



First Pangolin Range States workshop

*24-26 June 2015,
Da Nang, Viet Nam*



CITES and Pangolins

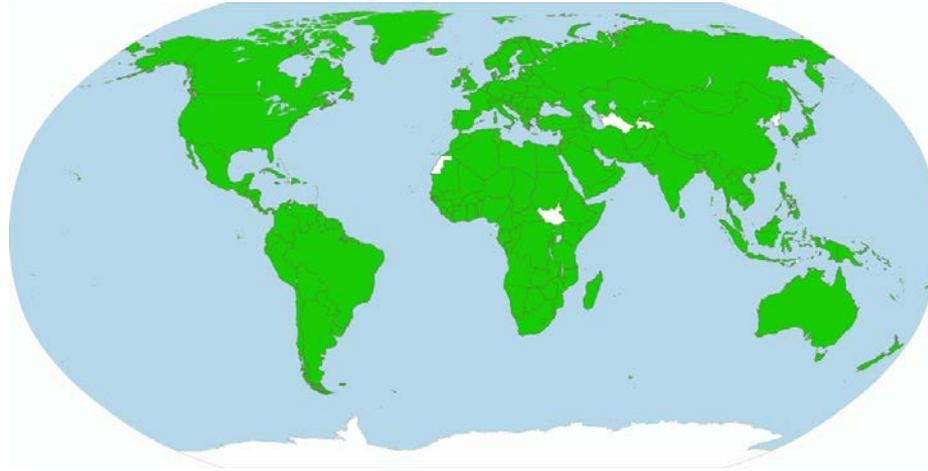
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CITES - overview



Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)



- Multilateral Environmental Agreement
- Agreed by 80 countries in Washington D.C. on 3 March 1973
- Entered into force in 1975
- Currently 181 Parties



CITES objective

- CITES is the preeminent global legal instrument for **regulating international trade in wild animals and plants**
- *CITES objective is to ensure that wild fauna and flora is not unsustainably exploited through international trade*
- CITES serves to both
 - facilitate legal, sustainable and traceable trade
 - intercept illegal wildlife trade



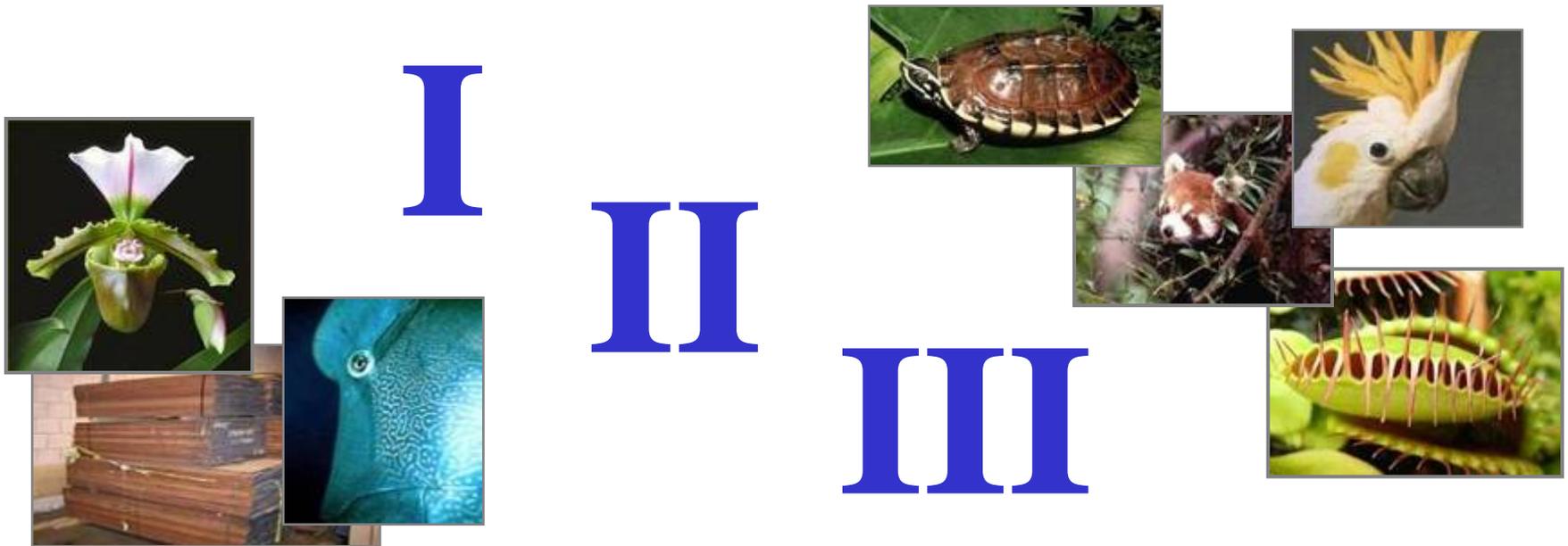
CITES Species

- CITES regulates international trade in approximately 35 000 species of animals and plants
 - Around 29,500 Plants and 5,500 Animals
- Not all listed species appear in trade
 - About 150 animal species and 1,800 plant species account for 90% of CITES transactions



CITES Appendices

The species are listed in three Appendices, according to the degree of protection they need



"Species" means any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population thereof



CITES Appendices

Appendix I:



- Species threatened with extinction.
- International **commercial** trade in wild-taken specimens is generally **prohibited**
- 3% of all CITES-listed species

Appendix II:



- Species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but for which trade **must be controlled** to avoid their becoming so.
- International commercial **trade is allowed** but **regulated**
- 96 % of CITES-listed species

Appendix III:



- Species for which a **country is asking Parties to help with its protection.**
- International trade is permitted but regulated.





