

Interpretación y aplicación de la Convención

APLICACION DE LA CONVENCION EN LOS PEQUEÑOS ESTADOS INSULARES EN DESARROLLO

1. El presente documento ha sido preparado por la Secretaría.

Introducción

2. La Conferencia de las Partes aprobó en su novena reunión una decisión, dirigida al Comité Permanente (Decisión No. 2), sobre la adhesión a la Convención de los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo o su participación en la aplicación de la Convención. Se pidió al Comité Permanente que, con la asistencia de la Secretaría, buscara la forma de facilitar dicha participación.
3. La Secretaría incluyó este tema como punto separado en su plan estratégico.
4. En su 37a. reunión, el Comité Permanente examinó la cuestión, concentrándose en particular en la región de Oceanía, dado que es la región con mayor número de pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo que no son Parte. El Comité Permanente aprobó el resumen del Secretario General sobre las medidas adoptadas en la región, que se había examinado en una reunión de la Secretaría con los representantes en el Comité Permanente de América Central, del Sur y el Caribe (Trinidad y Tabago) y de Oceanía (Papua Nueva Guinea), así como con representantes de Australia y Nueva Zelandia.
5. En los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo hay una gran variedad de especies, incluidas especies marinas, cuyo comercio plantea problemas. La Secretaría ha viajado en los últimos años a las dos principales regiones de la CITES con pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo y ha examinado éste y otros problemas comunes.
6. Se suministran a continuación resúmenes de las actividades pertinentes en el Caribe y Oceanía.

El Caribe

7. La Secretaría ha desarrollado una importante actividad en relación con los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo del Caribe. De hecho, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, República Dominicana, San Kitts y Nevis, Santa Lucía, San Vicente y las Granadinas y Trinidad y Tabago son Partes en la Convención y Jamaica lo será en julio de 1997. La Secretaría se ha beneficiado con la notable cooperación de Trinidad y Tabago, miembro regional del Comité Permanente de la CITES, que alentó a esos países a adherirse a la Convención.
8. En 1991, la Secretaría viajó a Barbados, Granada, Jamaica, Trinidad y Tabago, Santa Lucía y San Vicente y las Granadinas para examinar cuestiones relacionadas con la CITES y estimular a esos Estados a adherirse. Como resultado de ese primer viaje, en septiembre de 1992 la Secretaría organizó un seminario de capacitación en Trinidad y Tabago, en estrecha cooperación con las Autoridades Administrativas de Trinidad y Tabago y Estados Unidos de América. El Servicio de Pesca y Vida Silvestre de Estados Unidos proporcionó los fondos necesarios. El seminario de una semana se celebró en Puerto España y asistieron 80 representantes, la mayoría de ellos procedentes de países angloparlantes y territorios de la región del Caribe, incluidos Aruba y Curaçao (Países Bajos) y Martinica (Francia).

9. Gracias a este seminario y a las buenas relaciones establecidas con las autoridades de todos los países de la región, Barbados, San Kitts y Nevis, Dominica y Jamaica decidieron adherirse a la Convención y la ratificación de los Países Bajos se extendió para incluir a Aruba.
10. A invitación de la Autoridad Administrativa de Cuba, se impartieron seminarios en La Habana en 1991 y 1995, uno para las Autoridades Administrativas y Científicas y otro para el servicio aduanero y la policía.
11. En el futuro cercano, la Secretaría tiene la intención de celebrar seminarios de capacitación en Aruba y en las Islas Caimán (Reino Unido).
12. Durante otras reuniones regionales en el Caribe, la Secretaría pudo establecer buenas relaciones de trabajo con los siguientes países o territorios, que no son miembros de la Convención o no forman parte de su jurisdicción: Antigua y Barbuda, Granada, Haití y las Islas Turcas y Caicos (Reino Unido).
13. En el contexto de la aplicación de la Resolución Conf. 8.9, relativa al comercio de especímenes animales capturados en el medio silvestre, el Comité de Fauna identificó *Strombus gigas* como especie objeto de un comercio significativo. La Secretaría ha desplegado una intensa actividad en la región del Caribe para ayudar a formular un plan de gestión regional para esa especie.
14. Algunos proyectos de la CITES se han ejecutado satisfactoriamente en algunos países insulares del Caribe (por ejemplo, sobre la situación de *Crocodylus acutus* en República Dominicana, y sobre la situación de *Crocodylus rhombifer* y *Crocodylus fuscus* en Cuba).
15. La Secretaría prevé el estrechamiento de las relaciones con algunos acuerdos regionales sobre el medio ambiente del Caribe, como por ejemplo, el Protocolo sobre las zonas y las especies especialmente protegidas y el Convenio para la protección y el desarrollo del medio marino de la región del gran Caribe (Convenio de Cartagena). Las primeras conversaciones relacionadas con el Protocolo tuvieron lugar durante la segunda reunión de las Partes contratantes en el Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica, celebrada en Jakarta, en noviembre de 1995.

