

Wildlife Trade Regulations in the European Union



An Introduction to CITES and its
Implementation in the European Union



nature



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION



environment

Europe Direct is a service to help you find answers
to your questions about the European Union

Freephone number (*):

00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11

(*)Certain mobile telephone operators do not allow access
to 00 800 numbers or these calls may be billed.

More information on the European Union is available on the Internet (<http://europa.eu>).

Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2010

ISBN 978-92-79-15148-4

doi:10.2779/21758

© European Union, 2010

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.



Printed in Belgium

Printed on recycled paper that has been awarded the EU Ecolabel for graphic paper
(<http://www.ecolabel.eu/>)

Wildlife Trade Regulations in the European Union

**An Introduction to CITES and its
Implementation in the European Union**

Table of contents

About this guide	7
What is CITES?	8
Why is CITES needed?	8
How does CITES work?	8
CITES Parties	8
The CITES Appendices	9
CITES Secretariat	9
Permanent Committees of CITES	9
Standing Committee	9
Animals and Plants Committee	9
CITES Conferences of the Parties	10
CITES Resolutions and Decisions	10
CITES Export Quotas	10
CITES and the European Union	11
Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97	11
Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006	11
The Annexes	11
Main differences between CITES and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations	13
International trade: permits, certificates and notifications for trade	13
EU Import Suspensions	15
General derogations from import and export conditions	15
Internal trade within the European Union	16
Marking and labelling of live animals and wildlife products	16
Transport, keeping and movement of specimens	17
Co-ordination on wildlife trade within the EU	17

The Gaborone Amendment and European Community accession to CITES	18
Current status of ratification of the Gaborone amendment to CITES	18
Why should Parties ratify the Gaborone amendment?	19
Additional support and funding for the Convention and Parties	19
Voting rights	19
International support to implement the Convention	20
MIKE programme	20
CITES-ITTO project on implementation of CITES for timber species	20
Strengthening the implementation of CITES in developing countries	20
Further information on EU Wildlife Trade Regulations and CITES	21



©Pablo Sinovas

About this Guide

As one of the most important consumer markets of wild animals and plants, their parts and derivatives, the European Union (EU) has a special responsibility for ensuring that trade in wildlife and wildlife products is sustainable and does not lead to species concerned becoming endangered. For many years, legislation to rule properly this trade has been a conservation priority and, since 1984, the European Union (then the European Economic Community) has been implementing the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) through the EC Wildlife Trade Regulations, referred to henceforth as the EU wildlife trade regulations.

The competence for regulating trade in wildlife within Europe lies with the European Union. The European Commission oversees the application of European Union legislation. The EU is however restricted in playing its role to the fullest, as it is currently not allowed to become a Party to the Convention. As one of the earliest Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the Convention only foresaw membership by States. Since then it has become common for Multilateral Environmental Agreements to allow membership by Regional Economic Integration Organisations (REIOs), i.e. supranational organizations constituted by sovereign States that have transferred all or part of their competences to them. The Gaborone amendment to CITES, which was adopted at the 4th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 1983, would allow for accession by REIOs, and thus would enable the European Union to become a Party to the Convention. It has however not entered into force yet.

This guide is to be used as a 'beginners guide' or first reference material by anyone who wants to gain a quick overview of CITES and the EU wildlife trade regulations and their main provisions. It is by no means exhaustive; it is intended to provide people who are new to the subject of wildlife trade and CITES with a brief summary of the main issues. A more detailed Reference Guide to the EC Wildlife Trade Regulations, that explains all the relevant provisions as well as the procedures for trading in wildlife species covered by CITES and the EU wildlife trade regulations, is available in English on the following website: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/home_en.htm.



What is CITES?

CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, an international agreement between governments that came into force in 1975. Its purpose is to ensure that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade.

