

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

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

Summary record of the ninth session of Committee I

8 March 2013: 14h15-17h30

Chair: C. Caceres (Canada)
Secretariat: D. Morgan
Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell
S. Delany
S. Glaser
C. Rutherford

The Committee reviewed the summary records in documents CoP16 Com. I Rec. 2, Com. I Rec. 3 and Com. I Rec. 4. The Chair of the Animals Committee commented that in the Spanish version of document Com. I Rec. 3, there was an error in the last sentence of the first paragraph of the section referring to agenda item 1 on page 1, indicating that the words "para prohibir" should be replaced with prohibir. With this amendment, the summary records were adopted.

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

57. Snake trade and conservation management

Switzerland introduced document CoP16 Com. I. 2 that proposed changes to the draft decisions in the annex to document CoP 16 Doc. 57 (Rev.1) and noted that these had been prepared in consultation with Indonesia. It drew attention to minor additions to the text in subparagraph a) ii) of paragraph 16.AA, subparagraph b) iii) of paragraph 16.BB and the addition of a new paragraph 16.DD bis.

Japan was unsure of the purpose of the addition of 16DD bis and proposed to add the words Parties are as necessary invited to after "snakes" in the first line. Indonesia clarified that in subparagraph a) range States that shared snake populations should develop the same standardized non-detriment finding system including estimates of a quota-setting system. For subparagraph b), countries should establish the catch quotas as well as the export quota to help with non-detriment finding.

China remarked that non-detriment finding was a process and proposed adding methodologies after "(NDF)" in 16DD bis b)

The draft decisions, with the amendments proposed by China and Japan, were accepted. It was agreed to repeal Decisions 15.75 to 15.78.

Trade control and marking

33. Non-detriment findings

South Africa introduced the draft resolution in CoP16 Com I. 3 drawing attention to the fact the the word "consideration" should be shown in strikeout in paragraph a) viii) under "RECOMMENDS" in the version

showing marked-up changes. Mexico requested a change in paragraph a) vi) under RECOMMENDS amending the word “consider” to allow consideration of. This amendment was accepted by the Committee.

China requested deletion of paragraph a) ii) and removal of the word “illegal” in paragraph xxx) under RECOMMENDS. Regarding paragraph C in the same section, it proposed replacing “nationally and internationally” with and range States.

The United States, supported by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which had represented the Member States of the European Union and Croatia in the working group, and South Africa, objected to the proposed changes, noting that there had been consensus in the group. The Chair of the Plants Committee noted that the terms of the working group had not included changes to the substance of the draft resolution.

The Chair noted there was no agreement on the amendments proposed by China, which agreed not to block consensus but requested that details of their proposed amendments be included in the summary record of the meeting.

The draft resolution was accepted as amended by Mexico and it was therefore agreed to repeal Decisions 15.23 and 15.24.

Amendments of the Appendices

77. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

China presented proposal CoP16 Prop. 27 to include *Protobothrops mangshanesis* (Mangshan pit viper) in Appendix II. It drew attention to the recent discovery of the species, its limited distribution and the threat posed by the pet trade. Noting that it considered the biological criteria for inclusion in Appendix II to be met, the United States, echoed by Madagascar and Pakistan, supported the proposal, which was accepted.

The United States presented proposal CoP16 Prop. 28 to transfer *Chelodina mccordi* (Roti-island snake-necked turtle) from Appendix II to Appendix I, noting that it had a fragmented and declining population and that it had recently been classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN.

Indonesia explained that the species was covered by national conservation policy and that an *in-situ* conservation programme existed. It considered trade to involve captive-bred specimens only and expressed concern that transfer to Appendix I might lead to increased interest from collectors. It suggested retaining the species in Appendix II with an annotation for a zero export quota for wild specimens. This was supported by China, Guyana and Qatar.

The United States reiterated that the species met the biological criteria for inclusion in Appendix I but conceded that reintroduction programmes might contribute to its conservation. It proposed that the species be included by the Animals Committee in the *Periodic review of the Appendices* during the next inter-sessional period.

The Committee accepted the amendment to maintain the species in Appendix II with an annotation for a zero export quota from the wild. It also agreed that a Decision be directed to the Animals Committee to request it to include the species in the *Periodic review of the Appendices*. A draft decision would be distributed to the Committee for its approval.