Oceanía

16. La Secretaría viajó a Australia y Nueva Zelandia en 1996 y en ambos países, los Ministros del Medio Ambiente prometieron prestar apoyo a cursos sobre la CITES y los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo.
17. La Secretaría también examinó con la Secretaría del Programa del Medio Ambiente para la Región del Pacífico Meridional la organización de ese curso. El Programa había previsto originariamente la organización de un curso junto con la Secretaría del Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica, pero esta última se vio imposibilitada por otros compromisos contraídos.
18. En la reunión mencionada en el párrafo 3 *supra*, se convino en celebrar una reunión regional sobre la CITES para Estados Partes y no Partes de la región de Oceanía.
19. La reunión regional se celebró del 30 de abril al 2 de mayo de 1997 en Canberra, Australia, y fue acogida

- por la Autoridad Administrativa australiana, que además prestó asistencia. El PNUMA y los Gobiernos de Australia, Japón y Nueva Zelandia prestaron apoyo para la reunión. La lista de participantes se adjunta al informe de la reunión (véase Anexo). El Presidente de la reunión fue el Dr. David Kay, Secretario Adjunto de *Wildlife Australia*, y se contó con la participación de representantes de Australia, las Islas Cook, Fiji, Kiribati, los Estados Federales de Micronesia, Nueva Zelandia, Niue, las Islas Salomón, Tonga, Vanuatu y Samoa. La sección de TRAFFIC para Oceanía y la Secretaría del Programa del Medio Ambiente para la región del Pacífico Meridional también estuvieron representados en la reunión.
20. Los participantes en la reunión consideraron que había cuestiones particularmente importantes que debían tratarse en el contexto de la observancia de la Convención por los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía. Algunas de estas cuestiones se plantearon varias veces durante la reunión, a saber:
 21. - Existe un comercio continuo de especies silvestres de la región de Oceanía protegidas y no protegidas por la Convención. Los peces para acuario son uno de los sectores del comercio en especies silvestres que va en aumento en muchos países insulares del Pacífico.
 22. - Hay varias cuestiones relativas al comercio intrarregional de especies silvestres que causan preocupación, entre otras, el comercio de artículos para turistas de especies de la CITES (coral y almejas gigantes) y el comercio de zorros voladores. Una mayor coordinación regional ayudaría a lograr una gestión más eficaz de estas cuestiones. Sería conveniente que los países de la región de Oceanía (en particular Australia y Nueva Zelandia) comunicaran claramente a los países insulares del Pacífico sus políticas relativas a los requisitos de importación y los procedimientos de confiscación.
 23. - Los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía tienen una escasez considerable de recursos, lo cual limita su capacidad para aplicar efectivamente las disposiciones de la Convención y fiscalizar el comercio de especies CITES. Esta falta de recursos puede ser un disuasivo para los países no Partes que podrían interesarse en adherirse a la Convención.
 24. - Los problemas de coordinación entre los diversos organismos gubernamentales encargados del medio ambiente, la explotación de los recursos naturales, el control de las fronteras, la cuarentena y otras esferas vinculadas con la fiscalización del comercio de especies silvestres puede limitar la capacidad de un país para la gestión efectiva del comercio de especies incluidas en la CITES.
