

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



Twenty-second meeting of the Animals Committee  
Lima (Peru), 7-13 July 2006

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

PROGRESS ON THE COUNTRY-BASED REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE IN MADAGASCAR

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Following recommendations from the Animals Committee adopted at its 17th meeting (Hanoi, July-August 2001) and the Plants Committee at its 11th meeting (Langkawi, September 2001), Madagascar was chosen for the first country-based Review of Significant Trade (see documents AC17 Doc. 7.5 and PC11 Doc. 11.2.1).
3. Since 2002, the Secretariat or the CITES Authorities of Madagascar have regularly reported to the Animals and Plants Committees on activities undertaken in the context of this country-based review (see documents AC19 Doc. 8.4; AC20 Doc. 8.3; AC20 Inf. 10; AC20 Inf. 11; AC21 Doc. 10.1.2; AC21 Inf. 2; AC21 Inf. 3; AC22 Inf. 4; PC12 Doc. 11.2.1; PC13 Doc. 12.2.1; PC14 Doc. 9.2.1; PC15 Doc. 10.1.2).
4. The country-based Review of Significant Trade concerns all Appendix-II animal and plant species in Madagascar. It generally follows the process laid out in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species, i.e. a) selection of species to be reviewed; b) consultation with Malagasy CITES authorities concerning the implementation of Article IV; c) compilation and review of information on the implementation of Article IV; d) formulation of recommendations and their transmission to Madagascar for their timely implementation; and e) monitoring and evaluation of the implementation.
5. By the end of 2003, the Animals and Plants Committees had formulated their recommendations in the form of a CITES Action Plan for the reform of Madagascar's wildlife trade, which had been developed in close collaboration with CITES Authorities and stakeholders of Madagascar.
6. The Animals and Plants Committees expressed a wish to be kept informed about progress with the implementation of the Action Plan at each of their regular meetings, and encouraged the Malagasy Authorities to attend these meetings for this purpose. At their meetings in 2005, the Committees requested Madagascar to produce a written report concerning the implementation of the Action Plan, clearly delineating progress against the Action Plan targets and time-frame. In response to this request, the Management Authority of Madagascar prepared a progress report and a tabular overview of actions undertaken in the context of the Action Plan which are presented in Annexes 1 and 2 to this document.

### Issues for consideration

7. The Animals and Plants Committees are invited to take note of the information in Annexes 1 and 2. The CITES authorities from Madagascar are expected to attend the present meetings to provide further information as necessary. The CITES Secretariat, in consultation with the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees, needs to determine whether the Action Plan has been implemented and report to the Standing Committee accordingly.



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—  
MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,  
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Management Authority

**Report to the CITES Secretariat**

**PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE CITES  
ACTION PLAN IN MADAGASCAR**

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## INTRODUCTION

A Party of CITES since 1975, Madagascar is a pilot country for the Review of Significant Trade. In order to improve the implementation of CITES in Madagascar, a stakeholders' workshop was organized in May 2003. Following that workshop, an action plan comprising five major lines of action was drafted. The lines of action are: national policy; legislation; scientific input into decision-making regarding collection of and trade in wild species; operational procedures regarding control of trade in wild species, from collection to export; and enforcement of controls.

The attached table summarizes the progress made in the implementation of the CITES action plan in Madagascar. This report describes some of the activities in greater detail.

### 1. NATIONAL POLICY

#### 1.1 Cost-benefit analysis of trade in wild species

The cost-benefit analysis had to be postponed because of the large scale of the study required; it will need to include all the species concerned, which will entail significant cost.

The Management Authority is, however, aware of the importance of this study, and has submitted it for financing by the joint donors' steering committee, a partner in Madagascar's Environment Programme 3, and to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

This study will make it possible to compare the costs to and benefits for the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests in the trade in wild fauna and flora, which in turn will make it possible to refine the legal provisions concerning taxes on the collection and export of wildlife. However, it will also, in accordance with the country's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the national strategy for the management of biodiversity, provide some guidance on how to return some of the benefits to local communities. With that in mind, the following points have been added to the terms of reference proposed by the Secretariat:

(5b) The recommendations should include:

- (i) a proposal to amend the tax rate on international trade in species, if needed, based on the findings of the study.  
The rebate rate should also be suggested at each stage of operation concerning the species.
- (ii) the estimated retail price for each species, or least for each group of species, based on the price at the international level and the fees to be paid at the national level.

