity building project" by the CITES Secretariat to strengthen the CITES implementation capacity of developing countries to ensure sustainable wildlife management and non-detrimental trade. It will focus on regional training workshops and certain in-country follow up capacity building activities following a needs assessment process. The concrete activities are yet to be decided.

### 6. National Legislation

CITES is implemented in the EU through Council Regulation 338/97/EC of 9 December 1996<sup>1</sup> on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.

Following the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP14) in The Hague, Netherlands, in June 2007, the Commission adopted a Regulation implementing the relevant changes in the Appendices (species listings) of the CITES Convention<sup>2</sup>. This Regulation furthermore implements changes to Appendix III to the Convention and includes additional amendments relating to the Annexes of Regulation (EC) 338/97 for certain non-CITES listed species. It also reflects the substantial changes agreed at CoP 14 in the list of nomenclature references and the rearrangement of the listing of animal species in the Appendices so that the orders, families and genera are presented in alphabetical order.

On 4 February 2008, an amendment to the existing so-called "Implementing Regulation" was adopted.<sup>3</sup> The amendments to this Regulation reflect the results of CoP 13 and CoP 14 and concern in particular sample collections and certain formalities relating to the trade in species of wild fauna and flora.

On 29 August 2007, Commission Regulation (EC) No 1037/2007 suspending the introduction into the Community of specimens of certain species of wild fauna and flora was adopted. This Regulation repealed Commission Regulation (EC) No 349/2003 suspending the introduction into the Community of specimens of certain species of wild fauna and flora. The Commission is currently preparing a revision of this Regulation.

### **Implementation**

Council Regulation (EC) 338/97 establishes the Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, the Scientific Review Group and the Enforcement Group. The Committee on Trade in Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which agrees on implementation measures for CITES, met four times in 2006, three times in 2007 and so far twice in 2008. The Scientific Review Group, which consists of the Member States' Scientific Authorities and examines any scientific question relating to the application of the Regulations, met four times in 2006, three times in 2007 and so far twice in 2008. The Enforcement Group, which consists of representatives of each Member State's authorities with responsibility for monitoring compliance and enforcement of the Regulations, met twice times in 2006, twice in 2007 and so far once in 2008. Due to the increasing importance of exchanging enforcement related information among enforcement, customs and police authorities, in particular because of the enlargement of the EU in May 2004, the meetings of the Enforcement Group have become increasingly important. In addition, the Enforcement Group decided to invite representatives of enforcement networks of other regions to take part in its meetings on a regular basis. In this context a representative of the ASEAN Enforcement Network took part in the EU Enforcement Group meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2007. Representatives from other regions have been invited to take part in future meetings of the Group.

In line with the international commitment to strengthen enforcement of CITES and in response to the Council's December 2006 conclusions on halting the loss of biodiversity, the Commission adopted on 13 June 2007 an EU Action Plan on CITES Enforcement in the form of a Recommendation to Member States. The Action Plan sets out a series of measures that Member States should implement in order to enhance their efforts to combat illegal trade. These include adopting national action plans for enforcement, imposing sufficiently high penalties for wildlife trade offences and using risk and intelligence assessments to detect illegal and smuggled wildlife products. Equally important consideration is given to raising public awareness about the negative impacts of illegal wildlife trade and ensuring greater cooperation and exchange of information within and between Member States as well as with third countries, Interpol and the World Customs Organization.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 61 of 3.3.1997, p. 1

<sup>2</sup> *Commission Regulation (EC) No 318/2008 of 31 March 2008 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (Official Journal L 95 of 8 April 2008)*

<sup>3</sup> *Commission Regulation (EC) N° 100/2008 of 4 February 2008 amending, as regards sample collections and certain formalities relating to the trade in species of wild fauna and flora, Regulation (EC) No 865/2006 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/9*

## **Other issues**

The Commission has concluded a number of contracts in order to ensure assistance in CITES implementation, enforcement and scientific matters.

The European Commission contracted Milieu to carry out a study on the enforcement of the EC wildlife trade regulations in the EU, which was finalised in December 2006. The purpose of the study was to identify, for each of the 25 EU Member States, the mechanisms and structures that are in place to ensure the effective enforcement of the EC regulations, in particular as regards the role and competencies of the relevant authorities / enforcement agencies as well as the level and form of cooperation and coordination between the different agencies and authorities at the national level. The study identified gaps and good practice and provided recommendations on the means of improving the enforcement mechanisms at national level as well as at the EU level. A number of the recommendations have already been acted upon both by the Member States and by the EU, including the adoption of the AU Action Plan on Enforcement.

The European Commission also contracted TRAFFIC and IUCN to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the EC wildlife trade regulations thereby assessing the EC wildlife trade legislation in place and identifying options for improving the effectiveness of the legislation in reaching the objective of CITES to ensure that trade in species does not threaten their survival. This study, which was finalised in December 2007, offered a number of recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the Regulations, in particular by addressing some complexities and inconsistencies in the current framework. The European Commission intends to discuss these recommendations with relevant stakeholders and Member State experts in the second half of 2008.

In the framework of a new Monitoring Contract with the European Commission, TRAFFIC will update the *Reference Guide to the European Community Wildlife Trade Regulations* and will prepare briefings for enforcement staff and species-related reports as well as other practical implementation information. They are also responsible for the compilation and analysis of the biennial reports of the EU Member States. TRAFFIC continues to ensure the monitoring of the website for wildlife traders in the EU ([www.eu-wildlifetrade.org](http://www.eu-wildlifetrade.org)) which they were mandated to set up under a previous contract.

UNEP-WCMC has been contracted to provide the trade data which the Member States and the Commission need to implement Community legislation. The contract provides for reviews and studies of species as well as the EU wildlife trade database which contains up-to-date information on the species and the legislative framework in the EU. They are also responsible for synthesis of Member States' annual reports.

## **7. Administrative Measures and Capacity Building in European Parties**

The TAIEX facility of the European Commission provided short-term technical assistance and capacity building to the New EU Member States, the candidate and potential candidate countries, and also to the countries covered by the Neighbourhood Policy and Russia. Through this instrument a number of technical workshops or short-term training related to the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations have been financed in these countries.

## **8. Combating Illegal Activities / Enforcement**

Enforcement Action Plan (see above)

## **9. Public Awareness and Information**

On the occasion of CoP 14, the European Commission produced a number of awareness-raising and information materials, including a brochure on the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations, a storybook on Wildlife Trade for children, a Video News Release on Wildlife Trade and disseminated this and other information through its Europa website

## **10. CITES Relevant Research, Scientific and Technical Information and Publications**

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