 25. - Los países en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía se beneficiarían si pudieran enviar personal y asistir a las sesiones de capacitación sobre la CITES que celebran los organismos gubernamentales de Australia y Nueva Zelandia. Se insta a los Gobiernos de ambos países a que proporcionen detalles sobre las oportunidades de capacitación para otros países en la región de Oceanía.
 26. - Los pequeños países insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía tienen una limitada capacidad para establecer una Autoridad Científica CITES exclusivamente con la pericia de su país. Con todo, debe reconocerse que la región tiene expertos a los que los países pueden recurrir para hacer evaluaciones científicas de los niveles convenientes de comercio para los taxa incluidos en la CITES. Se alienta a los pequeños países insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía a que se pongan en contacto con los organismos gubernamentales, las instituciones de investigación, las organizaciones no gubernamentales y demás organismos que puedan ayudarlos para hacer las evaluaciones.
 27. - Los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo no Partes de la región de Oceanía requieren mayor información, asesoramiento y asistencia para satisfacer los requisitos relacionados con los Estados no Parte en la Convención, evaluar las ventajas de la adhesión y establecer sistemas legislativos y administrativos que les permitan adherirse a la Convención y aplicar sus disposiciones.
 28. - Muchos pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía aún no tienen una buena comprensión del comercio de sus especies silvestres, incluidas su magnitud y tendencias, ni de los mecanismos jurídicos y administrativos necesarios para fiscalizar el comercio. Se requiere una mejor comprensión para que esos países puedan determinar sus actividades futuras relacionadas con la adhesión a la Convención y la aplicación de sus disposiciones.
 29. - Hay algunos pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía que están estudiando seriamente la posibilidad de adherirse a la Convención y/o formulando leyes que los habilitarán para aplicar la Convención. Los países de esta categoría incluyen Fiji, las Islas Salomón y Samoa.
 30. La reunión regional que se celebró en Australia formuló las siguientes recomendaciones:
 31. - los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo que no son Parte en la Convención deberían:
 32. - proporcionar a la Secretaría el nombre y la dirección de la autoridad competente que firmará los permisos y certificados CITES, así como las firmas originales del personal autorizado para autenticar los permisos y certificados (con arreglo a los requisitos de la Resolución Conf. 9.5);
 33. - notificar a la Secretaría lo antes posible todo cambio intervenido en relación con la autoridad competente designada o las firmas autorizadas;
 34. - evaluar las necesidades estratégicas del país para definir claramente la asistencia necesaria para cumplir con los requisitos de la CITES para los Estados no Parte, o las obligaciones que la Convención impone a las Partes, en caso de que deseen adherirse a ella; la evaluación debería tener en cuenta cuestiones como las especies incluidas en la CITES que sean actualmente objeto de comercio, los niveles de comercio y la legislación y las disposiciones administrativas en vigor. Para hacer la evaluación, se podría recabar asistencia de la Secretaría de la CITES, el PNUMA, el PNUD, el Banco Mundial, el Programa del Medio Ambiente para la Región del Pacífico Meridional, TRAFFIC, las Partes en la Convención, otras organizaciones internacionales y donantes.
 35. - estudiar la posibilidad de aplicar medidas como la educación y sensibilización de la opinión pública, para evaluar, supervisar y reducir al mínimo los efectos negativos de un creciente comercio internacional de artículos para turistas y especies marinas para acuarios.