#### 1.2 Development of a code of conduct

Law 90.033 (1990) on the environmental charter and the national strategy for the management of biodiversity (2002) provide the legal framework for all legislation relating to biodiversity (including CITES). With a view to refining national policy on trade in wild fauna and flora species, terms of reference have been drafted. These terms of reference, which include the responsibilities of operators, may be modified based on the findings of the cost-benefit analysis.

### 2. LEGISLATION

#### 2.1 to 2.4 Development of legislation concerning trade in species

In late 2004, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests launched a study, financed by the French international cooperation agency (*Coopération française*) and by WWF, the objective of which was to harmonize the disparate legislative measures that have been instituted in the past to implement CITES and to address the gaps in existing legislation. The following laws have been enacted as a result:

- Law 2005-018 on international trade in species of wild fauna and flora (which establishes the documents and procedures for international trade in conformity with CITES, strengthens protection of non-CITES wildlife species, establishes precise definitions of infringements of the rules of

international trade and sets deterrent penalties for violators). This law is based on the CITES model law and follows the recommendations of the Secretariat. Naturally, it has been adapted to the national context, notably through the creation of a fourth appendix that includes all non-CITES species. Special measures and provisions are established for this group of species, such as the need for an exit authorization in lieu of a CITES permit.

- Decree 2006-097, establishing the procedures for implementation of the law on international trade in wild fauna and flora species (which defines the responsibilities of the Management Authority and the other authorities and the nature of their relationships).
- Decree 2006-098 concerning publication of the revised CITES Appendices.

Administrative procedures are currently being completed with regard to the following other legal measures, which are then to be submitted to the competent authorities:

- an administrative order establishing wildlife hunting and collection periods
- a decree concerning classification of wild animal species (revision of a previous decree in accordance with the CITES Appendices and the IUCN classification system, and in the light of the latest available information on the status of Malagasy species). This list is currently being verified by the Scientific Authority before being submitted to the Government's council.
- a decree modifying the implementation procedures for Executive Order 60-126 of 3 October 1960, which establishes the regulations governing hunting, fishing and the protection of fauna.

With regard to legislation on plants, the Scientific Plants Committee met to distribute the species studies among the various specialists, who will be responsible for classifying plant species on the basis of the threats they face.

### 2.5 Terms of reference for the Scientific Authority

The Scientific Authority was officially designated in March 2003 (ministerial order currently being revised in compliance with the law and the new decree mentioned above) and has been fully operational since February 2004. The Scientific Authority comprises two entities: the Scientific Authority for animals is the Department of Animal Biology at the University of Antananarivo, and the Scientific Authority for plants is the Department of Plant Biology at the same university. Each authority is staffed by prominent scientists from academic or scientific institutions.

## **3. SCIENTIFIC INPUT**

### 3.1 and 3.2 Establishment of a transparent methodology for setting quotas

All the experts on the various groups of fauna (insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) met in April 2006 to establish an objective methodology for setting quotas. This methodology establishes formulas based on various parameters: area of occurrence, habitat, fragmentation, abundance, density, population size, etc. It will be available shortly on the CITES-Madagascar website. The data used were derived from field studies of each group in Madagascar. The formulas obtained will be refined or adjusted subsequently in the light of new field studies.

Cautious quotas are used for groups for which data are unavailable or insufficient.

### 3.3 Species studies

The existing scientific data on biodiversity in Madagascar are far from sufficient. Studies on the taxonomy of fauna and flora carried out in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will be available soon on the CITES-Madagascar website.

For fauna, the data on freshwater fish, amphibians, reptiles, and lemurs and other mammals were regrouped during the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) workshop on Malagasy fauna in May 2001. The IUCN data on amphibians and mammals were updated in October 2004, during the Global Amphibians Assessment, and in March 2005, during the Global Mammals Assessment (data available on the Web).

