



# WILDLIFE TRADE MONITORING UNIT

# Traffic Bulletin

Publication of the **TRAFFIC Bulletin** is funded by  
**THE PEOPLE'S TRUST FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES**

ISSN 0267-4297

## CONTENTS

Hungary for CITES  
Funds for New Ivory Unit  
Hunting Ban in Central African Republic  
Taiwan to Ban Import and Slaughter  
of Tigers  
Tigers Still Hunted in Viet Nam  
Australian Wildlife Act Amended . . .  
. . . and Export Ban Reaffirmed  
EEC Sealskin Ban

CITES CONFERENCE IN ARGENTINA

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN RAW SEA TURTLE SHELL

Eggshell Raids in Australia  
Threatened Flowers Sold/Orchid Extinct in the Wild?  
Without Comment

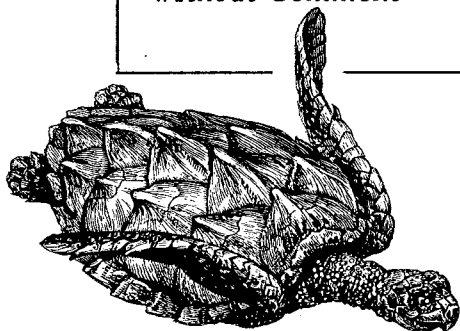
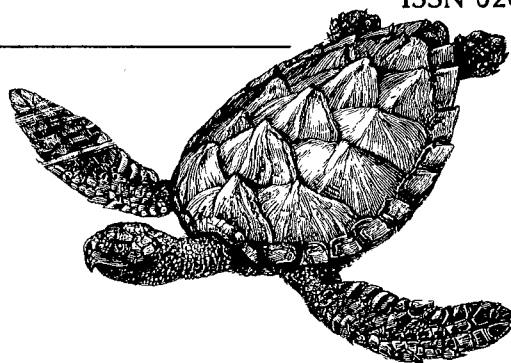
Page

19

20-29

30-39

40



Date of Publication: 28 June 1985

VOL. VII NO. 2

Printing and distribution of the Traffic Bulletin is funded by the People's Trust for Endangered Species. The World Wildlife Fund and the United Nations Environment Programme provide financial assistance for the work of the IUCN/CMC Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit. Any opinions expressed in this Bulletin are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN or any organisation connected with WTMU.

Copyright © IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre 1985. Requests to reprint material should be addressed to the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit.

Published by the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit, IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, CB3 0DL, UK. Tel: (0)223-277427. Tlx: 817036. Compiled by Kim Lochen. Printed by Foister & Jagg Ltd., Abbey Walk, Cambridge.

## Hungary for CITES

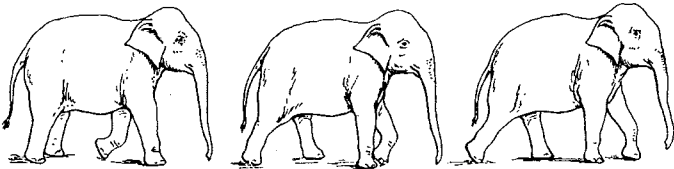
Hungary has become the 89th Party to CITES, acceding to the Convention on 29 May 1985. The accession becomes effective on 27 August 1985.

## Funds for New Ivory Unit

A new unit is being established at the CITES Secretariat to help control the world trade in elephant ivory (see pages 21-22). The unit will be based at the Secretariat's headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Before the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, over \$US62 000 had already been committed to the unit by the Ivory Division of the Japan General Merchandise Importers' Association.

Since the meeting, the UK Government has offered, subject to Parliamentary approval, to provide a further £10 000, over two years, towards the costs of the unit.



## Hunting Ban in Central African Republic

The Central African Republic's (CAR) recently-announced ban on elephant hunting marks virtually the final stage in a two-year clampdown on ivory smuggling.

