

CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES
AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES

Quincuagésimo tercera reunión del Comité Permanente
Ginebra (Suiza), 27 de junio-1 de julio de 2005

Informes

Informes de los representantes regionales

ASIA

1. El informe adjunto correspondiente a los países de la ASEAN, e Israel, Japón, Jordania, Emiratos Árabes Unidos y Yemen ha sido presentado por Japón.
2. Habida cuenta de que se remitió a la Secretaría después de la fecha límite para la presentación de documentos, se distribuye únicamente en inglés (el idioma original en que fue recibido).

ASEAN

1. Introduction

This report summarizes the activities of Parties between 50th Standing Committee Meeting, Geneva (Switzerland) 15-19 March 2004 and 53rd Standing Committee Meeting, Geneva (Switzerland) 27 June – 1 July 2005. ASEAN comprises of 10 member countries and all its members are signatories to CITES. This report has been prepared with the contribution from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

2. 13th CITES CoP, Bangkok (Thailand) 2-14 October 2004.

Indonesia

Indonesia participated in the 13th CITES CoP in Bangkok and submitted 7 proposals on the listing of species under CITES which included up listing of *Cacatua sulphurea* from Appendix II to Appendix I and also the inclusion of *Malayemys subtrijuga*, *Notochelys platynota*, *Carettochelys insculpta*, *Chelodina mccordi*, *Aquilaria* spp, *Gyrinops* spp and *Gonystylus* spp in the Appendix I CITES. All the Indonesian proposals were adopted by the 13th CoP

Malaysia

Delegation from Malaysia which comprised of officials from various CITES MAs and SA participated actively in the last 13th CoP in Bangkok, Thailand. Malaysia supported all the proposals which are genuine in conservation efforts but for those proposals merely based on precautionary measures and endemic of certain species were not favoured by Malaysia. Malaysia would like to request all CITES Parties to go back to the basic of the Convention that only support species that are significantly traded internationally, with sound scientific research and the survival of the species is incompatible with their utilization for listing under its exhaustive Appendices.

3. ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora 2005-2010.

During the 13th CoP all the ASEAN members gave full support to the ASEAN Declaration on ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora 2005-2010. The plan need to be finalized by the ASEAN Experts Group on CITES (AEG-CITES) before its can be endorsed by ASOF and accepted by AMAF . In order to fulfil this need, a meeting was organized by Indonesia and held in Jakarta from 1st to 4th May 2005 to further discuss and finalized the Action Plan. The ASEAN Action Plan on CITES will embark a new milestones for better understanding and cooperation among the wildlife agencies in ASEAN.

4. CITES Implementation after CoP13

Indonesia

Series of socialization was carried out by CITES SA and MA. The socialization was involved a wide range of stakeholders, including the governments, wildlife industry and NGOs in order to obtained a more transparent position to the public.

Malaysia

With the listing of Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp) in CITES Appendix I, both Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) and Sarawak Forestry Corporation have organized few workshops and road shows before 12 January 2005 to explain to the industries and traders regarding the listing and also the CITES Appendix I procedure to better prepare them for the government and CITES needs in trade of Ramin species.

From 15th November till 31st December 2004, circulars were sent to all traders in wildlife trade to update them on the changes of species listed under Appendices I, II and III after CITES CoP 13 in Bangkok. This is to make sure that those involved in wildlife trade are aware of the new CITES listing. Apart from these, traders and individual that possess newly up-listed CITES species that are non-native to Malaysia were advised to declare their existing stock with the relevant CITES MAs, this move will facilitate the issuance of CITES Re-export Permit after 12th January 2005.

Singapore

The Schedules to the Singapore's ESA was amended to reflect the changes to the Appendices, adopted at the CITES COP13, as well as the inclusion of 18 freshwater turtle species in Appendix III by China. The amendments came into effect on 12 January and 17 February 2005 respectively. The changes would now require trade in species such as the Asian soft-shelled turtle (*Amyda cartilaginea*), pig-nosed turtle (*Carettochelys insculpta*) great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*), humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*), ramin (*Gonystylus* species), agarwood (*Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops* species) etc through Singapore, to be accompanied by proper CITES permits. Among others, the commercial trade in the lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*) and lilac-crowned amazon (*Amazona finschi*) are now prohibited.