Studies of the following species are currently underway, with funding from Conservation International: *Scaphiophryne marmorata*, *S. pustulosa* and *Dyscophus guineti*.

With regard to flora, a workshop to validate the summary document on traded plants was held in January 2005 with the objective of drawing up a proposed amendment and establishing a list of priorities for species requiring a specific study. Thirty-five species were identified as urgent priorities for field study. Among these, the following species were studied in 2005: *Aponogeton capuronii*, *Dypsis decaryi*, *D. sainteluceii*, *Ravenea rivularis*, *R. xerophila*, *Pachypodium brevicaule*, *P. densiflorum* and *Operculicarya pachypus*. These field studies, also financed by Conservation International, will be completed in June 2006. For 2006, research proposals have been submitted to Conservation International for the eight most frequently traded species found in the northern part of the island (*Aponogeton boivinianus*, *A. longiplumulosus*, *A. fenestralis*, *Euphorbia bongolavensis*, *E. primulifolia*, *E. boinensis*, *Aloe suarezensis* and *Pachypodium rosulatum* var. *rosulatum*).

### 3.4 Establishment of a permanent secretariat

Permanent secretariats for fauna and for flora have been in place since January 2005. Their functions are compilation of information on species, communication and miscellaneous secretariat functions, especially assisting the Scientific Authorities.

### 3.5 Database and website

The purpose of the [www.cites-madagascar.mg](http://www.cites-madagascar.mg) website is to bring together all the available data on Malagasy species, management of species, trade, legislation and information from the Scientific Authorities. The site is currently online, although the database is not yet complete. The permanent secretariats are responsible for updating the site as new data become available. In addition, permission to use the data held by a number of institutions has been requested. It is also expected that a team of national and international scientists accredited by the Scientific Authority will be given online access in order to input data derived from their studies into the database.

The French international cooperation agency (*Coopération française*) provided funding for the design of the database and the website, and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) has agreed to finance the website hosting and domain name for 2007, with the condition that the non-detriment findings of the Scientific Authority be clearly posted on the site.

## **4. MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL PROCEDURES**

### 4.1 Mechanism for monitoring implementation of the action plan

Since the development of the action plan in 2003, several national and international institutions have supported the Management and Scientific Authorities in implementing the plan (the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the observatory for the forest sector, WWF, *Coopération française*, USAID through the Jariala project, Conservation International, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Durrell Wildlife and Conservation Trust).

A ministerial order is being drawn up to convert this *ad hoc* committee into a formal mechanism for monitoring implementation of the action plan.

### 4.2, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9 and 4.11 Mechanisms for monitoring and tracking permits, collection and stocks

These activities are being financed through the Jariala project. The consultants began their work in late April.

The terms of reference for the breeding operations, stocking centres and nurseries have just been signed by the operators. Periodic monitoring and close collaboration between operators are necessary and are being pursued.

### 4.3 Procedures manual

The manual of procedures for the management of wild fauna and flora in Madagascar was completed in January 2006. It sets out the formalities that must be followed in order to collect, transport, hold and export specimens of wild species. The appendices to the manual contain copies of the administrative documents to be completed in each case. The manual will be a very useful tool for operators, but it will also be helpful for the forestry officials responsible for the management of wild species, both in Antananarivo and in the regions. The first part of the procedures manual is available now for consultation by anyone wanting information on the management of wild fauna and flora in Madagascar. However, the document has not yet been widely distributed because it has been agreed that the results of the above activities (4.2, 4.4, 4.7, 4.9. and 4.11) should be incorporated into the final version of the procedures manual.

### 4.5 Anti-corruption strategy

A partnership agreement was signed between the Independent Anti-Corruption Bureau (*Bureau Indépendant Anti-Corruption*, BIANCO) and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests (Management Authority) in mid-February 2006.

The issue of wildlife management figures prominently in the action plan drawn up in the framework of that agreement for 2006-2007. Several meetings have been scheduled to refine the various actions relating to CITES.

