

## Short Summary of Conclusions of the

### **39<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD FAUNA AND FLORA**

*Brussels, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2006*

#### **- Introduction by the Chairman**

- 1) The agenda was adopted with changes in the order of the tabled agenda items to allow for sufficient discussion time for agenda item 10).

- 2) **Adoption of summaries of conclusions**

The translated summaries of conclusions of the 37<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting were adopted.

The draft summary of conclusions of the 38<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting was cleared for translation.

- 3) **Outstanding Actions Points**

The Committee agreed to one additional Outstanding Action Point (OAP) on Member States' progress in implementing the caviar labelling and registration provisions of the new Commission Regulation. Furthermore, the Commission representative invited all Member States to submit information in writing on any new developments on all OAPs, in particular on the permit numbering systems in place in the Member States.

- 4) **Way forward after Vilm workshop on the evaluation of the EC wildlife trade regulations held from 14 - 17 November 2006**

The Chair informed the Member States that the outcome of the Vilm workshop would be taken further in the framework of the on-going study on the effectiveness of the EC Wildlife Trade Regulations. In that regard, he informed the Committee that the contractor, TRAFFIC, would shortly send out a questionnaire to Member States, with additional questions. He furthermore undertook to report back to the Committee as the above-mentioned study would proceed.

The Member States were invited to submit comments to TRAFFIC on the draft proceeding of the Vilm Workshop by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2007. (**ACTION**)

- 5) **Short report by the Commission on the outcome of the 38<sup>th</sup> & 39<sup>th</sup> Scientific Review Group**

The Chair of the Scientific Review Group reported on the outcome of the 38<sup>th</sup> & 39<sup>th</sup> meetings.

**6) Presentation by TRAFFIC of draft analysis of 2003-2004 Biennial reports**

TRAFFIC presented, as part of their monitoring contract with the European Commission, a draft analysis of the 2003-2004 Biennial reports of the EU Member States. CITES. Member States were invited to submit comments to TRAFFIC by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007 with a view to finalise the report. **(ACTION)**

**7) Presentation by TRAFFIC on Marking Techniques**

TRAFFIC presented, as part of their monitoring contract with the European Commission, a draft report on marking techniques used in the control of wildlife in the EU. Member States were invited to submit comments to TRAFFIC by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007 with a view to finalise the report. **(ACTION)**

**8) Presentation by UNEP-WCMC of analysis of 2004 Annual reports**

As part of their contract with the European Commission, UNEP-WCMC presented the draft analysis of the 2004 European Community Annual Report to CITES. Member States were invited to submit comments to UNEP-WCMC by 20<sup>th</sup> January 2007. **(ACTION)**

UNEP WCMC also informed the Committee, that, under that same contract, it would be compiling a yearbook based on information taken from the annual reports highlighting the key points. A draft would be send to the Member States for comments before publication.

**9) Regional meetings of the European CITES Parties**

The Committee agreed to a proposed reply by the Czech Republic, being one of the EU regional representatives to the CITES Standing Committee (SC) to the CITES Secretariat, that it would not be necessary to organise a European regional meeting in the run-up to the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (CoP) to be held in June. It was pointed out that the EU Member States already meet frequently in the framework of the Committee on Trade in wild Fauna and Flora and other fora. Germany and the Czech Republic, as the EU regional representatives to the SC, would inform the other Non-EU CITES Parties about the EU CoP proposals in order to seek their support, and vice versa, they would ask those countries to provide information about their possible proposals.

**10) Preparation for CoP 14**

**a) CoP 14 updated timetable**

The Committee took note of the updated timetable which included new dates for the Council meetings (WPIEI) to discuss the Commission proposal for a Council Decision on a common EU position.

**b) EU CoP14 Proposals**

The Chair reminded the Member States of the procedures adopted at the 36<sup>th</sup> Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora for submitting proposals to the CITES Conference of the Parties from Member States. In accordance with these procedures, Germany would

submit the proposals to the CITES Secretariat as a joint proposal of the Member States acting on behalf of the European Community.

The Committee agreed to the proposed way forward by the Chair that the final wording of all tabled CoP proposals would be agreed and adopted at today's meeting. Furthermore, all proposals in their finalised form would have to be submitted by the Member States to the Commission and Germany by Wednesday lunchtime, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2006, at the latest in order to enable Germany, as in-coming EU Presidency, to submit the proposals before 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007 to the CITES Secretariat.

#### **i. Presentation of Commission Staff Working Document**

The Chair presented the Commission Staff Working Paper reflecting the Commission Services' assessment of the CITES CoP 14 proposals by the Member States.

#### **ii. Discussion and agreement EU Decision/Resolution proposals**

The Chair outlined the Commission services assessment of each proposal taking into account the revised versions of all proposals. The Committee followed the Commission services assessment on all proposals, with the exception of the *Lamna nasus* listing proposal, for which, despite the fact that the Commission Services had expressed an unfavourable assessment, the Committee approved the proposal by qualified majority.

