

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



Twenty-fourth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva, (Switzerland), 20-24 April 2009

Regional reports

ASIA

1. This report has been submitted by the regional representative for Asia (Ms Siti Nuramaliati Prijono, Indonesia).\*

General Information

2. AC membership: Regional representative on the AC for Asia are Mr. Mohammad Pourkazemi from Iran, Ms. Siti Nuramaliati Prijono from Indonesia, Mr. Nobuo Ishii from Japan (alternate member) and Mr. Choo-Hoo Giam from Singapore (alternate member).
3. Parties in the region: 34
4. Parties responding to communications in February 2009: 8 (China, Japan, Kuwait, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippine, Singapore, Thailand.).

National, regional or international CITES meetings or events

5. Indonesia organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) in Jakarta-Indonesia, 28-30 January 2008.
6. Thailand held a meeting with local officer and fish trade inspection Officers to "Identification of Aquatic Animal follow Wildlife Reservation and Protection Act BE.253 at Prajonbkirikun Province on 26-29 February 2008.
7. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Animals Committee in Geneva- Switzerland on 19-24 April 2008.
8. Thailand organized the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ASEAN Experts Group for CITES (AEG-CITES), Chonburi (Thailand) on 21-23 May 2008. The Meeting noted the development of the ASEAN Charter and how it could facilitate the work of AEG-CITES especially in achieving a single voice and a common position on CITES issues before its Conference of the Parties (COP) and committee meetings. The Meeting was updated on matters related to the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and also deliberated on issues such as animal rescue centres and disposal of confiscated animals.

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

The ASEAN Member States presented their country reports which included the work programmes under the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) and Regional Plan of Action (RAP) (2005 - 2010).

9. Lao organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) in Vientiane- Lao, People's Democratic Republic on 26 - 27 May 2008. The meeting received updates from respective ASEAN member countries on their Task Forces' progress, its success stories on wildlife seizures and challenges faced etc. The meeting also discussed on specific strategic action plans in the areas of investigations, capacity building and public communications and funding. The ASEAN-WEN Program Coordination Unit (PCU) presented a paper on the sustainability plan for PCU. There were also presentations delivered by the ASEAN-WEN Support Program, the CITES Secretariat, Interpol and the US Department of Justice.
10. From the end of June to the beginning of July 2008, Chinese Cites Management authority sent a delegation to the USA to implement the bi-lateral exchange program stipulated under the Sino-US nature protocol. FWS as the host, introduced the delegation the whole structure of CITES in the US and also invited the delegation visited the several port checking points, endangered species rescuing facilities.
11. Singapore organized a workshop on 'Trade and Conservation of Pangolins native to South and Southeast Asia' jointly organized by Wildlife Reserves (WRS) and TRAFFIC Southeast Asia at Singapore Zoo on 30 June- 2 July 2008. The workshop was attended by participants from government departments, non-government organizations (NGOs) and research institutes from the ASEAN countries, China and Taiwan. There were presentations by the various participants addressing the issues and challenges of pangolin trade in their countries, conservation, ecology and biology and husbandry and management of pangolins. Five working groups were formed and each group put forward their recommendations and developed actions plans to assist relevant enforcement agencies in prioritizing and focusing their efforts to halt illegal pangolin trade. The workshop also helped to raise awareness of consuming and source countries. The recommendations were to be forwarded to the ASEAN-WEN Program Coordination Unit (PCU) to be disseminated to the ASEAN member countries.
12. 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, Geneva, Switzerland on 14-18 July 2008.
13. 20<sup>th</sup> Interpol Wildlife Working Group meeting in Lyon, France on 13 - 15 October 2008. The meeting consisted presentations from NGOs offering their technical and financial assistance to member countries in the curbing of illicit trade in wildlife and discussions by the working group members on wildlife matters such as the use of alternative strategies in the prosecution of wildlife crimes, a smuggling techniques guide for wildlife enforcement officers, the use of Eco-message to file wildlife crime data with Interpol General Secretariat, and the use of cutting-edge forensics tool to aid with investigations on wildlife crimes. Breakout groups were formed to tackle on pertinent issues such as the illegal trade in ivory and reptiles.
14. Two regional meetings of Arab Team for The International Environmental Conventions of Biodiversity and Desertification, The Arab League – Cairo – Egypt on April 2008 and Damascus – Syria on October 2008.
15. Indonesia held seminar on seahorses breeding in Jakarta, 13 October 2008.
16. China organized the TRI-PARTY (China-Mainland, HongKong SAR and Marco SAR) CITES implementation coordination meetings from October 20 to 24 in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province.
17. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the standing committee of GCC Convention on wildlife conservation.
18. China attending and support the Wildlife Conservation Society's award ceremony in the December 2008 when five institution and individuals get their award for their contribution in the wildlife law enforcement activates in the boundary areas.
19. Under the leading of Cites Scientific Authority of China, Cites Management authority participate the two case study of lab monkey non-detrimental finding and attending the Non-Detrimental finding Expert workshop jointly organized by the Mexico and CITES Secretariat. Also 4 staff (Expert on Fish,