The United States presented proposal CoP16 Prop. 29 to include *Clemmys guttata* (spotted turtle) in Appendix II noting its popularity in the pet trade and reporting that it had been classified in 2011 by IUCN as Endangered, having previously been considered Vulnerable. Canada, as a range State, supported the proposal, as did Ireland on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Senegal and Switzerland. The proposal was accepted.

The United States presented proposal CoP16 Prop. 30 to include *Emydoidea blandingii* (Blanding's Turtle) in Appendix II. Canada, as a range State, noted that the species was protected by national legislation. Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, and Senegal supported the proposal, which was accepted.

The United States presented proposal CoP16 Prop. 31 to include *Malaclemys terrapin* (diamondback terrapin) in Appendix II. It was concerned that collectors targeted gravid females in order that their eggs

could be incubated and the hatchlings exported as captive-bred specimens. Burkina Faso, China, Ireland on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Senegal, South Africa and Switzerland supported the proposal. The United Kingdom, on behalf of Bermuda, whose population of the species was the only one outside the United States, summarized the status of the species on that island and noted that there was no known trade from Bermuda. The proposal was accepted.

China and the United States, the co-proponents, introduced Proposal CoP16 Prop. 32 regarding various freshwater box turtle species in the family Geoemydidae, specifically to include *Cyclemys* spp., *Geoemyda japonica*, *G. spengleri*, *Hardella thurjii*, *Mauremys japonica*, *M. nigricans*, *Melanochelys trijuga*, *Morenia petersi*, *Sacalia bealei*, *S. quadriocellata* and *Vijayachelys silvatica* in Appendix II and adopt a zero quota on export of wild specimens of *Batagur borneoensis*, *B. trivittata*, *Cuora aurocapitata*, *C. flavomarginata*, *C. galbinifrons*, *C. mccordi*, *C. mouhotii*, *C. pani*, *C. trifasciata*, *C. yunnanensis*, *C. zhoui*, *Heosemys annandalii*, *H. depressa*, *Mauremys annamensis* and *Orlitia borneensis*.

Guinea, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Senegal and Thailand fully supported the proposal. India further noted that it would prefer all these species to be included in Appendix I. Liberia, believing that it was a range State for two of the species, stated that it would need assistance to implement the proposed listing.

The chair ruled that if proposal CoP16 Prop. 32 were to be adopted, according to paragraph 6 of Rule 23, of the Rules of Procedure, proposals CoP16 Prop. 33, 34 and 35 would not be considered. Following some discussion and further clarification from the Chair, Viet Nam explained that it wanted consideration of proposal CoP16 Prop. 32 to be suspended and stated it intended to challenge the Chair's ruling when consideration of proposals CoP16 Prop. 33 and 35 became due. Japan, referring to proposal CoP16 Prop. 34 on *Geoemyda japonica*, accepted the Chair's ruling and expressed its intention to introduce a nationally established export quota of zero for commercial trade in the species, should proposal CoP16 Prop. 32 be adopted.

Proposal CoP16 Prop. 32 was accepted.

Viet Nam challenged the Chair's decision on proposals CoP16 Prop. 33 and Prop. 35. The challenge was put to a vote. Twenty-seven Parties supporting the challenge by Viet Nam, 59 opposed it and 17 abstained (see Annex). The challenge was therefore rejected.

Viet Nam subsequently requested that the two species concerned, *Cuora galbinifrons* and *Mauremys annamensis*, be included in the *Periodic review of the Appendices* as a matter of urgency.

Proposals CoP16 Prop. 33, 34 and 35 were not submitted to decision, in line with paragraph 6 of Rule 23.

Proposal CoP16 Prop. 36 to transfer Platysternidae spp. (big-headed turtles) from Appendix II to Appendix I was introduced by the United States and Viet Nam. The proposal was supported by Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, and Senegal and was accepted.

Proposal CoP16 Prop. 37 to transfer *Geochelone platynota* (Burmese star tortoise) from Appendix II to Appendix I was introduced by the United States. It was supported by Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, and was accepted.