Prior to 12 January 2005, circulars were sent to traders / trade associations dealing in reptile skin, seafood, shark's fin, humphead wrasse, freshwater turtles, ornamental birds and fish and traditional Chinese medicine, to inform and prepare them for the up-listing of the species and changes in the trade regulations. The relevant traders were also advised to declare existing stock of up-listed species and/or their parts and products, to allow AVA to issue permits for their re-export after 12 January 2005.

Prior to 12 January 2005, circulars were sent to all ramin, timber association and agarwood traders to inform them of the up-listing of the species and changes in the trade regulations for ramin and agarwood.

5. Law enforcement activities

Malaysia

Malaysia successfully intercepted an attempt to smuggle 756 heads of Indian Star Tortoises (*Geochelone elegans*) from India to Malaysia via KLIA (Kuala Lumpur International Airport). The Indian Star Tortoises were concealed in two baggage hand carried by an Indian citizen, the specimens were confiscated and the surviving specimens were repatriated back to India on 26.08.04 in accordance to Article VIII and RC 10.7 CITES. Department of Wildlife and National Parks also successfully interrupt 2 attempts to smuggle into Malaysia 25 pieces of tiger pelts from Indian. Samples of the confiscated tiger pelts were sent to Chemistry Department for further identification in its authenticity. In term of domestic enforcement, about two-third of the cases apprehended were related to pangolins and all of the offenders were charged in court with a fine range from RM 1,000 to RM 9,000.

6. Bilateral cooperation with other Parties, organizations and NGOs

Indonesia

Bilateral cooperation between Indonesia and the Philippines on bird trade. A meeting between the Government of Indonesia and the Philippines was held and facilitated by Haribon Foundation (Philippines) and BirdLife Indonesia in Davao City the Philippines on 24-25 June 2004. This meeting was aimed to find solutions on the problem of illegal trade which occurs in this two countries to find solutions on the problem of illegal trade in bird species which occurs in this two countries. A number of solutions were agreed upon, including: increased dialogue between two countries; further CITES training for enforcement personnel; follow-up meetings to address problems as they arise; and repatriation of Indonesian birds confiscated in the Philippines. A detailed agreement and action plan will be developed, and the next meeting will be organized in Indonesia (probably in Manado, North Sulawesi).

The Management Authority of Indonesia is developing a formal cooperation with TRAFFIC South East Asia on the matters related to CITES implementation in Indonesia. The cooperation will be focused on, but not limited to, the wildlife trade monitoring and non-detriment findings making. The draft MOU is being assessed by the State Secretariat for endorsement before the signing.

The CITES MA Indonesia in collaboration with CITES SA is developing coordination with other stake holders such as Customs, Police, Quarantine, Ministry of Marine Affairs ,etc on the matters related to CITES implementation and wildlife trade monitoring in Indonesia. Memorandum of Understanding between CITES MA with Customs and Quarantine are in the progress.

Malaysia

With the listing of most of the Asian tortoises and fresh water turtles during the CoP 12 and CoP 13, Malaysia has taken various steps to further enhance the conservation efforts in these species. These steps are to co-operate with China and Hong Kong S.A.R in verifying all CITES Export Permits that issued by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks(DWNP), China and Hong Kong S.A.R. were chosen because they are the major consumption country in tortoises and fresh water turtles. In term of domestic measure, Malaysia set management quotas for all the fresh water turtles and tortoises found in the country and have set 0 quotas on trade for *Cyclemys dentata* and *Malayemys subtrijuga* which are not common in trade. This is to ensure that the protection on heavily traded species does not put pressure on species that are not traded and regulated.

Apart from China and Hong Kong S.A.R.,net working with most countries that carry out wildlife trade with Malaysia is established at all time and from time to time DWNP communicates with these countries to have their CITES Permit validated before actual import.

7. Capacity building and public awareness activities

Indonesia

Regular (annual) Training on CITES Law Enforcement for field enforcement officers such as Customs, Quarantine and Provincial Conservation Agencies is conducted annually. The training has been undertaken regularly since 1995 to enhance the skill and knowledge of the field officers on CITES in order to implement better control of trade in wild fauna and flora. The training materials include Introduction to Species Conservation, Introduction to CITES, Permit Systems and Procedures, Wildlife Crime and Law Enforcement Procedures, Customs Procedures, Quarantine Procedures and Species and Specimens Identification.