### 4.6 and 4.10 Quota allocation system

Allocation of quotas among operators is a problem that remains to be solved. There are 15 operators among whom the quotas must be shared, but they cannot be distributed equally because the operators do not all have the same capacity.

To address this problem, the Management Authority and the Scientific Authority for animals have decided to carry out a technical assessment of the infrastructure of each operator before the yearly allocation of quotas. The quotas are then allocated to the operators based on the findings of the assessment of the breeding centres. The evaluation grid used to assess the centres was developed on the basis of criteria from the Scientific Authority and from the Management Authority. It is to be revised in the near future.

### 4.8 Formalize exporters' association

An association of exporters, with about 15 members and a set of by-laws, currently exists. The by-laws of the association were approved by all members.

## **5. COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

### 5.1 and 5.2 Trainings and stakeholder meetings

There is still little awareness among stakeholders outside the capital city of the various provisions and measures put in place since the implementation of the action plan began. Communication, training and coordination workshops for the implementation of the CITES action plan will therefore be organized in the regions, starting in July. During these workshops, CITES procedures in general and national procedures for species management will be described. Participants will also be trained to recognize the main CITES species. Training materials are currently being written in preparation for the first session, which is expected to take place during the month of June. For this year, the six cities targeted for training workshops are cities that are points of departure for international flights or that are the site of intensive collection of wild specimens.

### 5.3 Production and distribution of identification materials on the most frequently traded species

Madagascar has produced various documents this year to facilitate identification of the most frequently traded species. These documents will serve as training tools for the activities described in 5.2 above.

The most exported species (belonging to the genera *Uroplatus*, *Phelsumas*, *Mantellas*, *Discophuses*, *Scaphiophrynes*, *Pachypodiums* and *Aloe*) have been selected for the preparation of species identification sheets. These sheets will be completed by the end of May and will be distributed mainly to enforcement agents and Customs officials.

A guide on chameleons has also been developed.

#### 5.4. CD-ROM on CITES (legislation, procedures, roles of Scientific and Management Authorities)

With the assistance of *Coopération française* and WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society), CD-ROMs were produced and distributed in September 2004.

#### 5.5 Participation in international CITES meetings

The Malagasy authorities believe that participation in the various CITES meetings is essential in order to ensure that the country's situation is well understood in the CITES community, and have therefore decided to send at least one representative to every meeting of the Committees and the Conference of the Parties since 2003.

### **6. SUSTAINABLE FINANCING**

Trade in wild species in Madagascar generates significant revenues for the National Forest Fund. The official responsible for finance within the Ministry is currently involved in negotiations aimed at securing the use of some of these funds by the service responsible for CITES in order to finance activities related to the action plan.

**CITES ACTION PLAN FOR THE REFORM OF MADAGASCAR'S WILDLIFE EXPORT TRADE  
PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION  
MAY 2006**

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
<b>1. NATIONAL POLICY</b>					
1.1. Undertake a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) on trade in wildlife species (comparison with benefits linked to ecotourism, cost of biodiversity management). Use the results of this analysis to inform the policy framework and to propose a strategy for sustainable trade.	MINENVEF, CITES Committee-Mg, SA	FAO – joint donors' committee	Start of the study: July 2006	-ToR developed -Financing found -Study report	OK ToR submitted to FAO NC
1.2. Develop a code of conduct for trade in wild species, in accordance with existing national policy documents concerning biodiversity and the environment	MINENVEF, NGO		Started in September 2005	-code of conduct/terms of reference	OK The terms of reference have been signed by the operators. A more refined code may be developed on the basis of the results of the CBA.
<b>2. LEGISLATION</b>					
2.1. Draw up legislation on international trade in species of wild fauna and flora and regulations for implementation of the legislation	MINENVEF, CITES Committee-Mg, SA, legal consultant	Coopération française, WWF	2005 session of Parliament	-Development of ToR -Recruitment of consultant -Internal preparatory meetings -Validation workshops -Submission to the CITES Secretariat -Submission to the Government's council -Submission to Parliament -Adoption of the law	OK OK OK OK OK OK OK OK OK

