

**Short Summary of Conclusions of the
20th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD
FAUNA AND FLORA¹**

Brussels, 31 May 2001

1. The agenda was adopted.
2. The summary of conclusions of the 18th and the 19th meeting were adopted.
3. **Outstanding Action Points**

All outstanding Action Points were maintained.
4. **Commission proposal for a revised version of Regulation 939/97. Vote under the procedures laid down in Article 18 of Regulation 338/97.**

The revised version of Regulation 939/97 was adopted. The German delegation entered a scrutiny reserve.
5. **Initial consideration of a Commission proposal for an amendment to the annexes of Regulation 338/97 (corals and amendment to CITES App. III)**

The Amendment to Regulation 338/97, giving definitions of coral sand and fragments as well as amendments to Annex C for mahogany species, will be agreed by postal vote.
6. **Progress on Biennial Report 1999/2000 and Annual Report 2000**

Whereas the Annual Report is ready in most countries, there will be some delays with regard to the Biennial Report. The Commission urged Member States to send the report in by the end of August at the latest.
7. **UNEP-WCMC analysis of 1999 Annual Report**

UNEP-WCMC presented their analysis of the 1999 Annual Report. In this context it was suggested that there could be a table with figures on seizures in the Annual Report and more detailed comments in the Biennial Report.

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

8. Reports on the effectiveness of stricter measures

The main outcomes of the UNEP-WCMC report and the TRAFFIC report were presented. Both were considered useful and it was agreed that they should be published on the Internet together with a general introduction. The Commission asked Member States to comment on the report and suggested the establishment of an Action Plan, which should take account of the recommendations made in the reports.

9. Preparation for CITES CoP12 (Santiago de Chile, 4-15 November 2002)

- **Legal Service interpretation of possibilities for Member States to make proposals**

The Commission explained the background of their proposal for a Community procedure for proposals to the CITES Conference of the Parties from Member States. The issue will be discussed again at the next meeting in September.

- **CITES ratification by Ireland**

The representative of Ireland confirmed that the ratification was under way.

10. Preparation for the 45th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (Paris, 19-22 June)

Priority items for the meetings include trade in caviar, trade in time-sensitive research samples and *Araucaria araucana*. A formal position still has to be established.

11. Controls on North American ruddy duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)

The representative of the UK explained the need for European-wide cooperation in this matter. It was decided to put the matter before the SRG.

12. Activities underway or planned in Member States: publicity initiatives and application of Art. 9.4 of Regulation 338/97

The Commission asked Member States to transmit any information on these subjects before the end of June.

13. Multi-purpose documents for trade in watch-straps to/from Switzerland

A solution to this case is not provided for under Regulation 338/97, therefore the Swiss request cannot be met.

14. Any Other Business

Stricter measures taken by UK on tigers, rhino horn, primates and bear pile (UK)

The representative of the UK said that the stricter measures applied by his country should be applied throughout the rest of the Community as well. The Commission asked the UK to prepare a more substantive document for further discussion at the next meeting.

Handling of retrospective import applications for items held in bond

Member States agreed that introduction into a bonded warehouse equals import into the Community and therefore requires a permit.

Interpretation of Art. 8.3(a) of Regulation 939/97 (UK)

The Commission explained that the text of the Regulation was copied from Res. 10.2.

Applications for import of caviar from Romania and Russia (DE)

Member States agreed that the decision of the Standing Committee should be awaited.