China and the United States introduced proposal CoP16 Prop. 38 regarding several species of softshell turtle in the family Trionychidae, specifically to include *Aspideretes leithii*, *Dogania subplana*, *Nilssonina formosa*, *Palea steindachneri*, *Pelodiscus axenaria*, *P. maackii*, *P. parviformis*, and *Rafetus swinhoei* in Appendix II and transfer *Chitra chitra* and *C. vandijki* from Appendix II to Appendix I, noting that document CoP16 Inf. 16 contained further information.

Paraguay, India, Thailand and Humane Society International expressed their support for the proposal. India noted that they believed all of the species to merit inclusion in Appendix I, while Thailand stated that the species concerned were protected nationally and described captive-breeding operations in the country. The proposal was accepted.

Ecuador introduced proposal CoP16 Prop. 39 to include *Epipedobates machalilla* (Machalilla poison dart frog) in Appendix II. It explained that all other members of the genus *Epipedobates* were included in Appendix II, having formerly been included in genus *Dendrobates*, adding that the proposal had been prepared on the recommendation of the Animals Committee. The nomenclature specialist for fauna

explained that the Animals Committee had been unable to say if the animals now referred to as *Epipedobates machalilla* were included in the initial proposal to list *Dendrobates* spp. in Appendix II at CoP6 in 1987. Consequently, Ecuador was putting forward the proposal under the "look-alike" criterion for inclusion in Appendix II.

Argentina, Brazil, Madagascar, Paraguay, Uruguay, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Defenders of Wildlife supported the proposal. Paraguay noted that it had considered the species to have been automatically included in the listing for the genus *Epipedobates*, and expressed concern regarding the instability of the nomenclature. Proposal CoP16 Prop. 39 was accepted.

Following a suggestion by Australia and agreement by the Committee that they be considered together, Australia introduced proposals CoP16 Prop. 40 and 41 to delete *Rheobatrachus silus* (southern gastric-brooding frog) and *Rheobatrachus vitellinus* (northern gastric-brooding frog), respectively, from Appendix II. It noted that both proposals resulted from the *Periodic review of the Appendices*, and that both species were presumed extinct, the likely cause of extinction being infection by the chytrid fungus.

Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Israel, New Zealand and the United States supported both proposals. Israel appealed to Parties to take note that international trade in amphibians had contributed significantly to the spread of the chytrid fungus. Proposals CoP16 Prop. 40 and Prop. 41 were accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 17h30.

VOTE ON THE CHAIR'S DECISION ON AMENDMENT PROPOSALS
COP16 PROP. 33 [CUORA GALBINIFRONS (INDOCHINESE BOX TURTLE)] AND
COP16 PROP. 35 [MAUREMYS ANNAMENSIS (ANNAM LEAF TURTLE)]

List provided in English only.

1	Afghanistan	0	NA
2	Albania	0	NA
3	Algeria	1	NV
4	Antigua and Barbuda	1	NV
5	Argentina	1	ABST
6	Armenia	1	NV
7	Australia	1	YES
8	Austria	1	NO
9	Azerbaijan	1	NV
10	Bahamas	1	NV
11	Bahrain	1	ABST
12	Bangladesh	0	NA
13	Barbados	0	NA
14	Belarus	1	ABST
15	Belgium	1	NO
16	Belize	1	NV
17	Benin	1	NVP
18	Bhutan	1	ABST
19	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0	NA
20	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	NV
21	Botswana	1	NO
22	Brazil	1	YES
23	Brunei Darussalam	1	NO
24	Bulgaria	1	NO
25	Burkina Faso	1	NV
26	Burundi	1	NV
27	Cambodia	1	ABST
28	Cameroon	1	NO
29	Canada	1	NO
30	Cape Verde	0	NA
31	Central African Republic	1	NV
32	Chad	0	NA
33	Chile	1	NO
34	China	1	NO
35	Colombia	1	NO
36	Comoros	1	NO
37	Congo	1	NV
38	Costa Rica	1	NO
39	Côte d'Ivoire	1	NV