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
2.2 Update legislation on fauna: classification of species (harmful, protected, game); hunting season for different species; establishment of collection permits; revision of fines	MINENVEF, CITES Committee-Mg, SA, legal consultant	Coopération française, WWF	Government's council, 2005	-Development of ToR -Recruitment of consultant -Internal preparatory meetings -Validation workshops -Submission to the Government's council -Adoption of the legislation	OK OK OK OK EC EC
2.3. Revise legislation on flora	MINENVEF, SA		2006	-Development of ToR -Internal preparatory meetings -Validation workshops -Submission to higher authorities -Adoption of the legislation	UW UW NC NC NC
2.4. Draw up regulations concerning export of non-CITES wild species	MINENVEF, CITES Committee-Mg, SA, legal consultant	Coopération française, WWF	2005 session of Parliament	-New law: all exports of non-CITES species are subject to exit authorization	OK
2.5. Establish terms of reference for the Scientific Authority	SA, MA	No financing required	2003	-Establishment of an ad hoc CITES committee -Meetings to select the SA -Drafting of the decree establishing the roles and responsibilities of the SA	OK OK OK
<b>3. SCIENTIFIC INPUT</b>					
3.1. Design and implement a transparent system for setting quotas for each functional species	SA	WWF, MBG (fauna) and CI (flora)	2004	-Methodology for fauna formulated - Methodology for flora formulated	OK (new methodology formulated in April 2006) UW (definition of parameters)

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
3.2. Establish quotas for collection and export of CITES and non-CITES species	SA	Flora workshop: CI Fauna workshop: WWF	2005	-Workshop reports -Quota for each species established and justified -Data sheets validating the quota for each species prepared	OK (fauna), UW (flora) OK (fauna), UW (flora) UW
3.3. Carry out field studies for each heavily traded species	Universities, scientific research institutions	CI (fauna) CI (flora)	2 animal species per year 8 plant species per year	-Identification of species to be studied -Field study report finalized -Determination of species status	OK (based on: study reports, conservation status of species and commercial potential) UW (fauna: end of year 2006, flora: June 2006) UW
3.4. Establish a permanent secretariat: monitoring of action plan implementation, coordination between various actors, updating of the database, most recent scientific information to operators, assistance to the SA in the examination of Malagasy species listed in the CITES Appendices and of quotas allocated, secretariat functions.	MA, SA	Operators (2% of the value of exports)	Early 2005	-2 permanent secretaries recruited and working -Financing system found -Monthly reports on the activities of the permanent secretariats	OK OK but temporary UW
3.5. Design a simple information management system (database of existing information, organized by species) + putting the information online + training	MA, SA, PS, Plants and Animals Committees	Coopération française/ IFAW	September 2005	-Database on species organized -Committee to validate the scientific data appointed -CITES-Madagascar website finalized: <a href="http://www.cites-madagascar.mg">www.cites-madagascar.mg</a> -Training for permanent secretaries	OK but still to be completed (stat) NC OK OK

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
<b>4. MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b>					
4.1. Design and implement a mechanism for monitoring implementation of the action plan	MA, CITES Committee	No financing required	2004	-CITES Committee/Madagascar established (MA, SA, PS) -Annual progress report on action plan submitted to CITES Secretariat -Report of each meeting available	UW: Ministerial order officially establishing the committee being drawn up OK OK
4.2. Develop a methodology for tracking permits (consistency of authorizations of the Scientific Authorities, permits issued by the MA, actual exports against quotas allocated and imports of Malagasy species in other countries)	MINENVEF (MA, general inspection), OFS	Jariala	December 2005 Deferred to 2006	-ToR developed -Consultant identified -Document on permit tracking methodology drafted	OK OK UW
4.3. Update, validate and distribute procedures manual on trade in fauna and flora	MA	Coopération française/Jariala	December 2005	-Manual updated -Validation meeting -Manual distributed	OK OK UW
4.4. Design and implement a streamlined procedure for authorizing exports of CITES and non-CITES specimens	MA, OFS	Jariala	2007	-Document on permit tracking methodology drafted -Networking SA-MA-OFS	UW NC
4.5. Design and implement an anti-corruption strategy	MA, OFS, MCU		First meetings: February 2006	-Internal document on anti-corruption strategy -Document identifying the main issues to be addressed -Meetings with the Independent Anti-Corruption Bureau (BIANCO)	OK NC NC
4.6. Design and implement an agreed, transparent quota-setting system	MA-SA	No financing required	2003	-ToR developed -Quota-setting system designed and implemented	NC OK but a new more objective system is needed