Corals, Bird and Plant) of Indonesia CITES Scientific Authority has been invited to the International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings, Cancun, Mexico, November 17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

20. Myanmar held meeting for developing actions to protect illegal trade on endangered wildlife species, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009, Department of Customs, Ministry of Finance and revenue, Myanmar.
21. Kuwait is organizing a regional workshop for Arabic-speaking countries on wildlife trade policy reviews for the period from 9 – 12 March 2009, with the Cooperation of CITES Secretariats, The Arab League, and the United Nation Environmental Program – Regional Office for west Asia UNEP-ROWA.

**CITES activities in the region, in respect to:**

Review of Significant Trade

22. Indonesia submitted procedure to make non-detriment findings for trade in *Heosemys spinosa*, *Indotestudo forstenii* and *Amyda cartilaginea* in Indonesia in accordance with the Significant Trade Review Process

CITES Projects

23. Indonesia: CITES MA Indonesia has established the CITES Handbook in Bahasa Indonesia. The Handbook consists of list appendices, Decision, Text Convention, and Resolution.
24. Philippines participated in the CITES Secretariat's Capacity Building Project through the organization of Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop in the Philippines held at the University of the Philippines, Quezon City on 24-26 June 2008. The said activity was participated in by the Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEO) from the 16 regions of the country evaluated and pre-selected by the USAID;
25. The side activity was sponsored jointly by the USAID, ASEAN-WEN and TRAFFIC South East Asia.

Registration of operations breeding Appendix-I animal species for commercial purposes

26. Indonesia: 34 companies are registered in the CITES Secretariat as an operations of *Scleropages formosus* that breed Appendix-I species in captivity for commercial purpose in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP13).
27. Myanmar: Myanmar has been implementing Cites activities, for example, forwarding the application to the CITES Secretariat to register the Appendix I listed *Crocodylus porosus* farm owned by the Department of Fisheries (DoF). Myanmar CITES Management Authority has given coordinating with the DoF to provide with the data and information on this *Crocodylus* farm in conformity with the CITES requirements for the registration. CITES Secretariat has informed the receipt of Myanmar document and is reviewing it for further formal processing.
28. Singapore: On 22 October 2008, the CITES Secretariat published a Notification to the Parties regarding the applications from Singapore for inclusion in the CITES Register as commercial captive-breeding operations for Asian arowanas. The four applicants were Ho Li Tropical Fish Farm, Hup Soon Aquarium Co, Pang Long Pte Ltd and Raffles Arowana Pte Ltd.
29. Philippines: Eight (8) proposals for the registration of commercial breeding operation for birds listed under Appendix I submitted to CITES Secretariat were reported during the 23th Animals Committee Meeting, Sitzerland and two (2) proposals for the registration of breeding operations for commercial purposes of *Crocodyllus porosus* were likewise reported in side meeting.
30. Thailand: There are 3 Crocodile Farms and 1 Fish Farm (Mekong giant catfish) during Register operation breeding Appendix I animal species for commercial.

