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CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Cate

Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

Summary record of the tenth session of Committee I

2 October 2016: 09h25 - 12h00

Chair: K. Gaynor (Ireland)

Secretariat: J. Scanlon

T. De Meulenaer M. Sosa Schmidt

J. Stahl

Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell

J. Gray E. King B. Price

Amendment of the Appendices

88. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 18 to transfer *Lichenostomus melanops cassidix* from Appendix I to Appendix II was introduced by Australia.

Bhutan, Chile, Egypt, the European Union and its member States, Fiji, Liberia and New Zealand supported the proposal.

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 18 to transfer *Lichenostomus melanops cassidix* from Appendix I to Appendix II was <u>accepted</u> by consensus.

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 19 to transfer *Psittacus erithacus* from Appendix II to Appendix I was introduced by Angola, Gabon, Guinea, Nigeria and Senegal, on behalf also of co-proponents.

Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the European Union and its member States, Liberia, Uganda, the United States of America, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), speaking on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund and the Zoological Society of London, and the World Parrot Trust supported the proposal. The United States asserted that Parties had taken every possible measure for the species under Appendix II to little avail, and emphasized the proposal had the backing of most range States. The European Union stressed that the species had four times been the subject of the Review of Significant Trade, and believed it was time for a new approach. It stated that it did not think an Appendix-I listing need be an obstacle to captive breeding and thought that such a listing would result in greater enforcement efforts.

Brazil and Cameroon, opposing the proposal, noted the potential impact of the transfer on livelihoods in range States. Brazil noted further that the species was mainly affected by poaching and emphasised the need for closer cooperation between importing and exporting countries. Bahrain, supported by China, believed that the main threats to the species were habitat loss and fragmentation, combined with poor management of trade. China believed there were still avenues to explore under the Review of Significant Trade process.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Japan, Norway, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, the European Pet Organisation and the International Animal Trade Organisation opposed the proposal. South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and the European Pet Organisation said they believed an Appendix I listing would lead to implementation difficulties. Japan, South Africa and the European Pet Organisation did not believe the species met the biological criteria for inclusion in Appendix I, while Norway, echoed by Cameroon, considered there were insufficient scientific data for deciding whether to transfer the species to Appendix I. Japan further noted that addressing enforcement problems is important, even at the current listing status, for conservation of the species. South Africa drew attention to document CoP17 Inf. 81.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo averred that scientific information in the proposal's supporting statement was flawed and that the situation in their country was not accurately reflected. It considered that acceptance of the proposal would negatively affect livelihoods in their country, and said they had domestic measures to control the trade. It suggested amending the proposal so that it applied to West African populations only.

The Chair proposed a vote. Tunisia asked that it be held by secret ballot and received the backing of twelve other Parties. The result of the vote was 95 in favour and 35 opposed, with five abstentions. Proposal CoP17 Prop. 19 to transfer the African grey parrot *Psittacus erithacus* from Appendix II to Appendix I was accepted.

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 20 to transfer the Southern boobook (Norfolk Island) *Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata* from Appendix I to Appendix II was introduced by Australia, who noted that the proposal resulted from the Periodic Review of the Appendices and that the subspecies was functionally extinct. New Zealand and Fiji supported the proposal.

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 20 to transfer the Southern boobook (Norfolk Island) *Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata* from Appendix I to Appendix II was accepted by consensus

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 59 to list Algerian Fir Abies numidica in Appendix I was withdrawn by Algeria.

Proposal CoP17 Prop. 21 to transfer the American crocodile *Crocodylus acutus* population from the Integrated Management District of Mangroves of the Bay of Cispata, Tinajones, La Balsa and Surrounding Areas of the department of Cordoba, Republic of Colombia, from Appendix I to Appendix II was introduced by Colombia.

The meeting was adjourned at 12h10.