CITES and Pangolins

Pangolins were one of the first taxa listed in the CITES Appendices



Pangolin (*Manis* spp.)

Asian Pangolins (17 range States)

Indian pangolin
(*Manis crassicaudata*)

Chinese pangolin
(*Manis pentadactyla*)

Sunda pangolin
(*Manis javanica*)

Philippine pangolin
(*Manis culionensis*)

African Pangolins (31 range States)

Giant pangolin
(*Manis gigantea*)

Ground pangolin
(*Manis temmincki*)

Tree pangolin
(*Manis tricuspis*)

Long-tailed pangolin
(*Manis tetradactyla*)



CITES listing of Pangolin species

- 1975 One African pangolin species was listed in Appendix I and all Asian pangolin species listed in Appendix II
- 1976 Three African pangolin species (*Manis gigantea*, *Manis tetradactyla*, *Manis tricuspis*) listed in Appendix III by Ghana
- 1995 All pangolin species (genus listing *Manis* spp) listed in Appendix II (CoP9)
- 2000 Proposal by India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and USA to transfer Asian pangolins from Appendix II to Appendix I submitted to CoP11.

The proposal was amended to retain these species in Appendix II with a zero annual export quota for Asian Pangolin species (*Manis crassicaudata*, *M. culionensis*, *M. javanica* and *M. pentadactyla*) for specimens removed from the wild and traded for primarily commercial purposes.



Illegal trade in pangolins

- Illegal trade in pangolin specimens is escalating at an alarming rate
- Not only affecting Asian pangolin range States, data reflect an increasing number of seizures of illegal consignments of pangolin specimens from Africa



Some examples of pangolin seizures

- In April 2013, RILO A/P reported the discovery of more than **10 tonnes of frozen pangolin** on a Chinese fishing vessel that had ran aground as it was returning to China from Malaysia.
- In August 2013, a seizure of **6200 kg** of frozen pangolin that originated from Indonesia, at the Hai Phong port in Viet Nam,
- In January 2014, during Operation **COBRA II**, a month-long global operation to combat illegal wildlife trade, **20 seizures** of pangolin specimens were made.
- In May 2015, during Operation **COBRA III**, at least **6 cases** involved pangolin specimens
- In April-May 2015, during the INTERPOL Operation Paws II across 17 countries in Asia, more than **13 tonnes of pangolin products were seized**, representing some **1,000 animals** at an estimated street value exceeding USD 2 million.



Wildlife crime: A serious and global threat

- The world has been confronted by illegal trade in wildlife trade for decades
- Scale and nature have changed over recent years
 - Increased involvement of organized crime groups has changed the dynamics of combating illegal trade in wildlife.
- The illegal trade in wildlife is lucrative, well organized, transnational, involves corruption and **can pose a serious risk to the conservation of wild species**
- It also poses an immediate risk to people, ecosystem, economy and livelihood.



How to combat transnational wildlife crime?

- Treating wildlife crime as **serious transnational organized crime** - in legislation and through relevant agencies. Law enforcement efforts must result in seizures, arrests, prosecutions, convictions and strong penalties
- Strengthen wildlife **enforcement cooperation** and **coordination** among law enforcement agencies and wildlife authorities on national, sub-regional, regional and international level
- **Exchange information** on illegal wildlife trade **between source, transit and destination countries by using existing secured channels** such as WCO CENcomm or INTERPOL's I24/7
- Improving investigative techniques
- Using the full range of **enforcement tools** such as controlled delivery, anti-money laundering and asset recovery
- Raising **awareness** on wildlife trafficking and **reduce demand**



CITES and Pangolins

- 2010 CITES Secretariat issued [Alert No. 37](#) on Fraudulent and illegal trade in pangolins
- 2013 CoP16 adopted Decisions [16.41](#) and [16.42](#) requesting range States of Asian pangolins to compile information on the conservation of and illegal trade in Asian pangolins, and their efforts to address such trade, and to report to SC65
- [Notification to the Parties No. 2013/059](#) invited range States of Asian pangolin species to submit their reports on this matter to the Secretariat



CITES and Pangolins

- 2014 SC65 – few Parties provided reports according to Decision 16.41
- 2014 SC65 established an intersessional **Pangolin working group** with a mandate to work with the Secretariat to **gather further information on the conservation of and trade in African and Asian pangolins.**
- 2014 Notification to the Parties **No. 2014/059** on Information on the conservation of and trade in African and Asian pangolin species was issued
- 2015 **Parties to submit reports** to the Secretariat **by 30 June 2015.**



SC's Pangolin working group

- to review the information provided by Parties following Notification No. 2014/059, and any other relevant information received.
- to draft recommendations to address the illegal trade in pangolin species and report back to the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (11 to 15 January 2016)
 - *Document submitted for consideration at SC66 should be communicated to the Secretariat by 12 November 2015*



Amendment to Appendix I or II

Article XV, paragraph 1 of the Convention

Any Party may propose an amendment to Appendix I or II for consideration at CoP17.