## Others

31. China: To meet the request the CITES and also upgraded the administration efficiency to satisfy the legal applicant's concern during the period 2008 Beijing Olympic Games (August to September), this office have sought the full cooperation with two domestic wildlife administration authorities, namely the State Forestry Administration and the Ministry of Agriculture, simplified the permit and certificate issuance process, it finally demonstrate that this policy meet the needs of visitors and relevant entities, but did not sabotage the seriousness of CITES and our domestic law.
32. Kuwait: The CITES Management Authority of Kuwait is in process to electronically connect with Kuwait Customs system which facilitate and improve CITES enforcement in Kuwait.
33. Indonesia: There has been increased communication and cooperation between Indonesia with CITES Management Authority The Philippines in regard the of the captive breeding cooperation by developing Collaborative Conservation Activities To Improve The Captive-Breeding Efforts For some Cacatuas. The MoU between CITES Management and Scientific Authority Indonesia and the CITES Management Authority of The Philippines is in the progress.
34. Philippines: Creation of the Task Force Kalikasan (TFK) per DENR Administrative Order No. 01, Series of 2008, as the lead implementing unit of the DENR in the enforcement of various environmental laws, rules and regulations, including wildlife policies. An illegal shipment (in two crates) of elephant tusks/ivory with gross weight (including crates) of 245 kgs allegedly from Kenya was likewise confiscated by enforcement operatives.

## Country priorities to strengthen the scientific basis of the implementation of CITES

### China

35. Working together with Scientific Authority, a non-detrimental finding investigation on the reptile reproduction enterprises in Zhejiang province had been completed and based on the report, the administration formalities had been modified accordingly.
36. China working together with South African Elephants range states to complete the trade partner auction and follow-up monitor and management activities.

### Indonesia

37. Regular (annual) Training on CITES Law Enforcement for field enforcement officers such as Customs, Quarantine and Provincial Conservation Agencies is conducted annually. The training has been undertaken regularly since 1995 to enhance the skill and knowledge of the field officers on CITES in order to implement better control of trade in wild fauna and flora. The training materials include Introduction to Species Conservation, Introduction to CITES, Permit Systems and Procedures, Wildlife Crime and Law Enforcement Procedures, Customs Procedures, Quarantine Procedures. In year 2008 Trainings on CITES were conducted in North Sumatera and West Kalimantan Provinces. Some training on CITES and its implementation also has been carried out by some Regional Conservation Unit Office in Jakarta and Bali Province,
38. As the preparation of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries be appointed as the CITES Management Authority for marine and fish species, some training on CITES has been done for field officers.
39. Training on CITES listed identification. In year 2008, Regular annual training on the CITES listed identification were held back to back with the Regular Training on CITES.

### Japan

40. A manual consisting of identification of slow lorises (*Nycticebus* spp.), hygienic measures to work with lorises, and relevant domestic legislation was issued by the Ministry of Environment (moE) and widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcement authorities. MoE also published a

leaflet on slow lorises to provide information on biological facts, domestic regulation and other relevant matters. This leaflet is also widely distributed.

41. MoE published a manual on identification of boas (Boidae) and pythons (Pythonidae) and widely distributed to relevant departments including enforcement authorities.
42. A review on the status of Japanese Giant Salamander was completed by MoE for the periodic review of Animals Committee according to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP 13) and a review report was submitted for the discussion at the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the animals Committee.

#### Myanmar

43. Forest Department has conducted "National Workshop for developing an integrative for handling turtles confiscated in Myanmar". Jointly organized with Wildlife Conservation Society-WCS (Myanmar Program) from 7-10<sup>th</sup> January, 2009. Inviting the related agencies such as Department of Fisheries, Customs, Police Force, Irrigation Department, Universities and Institution.
44. Regarding with the control of internal ivory trade, Forest Department has been dealing with this issues as to whether it is compliance not only with the existing rules and regulations but also with the departmental procedure to allow curbing the ivory legally procured, at the same time, taking into account of CITES resolutions as well. Certain capacity building are needed to fulfil this gap.
45. Review and analyze of wildlife population and conservation status
46. Identify the species to be listed in CITES Appendices
47. Identify the wildlife species to be commercialized without detriment to their survival
48. Enhance law enforcement activities to curb illegal wildlife trade in collaboration with relevant government agencies.

#### Philippines

49. Four (4) proposed policies in support to the implementation and enforcement of Republic Act 9147 (the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of the Philippines) are being finalized, as follows:
50. DENR Administrative Order (DAO) establishing the list of economically important wildlife species for collection and direct trade purposes;
51. DAO establishing the list of threatened wild fauna which may be collected and utilized for commercial breeding/propagation purposes;
52. DAO establishing the list of look-alike species of threatened wildlife for protection and conservation purposes; and
53. Guidelines on the humane treatment, care and handling of wild fauna in captivity
54. One proposed policy entitled "Guidelines Establishing the Wild Fauna Marking and Identification System" is already for approval by DENR Secretary
55. The "Manual of Operation on Wildlife Law Enforcement" which aims to set standards and protocols in law enforcement has been subjected to national/ final consultation in April 2008. The Manual is under finalization.