Today, CITES accords varying degrees of protection to over 30 000 species of animals and plants, whether they are traded as live or dead specimens, parts (such as ivory or leather) or derivatives (such as medicines made from animals or plants). The member countries, known as Parties to CITES, act together by regulating trade in species listed in one of the three Appendices of CITES (see below). As of January 2010, there are 175 Parties to CITES.

Why is CITES needed?

International problems require international solutions: because the trade in wild animals and plants crosses borders between countries, the effort to regulate it requires international co-operation to safeguard certain species from over-exploitation. CITES was conceived in the spirit of such co-operation.

The text of the Convention provides the broad legal framework for the regulation of international trade. The Parties to CITES are all required to implement the provisions of the Convention; they are also required to enact national legislation to enable confiscation of illegal specimens, to levy penalties for illegal trade and to appoint Management and Scientific Authorities. This means that all the Parties to CITES share the legal framework and common procedural mechanisms with which to regulate international trade in specimens of species listed in the CITES Appendices. Included amongst these procedural mechanisms are requirements for trade with countries that are not Parties to CITES which are similar to those requirements for regulating trade between Parties to CITES.

How does CITES work?

CITES Parties

Under the terms of CITES, international trade in a species listed in one of its Appendices is only permitted if this is not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild. In order to make such judgements, each Party is required to designate a Scientific Authority. The Management Authority issues permits for trade accordingly, i.e. based on the advice it receives from the Scientific Authority. It is then the job of national enforcement agencies, such as Customs officers and the Police, to check that shipments are traded with the required permits or certificates.

The contact details of the competent Management and Scientific Authorities for each of the 27 European Union (EU) Member States can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/home_en.htm. Contact details for all CITES Parties, including those not in the EU, may be found at: <http://www.cites.org/cms/index.php/lang-en/component/ncd/>.

The CITES Appendices

Species can be listed in one of three CITES Appendices, according to their biological status and the impact that international trade may have upon this status. Appendix I lists species that are threatened with extinction and that are or may be affected by international trade; in general all international commercial trade in such species is banned although some trade may be allowed under exceptional circumstances. Most species, however, are listed in Appendix II which includes species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction, but that may become so unless trade is closely controlled. Some species are also listed in Appendix II because they look like species already listed; listing these so-called 'look-alike' species makes it easier for Management Authorities and enforcement officials to control international trade. International commercial trade in plant and animal species listed in Appendix II is allowed provided that valid permits accompany each shipment. Appendix III includes species subject to regulation within a particular member country and for which the co-operation of other member countries is needed to control international trade.

CITES Secretariat

The United Nations Environment Programme provides the Secretariat of CITES which is located in Geneva, Switzerland. It has a co-ordinating, advisory and servicing role fundamental to the working of the Convention. The Conference of the Parties to CITES (CITES-COP), which is convened around every three years, has established a number of permanent committees which also play a significant role in-between the triennial meetings.

Permanent Committees of CITES

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee gives policy guidance concerning the implementation of the Convention and oversees the management of the Secretariat's budget. Beyond these key roles, it coordinates and oversees, where required, the work of other committees and working groups; it carries out tasks given to it by the Conference of the Parties and drafts resolutions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties. It meets normally once a year, while in the year when the CoP is taking place, two short sessions are convened just ahead and after the Conference itself.

Animals and Plants Committees

The Animals and Plants Committees provide expert biological and other specialized knowledge regarding species of animals and plants that are (or might become) subject to CITES trade controls. They provide technical support to decision-making regarding species that are or may become listed in the CITES Appendices. The two Committees have similar terms of reference which include undertaking periodic reviews of species to ensure they are listed in the appropriate CITES Appendix; and advising when certain species are subject to unsustainable trade and recommending remedial action (through a process known as the 'Review of Significant Trade'). They assess, in their capacity and if requested, the draft amendments proposals submitted by Parties. They are normally convened once a year.

