

**SHORT SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE 45TH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC
REVIEW GROUP ON TRADE IN WILD FAUNA AND FLORA¹
15 SEPTEMBER 2008**

The SRG took the following decisions under Articles 4.1 (a) (i) and 4.2 (a) of Council Regulation (EC) N° 338/97:

1) Negative opinions² for import of specimens from the following species / countries combinations:

<i>Prunus africana</i>	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<i>Prunus africana</i>	Equatorial Guinea

2) Negative opinions² for import of specimens from the following species / countries combinations confirmed / maintained – NOT to be formalised in the Suspensions Regulation:

<i>Ursus arctos</i>	Kazakhstan (Hunting trophies)
<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	Ghana (W)
<i>Kinixys erosa</i>	Togo (W)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Ghana (W)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Togo (R, > 8 cm)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Togo (W)
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Togo (R, > 6 cm)
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Togo (W)
<i>Prunus africana</i>	Cameroon
<i>Prunus africana</i>	Tanzania

3) Confirmation of current suspensions as listed in EC Reg. No. 811/2008

<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	Benin (R)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Benin (W; R)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Togo (W)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Benin (R)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Togo (R)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Benin (W; R)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Togo (R, > 8cm)
<i>Varanus exanthematicus</i>	Benin (W; R)

¹ Subject to confirmation by the Members of the Scientific Review Group. Further, it is understood that the above opinions are also those of each Scientific Authority and will be reflected in any opinion given in relation to the application of Art. 4.1(a) and 4.2(a) of Regulation 338/97. These opinions will remain valid unless or until circumstances related to the trade or conservation status of the species change significantly.

² Recommendation based on the following guidelines: The species is in trade or is likely to be in trade, and introduction to the Community from the country of origin at current or anticipated levels of trade is likely to have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species or the extent of the territory occupied by the species.

<i>Varanus exanthematicus</i>	Togo (W; R, > 35 cm)
<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Benin (W; R)
<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Togo (W; R)
<i>Varanus ornatus</i>	Togo (W; R)
<i>Python regius</i>	Benin (W)
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	Benin (R)
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	Togo (W; R)
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	Benin (R)
<i>Acanthastrea hemprichii</i>	Tonga ³
<i>Favites halicora</i>	Tonga
<i>Scolymia vitiensis</i>	Tonga
<i>Trachyphyllia geoffroyi</i>	Fiji

4) No opinions for import of specimens of the following species / countries combinations

<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	Benin (W) (confirmed)
<i>Kinixys erosa</i>	Benin (W; R) (confirmed)
<i>Kinixys erosa</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Kinixys erosa</i>	Togo (R) (confirmed)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Benin (W)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Ghana (W)
<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	Togo (W)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Ghana (W) All applications to be referred to SRG
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Benin (W; R)
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Ghana (R)
<i>Varanus exanthematicus</i>	Ghana (W; R)
<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Ghana (W; R)
<i>Varanus ornatus</i>	Benin (W; R)
<i>Varanus ornatus</i>	Ghana (W; R)
<i>Python regius</i>	Ghana (W)
<i>Python sebae</i>	Togo (W; R) (confirmed)

³ This will come into effect when the combination *Acanthastrea* spp. / Tonga will be removed from the current Suspensions Regulation; only *Acanthastrea hemprichii* will remain in the Suspension Regulation at that time.

For *Acanthastrea* spp., only 3 species are confirmed to occur in Tonga. A positive opinion was formed for *A. echinata* and *A. hillae*, which will come into effect when the *Acanthastrea* spp. / Tonga combination will be removed from the current import suspensions regulation and will be valid only when the species are traded with permits describing the species names (not at genus level). A negative opinion was confirmed for *A. hemprichii* which will remain in the suspension regulation for Tonga once the *Acanthastrea* spp. / Tonga combination will be removed from the current import suspensions. Import applications for *Acanthastrea* spp. from Tonga with permits describing only the genus level are therefore still to be refused.

<i>Python sebae</i>	Benin (W) (confirmed)
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	Ghana (W; R)
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	Benin (W) All applications to be referred to SRG (confirmed)
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	Ghana (W; R) (confirmed)
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	Togo (W; R) (confirmed)
<i>Pandinus imperator</i>	Benin (W) (confirmed)
<i>Blastomussa wellsi</i>	Fiji ⁴

5) Positive opinions for import of specimens of the following species / countries combinations:

<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	Togo (W) (confirmed); (R, < 8 cm) (confirmed)
<i>Kinixys erosa</i>	Ghana (W) (confirmed)
<i>Kinixys homeana</i>	Togo (R, < 8 cm) (confirmed)
<i>Chamaeleo gracilis</i>	Togo (R, < 8 cm) (confirmed)
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Ghana (W)
<i>Chamaeleo senegalensis</i>	Togo (R, < 6 cm) (confirmed)
<i>Varanus exanthematicus</i>	Togo (R, < 35 cm) (confirmed)
<i>Python regius</i>	Benin (R) (confirmed)
<i>Python regius</i>	Ghana (R) (confirmed)
<i>Python regius</i>	Togo (W; R) (confirmed)
<i>Python sebae</i>	Benin (R) (confirmed)
<i>Python sebae</i>	Ghana (W; R) (confirmed)
<i>Acanthastrea echinata</i>	Tonga ³ (only when traded with permits at species level, not genus level)
<i>Acanthastrea hillae</i>	Tonga ³ (only when traded with permits at species level, not genus level)
<i>Hydnophora rigida</i>	Fiji ⁴
<i>Plerogyra simplex</i>	Fiji ⁴

6) Import suspension for the following species / countries combinations recommended for removal:

<i>Acanthastrea</i> spp.	Tonga (to be replaced by <i>Acanthastrea hemprichii</i> / Tonga)
<i>Blastomussa wellsi</i>	Fiji
<i>Cynarina lacrymalis</i>	Tonga
<i>Hydnophora rigida</i>	Fiji
<i>Plerogyra simplex</i>	Fiji
<i>Plerogyra sinuosa</i>	Tonga

⁴ This will come into effect when the country / species combination will be removed from the current import Suspensions Regulation.

- 7) **New Suspension Regulation:** The latest [Suspensions Regulation \(EC\) No 811/2008 of 13 August 2008](#) was published in the Official Journal L219 of 14 August 2008.

- 8) **Review of species qualifying for Annex X of Implementing Regulation:** The SRG concluded that, of the species reviewed, only *Tyto alba* would meet most of the criteria set by the SRG and the Management Committee for inclusion in Annex X of the Implementing Regulation, but it recommended the Management Committee not to include any additional species in Annex X of the Implementing Regulation based on concerns over risks of illegal take of the species concerned if the need for Article 10 certificates was removed.