

Short Summary of Conclusions of the
17th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD
FAUNA AND FLORA¹

Brussels, 20 September 2000

1. The agenda was adopted with some additional items for discussion under AOB.

2. Final adoption of the summary of conclusions of the 16th meeting will take place after distribution of the translations.

3. Outstanding Action Points
All items were maintained.

4. Trade in primates in the Community

The Committee discussed apparent trade in Annex B primates in contravention of the provisions of Directive 92/65/EEC. It appeared that the implementation of Directive 92/65/EEC was under review by a Commission Working Group. Two key areas were identified by the Committee: the list of institutions authorized to keep primates and authorized suppliers in third countries.

The Committee concluded that an import ban on the grounds of Art. 4 (6) c) was irrelevant for primates and that the matter of holding facilities could be reviewed at a next Scientific Review Group meeting.

5. Final discussion of the draft Commission proposal for a revision of the annexes of Regulation 338/97 as a follow up of COP 11

The Chairman reported on a certain number of amendments to the draft proposed by Member States and undertook to organize a written procedure on the vote of the draft regulation as soon as possible and after an agreement has been found with the Secretariat on the annotations to the listings of *Araucaria aracauna* and *Dudleya stolonifera*.

6. Discussion of a draft Commission proposal to amend Regulation 939/97

The Committee discussed a number of amendments to the present text of the regulation as proposed by the Commission. A final draft regulation will be submitted

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

to the Committee as soon as the text of the COP 11 Resolutions and Decisions have been received from the CITES Secretariat

7. Sale of Annex A specimens on the Internet – application of Article 8 of Regulation 338/97

The Committee agreed that offering for sale on internet should in principle be covered where the advertiser has a centre of operations within the territory of the Community, even if the species are located outside the Community. Developing law in relation to internet should be looked at.

8. Holding and movement of live specimens subject to import restrictions

The Committee discussed the use of Article 9 (6) with regard to the holding and movement of live specimens, which has never been used up to now and could be a useful addition to solve problems related to exotic species. Issue to be followed up at the next meeting of the Committee.

9. Import of Annex A specimens with source « R » or « F »

In connection with some recent misinterpretations, the Committee confirmed that **import of ranched Annex A specimens for commercial purposes is not allowed.**

10. Information about trade in *Ara couloni*

Although the CITES Secretariat has advised that Peru and Brazil have allowed some exports, substantial doubts remained with regard to the possibilities to satisfy Article 24 of Regulation 939/97. It could not be said however that all specimens held in the Community had been illegally obtained.

11. Australian intention to list their populations of Great white shark *Carcharodon carcharias* and the Whale shark *Rhincodon typus* in Appendix III

The Committee considered that a proposal covering all populations and limited to whole specimens and fins would be more effective. If Australia enters such a proposal, its practicability should be re-examined.

12. Progress on Annual Report 1999

Two Member States still to deliver data to WCMC.

13. Stricter national measures and the requirements of Regulation 338/97 (conclusions of Sabaudia Seminar)

New Outstanding Action Point : Member States to send information on their stricter measures to the Commission before the end of November.

14) Any other business

14.1) Information on the analysis of import data of unprotected bird and reptile species : conclusions with regard to Annex D

The results of a study on the import of certain unprotected species carried out in Germany will be submitted to the SRG for discussion in the context of Annex D listings.

14.2) Commission report to the Council on COP 11

It was announced that the report will be put on the Website on trade in wild fauna and flora (http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/cites/home_en.htm).

14.3) Publication of import restrictions in the Official Journal

The Commission was requested to provide for a more frequent publication.

14.4) FAO – Shark Action Plan

The Commission undertook to inform the Committee on the Community position concerning the FAO shark action plan.

14.5) Trade in live stony corals

Awaiting the official text of the COP 11 resolutions, the Committee agreed to follow the guidance of Sec. Notification to the Parties 99/41.

14.6) Definition of « primarily commercial purposes » in relation to taxidermy

The Committee's opinion on this issue has been laid down in the minutes of the 4th meeting of the Committee (10 October 1997), point 11.2, page 5.