The Nomenclature Committee was formerly a separate Committee. After CoP 14 two Nomenclature experts have been appointed by the Scientific Committees and act jointly dealing with nomenclature matters and advising Committees. An important aspect of the work of the nomenclature members is to verify that changes in the names used to refer to species do not cause changes in the scope of protection of the taxon concerned.



CITES Conferences of the Parties

At CITES CoPs, Parties consider proposals to amend the Appendices, review the implementation of CITES and progress made, and recommend measures to improve the effectiveness of the Convention. Changes to the CITES Appendices, Resolutions and Decisions enter into force 90 days after the CoP. In some cases a delay of the entry into force can be decided, to allow Parties to better and efficiently address implementation and enforcement matters. In order to become legally binding in the European Union, such amendments are incorporated into Commission Regulations. For current regulations in force in the EU to implement CITES, see below under “CITES and the European Union”.

CITES Resolutions and Decisions

At each CoP, CITES Parties consider issues with regard to the implementation, interpretation and enforcement of the Convention and its effectiveness, which may result in the adoption or revision of Resolutions or Decisions of the CoP. Resolutions are generally intended to provide long-standing guidance, while Decisions are mostly directed to a specific body of CITES (e.g. Animals Committee, CITES Secretariat) and are designed to be implemented by a specified deadline. Both instruments are important tools for the development of the Convention, but are not legally binding so Parties may choose not to implement them.

CITES Export Quotas

There is no specific requirement within the text of the Convention to establish quotas that limit the trade in listed species. However, the use of export quotas has become an effective regulatory tool for international trade in wild fauna and flora. Export quotas are usually established individually by a Party on a voluntary basis, but they can also be set by the CoP. In most cases, export quotas relate to the calendar year (1 January to 31 December). Before any Party can issue a permit to allow export of specimens of species in Appendix I or II, the Scientific Authority of the State must advise that the proposed export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species (the so-called “non-detriment finding”). The setting of an export quota by a Party should in effect meet this requirement by establishing the maximum number of specimens of a species that can be exported over the course of a year without having a detrimental effect on the survival of the species in the wild. According to the EU legislation, when a quota is published on the Secretariat web-site, export permits shall be accepted by EU Member States only if they specify the total number already exported in the current year, including those covered by the permit in question, and the quota for the species concerned.



CITES and the European Union

The implementation of CITES within the EU is governed by EU regulations, which are directly applicable in the Member States. Current regulations in force in the EU to implement CITES are:

1. The framework regulation: Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein including the Annexes containing a list of species regulated in trade.
2. The implementing regulation: Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 of 4 May 2006 laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein.

These two regulations constitute the legal framework for all EU governments and regulate international as well as internal trade in wild animals and plants in the EU.

Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97

Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 provides the general legal framework and lays down the provisions for internal EU trade as well as import, export and re-export of specimens of species listed in the four Annexes of this regulation (see below for further details on the Annexes). Procedures and documents required for such trade (e.g. import and export permits, re-export certificates, import notifications and internal trade certificates) are also provided. Other subjects covered include the movement of live specimens and types of violations. The Regulation also establishes different bodies at EU level, i.e. the Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, the Scientific Review Group (SRG) and the Enforcement Group, all of which consist of representatives of the Member States and are convened and chaired by the European Commission (see below for further details).

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006, as amended by the Commission Regulation (EC) No. 100/2008 lays down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 and addresses practical aspects of wildlife trade regulation. It provides standard model forms that must be used for permits, certificates, notifications and applications for these documents as well as labels for scientific specimens. There are additional rules for the conditions for issuing these documents, their validity and use. Other subjects covered by this Regulation include provisions for animals born and bred in captivity, artificially propagated plants, personal and household effects and for the marking and labelling of certain specimens.