Malaysia

Public Awareness programmes have been a routine for Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) in Peninsular Malaysia. The responsibilities are carried out by its Training and Conservation Division (was renamed as Institute of Biodiversity last year). The Biodiversity Conservation Education Programmes are conducted not only during weekends but also during school and public holidays to make it more accessible to public at large. The main objective of the programme is to promote public awareness on the importance of biodiversity conservation in the country. Malaysian Airport (MAS) Cargo together with TRAFFIC South East Asia, organised two sections of "CITES and Fauna Species Identification Course" on 28 till 31st March 2005 for all the enforcement officers and staffs in KLIA (Kuala Lumpur International Airport). Apart from this programme, PERHILITAN also organises seminars on wildlife conservation and other conservation related seminars from time to time to traders, hunters, people involved in wildlife related business and public at large to promote sustainable uses of wildlife resources and conservation efforts by the department.

Singapore

Singapore participated in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Regional Technical Consultation on Fish Trade & Environment from 1-3 February 2005, Bangkok (Thailand). The Consultation discussed several important issues related to fish trade and fisheries management such as fisheries subsidies, eco-labelling, guidelines to reduce sea turtles mortality in fishing operations, Marine Protected Areas

(MPAs) and Fisheries and Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF). With respect to CITES issues, member countries discussed the possible listing of the sea cucumber in CITES and its impact on the trade in commercial marine products. The meeting agreed that proper management of the sea cucumber would support sustainable utilization of the species.

The AVA is currently working on a CITES training workshop with TRAFFIC to be conducted in July in Singapore. Personnel from national enforcement agencies such as the Singapore Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA), Police Coast Guard, airport police and AVA enforcement and animal quarantine offices are expected to participate in this 1-2 days workshop to have an overview of CITES and learn about permits and identification of CITES species commonly traded through Singapore.

Four MTIB officials were invited to Singapore to conduct a wood identification workshop on 3-4 March 2005. A TRAFFIC personnel also gave presentations on an overview of CITES. 30 participants from the Singapore Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) and AVA attended the training. The workshop was found to be very useful as it covered the basic biological structures of wood and field techniques for identification of commonly traded wood species, including ramin and its look-alikes such as pulai, jelutong etc. The training was part of the action plan adopted by the Tri-national Ramin Taskforce, September 2004, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia).

An Indonesia-Singapore Agarwood Consultation Workshop was held on 14 Apr 2005 in Singapore, to discuss and address the agarwood trade and conservation management issues in Indonesia and Singapore. The workshop, which was facilitated by TRAFFIC, was attended by representatives from the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore [CITES management authority of Singapore] and the Indonesian CITES management and scientific authorities. Representatives from the Indonesian agarwood trade association (ASGARIN) and the Singapore agarwood industry were also present. Participants exchanged views on the trade dynamics for agarwood, sustainable trade management and the current CITES regulations for import and export of agarwood wood chips, oil and products such as incense. Participants also shared their views on how best to manage agarwood conservation (e.g. through plantations and establishing export quotas) to ensure they are used sustainably.

8. Other CITES-related activities in the countries

8.1 National Legislation Project

Brunei Darussalam

Draft preparation on the Brunei Darussalam's CITES National Legislation Plan is progressing well ready for reporting at the coming 53rd Standing Committee Meeting to be held in Geneva from 27 June -1 July 2005.

Indonesia

The Ministry of Forestry has just enacted a Ministerial Decree No. 447/Kpts-II/2003 dated 31 December 2003 concerning Administration Directive for the Harvest or Capture and Distribution of Specimens of Wild Plants and Animals. This decree, which is one of the implementing regulations under the Government Regulation No. 8 of 1999, concerning Species Utilization, endeavours to cover as much CITES provision as this decree possibly can accommodate. Currently Indonesian legislation has been placed in category 1, meaning that the legislation has met all the requirements to implement CITES.

Malaysia

Malaysia has submitted its revised National Legislation Plan to Secretariat on May 2005 and it will be presented by the Secretariat to the 53rd SC Meeting on the progress made by Malaysia and by the end of 2006 Malaysia will have all the CITES requirements expressed in its National Legislations.