36. - La Secretaría de la CITES debería:
37. - continuar sus esfuerzos por fortalecer su presencia en la región de Oceanía y prestar ayuda a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo;
38. - considerar la posibilidad de enviar una carta a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía que aún no sean Partes en la Convención, para invitarlos a asistir a la décima reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes en calidad de observadores, o al menos notificarles la celebración la reunión, y de prestar alguna asistencia financiera para apoyar su asistencia a la reunión;
39. - preparar y enviar un paquete de información general sobre la CITES, con información sobre las obligaciones y responsabilidades de las Partes y no Partes y las ventajas y beneficios de adherirse a la Convención. Este paquete incluiría el texto de la Convención, la lista de especies incluidas en los Apéndices, un informe sobre la asistencia prestada a las Partes durante el último bienio, las directrices para la preparación de leyes nacionales sobre la CITES y todo material que pueda ser pertinente para las no Partes que están estudiando la posibilidad de adherirse a la Convención;
40. - comunicar a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo el resultado de los debates de la décima reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes de interés para ellos, e informarles de las medidas de seguimiento propuestas;
41. - extender la evaluación prevista de las necesidades de capacitación de las Partes a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo no Partes de la región de Oceanía; y
42. - organizar un seminario regional de capacitación sobre la CITES en Oceanía durante el bienio 1998-1999.
43. - La Conferencia de las Partes, en su décima reunión, debería:
44. - pedir a la Secretaría que siga prestando un enérgico apoyo a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo durante el próximo trienio;
45. - pedir a la Secretaría que recabe financiación externa para ayudar a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía en el proceso de adhesión a la Convención, con arreglo a los resultados de las evaluaciones de las necesidades de cada país;
46. - asignar recursos financieros para prestar asistencia técnica a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo que son Parte en la Convención, a fin de fortalecer su capacidad para aplicar la Convención.
47. - Las organizaciones internacionales, los donantes externos y las organizaciones no gubernamentales deberían:
48. - prestar asistencia financiera para que los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía que no son Partes en la Convención asistan a la décima reunión de la Conferencia de las Partes como observadores; y
49. - teniendo en cuenta los resultados de la evaluación de las necesidades del país, prestar asistencia técnica y financiera a los pequeños Estados insulares en desarrollo de la región de Oceanía para que puedan fortalecer su capacidad nacional para cumplir las obligaciones de las no Partes, así como para tomar las medidas jurídicas y administrativas necesarias para adherirse a la Convención.

Doc.10.33 Anexo (en inglés únicamente)

PACIFIC ISLAND STATES
REGIONAL MEETINGS ON CITES

Canberra, Australia, 30 April-2 May 1997

Report of the Meeting

INTRODUCTION

At the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Parties discussed the issue of participation in, and accession to, the Convention by Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A Decision was taken by the Parties as follows:

Ways of facilitating Small Island Developing States' participation in, and accession to, the Convention shall be investigated, and, assisted by the Secretariat, a report shall be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conferences of the Parties on means of implementation of the Convention in Small Island Developing States appropriate to their circumstances.

Such action could involve visits by the Secretariat to discuss issues and particular problems that Small Island Developing States face and to promote a greater understanding of CITES processes and requirements. Points to be considered should include the documentation requirements for Parties and non-Parties, and whether any steps could be taken to simplify processes and requirements to accede to CITES, such as the provision of joint authorities.

Pacific Island Small Island Developing States and CITES

Pacific Island countries fall within the Oceania region of CITES. There are currently only two Pacific Island States that are members of CITES – Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. There are twelve non-Party Pacific Island SIDS – Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa. A further seven territories located in the Oceania region are covered by the accession of other CITES Parties – French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna (France), Tokelau (New Zealand), Pitcairn Island (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island), American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam (United States of America).

Resolution Conf. 9.5 on Trade with States not Party to the Convention, recommends that Parties only accept CITES documentation from non-Party States if details of the competent authorities and scientific institutions of such States are included in the most recent updated list of the Secretariat, or after consultation with the Secretariat. Less than half the non-Party States in the Oceania region have provided this information to the Secretariat and, of those that

have, recent information suggests that in some cases the information provided is no longer current.

REGIONAL MEETING OF PACIFIC ISLAND STATES ON CITES

In order to progress the implementation of the Decision passed at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES regarding SIDS, the Secretary-General of the CITES Secretariat travelled to Australia and New Zealand and held discussions on this matter with Australia, New Zealand and the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

It was decided to hold a regional meeting on CITES for CITES Parties and non-Parties in the Oceania region. Support to hold this meeting was secured from UNEP and the governments of Australia, New Zealand (through SPREP) and Japan. The meeting was held from 30 April to 2 May 1997 in Canberra, Australia, with the assistance and hospitality of the Management Authority of Australia. The list of participants is attached (Annex 1). The meeting was chaired by Dr David Kay, Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Australia.

The agenda for the meeting is attached (Annex 2). Main points of discussion under the agenda items are outlined below. This is followed by a section that outlines the key issues which were identified by the participants and a list of recommendations arising from the meeting.