The Annexes

There are four Annexes (A, B, C and D) to Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97. Annexes A, B and C largely correspond to Appendix I, II and III of CITES, but also contain some non-CITES-listed species that are protected under EU internal legislation. Annex D, for which there is no equivalent in CITES, includes species that might be eligible for listing in one of the other Annexes and for which EU import levels are therefore monitored; it is often referred to as the "monitoring list". To be consistent with other EU regulations on the protection of native species, such as the Habitats Directive and the



Birds Directive , certain indigenous species listed in Appendices II and III of CITES are included in Annex A. Table below summarises the groups of species included in the Annexes of the EU wildlife trade regulations.

Annex A	All CITES Appendix I species, except where all EU Member States have entered a reservation; Some CITES Appendix II and III species, for which the EU has adopted stricter domestic measures; Some non-CITES species.
Annex B	All other CITES Appendix II species, except where all EU Member States have entered a reservation; Some CITES Appendix III species; Some non-CITES species.
Annex C	All other CITES Appendix III species, except where all EU Member States have entered a reservation.
Annex D	Some CITES Appendix III species; Some non-CITES species.

Member States may take additional national measures, for example regarding the keeping of or trade in species listed in the Annexes. Relevant information may be obtained from the Management Authority of the relevant Member State.

Similar to CITES, the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations generally cover all specimens, whether alive or dead, including parts and derivatives, from animal and plant species listed in the Annexes. However, as with the CITES Appendices, some parts and derivatives are exempted from certain provisions through an annotation to the listing.



©Marco Valentini

Main differences between CITES and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations

The EU wildlife trade regulations not only implement the provisions of CITES and the majority of CITES Resolutions, they also go beyond the requirements of the Convention in some respects:

- The EU regulations establish stricter import conditions than those imposed by CITES. Import permits are not only required for species listed in Annex A but also for species listed in Annex B. Import notifications are required for Annexes C and D.
- Some species that are listed in Appendix II of CITES are listed in Annex A of the EU regulations and consequently cannot be traded or used for commercial purposes.
- Live specimens of species listed in Annex A and B are only allowed to be imported into the EU if the recipient is suitably equipped to house and care for the specimens; CITES requires suitable care and housing only for imports of live Appendix I specimens.
- The EU regulations regulate trade within and between EU Member States - considered domestic trade - as well as international trade with non-EU Member States; CITES regulates international trade only.
- Regulation (EC) 338/97 authorises the EU Member States to suspend imports with regard to certain species and countries (negative opinions of the EU Scientific Review Group and EU import suspensions), even if trade is allowed under CITES.

Although the EU wildlife trade regulations are directly applicable in all EU Member States, necessary enforcement provisions must be transposed into national legislation and supplemented with national laws for matters that remain under the sovereignty of each Member State such as penalties. In addition, each EU Member State has legislation relevant to biodiversity and species conservation, veterinary and plant health provisions, animal and plant welfare and customs regulations.

International trade: permits, certificates and notifications for trade

Permits, certificates or notifications are required for trade to and from the EU (import, export, re-export) in animal or plant species (or parts or derivatives made thereof) listed in one of the four Annexes. A specific certificate is also required for internal EU trade in species listed in Annex A. Documents will only be issued if certain conditions are met and they must be presented to Customs before a shipment is allowed to enter or leave the EU. Whether or not these conditions are met is determined by the designated Management Authority of the individual EU Member State in co-operation with its national Scientific Authority. This process can involve questions with regard to:

- whether or not the trade will be detrimental (= harmful) to the survival of the species in the wild;
- whether or not the specimen was legally acquired;
- in the case of a live specimen: whether or not the specimen is properly prepared for transportation; and,
- in the case of a live specimen of a species listed in Annex A or B: whether or not the importer has the suitable facilities to house and care for live specimens.

For artificially propagated plants included in Annex B, commercial trade can also take place using phytosanitary certificates. The list of Parties entitled to use this kind of documentation can be found at <http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/1999/022.shtml>.



