

**Short Summary of Conclusions of the
18th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD
FAUNA AND FLORA¹**

Brussels, 19 December 2000

1. The agenda was adopted with one additional item for discussion under AOB.

2. The summary of conclusions of the 16th meeting was adopted.

There were no comments on the English version of the summary of conclusions of the 17th meeting. After translation, the minutes will be adopted at the next meeting.

3. Outstanding Action Points

- The point concerning printing systems was closed.
- The Commission will prepare an overview of activities on CITES implementation in candidate countries. Member States who have not done so yet to provide the information promptly.

4. Review of UNEP-WCMC service contract

The current contract will end at the end of June 2001.

WCMC presented their past work and ideas for future work which will serve as elements to decide if the contract will be prolonged. Several Member States expressed their favourable opinion on this matter.

WCMC also presented the changes in format of the Annual Report Review 1998 which were generally welcomed.

5. Biennial Report

The Commission reminded Member States to draft their biennial report before 15 June 2001, using the format presented by TRAFFIC, and to discuss a draft report at the May meeting of the Committee. More detailed guidelines to be circulated.

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

6. 'Stricter measures' in place in the Member States

The Commission reminded Member States of their obligation to communicate stricter measures than those which apply under Regulation 338/97.

7. Vote on a Commission proposal for a revision of Regulation 1988/2000 (suspensions Regulation). COM18/7/1

Member States voted in favour of this Regulation, except for Denmark, which entered a scrutiny reservation.

The Chairman proposed **8/1/01** as the deadline for the completion of the written procedure.

8. Discussion on a draft proposal for a revised version of Commission Regulation 939/97. COM18/8/1, COM 18/8/2

The revised version was discussed article by article in order to give Member States the occasion to present their comments on the draft.

The new version of the Regulation should be finalised in the March meeting of the Committee. Any comments or suggestions on the text which was discussed to be made by **19/1/01**.

9. Primate Imports

A representative of DG SANCO explained the amendments proposed to Directive 92/65.

10. Bilateral agreement on Agriculture with Switzerland

A conflict between CITES and the bilateral agreement was established as under CITES a permit/certificate is needed whereas the bilateral agreement requires less strict controls. Article XIV of CITES for trade in artificially propagated App. II plants does not apply as there are no common external customs controls with Switzerland.

A general lack of information both on Commission and on Member States' side was stated. The Commission undertook to clarify the issue internally, Member States were asked to check with their relevant authorities.

11. Any Other Business

Only two items could be discussed.

11.3 Germany asked Member States to address requests regarding the issuance of certificates directly to relevant regional authorities instead of the Bundesamt für Naturschutz.

Additional point: Annex A Circus Animals

Germany proposed that Member States replace blue certificates issued under the old Regulation by new ones. Item to be followed up at the next meeting.