Introductory Statements

The meeting was opened by Mr Roger Beale, Secretary, Australian Department of Environment, Sport and Territories. Opening and welcoming statements were then made by the SPREP Secretariat, CITES Secretariat and Australian Management Authority. The SPREP Opening Statement emphasized that the workshop was a start of a process to look at effective implementation of CITES in the Oceania region. SPREP advised that the non Parties from Oceania needed urgent support to meet non Party obligations when trade with Parties. Such an initiative would also prove a constructive process in which awareness and understanding of CITES could be raised in the region and assessment of the merits and obligations of joining CITES could be effectively followed through. Pacific Island states also may need in-country assistance to understand the size of trade in CITES species and that this was important to assessing importance of possible CITES membership. SPREP also emphasized that existing Pacific Island Parties may also need support in meeting their CITES Obligations.

1. The Convention – An Overview

The CITES Secretariat presented an overview of CITES, covering issues such as its origins, structures, the appendices, general terminology, budgets, funding, documentation, requirements for accession and so on. Issues raised in the discussion included: problems with achieving good internal coordination between government departments with an interest in controlling wildlife trade; access to funding from the CITES Secretariat by non-Parties; and advantages and disadvantages of becoming a CITES Party.

2. Experiences of Parties to the Convention

AUSTRALIA. Australia briefly outlined its experiences since becoming a CITES Party in 1976 and informed participants of the legislative and administrative structures it has in place to implement CITES. The need for good coordination with, and education of, other government departments with an interest in wildlife trade was stressed. The Australian Management Authority facilitates this through the provision of training on CITES matters to other government departments. This led to a general discussion of training and SIDS participants expressed

a strong interest in being able to access existing training programs that are already being run by CITES Parties in the region. There was also some discussion of the importance of public awareness in assisting with implementation of the Convention.

VANUATU. Vanuatu acceded to CITES in 1989. The presentation by Vanuatu covered details of legislation, administrative structures, public awareness campaigns and a description of the country's trade in CITES-listed species. Issues identified as affecting CITES implementation in Vanuatu included: lack of staff; insufficient information to make scientific assessments about harvesting levels; enforcement difficulties in an archipelago such as Vanuatu; the lack of a designated Scientific Authority; financial constraints; and the system of land tenure and custom ownership of the country. Vanuatu indicated that it found membership to be beneficial and is endeavouring to fulfil its obligations as a Party. A number of suggestions were proposed by Vanuatu to limit the amount of illegal trade in CITES-listed species in the region, including: non-Party SIDS in the Oceania region joining CITES; provision of financial and technical resources to Pacific Island SIDS to assist in the management of wildlife trade; and greater interaction in the Oceania region by the CITES Secretariat.

It was pointed out that the Oceania region has yet to make a request to the Secretariat for external funding support for a CITES-related project. This led to some discussion of the resources required to implement CITES and potential funding sources for these, including opportunities through other conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity. Non-Party participants suggested that it would be advantageous to provide assistance to countries intending to become Parties to allow them to address legal, administrative and other issues prior to becoming Parties. This would better enable them to meet their obligations on accession to the Convention. It was felt that it was important to have a process whereby Pacific Island SIDS could assess the level of their wildlife trade, determine whether or not they should accede to CITES and then put in place structures to enable them to accede to and implement CITES, or meet non-Party requirements.

3. Experiences of Non-Parties

FIJI. Whilst Fiji is not yet a CITES Party, it recognises the importance of the Convention. It has notified the Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits for trade in CITES-listed species and has procedures in place for the issuing of export permits and the transit of wildlife through the country. Constraints for Fiji relating to trade in CITES-listed species and in becoming a CITES Party include: difficulty in accessing up-to-date lists of the appendices; shortage of information on the status of exploited wildlife populations; lack of data exchange with other countries in the region regarding wildlife trade; no institutional framework in place to implement the Convention; shortage of resources; and government priorities lying in other areas. Fiji is currently preparing umbrella environmental legislation, which would include provisions relating to CITES; it is currently timetabled for passage through Parliament in late 1997.

KINGDOM OF TONGA. Tonga has notified the Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits for trade in CITES-listed species. Tonga is exporting captive bred specimens of two South Pacific endemic parrot species and also exports giant clams. Tonga expressed positive experiences regarding

communication with the Secretariat and Parties to which it was exporting CITES-listed species. It encouraged regulation of wildlife trade within the CITES framework, even for those Pacific Island countries who were not CITES Parties.

