

**Short Summary of Conclusions of the
26th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD
FAUNA AND FLORA¹**

Brussels, 1st July 2003

1. The agenda was adopted with one additional item under Agenda point 6 and two additional items under 'Any Other Business'.
2. The amended summary of conclusions of the 24th meeting was adopted and will be translated.

The draft summary of conclusions of the 25th meeting was approved and will be translated and submitted to the Committee for adoption at the next meeting.

3. Outstanding Action Points

Germany informed that results of the Mortality study were distributed to the Member states under CD format. Hard copies would be available at a later stage and additional copies could then be ordered free of charge. The representative of Germany proposed to discuss these results at the next SRG meeting in autumn 2003.

The representative of Denmark indicated that Denmark would be very soon in a position to comply with the second outstanding action point regarding the informing and updating the Commission of names and addresses of SAs.

The Slovenian representative informed that representatives from all 10 Accession Countries attended a seminar organised by the German Management Authority on the Island of Vilm. Two weeks ago, Slovenia also organised a seminar for the Slovenian customs authorities with lecturers, amongst others, from the United Kingdom and Germany.

4. Vote on new Annexes to Council Regulation 338/97

The Committee voted on the proposed text according to the procedure laid down in Article 18 of Regulation 338/97 and approved it unanimously. Austria, Spain and Finland were not present at the meeting. Member States were invited to check their respective language versions and indicate any linguistic changes in writing to the Commission by 4th July at the latest.

5. Short report of regional representative to the Standing Committee

Germany as Regional Representative to the Standing Committee reported on the main outcome of the 49th Standing Committee.

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

6. Planning for 50th meeting of the Standing Committee and CoP13

a) Calendar

The Committee took note of the provisional calendar regarding the preparations of CoP13. It agreed that the regional representatives should convey concerns to the CITES Secretariat regarding the timing of the CoP and the fact that the matter was not discussed in sufficient detail at the 49th Standing Committee.

b) Coordination arrangements

The Committee expressed the view that thorough Community coordination was essential but that it should allow a certain degree of flexibility for interventions by Member States on the basis of the common position. Some streamlining of the procedures employed at CoP12 was necessary.

7. Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and FAO

The Committee agreed that the Community's comments on the draft MoU should be slightly amended and then submitted to the CITES Secretariat by Germany, as Regional Representative on the Standing Committee.

8. Report on outcome of contract with UNEP-WCMC

A representative of UNEP-WCMC presented the report on the outcome of the service contract with the Commission. The Committee generally welcomed the results and outlined the importance that the database has for the work of Member States and other stakeholders.

9. Guidelines on compliance with the Convention

The Chairman asked the Committee members to convey their views on the draft guidelines in writing by the end of August.

10. Outcome of 26th meeting of the SRG regarding Grizzly bear hunting trophies from British Columbia

The Commission undertook to write to the Canadian CITES authorities informing them about the SRG opinion, drawing particular attention to the Panel's recommendation concerning the setting up of bear management areas.

11. Any Other Business

a) Revision of Commission Regulation (EC) 1808/2001

The Chairman informed the Committee that the interservice consultation had been launched and would be finished in mid-July. The draft proposal would be discussed at the next meeting.

b) Annual Report 2002 & Biennial Report 2001-2002

The Chairman asked the Member States who had not done so yet to submit their Annual and Biennial Reports as soon as possible.

*c) Listing of *Gonystylus* spp. (Ramin) on Annex B of Council Regulation 338/97*

The Chairman informed the Committee that the Commission had written to Malaysia regarding the Annex B listing and was waiting for a reply. It was

considered necessary to explore with Indonesia if they were prepared to make a listing proposal or co-sponsor a proposal at CoP13.

d) Application of Article 9(2)(a) of Council Regulation 338/97

The Commission advised that according to its reading there was no basis for exempting source 'F' specimens from the provisions of Article 9(2)(a) of Council Regulation 338/97.

e) Issuance of certificates for species subject to stricter measures in other Member States

The Chairman asked the Committee to provide information on stricter domestic measures and added that information from the accession countries would be appreciated. The issue will be discussed again at the next meeting.

f) Rejection of applications for permits and certificates for specimens not meeting the requirements of Article 24 of Commission Regulation 1808/2001

The Chairman reminded Member States that the Committee had agreed at a previous meeting that a list of problem species would be drawn up and asked them for input.

g) Marking of parts and derivatives

Member States were asked to inform the Commission about marking requirements for parts and derivatives in their countries.

h) Marking of Annex A CITES specimens (tortoises) under Article 36 of Commission Regulation 1808/2001

The issue was deferred to a future meeting.

i) Treatment of zoos as non-commercial

The Commission confirmed that the mere fact that an enterprise describes itself as a zoo is not grounds for assuming that their use is primarily non-commercial. Unless they seek exemption under Article 30 of Commission Regulation 1808/2001, they must seek certificates on a case-by-case basis.

j) Trade in whale meat from Norway to the Faroes

The representative of Denmark informed the Committee that the correspondence with the CITES Secretariat regarding this issue was still ongoing and that they were currently awaiting a reply outlining the Secretariat's position.

k) Sweden's import ban on crayfish

The Commission undertook to contact the responsible unit in DG Environment regarding Sweden's ban on the import of crayfish.

- 1) *Problem of issuing import permits for timber on arrival in a port of entry of a Member State*

The Chairman underlined the need for a coherent implementation of Article 8 of Council Regulation 338/97. The issue will be put on the agenda of one of the next meetings.