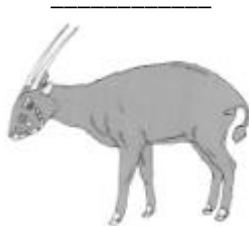


CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventeenth meeting of the Animals Committee
Hanoi (Viet Nam), 30 July-3 August 2001

Implementation of Decision 11.100 regarding trade in alien species

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

This report has been prepared by the Chairman of the working group on trade in alien species.

1. Decision 11.100 directed to the Animals Committee states that:

Cooperation shall be established with the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group in the implementation of their document 'IUCN Guidelines for the Prevention of Biodiversity Loss Due to Biological Invasion', of which parts are related to the trade in and transport of live specimens of species of wildlife.

2. The IUCN guidelines were presented at the 16th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC16) and an intersessional working group was established, to be chaired by Dr Rod Hay, the Regional Representative for Oceania, and comprising Dr Sixto Inchaustegui, the Regional Representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean, and the observers from the Bahamas, Canada, Chile, the Republic of Korea, Spain, the United States of America, Care for the Wild, International Wildlife Coalition, Northeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and PIJAC.
3. While it has been noted that few CITES species are actually invasive, there remains general support for maintaining contact with the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) and the Convention on Biological Diversity on this issue. Accordingly, Dr Hay attended the February 2001 meeting of the ISSG and discussed appropriate collaboration. This meeting was held in conjunction with the ISSG Conference on Eradication of Island Invasives. ISSG agreed to collaborate in the production of a list of potentially invasive CITES species. The terms of reference for this work have not been set and the work is yet to begin. A major component of this review is likely to be a compilation of trade statistics for a nominated set of CITES species that have proved to be invasive in some circumstances.
4. The Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) subsidiary body, SBSTTA, had the Invasive Alien Species issue as one of its main themes for SBSTTA 6 in March 2001. Some progress was made at that meeting towards the development of guiding principles concerning alien invasive species to be agreed by the Parties to CBD.

5. At AC16, the observer from IUCN/SSC was asked by the Chairman to contact the ISSG to request the development of condensed Guidelines in plain language for distribution to all CITES Parties. ISSG has been assisting the SBSTTA in the drafting of the Guiding Principles referred to above. It is anticipated that this document, when complete and agreed by CBD Parties, will provide the plain language guidance requested by CITES Parties. ISSG will be asked to confirm this.
6. Also advanced at the SBSTTA 6 was a proposal by ISSG and the New Zealand Government for the establishment of a "co-operative initiative to manage threats of alien species to island biodiversity." This initiative includes the proposed establishment of a centre of expertise and information to provide assistance on quarantine and emergency response activities, the eradication of invasive species from islands, management of alien species populations on islands and training and capacity building.