©Marco Valentini

EU Import Suspensions

The European Commission can suspend imports into the EU of certain species from certain countries. Suspensions of import are decided after the Scientific Review Group has formed a negative opinion and has consulted with the relevant range State(s). A negative opinion is formed if the import is deemed to have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species; once a negative opinion is issued, import permits cannot be granted for the species from the particular range State. Negative opinions are of a temporary nature and may be lifted immediately when new information on the trade or conservation status of the species in the country of concern is provided and addresses concerns raised.

However, the European Commission can also suspend imports on a long-term basis by adopting the so-called "Suspensions Regulation" which is published in the Official Journal of the European Union. As with negative opinions, long-term import suspensions are usually put in place if the import is deemed to have a harmful effect on the conservation status of the species and when the range State in question has not provided information proving otherwise. In addition, import suspensions can also be established for live specimens of species listed in Annex B that have a high mortality rate during transport or are unlikely to survive in captivity for a considerable proportion of their potential life span. Imports can also be suspended for live specimens of species whose introduction into the EU presents an ecological threat to wild species of fauna and flora indigenous to the EU.

The list of such import suspensions is published in the Official Journal of the European Union. A list of negative opinions currently in place may be obtained via the online database of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC):

http://sea.unep-wcmc.org/eu/Taxonomy/library/docs/SRG_opinions/English/species_negative_opinions.xls

To check the database of species listed in the Annexes or species for which import suspensions are in place, visit the database of species listed under the EU Wildlife Regulation at www.unep-wcmc.org.

General derogations from import and export conditions

Because the main focus of CITES and the EU wildlife trade regulations is the conservation of wild species, specimens of species listed in Annex A that were born and bred in captivity or were artificially propagated (in accordance with the definitions in CITES and the EU Regulations) are treated as specimens of species listed in Annex B. For these specimens, the conditions for the issuance of an import or export permit may be less strict.

Other derogations from import and export conditions include, for example:

- transit of specimens through the EU;
- trade in specimens obtained and significantly altered from their natural state before 1947;
- trade in specimens that are considered personal effects and household goods;
- exchanges of specimens between registered scientific institutions.

Internal trade within the European Union

Internal trade in the EU includes trade within one EU Member State as well as trade between individual EU Member States. Due to the establishment of the single market in the European Union, there are no internal border controls and generally goods can be moved and traded freely within the EU. Consequently, no permits or certificates are needed for the movement of specimens of a species listed in Annex B, C or D within the EU, although individual EU Member States have the power to restrict the holding of certain types of specimens. Wild specimens of species listed in Annex A may normally not be used for commercial purposes and their movement inside the EU is also subject to regulations. Commercial use of Annex B species may be prohibited within the European Union if it cannot be proved to the satisfaction of the competent authorities of the Member States that they were acquired (and, where applicable, introduced into the EU) in accordance with conservation legislation in the relevant countries.

Marking and labelling of live animals and wildlife products

Certain specimens of species listed in the Annexes have to be uniquely marked, for example certain specimens bred in captivity, crocodilian skins and African elephant ivory of a certain length or weight, to name but a few examples. Specific means of marking specimens also are prescribed in the EU wildlife trade regulations including, for example, labelling of caviar containers. Caviar labelling, including for export, re-export or intra-EU trade, may be carried out only by (re-) packaging plants licensed by the CITES Management Authorities. Exemptions from the marking provisions and/or the use of alternative marking methods are permitted under certain circumstances: for example, where the CITES Management Authority believes that the prescribed method of marking is not appropriate due to the physical or behavioural features of the specimen/species.

Regulation (EC) No. 865/2006 also provides for the issuance of labels to be used for the non-commercial movement of specimens between registered scientists, scientific institutions, for museum specimens or exchange of herbarium specimens, etc. Permits are not required for such non-commercial movement between registered institutions, but there are strict labelling requirements, and such movement of specimens may only occur between institutions that have been approved by the CITES Management Authorities.