The CAR appears to have been a major exporter of both its own ivory and tusks from neighbouring states, particularly Sudan and Zaire (see *Bulletin* VI(2):19). Ivory dealers have also been attracted by the French support for the CAR franc, which made it one of Africa's few 'hard' currencies. Efforts to implement CITES, and to enforce its own quota on elephant killing, led to a reduction in CAR's ivory exports in 1984 to about twenty per cent of the level in 1982.

## Taiwan to Ban Import and Slaughter of Tigers

Taiwan plans to ban the import and slaughter of Tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and other threatened species, an Interior Ministry has announced, according to Reuters newsagency. Tigers have been imported and publicly slaughtered in the past for the sale of their meat and other products.

## Tigers Still Hunted in Viet Nam

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION II(3) reports that Tigers and Leopards (*Panthera pardus*) are still hunted in Viet Nam throughout the year. The Government has, reportedly, tried to limit the numbers killed in some areas to a total of four Tigers a year and new hunting laws are being prepared. There is apparently a big market for Tiger bone-marrow for "medicinal purposes".

Source: *Oryx* Volume XIX, April 1985

## Australian Wildlife Act Amended . . .

On 22 April 1985, the Australian Minister of State for Arts, Heritage and Environment, in pursuance of sub-section 9 (1) of the Wildlife Protection Act, declared an amendment to Schedule 7 of the Act (Commonwealth of Australia Gazette S132). Schedule 7 lists those species of native Australian animals eligible to be treated as household pets and which may be exported as such by departing Australian residents. The amendment adds the Little Corella (*Cacatua sanguinea*), Long-billed Corella (*C. tenuirostris*) and Cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*) to the existing three species listed on Schedule 7. Details of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982, which was proclaimed on 1 May 1984, were published in *Traffic Bulletin* VI(2):29.

## . . . and Export Ban Reaffirmed

The Australian Council of Nature Conservation Ministers (CONCOM) held its annual meeting on Norfolk Island during the week 27-31 May 1985. Among a number of issues discussed by the Ministers was the export of native birds, an issue which has been raised frequently in recent years. There has been considerable renewed pressure on the Australian Commonwealth Government from bird trappers and dealers to allow the export of the so-called 'pest' species of cockatoos, such as the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*) and the Galah (*Eolophus roseicapillus*). The Queensland Minister for Tourism, National Parks, Sport and the Arts also favoured the export of aviary-bred birds of the rarer species as a means of alleviating the problem of smuggling. A press release issued by CONCOM during the meeting announced that the Council had reaffirmed the ban on the export of live Australian native fauna, including aviary-bred and pest species of birds. The press release went on to say that "the meeting noted that insurmountable problems confronted any attempt to open an export trade in birds" and that those problems included "prohibitive administrative costs ... of effective export control, unacceptably high mortality rates ... and unacceptable international consequences." The Chairman of CONCOM also said that "establishing an export trade would have no impact on pest species' populations" and "... would mean limited wildlife protection resources being diverted away from the protection of Australia's endangered species." Queensland and the Northern Territory rejected the motion to reaffirm the ban which was passed on the votes of the Commonwealth, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. "New Zealand supported the decision pointing out that native bird export would present formidable difficulties for receiving nations."

Source: Frank Antram, TRAFFIC (Australia)

## EEC Sealskin Ban

Following the European Parliament's vote to extend the ban on imports of skins from Harp Seal (*Phoca groenlandica*) and Hooded Seal (*Cystophora cristata*) pups, the European Commission has made a proposal to extend the ban indefinitely. Currently it applies only to whitecoats (Harp seal pups) and bluebacks (Hooded Seal pups) and, having been implemented since 1983, was due to expire on 1 October 1985. The Commission has proposed an indefinite extension by Directive, which will be considered by the EEC Council of Ministers on 25 June.



## CITES Conference in Argentina

by Jonathan Barzdo and Tim Inskipp

The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 22 April to 3 May 1985. The participants included delegations from sixty-six party states, representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), observers from four non-party states, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the European Economic Community (EEC) and the International Whaling Commission (IWC). Observers were also present from 114 non-governmental organisations, of which seventeen were international, forty-two were from Argentina, nineteen from the USA, thirteen from Canada, eight from Japan, three from the UK, two from Chile and one each from Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, France, F.R. Germany, Israel, the Netherlands and Venezuela.