8.2 Development of rescue centres

Indonesia

Indonesia has now established nine Post-confiscation Rescue Centres for handling the confiscated live animals. These are located in Jakarta, Bogor, Sukabumi, Bandung, Yogyakarta, Malang, Bali, Pontianak and North Sulawesi. The centres are developed and run in collaborative partnership between the Government and NGO's. Currently the Government is developing the standard operational procedures for the centres and procedures for post-rescue treatments of the animals held in the centres.

Singapore

AVA has granted in-principle support to the Animal Concerns Research & Education Society (ACRES), a national NGO, which has proposed establishment of a wildlife rescue centre in Singapore, to house and provide proper veterinary care for wildlife confiscated by AVA. Singapore welcomes sponsors who are willing to financially support this endeavour.

AVA, the Singapore Zoological Gardens and Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) are also working to set up a wildlife rescue centre cum education centre, at the Zoo to house and display wildlife confiscated in the course of CITES' enforcement work. The centre will also showcase confiscated dead specimens (e.g. ivory) and display interpretives such as posters to educate visitors about CITES and wildlife conservation. The exhibition will also serve to inform the younger generations not to keep exotic wildlife as pets.

8.3 Other activities by country

Brunei Darussalam

The Brunei Darussalam Museums Department (the present CITES MA) is currently organising a roadshow in all four districts of the state. This roadshow, which included a talk based on TRAFFIC Southeast Asia's CD translation prepared for ASEAN Nations, began since last late April and would conclude by the end of June 2005. The talk targeted students and community leaders and as well as public at large.

Indonesia

The Indonesian CITES Management Authority, has published a series of 2 guidebooks for identification manual for the trade of the species (Reptile). Handbook CITES in Indonesia version is in the progress to be published.

Projects on conservation and protection of Sumatran tiger and Sumatran Rhinoceros are in progress. Among the activities of the projects is development of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Protection Units. The units, which are developed for simultaneously undertaking law enforcement (patrolling and investigation), population and habitat monitoring and community awareness activities, have shown effective to combat poaching.

Indonesia has initiated to proposed joint effort to curb illegal trade in wildlife among ASEAN member countries. The proposal has already endorsed by ASEAN members during the ASOF Meeting in Brunei.

Singapore

AVA, the Nature Society of Singapore (NSS) and Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) have jointly proposed to airport authorities, the setting up of a CITES exhibit at the Changi airport. The exhibit serves to provide information through interactive and static displays to educate travellers about the purpose and requirements of CITES, and their responsibilities with regards to international and domestic laws for the import and export of specimens of wild fauna and flora. Creating public awareness is part of an on-going effort to crackdown on any illegal

wildlife trade through Singapore. The project is under the Singapore Green Plan (SGP) 2012, Singapore's blueprint for achieving environmental sustainability.

ISRAEL, JAPAN, JORDAN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND YEMEN

1. Introduction

This report summarizes the activities of Parties between 50th Standing Committee Meeting, Geneva (Switzerland) 15-19 March 2004 and 53rd Standing Committee Meeting, Geneva (Switzerland) 27 June – 1 July 2005. Japan, represents Iran, Israel, Jordan Kuwait Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen for 53rd Standing Committee Meeting and this report has been prepared with the contribution from Israel, Japan, Jordan, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

2. Participation in CITES meetings

Israel

Israel participated in the 13th Meeting of CITES Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, Thailand, October 2004). Israel is also regular participants at the CITES Animal Committee and CITES Standing Committee. Bill Clark will be representing the CITES Management Authority of Israel at the 53rd meeting of the CITES Standing Committee.

Japan

(1) 13th CITES Conference of Parties

Japan participated in the 13th CITES CoP in Bangkok and submitted some proposals in favour of "sustainable use". These proposals were supported by many parties. Japan elected a new Asian Representative of Standing Committee in this meeting.

(2) CITES Standing Committee

The Japanese delegation participated in the 50th, 51st and 52nd CITES Standing Committee as an observer.

(3) CITES Animals Committee

Dr. Nobuo Ishii contributed to the Animals Committee as its alternate member of Asia. The Japanese delegation participated in the Animals Committee as an observer.

Jordan

Jordan participated CITES Regional Meeting held in Manila July 2004.