©Claire McLardy

Transport, keeping and movement of specimens

Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 requires that live specimens of species listed in Annexes A, B and C destined for (re-) export must be prepared and shipped in a manner which minimises the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. This requirement is implemented in the EU through Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations which states that animals must be transported in a manner which complies with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations.

Co-ordination on wildlife trade within the EU

The European Commission oversees the EU-wide implementation of the EU wildlife trade regulations. One of the Commission's main roles is to ensure that legislation at EC level is adequate to effectively regulate wildlife trade. This is achieved through a periodic review of the EU Regulations.

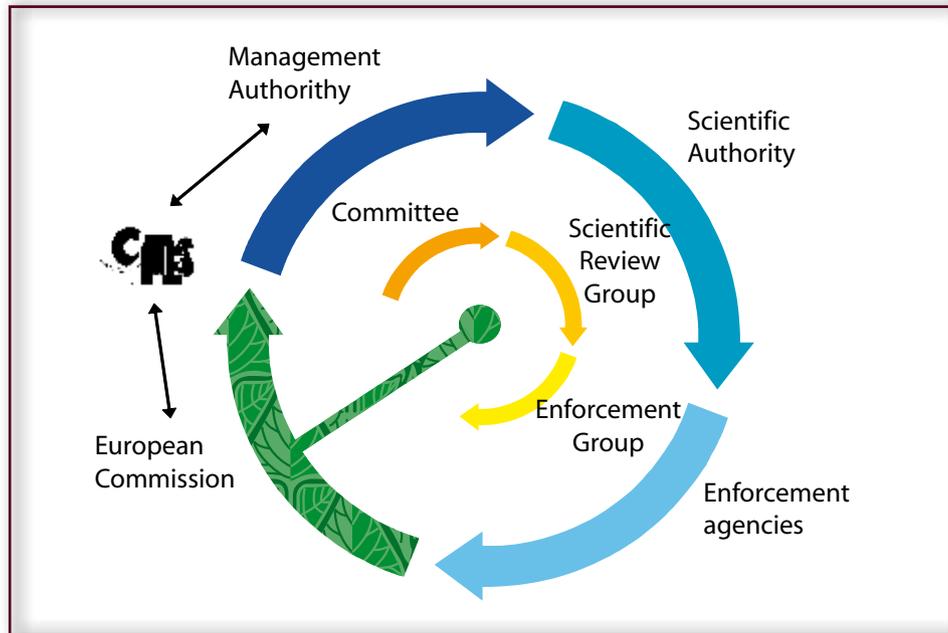
The Committee on Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (the Committee) determines measures to improve the implementation of the EU wildlife trade regulations. The Committee normally meets four times a year in Brussels.

The Scientific Review Group (SRG) normally meets four times a year in Brussels and examines all scientific questions related to the application of the EU wildlife trade regulations, including whether trade has a harmful effect on the conservation status of species. In cases where the SRG believes that trade might have a negative impact, imports from the country of origin under question may be temporarily suspended.

The Enforcement Group (EG) meets twice a year in Brussels to examine technical questions relating to the enforcement of the EU wildlife trade regulations and to exchange information.



©Frank Wouters



Co-operation and co-ordination among the different institutions at EU and national level

The Gaborone Amendment and European Union accession to CITES

Current status of ratification of the Gaborone amendment to CITES

In order for the Gaborone amendment to enter into force and thus for the European Union to become a Party to CITES, 54 of the 80 countries that were Party to CITES at the time of its adoption have to ratify the amendment. A number of Parties are still required to ratify the amendment in order for it to enter into force .

The CITES Secretariat and the Conference of the Parties have repeatedly called for Parties that have not yet done so, to ratify the Gaborone amendment. Under its Goal n°6 "Progress towards global membership" the CITES Strategic Vision, adopted at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to CITES in 2000, calls for further progress to be made in the ratification of the amendment. In addition, a decision adopted at the 12th CoP and a resolution agreed at the 13th CoP, followed up by Notification 2009/019, urge all Parties that have not yet done so to ratify the amendment as soon as possible.