The text of the **proposed amendment shall be communicated** to the Secretariat at least 150 days before the meeting, i.e. by **27 April 2016**. The amendment proposals should be based on the criteria adopted in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).

However, if a **Party intends to submit a proposal to amend Appendix I or II that concerns a species or a population of a species that occurs partly or totally outside of the territory under its jurisdiction, and if it does not intend to consult the other range States before the submission of its proposal, the Party, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 8.21 (Rev. CoP16) on *Consultation with range States on proposals to amend Appendices I and II, should submit its proposal to the Secretariat by 30 October 2015.***



Review of reporting requirements

- Decisions 16.43 – 16.46 on *Review of reporting requirements*
- The format for reporting under Article VIII, paragraph 7 (b) is under revision
 - The **Standing Committee working group on special reporting requirements** is looking into whether the illegal trade reporting should be part of the annual trade report, the new implementation report or special reports.
 - The **reporting requirements of illegal trade** will be discussed at **SC66**.



Assessing the markets and dynamics of the illegal wildlife trade

- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) with support from the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCCWC) is conducting a **global research and analysis study** on wildlife and forest crime, which includes:
 - A quantitative market assessment;
 - involves the construction of a **global wildlife seizure database**, which could provide the international community with the means to better understand and address the market
 - A series of **in-depth illicit trade studies**, including **pangolins**



Strengthening of wildlife laws

- CITES and UNEP, in cooperation with UNODC and UNDP, will **provide assistance to priority Parties**, upon their request, to enhance their legislation as a response to CITES resolutions and decisions and the call from the UN Secretary General to strengthen the UN System response to tackling illegal trade in wild fauna and flora.

Read more at CITES web portal *National laws for implementing the Convention*



CITES National Legislation project

- 17 countries require attention as a priority:

Algeria

Belize

Bolivia

Comoros

Djibouti

Guinea-Bissau*

Kazakhstan

Kenya*

Liberia*

Mauritania

Mozambique*

Pakistan*

Paraguay

Rwanda*

Somalia

Tanzania*

Venezuela

* *Pangolin range State*



CITES and Livelihoods

(<http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/livelihoods>)

- **Objective:**
 - Showcase that CITES-listing decisions can have **positive impact on livelihoods of rural communities** by **providing opportunities of sustainable income** and **resource provision**
- **Working Group on CITES and livelihoods:**
(co-chairs: Peru, China, South Africa)
 - Revision of CITES **tools to assess and address impacts** of CITES-listing decisions on livelihoods
 - Collect **case studies** and successful experience, including **“pangolins and livelihoods of rural communities”**



ICCWC support



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime

ICCWC - coordinated action to combat wildlife crime



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



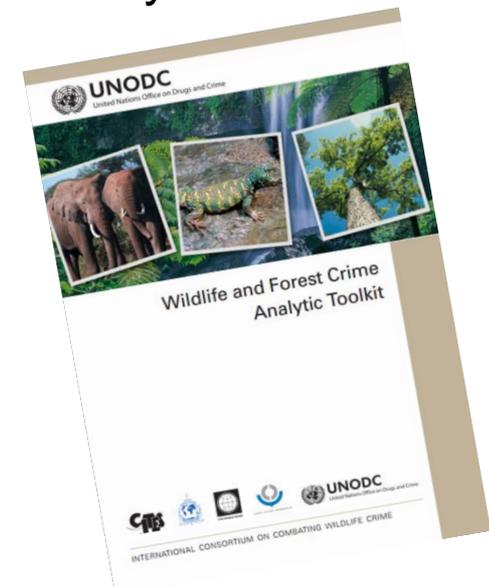
International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC)

- CITES is working with its partners in the **International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC)** to implement several of the CITES decisions and recommendations.
- ICCWC is a collaborative effort by CITES, INTERPOL, UNODC, World Bank, and WCO.
- ICCWC give **coordinated support to national law enforcement agencies, regional wildlife enforcement agreements, bodies and networks** in responding to transnational wildlife crime and to raise awareness of wildlife crime.



Some ongoing ICCWC activities

- Wildlife Incidence Support Team (WIST)
 - dispatched at the request of a country that has been affected by significant poaching of CITES specimens, or that has made a large-scale seizure of such specimens, to assist it, and guide and facilitate appropriate follow-up actions in the immediate aftermath of such an incident
- Implementing the ICCWC Wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit
- Operational Support (e.g Operation COBRA)
- Control delivery workshops
 - Guidelines for forensic analysis
- E-learning module on anti-money laundering



Thank you very much



www.cites.org