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
4.7. Design and implement a system to allow MA to monitor and control collection of wild specimens	MA	Jariala	Starting in 2005	-Establishment of an up-to-date stock record -Unannounced visits to breeding operations and nurseries -Document on collection monitoring methodology	UW NC NC
4.8. Formalize exporters' association	Exporters	No financing required	August 2005	-Structure with by-laws and president -Legal establishment of the association	OK OK (by-laws)
4.9. Design and implement standardized stock-monitoring system for each operator	MA, PS, SA, exporters' association	Jariala	2005	-Establishment of categories to be included in the stock record -Validation meeting MA, SA, PS, exporters -Document on stock-monitoring methodology	OK OK NC
4.10. Draw up a set of minimum standards for different categories of operator	MA	No financing required	2004	-Terms of reference for operators	OK
4.11. Develop a standardized procedure for collecting Customs export data (target Tamatave, Ivato)	Customs officials, SA, MA, OFS	Jariala	Starting in 2006	-Document on data collection procedure -Validation workshop	NC NC
<b>5. COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES</b>					
5.1. Organize annual meetings of stakeholders	MA		October of each year	-Stakeholder meetings -Meeting report	NC NC

Actions	Actors	Potential financial partners	Time frame	Performance indicators	Progress indicators
5.2. Provide training for all relevant agencies (DGEF, police, Customs, operators, etc.) in the six provinces	MA, SA	Jarijala, WWF	Start date: July 2006	-ToR developed -Training document written -Training report written	OK UW NC
5.3. Produce and distribute identification materials for the most frequently traded species	SA, PS, consultant	Coopération française, CI, WWF	January 2006	-Guide to chameleons -Species identification sheets for the most frequently traded species (Uroplatus, Phelsuma, Mantella, Pachypodium and Aloe)	OK  UW
5.4. Produce and distribute CD-ROM on CITES (legislation, procedures, roles of the SA and MA)	MA, PS	Coopération française, WCS,	September 2004	-CD-ROM produced -CD-ROM distributed	OK OK
5.5. Participation in international CITES meetings	MA, SA	NGO and donors	Funding to be mobilized each year	-Malagasy delegation to CoP13 -Malagasy delegation to PC15 -Malagasy delegation to AC21 -Malagasy delegation to PC16 -Malagasy delegation to AC22 -Malagasy delegation to CoP14	OK NC OK UW UW NC
<b>6. SUSTAINABLE FINANCING</b>	MA, CITES committee	Malagasy Government	2007	-Legislation indicating the budget allocations for CITES	NC

**Difficulties encountered that might cause delays in implementation**

- Communication difficulties (no telephone or Internet connection in offices of the head of the biodiversity conservation service and in Customs offices;
- network problems within the Scientific Authority)
- Staff shortages within the Management Authority
- No permanent source of financing; funding must be sought from donors
- It is difficult to find donors who are prepared to provide long-term funding for activities such as the species studies or the cost-benefit analysis of trade in wild species.

**Status:**

UW = Activity under way NC = Activity not commenced or not carried out OK = Activity completed

**Other abbreviations:**

CBA: cost-benefit analysis; CI: Conservation International; CITES Committee-Mg: CITES Committee Madagascar; FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; IFAW: International Fund for Animal Welfare; Jariala: USAID project working with the Directorate General of Water and Forests (Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts, DGEF); MA: Management Authority; MBG: Missouri Botanical Garden; MCU: mobile control unit; MINENVEF: Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests; NGO: non-governmental organization; OFS: Observatory for the forestry sector; PS: permanent secretariat; SA: Scientific Authority; ToR: terms of reference; WCS: Wildlife Conservation Society; WWF: World Wide Fund for Nature.