#### Thailand

56. Training to Fish Trade Inspection Officers for Identify Endanger species
57. Protected Species handbook and distributed to stakeholder.

58. Slow lorries identification training on July 1-2, 2008. Bangkok launch by Trie Parish, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom.
59. Special Investigation Group (SIG) Workshop on Pangolins and Big Cats 7-9 January 2009 at international Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Bangkok, Thailand Launched by ASEAN-WEN
60. Field assessment of cobra (*Naja spp.*) Exploitation in Thailand.

#### Promotion of CITES in the region (of less importance)

#### Capacity building activities

#### China

61. The annual adjustment, at the end of 2008, Cites Management Authority of China jointly with General Customs Administration promulgated the new version of Wildlife Products International Trade Monitoring Referential HS-code book, to update the status of endangered species and incorporated the provisions of relevant wildlife protection law and regulation into the tool book mainly for Customs officials daily checking work.
62. In an effort to explore the way to deter the increasing of internet trade in endangered species in China, a Workshop on Control of Internet Trade in Wildlife was organized by the CITES Management Authority of China, the Internet Management Authority of Ministry of Public Security, the Forest Police Bureau of State Forestry Administration and the Anti-smuggling Bureau of State General Administration of Customs in January 2008, with the financial and technical supports from IFWA and Traffic. Over 50 experts and officials were invited to the workshop.
63. For the purpose of control of illegal trans-border trade in CITES species, the CITES Management Authority of China, the State Forestry Administration and the State General Administration of Customs organized the 4<sup>th</sup> West China CITES Workshop in Lanzhou, Gansu province, where more than 50 CITES, wildlife, forest police and Customs officers from 8 provinces were invited to the event.

#### Indonesia

64. Regular (annual) Training on CITES Law Enforcement for field enforcement officers such as Customs, Quarantine and Provincial Conservation Agencies is conducted annually. The training has been undertaken regularly since 1995 to enhance the skill and knowledge of the field officers on CITES in order to implement better control of trade in wild fauna and flora. The training materials include Introduction to Species Conservation, Introduction to CITES, Permit Systems and Procedures, Wildlife Crime and Law Enforcement Procedures, Customs Procedures, Quarantine Procedures. In year 2008 Trainings on CITES were conducted in North Sumatera and West Kalimantan Provinces. Some training on CITES and its implementation also has been carried out by some Regional Conservation Unit Office in Jakarta and Bali Province,
65. As the preparation of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries be appointed as the CITES Management Authority for marine and fish species, some training on CITES has been done for field officers.
66. In year 2008, Regular annual training on the CITES listed identification were held back to back with the Regular Training on CITES.

#### Japan

67. Leaflets have been made and distributed by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) to pay further attention for souvenirs, targeting to all travellers to/from Japan;
68. METI has conducted training course especially focused on CITES to customs officers for further understanding.

### Kuwait

69. National workshop regarding CITES Training – Identification of Specimens for the period from 14–27 November 2008 with the Cooperation with CITES Secretariats.

### Myanmar

70. Myanmar has been promoting CITES activities as follows:

71. Establishment of education centers at some protected areas and and seasonally religious festival within the country and disseminating knowledge on CITES and raising awareness on the conservation of endangered wildlife for their sustainable utilization..

72. Making educational talks at schools, universities and departmental meetings

73. Distributing CITES related documents, booklets, pamphlets to the public.

### Philippines

74. Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop, June 24-26 2008 with support from the ASEAN-WEN Support Program, TRAFFIC and the USAID

### Singapore

75. On 29-30 July 2008, AVA and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA), attended a Wildlife Trade Regulation Workshop conducted by TRAFFIC. The purpose of the workshop was to inform the participants on the fundamentals of CITES and how AVA and ICA curb the illegal wildlife trade within and between countries under the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN). The workshop included discussion of case studies related to illicit trade in CITES specimens regionally, group exercises on how to spot fraudulent permits and also a presentation on smuggling techniques.

