

## SUMMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

### 79<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora

Brussels, 19 September 2017

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

**2. Update on on-going activities**

./.

**3. Summary of conclusions of the 78<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting (SoC COM 78)**

The summary of conclusions of the 78<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting held on 22/06/2017 was tabled for information.

**4. Outstanding Actions Points (COM 79 OAP)**

Member States should submit any relevant information as appropriate.

**5. Short report by the Commission on the outcome of the 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Review Group (SRG 80 of 18/09/17)**

The Chair of the SRG informed the Committee about the main opinions formed at the 80<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Review Group (SRG 80) on 18/09/2017.

More specifically, the SRG confirmed the current<sup>1</sup> opinions for the import of *Prunus africana* from Cameroon and introduced negative opinions for the import of *Dalbergia* spp. and *Diospyros* from Madagascar. It was agreed to introduce a suspension for *Ovis aries cycloceros* from Uzbekistan at the next revision of the suspension regulation, to reflect the taxonomic changes adopted at COP17.

The SRG confirmed the "no opinion iii)" for *Canis Lupus* from Kazakhstan and adopted the "no opinion iii)" for *Pachypodium horombense* from Madagascar, *Ovis aries arkal* and *Ovis ammon severtzovi* from Uzbekistan, *Chelonoidis carbonarius* and *Chelonoidis denticulatus* from Suriname and for *Cyclanorbis elegans* and *Trionyx triunguis* from Togo.

The SRG also adopted the no opinion ii) for *Galanthus woronowii* (artificially propagated plants) from Georgia.

---

<sup>1</sup> Recommendation based on the following guidelines: The species is in trade or is likely to be in trade, and introduction to the Community from the country of origin at current or anticipated levels of trade is likely to have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species or the extent of the territory occupied by the species.

The SRG agreed to form a positive opinion for the import of *Varanus salvator* from Sabah, Malaysia, based on the export quota of 3000 specimens. A positive opinion was also confirmed for 15 million bulbs of *Galanthus woronowii* (W) from Georgia.

The SRG meeting also agreed that a discussion is needed on the interpretation and implementation of SRG decisions and more specifically of the "no opinions".

The Management Committee was invited to share their observations on the challenges posed by the adoption of "no opinions" with the Commission by 29/09/17.

## **6. International issues**

### **6.1 Lessons learnt from CITES CoP 17 (COM 79/6/1)**

The Commission tabled the document which had already been presented at the last meeting, with a few changes to take account of the comments made by Member States.

Some members of the Committee stressed that the challenges linked to the implementation of new listings should be given more prominence, based on the experience from CoP 17.

The Commission would look into the wording linked to the implementation of listings and send a revised version to the Committee by 01/10/17 with the objective to finalise the document at the next Management Committee on 14/11/17.

### **6.2 Follow-up from the 29<sup>th</sup> CITES Animals Committee and 23<sup>rd</sup> Plants Committee**

The Commission representative underlined the importance of the last meetings of the CITES Animals and Plants Committees. One important point would now be the follow up on *Dalbergia* at the Standing Committee end of November.

Besides, the EU had been active on periodic and significant trade reviews and various species/country combinations and having bilateral meetings with third countries.

### **6.3 Preparation of the 69<sup>th</sup> CITES Standing Committee (27/11-0/12/2017)**

The Commission highlighted that the CITES Standing Committee would be the first opportunity in the CITES context to see the progress accomplished since CoP17 and recommend further actions if needed to speed up actions where necessary. The agenda had been circulated and any proposals from the EU would need to be submitted by 28/9/17 to the CITES Secretariat.

Firstly, the Commission representative tabled the draft EU document on illegal trade in *Anguilla anguilla*, for inclusion on the agenda of the meeting.

Member States discussed the paper and made a number of suggestions namely in respect to the document on eels presented at the last CoP or to the addition of more data on seizures.

The Commission asked the Member States to review the document and send their comments by 22/09/17 for a timely transmission to the CITES secretariat.