Jordan participated in CoP13 in Bangkok October 2004 and elected as Alternative member to the Standing Committee.

Jordan participated in the Consultative Meeting on Falcon for Falconry held in Abu Dhabi in May 2004.

A regional Workshop on the Capacity building for CITES was held in February 2005 funded by the Islamic Bank for Development, the workshop was attended from representative from Management and enforcement agencies of the following countries; Jordan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Syria in addition to representatives for the CITES Secretariat, the workshop had two objectives, deliver training to involved people and agree on a regional cooperation mechanisms. The workshop conducted over 4 days in Amman.

United Arab Emirates

The UEA has participated in the CITES CoP 13, Standing Committee and Animal committee in 2004.

Yemen

The Yemeni Government participated at the CoP 13 that was held in Bangkok, Thailand. It is of parties supporting the sharing plans of the regional countries.

3. Cooperation with the Parties and others

Israel

Israel has many bilateral cooperative activities with other Parties, organizations and NGOs. Israel is particularly active in the Interpol Working Group on Wild Crime, which focuses most of its efforts on CITES enforcement. We are also work with bilateral enforcement cooperation with several American, European, African and Asian countries.

Japan

(1) Financial cooperation

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the Government of Japan, made several financial cooperation and contribution:

Made financial contribution in amount of US\$ 40,000 towards MIKE project in Africa in 2004;

Made financial contribution in amount of US\$ 50,000 towards Sponsored Delegates projects in 2004;

Made financial contribution in amount of US\$ 30,000 the holding of CITES Asian Regional Meeting in 2004.

(2) JICA seminar

The Government of Japan made lectures on CITES and its implementation in Japan by Dr. Nobuo ISHII for the capacity building of wildlife conservation and management at JICA(Japan International Cooperation Agency) seminar for African development countries held in September 2004.

Jordan

Bilateral agreements between Jordan and Saudi Arabia, and Jordan and Syria to facilitate cooperation and communication. In addition to help Syrian officials in the implementation of the convention through training and consultation. Moreover, Jordan is helping Lebanese official to prepare their justification to become a party to CITES. It is expected that Lebanon will sign the convention early next year.

Yemen

Yemen became party of the CITES in 1997. Since then, has been felling that there is a need to act the bilateral and regional cooperation to implement the CITES. Yemen has bilateral agreements with neighbours from protecting the endangered species, such as Arabian tiger reproduction in the Emirates and hubara bustard reproduction in Yemen.

United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates hosted the Consultative meeting on trade in falcons and falconry, Abu Dhabi 16-19 May 2004.

4. CITES implementation after CoP13

Israel

Israel has implemented various decisions and resolutions passed at the Bangkok meeting, such as identification of its Enforcement Authority.

Jordan

Three National training workshops were conducted by the management authority for customs and quarantines officers. The training was aiming on build the capacity and raise awareness among participants.

5. Legislation and law enforcement activities

Israel

Israel enforces CITES very strictly. We control CITES shipments entering and leaving the country, and we have numerous "stricter domestic measures" to assure that the Convention is respected in our country.

Japan

(1) Amendment of the Cabinet Order of the Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (LCES)

- (a) In accordance with the Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev.CoP12), the Government of Japan amended the Cabinet Order of the LCES in July 2004 to strengthen the control of internal ivory trade. The amended legislation is enforced on 1 October, 2004. Before the amendment manufactures trading semi-worked and worked ivory, the wholesalers and retailers trading signature seals had an obligation to register themselves to the government. As a consequence of the amendment, all manufactures, wholesalers and retailers trading semi-worked and worked ivory have to register.
- (b) In accordance with the amendment of Appendix I at the CoP13, the Government of Japan amended the Cabinet Order of the LCES in January 2005 to regulate the trade of newly listed on Appendix I.

(2) CITES administration and Enforcement by each Ministry

(a) Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

As the CITES Management Authority, METI issued export licenses with CITES permits and issued Import Licenses under Japan's trade regulation, in some cases MA of Japan exchanged relevant information with the Secretariat and related Parties to make an appropriate decision of CITES;

METI takes care of live animals and plants which were seized as illegal import of CITES by the Customs and the Police authorities, at rescue centres (mainly zoos and botanic gardens). METI had consultation with exporting parties to send back seized CITES specimens to the parties.