Why should Parties ratify the Gaborone amendment?

The European Union is the only REIO with competence for implementing CITES. Therefore, entry into force of the Gaborone amendment would enable it to become a Party to CITES.

Accession to CITES by the European Union would enable it to play a full role in the work of the Convention. It would provide a single focal point for Parties and the Secretariat to address themselves to. Accession would legally bind the European Union and all its Member States to implement and enforce the Convention and therefore create formal responsibilities for the European Union. As a result, the European Union as a Party would become accountable to other Parties for its implementation of the Convention.

Under the European Union's current status as a non-Party, its legislation implementing CITES is self-imposed and it is not bound by the Convention. It can therefore not officially be called to order by the Secretariat or the Conference of the Parties. They have to officially address themselves to individual Member States who have transferred their competence to the European Union.

Additional support and funding for the Convention and Parties

As a Party, the European Union would contribute to the running costs of the Convention through the budget by paying a percentage rate of the core budget. Furthermore, CITES membership would also provide the European Union with a stronger institutional basis for contributing towards CITES projects and for assisting individual Parties in their capacity building programmes.

Voting rights

Accession would not change the balance of power within the Convention. The European Union would not get an additional vote, it would vote with the number of votes of its Member States.



© James Temple

International support to implement the Convention

Although the European Union, as a non-Party, does not contribute to the running costs of the Convention, it nevertheless actively contributes to various projects supporting the implementation of CITES. These include assistance to Parties in the development of sustainable management programmes for species, and in strengthening capacity and regional co-operation. Some of the key projects supported by the European Commission for the implementation of CITES for elephants, sturgeons and timber species are as follows:

MIKE programme

MIKE stands for Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants. This programme supports institutional capacity building in countries with elephant populations, in order to ensure effective management of the species and law enforcement. It aims at the long-term conservation and sustainable management of elephants and it monitors closely the poaching levels in the field. The system is now operational in 38 African and Asian countries. For any decision on elephant issues, it is important that the best possible information is available. The MIKE programme therefore assists CITES in determining effective policies for the conservation of the species and trade in elephant products. The programme is supported by the European Commission with a total of 9,8 million Euro for the period 2006-2011.

CITES-ITTO project on implementation of CITES for timber species

The European Commission supports the national authorities in a range of South American, African and Asian countries in the implementation of CITES for timber species, in particular Bigleaf mahogany, Afrosia and Ramin. This project will assist the relevant countries in meeting the scientific, administrative and legal requirements for management and trade in this timber. It will provide capacity building for scientific authorities to make “non-detriment findings” for the harvest of these species and the development of regional management plans by supporting co-operation between countries. The overall aim of the project is to ensure that international trade in these species is sustainable.

The project will be implemented through the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) in close partnership with CITES. The EC contribution is 2,5 million Euro for the period 2007-2010, with co-funding from other partners.

Strengthening the implementation of CITES in developing countries

The European Commission funds a horizontal capacity building programme designed to improve the implementation of CITES by developing countries.

Its special focus is to strengthen the ability of CITES authorities to manage and report on scientific and trade data and reduce the number of countries subject to trade suspension under CITES or EU rules through targeted capacity-building and country-level activity support. The programme is run by the CITES Secretariat for the 2008-2012 period. The Commission contribution is 2,5 million Euro.

The Commission also provides funding to help implementing decisions adopted at the CITES Conferences of Parties, notably through training materials or workshops. A contribution of 0,5 million Euro was provided after CoP 14 in 2007 and the same amount will be made available after CoP15 in 2010.

Further information on EU Wildlife Trade Regulations and CITES

Further information on the regulation of wildlife trade in the EU, including permit requirements, national legislation, as well as information on marking, captive breeding, keeping of live specimens and other welfare aspects, is available on the website www.eu-wildlifetrade.org which was launched by the European Commission and TRAFFIC Europe in 2003.