The following report of the meeting is a summary containing what the authors judge to be the salient points. Some details of Resolutions and other aspects have therefore been omitted.

The meeting was opened by Dr Victor Martinez, Vice President of the Republic of Argentina, and introductory, welcoming addresses were also given by Mr Joseph Wheeler, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, Mr Samar Singh, Chairman of the CITES Standing Committee and Dr Kenton Miller, Director General of IUCN. Particular reference was made to the failure of some Parties to make their contributions to the CITES Trust Fund for the operation of the Secretariat.

Costa Rica had proposed separate representation within the Standing Committee of South America and of Central America and the Caribbean. Canada had suggested subdivision of the present regions into sub-regions. It was agreed that Canada and Costa Rica should discuss the matter and report back to the Conference.

India was re-elected as the Chairman of the Standing Committee. Kenya was elected as Vice-Chairman and the USA as Alternate Vice-Chairman.

In the Report of the Secretariat it was noted that, with the accession of Honduras (effective 13.6.85) the number of Parties had reached eighty-eight (see page 19).

It was reported that the Bonn amendment to the Convention (required for financial provisions to be made enabling the Secretariat to carry out its duties) had been accepted by twenty-seven Parties by the end of 1984, and a further seven acceptances were needed to bring the amendment into force.

A list of specific reservations in force at the time of the meeting was provided. This showed that thirteen

Parties had reservations with regard to a total of thirty-one Appendix I taxa, and five Parties with regard to eleven Appendix II taxa. In addition, Austria had entered a reservation with respect to all amendments to the Appendices adopted at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Secretariat noted that the annual reports of Parties remained a serious problem as a result of their late or non-submission, inaccuracies and incompleteness. However, there had been some improvement.

Members of the Secretariat staff and consultants had undertaken missions to forty-seven party countries and eight non-parties since the fourth meeting, and in 1984 had arranged meetings in Brussels (Seminar on CITES Implementation in Africa; first meeting of the Technical Committee (TEC)), Gland (eleventh meeting of Standing Committee), Kuala Lumpur (Seminar on CITES Implementation in Asia and Oceania; regional co-ordinators of TEC) and Lausanne (TEC working group on significant trade in Appendix II species). The two seminars on CITES implementation were considered to be especially important achievements.

In future the Secretariat will try to increase its efforts in the field of public education and provision of information on CITES.

Regarding enforcement problems, the Secretariat reported that several hundred cases of trade threats or non-compliance had been drawn to its attention during 1983/84, under Article XIII of the Convention. It emphasised in particular the huge quantities of specimens exported from Bolivia that had been taken illegally in other countries, the majority of which had been traded in contravention of CITES, and also emphasised the lack of co-operation from the Bolivian Government. The Secretariat also drew attention to enforcement problems in Paraguay but noted the co-operation of the Government of Paraguay and the fact that much of the illegal trade had gone to Japan which had recently implemented more stringent legislation to control the trade. However, the Secretariat felt that exports to Europe were still a problem and pointed out that the Hamburg freeport is a major conduit through which CITES specimens enter the EEC without CITES controls. Bolivia protested the Secretariat's comments, stressing the country's poverty as a reason for poor enforcement. Paraguay appealed for the co-operation of importing Parties, and Italy, for the EEC, felt the Secretariat had underestimated their enforcement efforts.

The financial report revealed that at the end of 1984 fifty Parties were in arrears of their contributions to the Trust Fund and twelve Parties had never contributed. The Parties were asked to address this matter urgently because it threatens the smooth operation of CITES activities. Since the beginning of 1983 the Secretariat had obtained over US\$1 million from external sources.

