

Short Summary of Conclusions of the

42nd MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Brussels, 14 December 2007

1) Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted with three additional items under 12) “Any Other Business”, namely information about specimens re-exported from United Arab Emirates, access to the caviar trade database, caviar sold on ships and planes and imports of stony corals.

2) Adoption of translated summary of conclusions of the 39th Committee meeting (SoC COM 39).

The text was adopted.

Draft summary of conclusions of the 41st Committee meeting (SoC COM 41)

The draft summary of conclusions of the 41st Committee meeting was adopted. The Chairman informed the Committee that due to a very heavy workload, the Commission Translation Service is no longer able to translate this type of document.

3) Outstanding Actions Points (COM 42 OAP)

The Chairman thanked all Member States which had submitted relevant information under the Outstanding Action Points but invited them to send updates or new information. (ACTION).

3) Short report by the Commission on the outcome of the 42nd Scientific Review Group meeting

The Chair of the Scientific Review Group reported on the outcome of the 42nd meeting that took place on 7 December 2007. **5) Short report by the Commission on the outcome of the 15th Enforcement Group meeting (COM 42/5)**

The Chair of the Enforcement Group reported on the main outcomes of the 15th Enforcement Group meeting, which took place on 25-26 October.

6) Amendments of Annexes to Council Regulation 338/97 – update

The Translation has been submitted to the Member States for opinion and scrutiny check. The Commission asked the Member States to check very carefully the text

(common names) and submit comments, if any, by 9th January 2008 (**ACTION**). The draft measure has also been submitted to the European Parliament under the right of scrutiny. The adoption of the new Annexes to Council Regulation 333/97 is expected for March 2008.

7) Amending Regulation post CoP 13 / post Cop 14 - update

The Chairman informed the Committee that the text has been agreed by Member States on 12 November 2007. The Amending Regulation had been submitted to the European Parliament for its right of scrutiny. The adoption of the text by the Commission is foreseen early January.

A detailed discussion on the interpretation of the provisions relating to transaction-specific certificates was deferred to a future meeting.

8) Preparation of Standing Committee 57

a) Brief report by UK and BG on the state of play of SC 55 postal procedure

The CITES Secretariat had launched a written procedure for the adoption of the outstanding Standing Committee issues that could not be finalised at the 55th meeting in the Hague on 2 June 2007. Following consultation with the Commission and EU Member States, the UK and Bulgaria had responded stating the EC position. .

b) Cites Strategic vision 2008 – 2013, discussion on indicators (see also Decisions CoP 14.1 and 14.2)

As agreed at COM 41, a Working Group (UK, DE, BG, NL and Commission) had held a first discussion with regard to the indicators to measure implementation of the objectives in the CITES strategic vision. The chairman asked Member States to send their input on this issue to the Commission by the end of January 2008 (**ACTION**).

The Commission informed the Committee that the Working Group would meet again on 28th February 2008. It was agreed that the EU input to the Standing Committee in relation to the Strategic Vision Indicators would be finalized either by written procedure or at the next COM meeting depending on the CITES Secretariat's deadline.

c) One-off sale off Ivory/Trading partners: Report of Germany's visit to China (COM 42/8/2)

The Committee welcomed the initiative of Germany to undertake such a mission and stated that the report of Germany's visit to China was a valuable contribution to the process of assessment to be undertaken by the Secretariat. It encouraged Germany to submit it to the CITES Secretariat.

9) Replies to CITES notification

a) Elephants and ivory trade questionnaire – draft EU reply (COM 42/9/1)

The representative of the Commission informed the Committee that the Commission had completed the questionnaire in relation to the relevant provisions of EC Regulations.

Following a short discussion, it was agreed that the Commission would revise the reply and that Member States would send further comments if necessary by 18 December 2007 in order that the reply be sent before Christmas.

b) Draft reply to CITES Notification 2007/033 (Sharks and timber) (COM 42/9/2)

It was agreed that the Commission, would submit the proposed reply to the CITES Secretariat.

c) CITES Enforcement Expert Group (CITES Notification 2007/037)

The Committee agreed that the Commission would send the Commission recommendation on CITES enforcement in response to this notification. Member States were furthermore encouraged to submit any other relevant enforcement action plans to the CITES Secretariat.

10) Presentation of UNEP – WCMC services and outcome of survey

UNEP-WCMC presented an overview of services provided under their service contract with the Commission. Member States provided positive comments on the services provided and suggestions will be taken on board for possible future contracts.

11) EU Electronic data sharing – discussion of possible pilot project

The Committee agreed to a pilot project with a number of interested Member States to facilitate electronic data exchange with regard to permits and certificates.

12) Any other business

a) Meeting dates 2008 – update

For information – indicative dates

b) Up-date ongoing activities

The final report of the effectiveness study, prepared by TRAFFIC under a Commission contract, had been submitted to the Commission.

c) Information of current Commission process of assessing seal hunt

The Chair informed Member States about the current developments on the Commission Assessment on the animal welfare aspects of seal hunting. In

view of establishing contacts with the relevant services in each Member State dealing with this issue, the Commission invited Member States to submit contact details (ACTION)

d) Interpretation of Article 2(w) (worked specimens) in relation to ivory (COM 42/12/4)

The Chair asked the Member States to submit information on their interpretation of Article 2(w) by the end of January 2008 (ACTION).

e) Captive bred Python brongersmai from Indonesia

The Chair informed the Committee that Indonesia was carrying out investigations with regard to the captive breeding status of certain exports of Python brongersmai. The Committee would wait for the response of Indonesia before taking this issue further.

f) Developing an EU Framework for Invasive Alien Species (COM 42/12/6)

The Chair informed the Committee that on the basis of a discussion document a green paper would be prepared on this subject. The Commission asked Member States to provide comments on this discussion document by 4th January 2008 (ACTION).

g) Preferred units for specifying the quantity on permits for skin pieces (SKP)

The representative of the Commission informed Member States that they should use whichever unit was most relevant.

h) Japanese whaling and CITES (UK)

The Committee had an exchange of views on Japanese whaling for scientific purposes and its link to CITES provisions. It was agreed to come back to this issue at the next meeting.

i) Caviar sold on ships and planes (FR)

The Committee had a short exchange of views on whether permits were required for caviar used on ships and planes. The Commission would check existing information on this issue (ACTION).

j) Re-export from United Arab Emirates

Following a short exchange of views it was concluded that, where re-export certificates were not issued by the United Arab Emirates, specimens could nevertheless be imported on the basis of an import permit in accordance with Article 4(5)(a).