With regard to the proposal on trade in small crocodile leather products, where the Commission Services had originally expressed an unfavorable assessment, the Chair gave a positive assessment since the proposal had been significantly modified in line with the Commission Services' comments.

#### **The following proposals were approved by consensus:**

- *Document and Draft decisions on trade in crocodilian specimens*

#### **The following proposals were approved by consensus taking into account amendments as agreed by the Committee:**

- *Document and draft decisions on Internet trade in CITES-listed species*
- *Document and draft revised resolution on compliance and enforcement*
- *Document and draft decisions on CITES and Livelihoods*
- *Document and draft decisions on timber shipment inspections*

#### **The following proposals were approved by qualified majority taking into account amendments as agreed by the Committee:**

- *Lamna nasus*
- *Squalus acanthias*
- *Anguilla anguilla*

- Mesoamerican timber species (NL)
  - i. *Cedrela spp*
  - ii. *Dalbergia retusa & Dalbergia granadillo*
  - iii. *Dalbergia stevensonii*

c) **Periodic review of animal species included in the CITES Appendices**

The Committee agreed that the Finnish Presidency, on behalf of EU, would submit the proposed letter to the CITES Secretariat in response to the Notification to the Parties No. 2006/062. It was furthermore agreed that individual Member States could complement by sending additional comments.

d) **Election of regional members of SC / AC / PC**

The Committee exchanged views on future regional representatives and alternates to the Standing Committee. The Chair of the SRG reported on the outcome of discussion the day before, however, at that time related to the Animals and Plants Committee.

In response to the Notification to the Parties No 2006/071, it was agreed that those countries having indicated their interest for membership, i.e. Bulgaria, Portugal and the United Kingdom, would submit their respective candidacy to the CITES Secretariat. Germany pointed out that it would also enquire with the Non-EU Parties of the European region about their possible candidacies.

e) **State of play of organisation**

The representative of the Netherlands informed the Committee that the CITES Secretariat would very soon issue a Notification to the Parties informing them about logistical arrangements (hotels / office space / etc.).

**11) Any other business**

a) *Update on on-going activities*

*New amending Commission Regulation integrating necessary CoP 13 changes:* The Chair explained that the Commission would envisage a written procedure to adopt this amending Regulation because it would be a limited exercise only aiming at integrating CoP 13 changes with a view to bring the EC implementing legislation in line with CITES before CoP 14. A similar exercise would be undertaken for the necessary CoP 14 changes in the summer 2007. The more in-depth revision would take place in 2008 once the results from the effectiveness study would be available.

*Council conclusions on Biodiversity adopted on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2006:* The Chair drew the attention of the Committee to these Council conclusions and invited them to make reference to that wording in the CITES context when possible.

*Brochure on CITES implementation in the EU:* TRAFFIC, under its monitoring contract, prepared a brochure which will be disseminated as part of the Communication activities for CoP 14. TRAFFIC had sent Member States the relevant language versions

of the brochure for checking. The Chair asked the outstanding Member States to submit linguistic comments they may have to TRAFFIC by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2007 in order to have the brochure finalised and published in good time before CoP 14. **(ACTION)**

b) *Trade in wild birds – update on state of play*

The representative of Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection updated the Committee on the current temporary measure in place banning trade in captive birds until the end of March 2007. Furthermore, he informed the Member States about the current procedure underway to amend Decision 2000/666/EEC thereby amending the entire set of provisions for captive bird imports, including quarantine requirements.

He explained that the current temporary ban on trade in captive birds was based on a safeguard decision whereas the draft measure under revision to be in place by end of March would be based on the quarantine decision.

c) *Meeting dates 2007*

The Committee noted the dates for the Committee meetings in 2007.

d) *Training needs in national competent authorities*

TRAFFIC presented, as part of their monitoring contract with the European Commission, a draft report on training needs in national competent authorities. Member States were asked to list three priority areas in terms of trainings on CITES and the EC Wildlife Trade Regulations.

The Chair invited the Member States to send this list together with comments on the draft report to TRAFFIC by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007 with a view to finalise the report. **(ACTION)**

e) *Study on the Enforcement of the EC Wildlife Trade Regulations in the EU-25 – way forward*

The Chair informed the Committee that at the last Enforcement Group, it was agreed to develop an EU strategic action plan on Enforcement based on the outcomes of the study as well as the UK Enforcement workshop held in 2005. Furthermore, it was pointed out that a draft of the abridged version of the Study outcome had been placed on CIRCA for the Member States' comments. It would now be finalised and made available to the public.

f) *Preparation of future EC wildlife trade monitoring contract*

Member States were invited to provide further ideas about tasks they might wish the future contractor to undertake in order to assist them in the effective implementation of CITES at EU level. **(ACTION)**