By resolution: the 1986-87 budget was approved; the Executive Director of UNEP was requested to seek an extension of the Trust Fund until 31 December 1987; it was agreed that the UN scale of assessment would be the basis for Parties' contributions to the Trust Fund; payment of contributions and acceptance of the Bonn amendment were urged; contributions to the Trust Fund from sources other than Parties were invited; the charge for observers participating in meetings was raised to US\$100; and the Secretariat report was approved (Conf. 5.1).

The Secretariat also presented a report on its relationship with other international agreements and organisations: a) International Whaling Commission; b) Food and Agriculture Organisation; c) EEC - a Regulation on CITES implementation had prompted three EEC states to ratify CITES and the Secretariat has maintained links with the Commission of the European Communities over the implementation of the Convention and over the development of special projects; d) International Air Transport Association (IATA) - which has modified two editions of its Live Animal Regulations to

comply with Resolution Conf. 4.20 and has sought the co-operation of its airline members with respect to transportation of by-products of CITES species; e) International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) - to which two cases had been submitted for investigation (the movement of Golden-headed Lion Tamarins (Leontopithecus rosalia chrysomelas), and the appearance in Europe in mid-1984 of forged Bolivian "security permits"); f) IUCN - with whom a memorandum of understanding on technical, scientific and legal co-operation was in the process of completion; g) Ministerial Conference of the Central African States for the Wildlife Conservation - in whose creation the Secretariat participated as an observer; h) Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals; and others.

The United States of America was elected new Chairman of TEC.

The Identification Manual Committee reported that a further nineteen sections on fauna had been produced, bringing the total number of sheets to 583 including forty-four in colour. Nine sheets had been revised and reprinted. A price of US\$250 had been agreed for the sale of surplus copies. A further 595 sheets for fauna and at least 123 for flora were in various stages of preparation. Contributions on twenty sections were still needed. Canada had submitted French language versions of many fauna sheets but more were needed. A Resolution (Conf. 5.17) was adopted: extending the mandate of the Committee; inviting the proponents of Appendix listings to submit data for the manual within a year of acceptance of the listing; inviting French and Spanish speaking Parties to contribute to translations of manual sheets and directing the Secretariat to edit French and Spanish versions; requesting the Parties to promote the use of the manual and report on the use made to the next meeting; and appealing for funds to ensure completion of the manual.

The Nomenclature Committee recommended some changes to the structure and scope of the Committee. It was suggested that membership should be limited to six scientific regional representatives, and the Project Co-ordinator. The Committee would provide periodic reviews of the taxa listed on the Appendices, and review completed checklists to sort out taxonomic inconsistencies in the listings in the Appendices. It was agreed to refer to the TEC Plant Working Group on matters relevant to that group. The recently completed Amphibian Species of the World was adopted as a standard reference and funding was approved for completion of an expanded checklist of turtle and crocodilian species. Some party states had problems with the order in which mammals were now listed in the Appendices. Since the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties the mammals had been listed following Mammal Species of the World. It was agreed to revert to the order maintained prior to that meeting (Conf. 5.19). The Committee reviewed a small number of nomenclatural problems and the resulting recommendations were adopted.

The Report on National Reports consisted of a paper prepared by WTMU, examining the effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention as shown by the annual reports of the Parties for the years 1981, 1982 and 1983. This updated the report on this subject presented at the previous meeting. The report indicated that there had been a slight improvement in the quality of reporting, but not in the number of reports submitted. Perfect correlation between the reports of importing and

exporting Parties had increased only from 4% to 8% over the three year period. The major cause of non-correlation between reports was the failure of one country to report a transaction at all. The summing of transactions in reports was also an important problem and the Secretariat appealed to Parties to report on a shipment by shipment basis and on actual trade rather than permits issued. The importance of adhering to the Guidelines for the Preparation of CITES Annual Reports was emphasized and incorporated into a Resolution (Conf. 5.4) which also requested the Secretariat to urge non-Parties to submit reports. A further Resolution adopted (Conf. 5.6), acknowledging the value of WTMU's assistance to the Secretariat, urged Parties and appealed to non-governmental organisations to help with additional funding to increase the work done by WTMU under contract to the Secretariat; Parties were also urged to consider computerising their annual reports or contracting WTMU to produce them. Concern arising over the implementation of the Convention in the EEC led to the presentation of a draft resolution recommending that Parties which belong to a regional trade agreement, include in their annual reports details of trade with other member states of that agreement, unless this would be in direct conflict with the agreement. In TEC the EEC Parties proposed the deletion of a paragraph in the preamble which said there appear to be no such cases of conflict. With this amendment the draft resolution was adopted unanimously (Conf. 5.5).