40	Croatia	1	NO
41	Cuba	1	YES
42	Cyprus	1	NO
43	Czech Republic	1	NO
44	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	NO
45	Denmark	1	NO
46	Djibouti	0	NA
47	Dominica	0	NA
48	Dominican Republic	1	NV
49	Ecuador	1	NVP
50	Egypt	1	YES
51	El Salvador	1	NO
52	Equatorial Guinea	0	NA
53	Eritrea	0	NA
54	Estonia	1	NO
55	Ethiopia	1	NO
56	Fiji	0	NA
57	Finland	1	NO
58	France	1	NO
59	Gabon	0	NA
60	Gambia	1	NVP
61	Georgia	1	NO
62	Germany	1	YES
63	Ghana	1	NVP
64	Greece	1	NVP
65	Grenada	1	YES
66	Guatemala	1	NVP
67	Guinea	1	NO
68	Guinea-Bissau	0	NA
69	Guyana	1	NO
70	Honduras	1	NO
71	Hungary	1	YES
72	Iceland	1	NVP
73	India	1	NVP
74	Indonesia	1	NO
75	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0	NA
76	Ireland	1	NO
77	Israel	1	YES
78	Italy	1	NO
79	Jamaica	1	ABST
80	Japan	1	YES
81	Jordan	1	NO
82	Kazakhstan	0	NA
83	Kenya	1	YES
84	Kuwait	1	ABST
85	Kyrgyzstan	0	NA
86	Lao People's Democratic Republic	1	ABST

87	Latvia	1	NO
88	Lesotho	0	NA
89	Liberia	1	ABST
90	Libya	1	NV
91	Liechtenstein	1	NV
92	Lithuania	1	NO
93	Luxembourg	1	YES
94	Madagascar	1	YES
95	Malawi	0	NA
96	Malaysia	1	NVP
98	Mali	1	NV
99	Maldives	0	NA
100	Malta	1	NO
101	Mauritania	1	NO
102	Mauritius	0	NA
103	Mexico	1	NVP
104	Monaco	1	YES
105	Mongolia	0	NA
106	Montenegro	1	NV
107	Morocco	1	NVP
108	Mozambique	1	NV
109	Myanmar	1	ABST
110	Namibia	1	YES
111	Nepal	1	NV
112	Netherlands	1	NO
113	New Zealand	1	YES
114	Nicaragua	0	NA
115	Niger	1	YES
116	Nigeria	0	NA
117	Norway	1	NO
118	Oman	1	ABST
119	Pakistan	1	NO
120	Palau	0	NA
121	Panama	1	NO
122	Papua New Guinea	0	NA
123	Paraguay	1	NO
124	Peru	1	NO
125	Philippines	1	YES
126	Poland	1	NO
127	Portugal	1	NVP
128	Qatar	1	NO
129	Republic of Korea	1	NO
130	Republic of Moldova	1	NV
131	Romania	1	YES
132	Russian Federation	1	ABST
133	Rwanda	0	NA
134	Saint Kitts and Nevis	1	ABST

135	Saint Lucia	1	ABST
136	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1	ABST
137	Samoa	1	NV
138	San Marino	0	NA
139	Sao Tome and Principe	1	NO
140	Saudi Arabia	0	NA
141	Senegal	1	NO
142	Serbia	1	YES
143	Seychelles	1	NO
144	Sierra Leone	1	NO
145	Singapore	1	YES
146	Slovakia	1	NO
147	Slovenia	1	NO
148	Solomon Islands	0	NA
149	Somalia	1	YES
150	South Africa	1	NO
151	Spain	1	YES
152	Sri Lanka	1	YES
153	Sudan	1	NVP
154	Suriname	1	NO
155	Swaziland	1	NV
156	Sweden	1	NO
157	Switzerland	1	YES
158	Syrian Arab Republic	0	NA
159	Thailand	1	YES
160	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	NA
161	Togo	1	NO
162	Trinidad and Tobago	0	NA
163	Tunisia	1	NO
164	Turkey	1	NO
165	Uganda	1	NO
166	Ukraine	1	ABST
167	United Arab Emirates	1	NV
168	United Kingdom	1	YES
169	United Republic of Tanzania	1	NO
170	United States	1	NO
171	Uruguay	1	NO
172	Uzbekistan	0	NA
173	Vanuatu	1	NV
174	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	1	NVP
175	Viet Nam	1	YES
176	Yemen	1	NV
177	Zambia	1	NV
178	Zimbabwe	1	ABST