NIUE. Increasing tourist travel and travel by Niue citizens to CITES Party countries in the region is resulting in more requests for permits to export CITES-listed species such as coral and giant clams. However, facilitating the export of such taxa in a manner acceptable to CITES importing Parties is hindered by a lack of information on CITES and its provisions and requirements. Measures to control exploitation of a range of CITES-listed and non CITES-listed species were outlined. New environmental legislation is being prepared but does not address CITES requirements in its current draft form.

Participants discussed problems that a number of Pacific Island SIDS face with intra-regional trade in CITES-listed species, particularly by tourists or Pacific islanders travelling into Australia and New Zealand. Problematic taxa include black and hard corals and giant clams. Some Pacific Island countries issue permits for the export of these species but these may be unacceptable to the importing country and result in the specimen being seized.

COOK ISLANDS. The Cook Islands have introduced an export permit system for CITES-listed species, in order to comply with provisions relating to trade with non-Party States. These permits are also used for non-CITES taxa. Public awareness initiatives regarding CITES requirements have been carried out. This appears to have contributed to an improved awareness of the need to obtain export permits for certain species and the number of requests for permits has been increasing. Nevertheless, countries such as New Zealand are still seizing significant quantities of coral and other CITES-listed taxa originating from the Cook Islands. Like other SIDS in the Oceania region, the Cook Islands also faces difficulties in determining exploitation levels that are sustainable.

KIRIBATI. Trade in CITES-listed species from Kiribati primarily consists of personal effects such as turtle shells, giant clam shells and coral which are taken from the country by departing expatriates. Blue coral *Heliopora coerulea* export has occurred in the past but is now prohibited. Kiribati relies heavily on its marine resources for its economic development. Therefore, while recognising the importance of CITES, Kiribati has concerns regarding accession relating to possible future CITES restrictions in trade in marine species, that could affect Kiribati's future economic development opportunities.

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA. Trade in CITES-listed species is limited, although there is potential problems with trade in marine products. Although the FSM is not a party to CITES, there are National and State laws controlling and regulating the exploitation of various fish and wildlife species. Accession to international treaties like CITES is a National Government function, but would require consultation with the states. Trade in marine species is of interest to the FSM as would be the CITES initiatives relating to marine fish species.

SOLOMON ISLANDS. The Solomon Islands recognises the importance of CITES and would like to become a Party in the future. They have notified the CITES Secretariat of the competent authority for issuing permits in CITES-listed species. Trade in CITES-listed species from the Solomon Islands includes reptiles, insects and parrots. The government

restricts export dealer licences to Solomon Islanders and sets annual quotas for certain species subject to export. They also have problems with internal coordination between government departments, lack of resources, insufficient information on population levels of exploited species and so on. Legislation is being prepared which would allow for more comprehensive control of wildlife trade.

WESTERN SAMOA. Western Samoa is interested in becoming a CITES Party and recognises the benefits this would bring to controlling the country's wildlife trade. It too has problems with internal coordination between government departments. Other issues relating to becoming a CITES Party include: the lack of institutional capacity to implement the Convention, particularly with respect to the obligations of a Scientific Authority; linkages and complementarities between CITES and other national, regional and international instruments; and the relative position of wildlife trade control issues on the national agenda.

4. Training

Participants discussed their training needs with respect to CITES and possible training opportunities and/or needs both at the in-country and external level. Pacific Island representatives requested that the governments of Australia and New Zealand consider providing opportunities for attendance at their CITES training sessions by Pacific Islanders and inform them of any such opportunities. Initiatives such as the International Seminar Support Scheme of the Australian government was suggested as a possible avenue to explore for support for training. It was recognised that different countries will have different requirements with respect to training. The Secretariat outlined the current training needs assessment that they are planning to carry out for the Parties; participants felt it would be beneficial to expand this to include non-Party SIDS in the Oceania region. The participants also discussed the importance of carrying out in-country training, particularly as this approach allows more people of a given country to be trained. Participants suggested that Australia, New Zealand, SPREP, TRAFFIC and the CITES Secretariat consider the possibility of providing assistance on this matter.

