

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Animals Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 28 April – 3 May 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Sturgeons and paddlefish [Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16)]

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) on *Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish*, the Conference of the Parties “*DIRECTS the Secretariat to provide at each meeting of the Animals Committee a written report, based on information submitted by the range States concerned as requested in subparagraph a) iv) above, including references to relevant documents, on its activities related to the conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish.*”
3. Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16) further recommends¹, with regard to catch and export quotas, that Parties not accept the import of caviar and meat of *Acipenseriformes* species from stocks shared between different range States² unless export quotas have been set in accordance with a procedure outlined in paragraph a) of the second RECOMMENDS. As part of this procedure, subparagraph a) iv) requires that:

Range States have provided to the Secretariat by 31 December of the previous year, the export quota referred to in subparagraph i) as well as the scientific data used to establish the catch and export quotas under subparagraphs ii) and iii);

and subparagraph a) v) provides that:

If the quotas have not been communicated to the Secretariat by the deadline of 31 December, the relevant range States have a zero quota until such time as they communicate their quotas in writing to the Secretariat and the Secretariat in turn informs the Parties.

4. By 31 December 2013, none of the range States of *Acipenseriformes* that are concerned by the provisions outlined in paragraph 3 had established export quotas for caviar or meat from stocks shared with other range States, and no relevant information or data had been submitted to the Secretariat.
5. Consequently, the Secretariat will publish zero export quotas for caviar and meat of wild origin from *Acipenseriformes* species of all shared stocks. The shared stocks, range States and species concerned

¹ At CoP13 it was agreed that this recommendation would not apply to those range States where there is no commercial caviar harvest or export from shared stocks. It was also agreed, however, that the Secretariat or any Party would bring to the attention of the Standing Committee or Conference of the Parties any significant changes in the harvest or export of sturgeon products from such stocks.

² Quotas do not have to be established for specimens from endemic stocks, i.e. stocks not shared with other countries, and captive-breeding or aquaculture operations. Quotas communicated for such specimens are voluntary quotas.

are shown in the table below. In accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP16), the zero export quotas are applicable for the period between 1 March 2014 and 28 February 2015.

Shared stock	Range States	Species
Caspian Sea	Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan,	<i>Acipenser gueldenstaedtii</i> <i>Acipenser nudiventris</i> <i>Acipenser persicus</i> <i>Acipenser ruthenus</i> <i>Acipenser stellatus</i> <i>Huso huso</i>
North-West Black Sea and Lower Danube River	Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine	<i>Acipenser gueldenstaedtii</i> <i>Acipenser nudiventris</i> <i>Acipenser ruthenus</i> <i>Acipenser stellatus</i> <i>Huso huso</i>
Saint John River/Bay of Fundy	Canada, United States of America	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>
Amur/Heilongjian River	China, Russian Federation	<i>Acipenser schrenckii</i> <i>Huso dauricus</i>
Azov Sea	Russian Federation, Ukraine	<i>Acipenser gueldenstaedtii</i> <i>Acipenser nudiventris</i> <i>Acipenser ruthenus</i> <i>Acipenser stellatus</i> <i>Huso huso</i>

6. For similar reasons as indicated in paragraph 4 above, the Secretariat already published zero export quotas for caviar and meat of wild origin from *Acipenseriformes* species of all shared stocks in 2013 (for the period between 1 March 2013 and 28 February 2014); 2012 (for the period between 1 March 2012 and 28 February 2013); and 2011 (for the period between 1 March 2011 and 29 February 2012).

Recommendation

7. The Animals Committee is invited to take note of this document.