METI conducted publication activities on CITES, emphasized on souvenirs of Japanese tourists, to prevent illegal import of CITES specimens.

(b) Ministry of Environment (MoE)

As the CITES Scientific Authority for terrestrial animals, MoE submitted scientific advices to the CITES Management Authority in accordance with CITES regulations.

In accordance with LCES, MoE controlled the internal transfer of International Endangered Species (IES) listed on Appendix I in CITES. MoE inspected pet shops and relevant trader to monitor the illegal internal transfer of IES.

(c) Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

As the CITES Management Authority for Introduction from the Sea, Fisheries Agency in MAFF issued the CITES certificates in accordance with CITES and Japan's regulation.

As the CITES Scientific Authority for marine, herbal and timber species, Fisheries Agency, Agricultural Production Bureau and Forestry Agency in MAFF submitted scientific advices required in accordance with CITES regulations to the CITES Management Authorities.

(d) Ministry of Finance (The Custom Office)

In order to ensure the effectiveness of inspection for CITES, only authorized branches with qualified officials examine cargos and goods which are suspected to fall under CITES.

The Customs office found out several smugglings of criminal prosecution of CITES, and implemented joint investigation with the police authorities.

(e) National Police Agency

The Japanese Police Agency arrested several incidents on charges of the violation of the Customs Law for smuggling, and the LCES for illegal internal trade of CITES species.

Jordan

Enforcement of the convention is ongoing and a number of seizures were performed involving CITES I and II listed species such as, Tiger skins and parts, Saker and Peregrine Falcons, Greek Tortoise, Desert Monitor, African Grey Parrot, Brown Bear Parts and other species.

United Arab Emirates

(1) Legislation

From April 2003 a new United Arab Emirates federal law (FL 11 for year 2002) on regulating and controlling international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora render illegal any import, export and re-export or offering for sale any animals, plants or derivatives that have not been obtained under the CITES requirements. The CITES Authority has the obligation to confiscate any specimen or good for which the legal origin cannot be proven. In addition penalties and/or imprisonment are applicable.

(2) Enforcement

A new system to register all caviar company and pet shops, as well as to regulate trading in endangered species, was established.

Falcon registration system was established in 2002, for all the falcons used for falconry in all the Emirates. The United Arab Emirates Management Authority issues falcon passport (certificate of ownership) for frequent cross borderer falcon that use as personal effect. The falcon covered by this document has been legally acquired and is legally possessed by the owner. Falcon passport issues in agreement with CITES Resolution 10.20.

In 2004, The United Arab Emirates CITES Management Authorities start to register falcon captive breeding operations in the United Arab Emirates (Nationally, with the possibility of being internationally registered in future).

Yemen

Some articles of the Law 26 for 1996 concern with protection of endangered species and regulation of their exploitation. The Prime Ministerial Decree No. 104 for 2002 concerns with protection of endangered species and their trading.

6. Training/capacity Building and public awareness activities

Israel

Concerning capacity building, Israel is planning a week-long CITES training program for September, 2005. We have invited all neighbouring countries to participate. We are making special efforts to sensitize our customs, police and veterinary service to the requirements of CITES.

Jordan

New set of publication on CITES awareness and procedures were published and distributed to all national borders points and the concerned agencies.

United Arab Emirates

(1) Training/Capacity Building

The Environmental Research and Wildlife Development Agency (ERWDA) and the WWF-United Arab Emirates Office were appointed to run a two years training and capacity building program for all agencies involved in the CITES implementation in the United Arab Emirates.

Three training workshops were successfully done in 2002 and 2003 (The workshop includes different United Arab Emirates Agencies such as Environmental Agencies in all the United Arab Emirates, Customs, Entry point's employee (MAF), Municipalities and Rescue centres). Moreover, training workshop for trainers organized in October 2003 to prepare them for training others.

(2) Public Awareness

The IUCN/SSC guidelines on confiscated Animals has been translated to Arabic by ERWDA and distributed to all United Arab Emirates agencies and to other Arabic countries. In addition, there are awareness programs and materials for school and university students, VIPs and Pet shops owners. Also, there is a plan for general public outreach (airport/airplane, tourist sector, media, and residents).