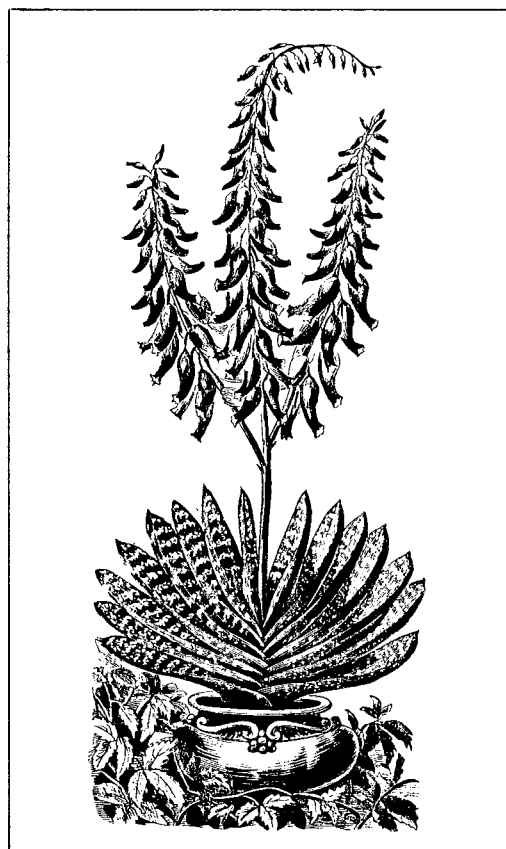
© WWF/C.A.W. Guggisberg

The Trade in Ivory from African Elephants (Loxodonta africana) has been a matter of much concern and, at the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties, TEC was directed to produce guidelines for controlling trade in worked ivory (Conf. 4.14). The Committee addressed this subject at its meeting in Brussels, June 1984. They decided that controlling the raw ivory trade was more urgent and produced a draft resolution, amended in Buenos Aires, to establish an ivory export quota system and improved trade controls. After the Brussels meeting, the EEC funded a project, co-ordinated by the Secretariat, to carry out two studies: a report was produced by Rowan B. Martin on the status of African Elephant populations; and WTMU produced a report on the world ivory trade in 1983 and 1984. (These will be published by the Secretariat.) The studies provided the background for a new system of ivory trade control, adopted unanimously by Resolution (Conf. 5.12). The new agreement incorporates the following key features: each country with an African Elephant population sets itself an annual export quota for raw ivory, in numbers of tusks, and informs the Secretariat by 1 December of the previous year; a zero quota applies until the Secretariat notifies the Parties otherwise; the Secretariat will establish an ivory unit, to assist in the implementation of

quotas and to maintain a database on the raw ivory trade, and will prepare a manual on practical procedures for implementing the Resolution; no trade is permitted in raw ivory not properly marked in accordance with Conf. 3.12 or the Secretariat's manual; no import is permitted from non-party states unless they submit annual reports on their ivory trade and meet all other conditions of this Resolution, Conf. 3.12 and Article X of CITES; no export is permitted to states which do not comply with this Resolution; annual reports should include as a minimum the number of whole or substantially whole tusks, individual weights and serial numbers, country of origin and relevant quota-year; all Parties must take stock of raw ivory currently held in their states which must be appropriately marked before export/re-export, and the stocks must be notified to the Secretariat by 1 December 1986. The Secretariat thanked the Ivory Division of the Japan General Merchandise Importers' Association for their financial contribution to establish the new ivory unit, and appealed to other organisations to provide additional funding.

