

**Short Summary of Conclusions of the
24th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD
FAUNA AND FLORA¹**

Brussels, 19 December 2002

1. The agenda was adopted with one additional item under ‘Any Other Business’ (Definition of source code ‘R’).
2. The adoption of the summary of conclusions of the 23rd meeting was deferred to the next meeting given that the translations were not available yet.
3. **Final vote on Commission’s Suspensions Regulation ex-2087/01 – comments by Germany**

The Commission will check two points and will inform Member States of the outcome in writing.

4. **Outstanding Action Points**

- An information day for the Turkish CITES authorities took place in Ankara on 17 December.
- A seminar for the ten candidate countries on CITES and the EU wildlife trade Regulations will be held in May 2003 in Germany.

5. **Rejection of application for permits and certificates for specimens not meeting the requirements of Article 24 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1808/2001**

The Committee discussed the standards of evidence required by Parties for ‘pre-Convention’ specimens. It was agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting on the basis of information from Member States about their national experiences and systems they have in place. Furthermore, the idea to draw up a list of species which should not be traded within the EU should be examined.

6. **Follow-up of CITES CoP12**

Given that the final version of the documents was not available, the Committee exchanged preliminary ideas about the implementation of the amended listings and Resolutions.

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

7. Import from Madagascar

Member States expressed the wish to get an official confirmation about the end of the moratorium. The Commission undertook to contact Madagascar once again for this purpose.

8. Presentation of the analysis of the EC annual report to CITES 2000 by UNEP-WCMC

UNEP-WCMC presented their analysis of the EC Annual Report 2000 which for the majority of species did not show any major changes. Member States commented that discrepancies in the report could be explained by the fact that exporting countries often reported on the basis of licenses issued rather than transactions carried out.

9. Treatment of vagrant species under Regulation 338/97

The Committee concluded that this was a European Birds Directive issue and that applications for CITES permits and derogations under the Birds Directive should be considered jointly.

10. Status of SRG opinions

The Committee took note of the view by the Scientific Review Group that existing opinions regarding the import of Annex A hunting trophies would be followed by all Member States. With regard to other non-trophy specimens of other Annex A species a Scientific Authority would have to decide on a case-by-case basis.

11. Any Other Business

a) Primates Pet Trade – commercialisation certificates

The Committee took note of new information on the interpretation of the Balai Directive. Member States expressed themselves in favour of EU-wide rules on the keeping of primates by private persons. The Committee undertook to look into the issue.

b) TRAFFIC Publicity Initiative

TRAFFIC Europe presented the objectives and content of a publicity campaign targeting stakeholders of the main commercial sectors involved in wildlife trade under Regulation 338/97. They would greatly appreciate it if CITES Management Authorities in Member States could offer some assistance.

c) Birds of prey – letter from BE Management Authority

The Committee agreed that the country on whose territory the species appeared should give a first opinion whether or not it is appropriate to return

the animal, release it into the wild or accommodate it otherwise. On the basis of this first opinion the Scientific Authorities in the country of destination should take a final decision.

d) *Electronic CITES licensing*

The Committee thought that this was an issue worth exploring and where it was worth sharing experiences. It was agreed to look into the technical and legal aspects and continue discussion at a future meeting.

e) *Final report of a study of application on EU wildlife trade Regulations in relation to species which form an ecological threat to EU fauna and flora*

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Scientific Review Group would discuss this report and look in particular at the specifics of the two species which are already listed on the EU wildlife trade Regulations.

f) *Source code 'R'*

It was clarified that when a country has established an export quota for animals with source code "W", it could still export specimens with source code "R" but not as part of the "W" quota.

g) *Global Tiger Forum*

The representative of the UK encouraged the other Member States to write to India asking about the setting up of the Tiger Enforcement Unit.