Member States were invited to reflect on the next EU members for the Standing Committee after the next CoP. Interested Committee Members were invited to revert to the Commission and the two current EU representatives, Hungary and Portugal. Germany's readiness to stand as a member for the budget and finance committee was welcomed.

One Committee member presented a draft information document on illegal trade in orchids. The need to ensure consistency with the ongoing discussion on trade in orchids in the CITES context was underlined. A revised draft would be circulated soon.

Regarding illegal trade in ivory, the Committee was informed about the mission of the Standing Committee to Singapore in relation to its classification as country of primary concern as part of the "National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP)" process.

The Commission informed about the process to define an EU position for the Standing Committee and encouraged Member States to contribute actively to this process.

#### **6.4 Preparation for the 18<sup>th</sup> CITES CoP (2019)**

The Commission stressed the importance of starting at an early stage with the preparations of the next COP. The exact date of the COP was still to be confirmed.

Furthermore, the Committee was informed that SRG 80 had decided on 18/9/17 to use a similar methodology in preparing the COP18 as applied for COP17. First potential listing proposals had been presented by various SRG Members.

Member States were invited to submit any suggestions for possible listings to the Commission and WCMC by 15/10/17. WCMC would provide an analysis of the proposals for future SRG and Committee meetings.

### **7. Revision of the Implementing Regulations of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97**

As a result of the discussions at the last Committee meeting, the Commission recalled that no compelling reasons seemed to justify the revision of the Commission Regulation in the short term.

Despite the long procedure, some Committee members reiterated their preference for a swift revision of the implementing regulation, reflecting the changes agreed at the CoP on the standard nomenclature, description codes and guidelines for the annual report.

Member States were invited to submit additional observations supporting the revision of the Regulation as a result of COP17 to the Commission.

### **8. Any other business**

./.

**Annex 1**

**ATTENDANCE LIST  
of the 79<sup>th</sup> MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON CITES**

**Brussels, 19/09/2017**

<b>MEMBER STATE</b>	<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>
<b>BELGIUM</b>	Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain and Environment	2
<b>BULGARIA</b>	Ministry of Environment and Water	1
<b>CROATIA</b>	Ministry of Environment and Energy	2
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	Ministry of the Environment	1
	Permanent Representation of CZ to the EU	0
	Agency for Nature Conservation	0
<b>CYPRUS</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	0
<b>DENMARK</b>	Environmental Protection Agency	1
<b>GERMANY</b>	Bundesamt für Naturschutz	1
	Federal Ministry for the Environment	1
<b>ESTONIA</b>	Ministry of Environment	1
<b>IRELAND</b>	Irish CITES Management Authority	1
<b>GREECE</b>	Ministry of the Environment and Energy	1
<b>SPAIN</b>	Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad	1
<b>FRANCE</b>	Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire, Direction de l'eau et de la biodiversité	2
<b>ITALY</b>	Ministero dell'Ambiente – CITES Management Authority	2
	Arma dei Carabinieri – CITES Enforcement Authority	1
<b>LATVIA</b>	Nature Conservation Agency	1
<b>LITHUANIA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency	1

<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	Ministry for sustainable Development and Infrastructures - Environment department	1
<b>HUNGARY</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, CITES SA	2
<b>MALTA</b>	Environment and Resources Authority	2
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	Ministry of Economic Affairs	1
	MA CITES – RVO	1
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	Ministry of the Environment	1
<b>POLAND</b>	Ministry of Environment	1
	State Council for Nature Conservation	1
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	Instituto da Conservação da Natureza	1
<b>ROMANIA</b>	Ministry of Environment	1
<b>SLOVENIA</b>	Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenian Environment Agency	1
<b>SLOVAKIA</b>	Ministry of Environment	1
<b>FINLAND</b>	Finnish Environment Institute	1
	Ministry of Environment	0
<b>SWEDEN</b>	Swedish Board of Agriculture – CITES MA	1
	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	0
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	1