At the fourth meeting a Resolution was passed on Trade in Leopard Skins (*Panthera pardus*) (Conf. 4.13), recommending annual export quotas for seven African Parties. It was also recommended that import permits should only be granted for each skin acquired by the owner in the country of export, being imported as a personal item, not for sale, and each person may not import more than one per calendar year. The import should only be allowed if the skin is marked with a code-numbered self-locking tag. The countries with quotas were supposed to report on their exports, to the Buenos Aires meeting, where the entire Resolution was due for review. As only three Parties (Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe) had reported on their exports, there was considerable discussion on how seriously the African states were taking their responsibilities. Kenya reported orally that they had not exported any Leopard skins. It was agreed, in principle, that the Resolution should be extended for a further two years because it had not been in operation long enough to allow a substantial review of its effectiveness. It was also resolved that Parties with quotas should report on their exports annually, to the Secretariat, which would report to the Conference of the Parties. Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe sought increases in their quotas, to 250, 300 and 350 respectively, and these figures had been agreed by the Screening Committee. In plenary this was strongly opposed by those who felt insufficient data had been presented. On a vote, the increase was approved, by 34 votes to 17 against. Botswana had also sought an increase in its quota, because 300 Leopards are killed each year in this country; however, the proposal was withdrawn. The extension of Conf. 4.13 as amended was approved without objection (Conf. 5.13) with India and Uruguay abstaining.

Trade in Plant Specimens: A number of diverse recommendations prepared by the Plant Working Group were agreed: (i) implementation of the Convention for plants to be improved, especially by encouraging non-member states to join; (ii) higher taxon listings of plants in the Appendices had been reviewed and it was considered necessary to maintain them for effective control of threatened constituent species; and the transfer of individual species from Appendix II to I should only be considered after a careful review process; (iii) the Nomenclature Committee was recommended to develop a standardised list of names for plants in the Appendices, with one of the priorities being the generic names of listed families; (iv) identification materials should be prepared, including some of a non-technical nature for port inspectors, and other more detailed sheets for experts; (v) international trade in salvaged Appendix I specimens should only be permitted when certain criteria



were fulfilled; (vi) confiscated plant specimens, especially of Appendix I species, should, if possible, be returned to the country of origin for re-establishment in the wild; failing this they should be used to further the purposes of the Convention, accommodating them in rescue centres if necessary; information on seized specimens should be included in annual reports; (vii) Parties should report trade in CITES-listed plants at species level whenever possible, except for artificially propagated orchid hybrids, and should distinguish between wild and artificially propagated specimens; (viii) enforcement to be improved and extended; (ix) Parties to educate the public and plant traders about the need for plant conservation (Conf. 5.14). Some Parties have problems implementing the Convention for plants because their trade in artificially propagated specimens is so enormous. It was recommended that they could register their main traders dealing in artificially propagated CITES-listed plants and issue them with general licences to export specified Appendix II or III plants subject to compliance with certain criteria (Conf. 5.15). This would be an alternative to the system of phytosanitary certificates recommended in Conf. 4.16. The use of phytosanitary certificates as CITES documents for artificially propagated specimens of Appendix I species was not agreed unless such certificates met all the requirements of Article VI.

The listing in Appendix II of "Cactaceae spp. (All spp. in the Americas)" was subject to different interpretations by different Parties. It was agreed to resolve this with an amendment proposal that would be put to a postal vote.

