

Short summary of conclusions of the
16TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN
WILD FAUNA AND FLORA¹

Brussels, 20 June 2000

1. **The agenda was adopted**
2. **The summaries of conclusions of the 14th and 15th meeting of the Committee were adopted with some minor changes**
3. **Outstanding Action Points**

The action points concerning the identification sheet on *Mustela siberica* and dealing with imports of Annex A/App II species were deleted.

4. **Discussion of a proposal for a Commission Regulation to amend the annexes to Regulation 338/97**

Member States were reminded to enter a reservation with regard to *Mustela altaica*, *Mustela kathiah* and *Mustela siberica* in accordance with the text of the proposed regulation.

The Commission undertook to ask the Secretariat to take care that no conflict would arise between the proposed text for the CITES Appendices post COP11 and COP11 Doc. 11.24 (as amended) and COM 11.35.

It was agreed that a final draft proposal will be presented to the Member States for a vote by written procedure as soon as possible.

5. **Vote on a proposal for a Commission Regulation to amend the suspensions Regulation 1968/99.**

The Commission proposed to wait for comments from Member States until 27 June 13 hrs. Afterwards the proposed regulation will be transmitted to the Member States for a vote by written procedure.

¹ Draft conclusions subject to final confirmation upon approval of the minutes of the meeting by the representative of the Member States

6. Analysis of 1997 Annual Report – WCMC.

This item was reported to the Committee in September for further discussion. In the meantime Member States were invited to send comments to the Commission and WCMC.

7. Plans for the revision of Regulation 939/97 post-CITES CoP11 and Sabaudia workshop

The Committee was informed of the successful work of the Seminar in Sabaudia from 14 to 16 June 2000, hosted by Italy in a very agreeable way. Results of the discussions which were focused on the practical problems encountered with the implementation of the new regulations since June 1997, will be taken account of, where necessary, when amending Commission Regulation 939/97 post COP11 in September.

8. Submission of data for Annual Report 1999.

According to the indications given by the representatives of the Member States, all contributions to the EC report should have reached WCMC by the end of July.

9. Planning for 21 September “WCMC - implementation workshop”

The Chairman recommended that the participants to this workshop (members of the Committee and Enforcement Group) should have a pro-active input to the proceedings of this meeting and were invited to communicate to WCMC their expectations for this meeting, which would focus mostly on data handling and communications.

10. Transparency and websites.

The draft pages for a Website called “The European Community and Wildlife Trade” was presented to the Committee. It will be made “live” shortly, but suggestions for improvements will always be welcome.

11. Trade with non-Parties. Article 4.1 b(i) of Regulation 338/97 and CITES Resolution Conf. 9.5.

The Committee reiterated its decision that documents from Non-Parties not in conformity with Res. 9.5 should not be accepted.

12. Any other business

12.1 Acceptance of Russian export permits for caviar shipments (COM16/12.1)

The Commission undertook to ask the Secretariat if it was satisfied with the explanations given by the Russian authorities with regard to the 1999 and 2000 export quota. Member States will be kept informed. In the meantime imports from Russian caviar remain suspended.

12.2 Communication of rejection import applications on the basis of non validity of export documents (B)

The Committee agreed that rejection of application for less significant reasons, like incomplete forms or non compliance with established export quotas, should not necessarily be notified to the Commission and be subject of a notification to other Member States for import restriction.

12.3 Activities on CITES implementation in candidate Member States

Member States to inform the Commission on training activities with candidate Member States and pre-accession states in order to avoid duplication (new Outstanding Action Point). The Commission to inform on the TAIEX programme.

12.4 Turtle vote at CITES COP 11 (UK)

The Chairman, referring to the negative experience with Community voting on Cuban turtles, considered that secret ballot was in contradiction with the Community policy on transparency and action should be taken to abolish this procedure in the CITES context.

12.5 Participation at the FAO “Consultation technique sur la pertinence des critères d’établissement de la liste des espèces aquatiques faisant l’objet d’une exploitation commerciale au titre de la CITES” 28-30 June 2000.

The Committee was informed on the participation of the Commission and some Member States at the above meeting.

12.6 Implementation of Reg. 338/97 in dependant territories, in particular the Channel Islands and the Island of Man (UK)

Member States insisted on the urgency of the establishment of bi-lateral agreements with independent territories.

12.7 EU Funding for MIKE and other COP 11 Decisions (UK)

The Commission updated the Committee on the EU funding for MIKE which still has to go through internal procedures before being approved by the EDF, probably in September. Another contact donor country was needed. Member States to encourage LOME countries.

The Member States were invited to provide what financial support they could for the activities noted by the Secretariat as needing external funding.

12.8 Mortality in transport (B)

With reference to Notification 99/48, Member States were asked to return a copy of completed forms on mortality of live specimens during

transport, mentioning the number of the import permit and the country of issuance, to the Member State of destination and to the Secretariat

12.9 Ireland - ratification of CITES

At a request of the Commission on the state of affairs, the Committee was advised that the dossier was still before the Irish Parliament for approval, but no precise information could be given about when it was expected to make progress.

PRESENCE LIST
CITES COMMITTEE MEETING

June 20th, 2000

Chairman	Commission DG ENV.A.4.
<u>Austria</u> MA of Austria	Bundesministerium für Land und Forst, Wirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasser Wirtschaft
<u>Belgium</u> MA of Belgium	Ministère de l'Agriculture
<u>Denmark</u> MA of Denmark	Ministry of Environment
<u>Finland</u> MA of Finland	Finish Environment Institute
<u>France</u> MA of France	Ministère de l'Environnement
<u>Germany</u> MA of Germany	Bundesamt für Naturschutz
<u>Greece</u> MA of Greece	Ministry of Agriculture
<u>Ireland</u> MA of Ireland	Dep. Arts Culture Gaelteacht Islands
<u>Italy</u> MA of Italy Rappresentanza Perm Italia	Corpo Forestale Stato – Div II-Serv. CITES Rappresentanza Perm. Italia en Bruxelles
<u>Luxemburg</u> MA of Luxemburg	Douanes/Environnement
<u>Netherlands</u> MA of the Netherlands	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, policy section
<u>Portugal</u> MA of Portugal	Ministerio do Ambiente Instituto Conservacao Natureza
<u>Spain</u> MA of Spain	Ministerio Economia y Hacienda
<u>Sweden</u> MA of Sweden	Swedish Board of Agriculture
<u>United Kingdom</u> MA of United Kingdom	Dept. Environment, Transport and the Regions UK
<u>Experts</u>	WCMC
<u>Commission</u> DG TAXUD DG FISH DG TRADE DG.ENV.A.4	