- Website of the European Commission on CITES and wildlife trade in the EU: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/home_en.htm
- Species listed in the Annexes of the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations and in the Appendices of CITES, and species that are not allowed to be imported into the European Union can be found on the website of the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC): www.unep-wcmc.org
- Official CITES website: <http://www.cites.org/>
- TRAFFIC website: <http://www.traffic.org/>
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: <http://www.redlist.org/>



©Claire McLardy

Websites of the EU Member States

- AT (Austria): Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft: <http://www.cites.at/>
- BE (Belgium): Service public fédéral santé publique, sécurité de la chaîne alimentaire et environnement;
Federale overheidsdienst volksgesundheit, veiligheid van de voedselketen en leefmilieu:
https://portal.health.fgov.be/portal/page?_pageid=56,513288&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
- BG (Bulgaria): www.moew.government.bg; www.chm.moew.government.bg
- CZ (Czech Republic): Ministerstvo životního prostředí: <http://www.env.cz/>
- CY (Cyprus): http://www.cyprus.gov.cy/moa/agriculture.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument
- DK (Denmark): Miljøministeriet: <http://www.cites.dk/>
- DE (Germany): Seite des Bundesamts für Naturschutz als CITES-Vollzugsbehörde mit umfassenden Informationen und Links zum Artenschutzvollzug unter WA-Vollzug/CITES <http://www.bfn.de>
Recherchemöglichkeiten zum Schutzstatus von geschützten Arten <http://www.wisia.de>
- EE (Estonia): www.envir.ee
- EL (Greece): www.minagric.gr/greek/2.5.10.CITES.html
- ES (Spain): Ministerio de Industria, Turismo y Comercio: <http://www.cites.es/citesapp/Portada.htm?in=0>
- FI (Finland): Ympäristöministeriö: <http://www.ymparisto.fi/cites>
- FR (France): Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable: <http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/-CITES-.html>
- HU (Hungary): Ministry of Environment and Water www.cites.hu
- IE (Ireland): Department for Environment, Heritage & Local Government: <http://www.environ.ie>
- IT (Italy): Sito web dell'Autorità di Gestione della CITES Italiana: <http://www.minambiente.it/>
- LV (Latvia): Dabas aizsardzības pārvalde: <http://www.daba.gov.lv>
- LT (Lithuania): <http://www.am.lt>
- LU (Luxembourg): Ministère de l'environnement: <http://www.environnement.public.lu/>
- MT (Malta): <http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?CITES/mainpage.htm&1>
- NL (Netherlands): Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit: <https://www.hetInvloket.nl>
- PL (Poland): Ministry of the Environment www.mos.gov.pl/cites-ma
- PT (Portugal): Instituto da Conservação da Natureza: <http://portal.icn.pt/ICNPortal/vPT/>
- RO (Romania): www.mmediu.ro
- SE (Sweden): www.sjv.se; <http://www.naturvardsverket.se/>
- SK (Slovakia): Ministerstvo životného prostredia SR: <http://www.enviro.gov.sk/>
- SI (Slovenia): Spletna naslova upravnih organov CITES v Republiki Sloveniji: <http://www.mop.gov.si/>;
<http://www.arso.gov.si/>; Spletni naslov strokovnega organa CITES v Republiki Sloveniji: <http://www.zrsvn.si/sl/>
- UK (United Kingdom): Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra): <http://www.ukcites.gov.uk/>



European Commission

Wildlife Trade Regulations in the European Union

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union

2010 — 24 pp. — 21 cm x 21 cm

ISBN 978-92-79-15148-4

doi:10.2779/21758

Copies of this publication are available free of charge from:

European Commission
Directorate-General for the Environment
Information Centre (BU-9 0/11)
B-1049 Brussels

<http://bookshop.europa.eu>

KH-30-10-296-EN-C



Publications Office

ISBN 978-92-79-15148-4



9 789279 151484