5. Role of the Management and Scientific Authorities

The Secretariat outlined the role and obligations of the CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority. The discussion which followed concentrated on the Scientific Authority and particularly how and where SIDS in the Oceania region may find the expertise necessary to carry out this role. While this presents a significant challenge for SIDS in the region, it was also recognised that there is considerable expertise within and outside the region that can be drawn upon, and that use of such networks will assist in making scientific assessments about levels of trade and status of species.

6. Reporting Obligations

The Secretariat detailed the requirements under the Convention for the provision of annual and biennial reports. The content and purpose of these reports was discussed. The Secretariat can provide assistance to developing countries to prepare their CITES annual reports.

7. Financial Obligations

The scale of contributions to the CITES Trust Fund expected of Party States was outlined and information on future financial obligations of non-Parties, if they were to join the Convention, was provided. It was

pointed out that some countries use systems such as charging for permit issuance in order to recover costs associated with their membership to the Convention, running of the Management Authority or undertaking of priority projects.

8. Permit Issuing and Confirmation

The Secretariat gave a general overview of the provisions of the Convention relating to the issuing of permits and explained the difference between the requirements for species listed in Appendix 1, 2 and 3. The requirements of Parties and non-Parties in this regard were discussed and the permit form annex to the resolution Conf. 9.3 was distributed.

9. Legislation

The importance of having national legislation which enables a Party to implement the provisions of CITES was stressed. Elements that should be covered by CITES legislation were outlined. There was discussion of the options available to Parties regarding legislation to implement the Convention, particularly those who have only recently ratified CITES. It was pointed out that it is not necessary to have a separate piece of legislation that is solely designed to implement CITES; it is possible to include the necessary provisions within new or existing legislation which may also cover other issues. The participants asked the Secretariat to send them copies of the IUCN publication which provided guidance on the preparation of CITES legislation.

10. Role of Customs and other Compliance and Enforcement Agencies

Issues highlighted during discussion of this agenda item included: the importance of good cooperation between agencies with responsibility for law enforcement and border control; advantages of prevention of illegal activities in the first place, rather than concentrating on catching perpetrators once illegal wildlife trade has occurred; and the need for public awareness about wildlife trade and trade controls. It was noted that some SIDS in the Oceania region were issuing export permits for CITES-listed species but these exports were still being seized in the destination country because of stricter domestic regulations. Provision of information to SIDS on the import requirements of countries such as Australia and New Zealand would allow them to better inform their citizens and avoid the ongoing seizure of CITES-listed specimens. The Australian government indicated that it would send details of its trade control provisions to participants at the meeting.

11. Listing Criteria for CITES Appendices

The basic principles of the criteria for adding and deleting species to and from the CITES appendices were outlined as well as the procedure to be followed to include or transfer species from one appendix to the other.

12. Trade with Non-Parties

The Secretariat outlined the requirements for CITES Parties to trade in CITES-listed species with non-Parties. Parties should follow the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.5, including the recommendation that they only accept documentation from non-Party

States if they have communicated details of competent authorities and scientific institutions to the Secretariat, or if they have consulted with the Secretariat. Non-Party SIDS of the Oceania region were urged to communicate details of their competent authority to the Secretariat. It was suggested that non-Parties could send a copy of the permits they use for trade in CITES-listed species to the Secretariat for comment on its adequacy for CITES purposes.

The information available to non-Party States to assist them in controlling trade in CITES-listed species was discussed. Non-Party States felt that they currently lack information on CITES and would benefit greatly from the provision of more facts. This would assist them in determining what is required of them as a non-Party should they wish to trade in CITES-listed species and also allow them to better consider the merit of becoming a CITES Party.

13. Illegal Trade

The nature and extent of illegal trade in wildlife was outlined. Taxa and issues where there were believed to be problems with illegal wildlife trade in the region include: parrots and cockatoos; reptiles; poor law enforcement; and difficulties in ascertaining the extent of illegal trade. It was pointed out that illegal wildlife trade not only undermines attempts to conserve or sustainably use species, but it also has a negative impact on potential government revenue.