76. On 20-21 January 2009, AVA engaged the Singapore Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) to conduct an Investigation Training. The training was aimed at enhancing the capabilities of AVA's various enforcement officers in investigation techniques. The participants learnt how to collect evidence at the crime scene, secure chain of evidence, the interviewing and interrogation techniques, recording of statements from suspects and roles and responsibilities of an investigation officer (IO). The knowledge and skills acquired by officers at the training would be useful when they handle enforcement cases that involve wildlife.

### Thailand

77. Workshop on CITES Management Authority of Thailand Year 2008 on August 22-25, 2008 at Rayong Ptrovince.

78. Workshop for preparing on Illegal Wildlife Trade Enforcement Action Plan of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department on February 2-3 2009, Bangkok, Thailand.

### The scientific community in the country

#### Philippines

79. Aside from the CITES Scientific Authorities, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau taps the assistance of various scientists/experts in the review of applications covering wildlife use, including trade as well as in policy formulation and resolving wildlife-related issues. The involvement of local scientists/experts is formalized through their official membership in the National Wildlife Management Committee created by the DENR under Special Order No. 2006-967 dated November 16, 2006.

## Cooperation with stakeholders, NGOs and Private Sector

### China

80. In last October, at the invitation of Hong Kong Fur Federation to give the introduction to the HKFF members about the wildlife import and export management of China, clarified the difference between Chinese law and CITES provisions, it will also help the HKFF members to better accommodate their business into the current management system implementing in China, however, this event is a two-way communication, with understanding towards to the fur industry, some new domestic measure had been adopted to better solve the Customs checking problem for those non-regulated species.
81. Working together with General Customs Administration, Cites Management Authority organized a investigation meeting in Guangdong province in last December, the focus of this meeting is to get better understanding on the wildlife related business in this area and try to get the updated recommendations from the stakeholder so that to establish a more efficient management system of CITES species while the normal business of non-regulated species would get less negative effects during the border control.

### Indonesia

82. Establishment of National Task Force as part of the ASEAN WEN . Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation has enact the Decree of the Establishment of National Task Force in related to the Wildlife Enforcement Network. The Task Force consists of Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation, NCB Interpol, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Customs, Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Justice, and Police.
83. CITES MA Indonesia is developing coordination with other stake holders such as Customs, Quarantine, Ministry of Marine Affairs, on the matters related to CITES implementation and wildlife trade monitoring in Indonesia. Memorandum of Understanding between CITES MA with Customs, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Quarantine are in the progress.
84. Some meeting and coordination has been arranged by The CITES MA Indonesia with the private sector in regard to dissemination some regulation and to discuss better CITES implementation in Indonesia
85. CITES SA Indonesia in collaboration with CITES MA conducted workshop on establishment of capture quota for 2009. This workshop was conducted on 11 December 2008 in Cibinong, Indonesia. Several stakeholders and NGOs in Indonesia were invited to this workshop.
86. Indonesia CITES Scientific Authority and Management Authority visited sea horses breeding facilities in Lampung on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008 to evaluate the capability of the breeders to breed seahorses.
87. Seven (7) Exporters of transplanted corals has been evaluated their capability to produce corals by ICRWG, Management Authority and Scientific Authority.
88. Delegation of European Union visited several breeding facilities of reptiles and transplanted corals in Indonesia on 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

### Myanmar

89. With respect to monitoring of illegal hunting of and trade in elephant specimens, Management Authority has been discussing with TRAFFIC-Southeast Asia and WWF to host "A training workshop for elephant trade information system (ETIS) in Myanmar during April 2009.

### Philippines

90. The Philippine CITES Management Authority sustains collaborative partnership with both local and international institutions/NGOs (e.g. Field Museum of Natural history, USA, Conservation



International Philippines, HARIBON Foundation, Katala Foundation, etc in the of conduct of scientific researches/studies and other conservation-related activities on Philippine wildlife; and

91. Members of the business sector and certain NGOs are tapped in terms of advice and the recommendations on application involving collection or use of wildlife for trade, bioprospecting, conservation breeding or propagation of threatened species, scientific researches, special uses or other purposes.
92. Discussions with the business sector were held regarding Philippine compliance to European Union Policy on the exportation of captive-bred Appendix 1 species from the Philippines to EU member countries.

#### Thailand

93. Cooperation with Sea Horse Traders dated on 25 July 2008
94. Cooperation with Crocodile's Traders and Crocodile Industrial Factory dated on 12 September 2008.