Resolution Conf. 3.15 (Ranching) established criteria for transferring a population from Appendix I to Appendix II for purposes of ranching, including a requirement for adequate marking of products. However, with respect to Trade in Ranching Specimens, until now no uniform marking system nor any particular trade controls have been agreed. As there were five ranching proposals presented at the Buenos Aires meeting, and

one ranching proposal was approved at the fourth Conference, there was evidently a need for uniform treatment, and the USA proposed an appropriate draft resolution that was revised by a TEC working group. It defines the terms "product of the operation", "product unit", "uniform marking system" and "primary container", used in the document and recommends: that each product unit in trade must be indelibly marked with a unique identification number, following the uniform marking system; that future ranching proposals contain details of the marking system which must conform with the uniform marking system, a list of the products, details of the marking methods, and an inventory of stocks of specimens and products; that the same details be supplied to the Secretariat by any Party which re-exports ranched products having been altered in a way that makes the original marking illegible; that export/re-export documents not be accepted unless they state the country of origin of the products and contain details of the identifying marks; that trade from ranched populations be prohibited unless it is in compliance with the approved ranching proposal for that population; and that trade in ranched products held in stock when the related proposal was adopted not be permitted unless correctly marked, and inventoried in the proposal. A further recommendation was that re-exports of ranched products from non-Party or reserving states only be accepted if they are regulating trade in accordance with this Resolution. However, this was amended to recommend a prohibition of all trade in ranched products to or from non-Party or reserving states - a proposal by St Lucia, approved by 25 votes to 14 against. A further recommendation, approved as amended by Zimbabwe, was that any Party with an approved ranched population should submit any changes in the information required in the original proposal (on marking, products of the ranches, and stocks) to the Secretariat. A system of treatment of ranching proposals approved at the present meeting was also agreed and, with the amendments above, the draft resolution was adopted by a vote of 49 in favour and 1 against (Conf. 5.16).

Significant Trade in Appendix II Species (sometimes misleadingly referred to as "high trade-volume") was the subject of Resolution Conf. 4.7 (Regulation of Trade in Appendix II Wildlife) adopted in Botswana. It recommended, amongst other things, that TEC identify Appendix II species subject to significant international trade, for which information on their capacity to withstand such trade is insufficient to satisfy the requirements of Article IV, paragraph 3, as determined by the range states, and that TEC develop measures to ensure those requirements are met. TEC set up a working group, in 1984, to establish a procedure for meeting these obligations. They decided to consider the issue only in relation to trade in animals, believing the Plant Working Group to be the appropriate body to consider the plant trade. The Working Group on Significant Trade in Appendix II Species recommended establishing a procedure consisting of five stages. The first two steps would lead to the production of a list of Appendix II fauna in which the quantity of trade, reported in the annual reports of Parties, exceeds (arbitrarily) one hundred wild-caught specimens annually and is not known to be non-detrimental, or in which the annual trade represents less than one hundred specimens but is believed, nonetheless, to be a potential problem. In the third step, the species on this list would be divided into three categories (problem/possible-problem/non-problem) by the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, using the available data on biology, status, level of trade, etc. It is recommended that, in the fourth step: problem species should be subject to the consideration of special workshops convened to formulate recommendations for remedial measures; and possible-problem species

should be the subject of projects to collect data which would indicate whether they were non-problem species or problem species to be referred to the workshops. The first four steps would be completed before the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The fifth step would be for range states to carry out the remedial measures recommended by the workshops. The first two steps had already been completed and, in addition, a list of Appendix II species in which no trade had ever been recorded in annual reports was presented (excluding those added to Appendix II in 1983 and those included for look-alike reasons), with the recommendation that they be considered for deletion from the Appendices. A draft resolution, prepared by the TEC Working Group, was adopted (Conf. 5.3) instructing TEC to implement the procedure above, and instructing the Secretariat to seek the funds to support Steps 3 and 4.