14. Capacity Building

The Secretariat outlined assistance available to Parties through programmes such as technical assistance to Parties, scientific research projects, support for developing countries to participate in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, training, education and public awareness. Discussion on capacity building in the CITES context covered issues similar to a number raised under Agenda Item 12. Other issues discussed included: possible funding opportunities for strengthening the capacity of SIDS in the Oceania region to implement CITES; the need for countries to undertake a needs assessment to ascertain how best to manage their trade in CITES-listed species; and the need for more assistance from the CITES Secretariat to SIDS from the Oceania region to assist them in fulfilling Party obligations or to move towards accession to the Convention. Non-Parties also felt that they would receive benefit from attending meetings of the Conference of the Parties and discussed possible options for securing resources to attend these meetings, particularly the upcoming tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

15. Role of the CITES Technical Committees

The Chairman of the CITES Animals Committee discussed the four permanent committees of CITES, in particular the role and work of the Animals Committee. He informed participants of the 'significant trade' process which is one of the important areas of work of the Animals Committee, and outlined how this process operated, its outcomes and benefits.

(The final part of the report [Summary of main issues raised and Recommendations] is contained in paragraphs 20 to 49 of this document).

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Anexo 2 (en inglés únicamente)

Agenda

Wednesday 30 April

- 10h00-10h30 Registration
- 11h30-12h00 Opening
Opening of the workshop by Mr Roger Beale, Secretary, Department of Environment,
Sport and Territories
Opening statement of SPREP
Welcome by the CITES Secretariat
- 12h00-14h00 *Lunch*
- 14h00-14h15 Adoption of the agenda
Organization of the meeting
Introduction
What we hope to achieve – CITES and the South Pacific
- 14h15-15h30 The Convention – An Overview
– its origins
– its structures
– the appendices
– the role of the Parties (Management and Scientific Authorities, reporting obligations,
financial contributions)
– requirements for accession
- 15h30-16h00 *Coffee break*
- 16h00-16h30 Continuation of the Convention
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
- 16h30-17h00 Experiences of Parties to the Convention

Thursday 1 May

- 09h00-10h30 Experiences of Parties to the Convention
- 10h30-11h00 *Coffee break*
- 11h00-12h30 Experiences of non-Parties
- 12h30-14h00 *Lunch*
OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
- 13h30-14h30 Training
TRAFFIC Oceania
Role of the Management and Scientific Authorities
- 14h30-15h00 Reporting obligations
- 15h00-15h30 Financial obligations
- 15h30-16h00 *Coffee break*
- 16h30-17h00 Permit issuing and confirmation-Appendices I, II and III

Friday 2 May 1997

09h00-09h30	Legislation
09h30-10h00	Role of Customs
10h00-10h30	Listing criteria for CITES appendices
10h30-11h00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11h00-12h30	Trade with non-Parties
12h30-14h00	<i>Lunch</i>
14h00-14h30	CITES and its role in sustainable use of resources
14h30-15h00	Illegal trade
15h00-15h30	<i>Coffee break</i>
15h30-16h00	Capacity building for developing states Parties to the Convention
16h00-16h20	Role of the Technical Committees (Hank Jenkins, Chairman of the Animals Committee)
16h20-16h45	Recommendations
16h45-17h30	Adoption of the report
17h30	Closing of the meeting

Anexo 3 (en inglés únicamente)

List of Documents

- Experiences of Parties to the Convention, presentation by Robert Moore.
- Vanuatu country report.
- Fiji situation: current experiences/involvement in international trade in wildlife.
- Draft Sustainable Development Bill overview, Fiji.
- Pamphlet on Tongan Wildlife Centre.
- Report on a survey of Fanualei and Late Islands for the Koki and the Malau, endangered bird species of the Kingdom of Tonga.
- Photocopy of overheads used during the presentation of the representative of the Kingdom of Tonga.
- Example of CITES-acceptable export permit used by the Cook Islands.
- Table showing the number of export permits issued by the Cook Islands, 1995-1997, by species and destination country.
- Pamphlet on collection of shells and coral in the Cook Islands.
- Presentation notes by Kiribati.
- Presentation notes by Western Samoa.
- SPREP opening statement.
- Opening statement by Roger Beale, Secretary, Department of Environment, Sport and Territories.