Control of "Readily Recognizable" Parts and Derivatives has been problematic since the Convention entered into force because the term "readily recognizable", in Article I of the Convention, has never been defined. Different Parties have different interpretations. At the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a minimum list of readily recognizable parts and derivatives was proposed and rejected. At the last meeting, a Resolution (Conf. 4.8) was therefore adopted, recommending that importing Parties which normally require export documents to accompany certain parts and derivatives, should uphold this requirement even for imports from Parties which do not consider the specimens to be readily recognizable. At the TEC meeting of June 1984 and the TEC Regional Co-ordinators meeting of October 1984, a draft resolution, prepared by F.R. Germany, was proposed, proffering an interpretation of "readily recognizable" and a minimum list of parts and derivatives. The latter part was not supported by either meeting and the draft presented in Buenos Aires contained no list. Instead it recommended that the controls in Articles III, IV and V shall apply to "any specimens which appear from an accompanying document, the packaging or a mark or label, or from any other circumstances, to be parts or derivatives of" species listed in the Appendices, "unless such parts or derivatives are specifically exempted from the provisions of the Convention." This was adopted unanimously (Conf. 5.9). However, the UK, on behalf of Hong Kong, expressed the feeling that this Resolution would be very costly to implement in that country, and such implementation would divert money and manpower that would be better spent on controlling trade in raw materials.

Under Article III of the Convention, trade in Appendix I specimens is permitted only under certain conditions, including that the Management Authority of the importing Party must be satisfied that such specimens are not to be used for primarily commercial purposes. Denmark, assisted by the USA, prepared a draft resolution on the Definition of "Primarily Commercial Purposes" because there is no definition in the Convention and the term is not interpreted uniformly by all Parties. The draft recommended General Principles to be used in interpreting the term and included an annex containing examples of uses of specimens not for primarily commercial purposes, with a guide to decision-making. The examples in the annex referred to 'Purely Private Use', 'Scientific Purposes', 'Education or Training', 'Biomedical Industry', 'Captive Breeding Programmes' and 'Importation via Professional Dealers'. An additional example regarding 'Exhibition Purposes' had been deleted in TEC as being inappropriate. There was considerable discussion of the examples, especially that relating to captive-breeding programmes on which detailed and restrictive recommendations were agreed. A proposal by Nepal to refer to hunting trophies as specimens for

'Purely Private Use', in the examples, was rejected by 27 votes against to 16 in favour. (The annex of examples is more than two pages long and we make no attempt to summarise its contents.) The General Principles in the draft resolution: reaffirmed the fundamental principle that trade in Appendix I species must be authorized only in exceptional circumstances; drew attention to the wording in Article III of the Convention, indicating that the term 'primarily commercial purposes' refers to what the imported specimens are "to be used" for; stated that an activity can generally be described as "commercial" if its purpose is to obtain economic benefit, whether in cash or in kind; and stated that the term "commercial purposes" should be interpreted as broadly as possible, so that any use which is not entirely non-commercial be considered "primarily commercial". It was recommended that the burden of proof that an intended use is non-commercial shall be upon the importer. The draft resolution was adopted unanimously (Conf. 5.10).

A document on the Time Validity of Import Permits was presented by Italy. Article III of the Convention provides that, for Appendix I species, the issue of an export/re-export permit is provisional upon the presentation of an import permit. The issue of an import permit is provisional upon certain conditions which may be met at the time of issue but may cease to be met with the passing of time. To ensure that import permits are presented within a reasonable time after their date of issue, Italy proposed that they be valid for only six months. This was amended to twelve months, in TEC, and the plenary unanimously adopted a draft resolution recommending that import permits presented more than twelve months after the date of issue be considered void (Conf. 5.7).

There had been some confusion over who should issue Certificates of Origin for Appendix III Specimens, under Article V. It appears that some Parties have been accepting certificates of origin issued by Customs authorities or chambers of commerce. The USA presented a document noting that: Article IX, paragraph 1, requires each Party to designate one or more Management Authorities competent to grant permits or certificates on behalf of that Party; and Article VI, paragraphs 1 and 3, provide that each permit or certificate granted under Articles III, IV and V shall contain the name and any identifying stamp of the granting Management Authority and a control number assigned by that Authority. The document contained a draft resolution, recommending that certificates of origin for export of Appendix III specimens be issued only by a designated CITES Management Authority, or the competent authority for trade from a non-Party, and that such certificates issued by other authorities be rejected. This was adopted unanimously (Conf. 5.8).

The Definition of the term "Pre-Convention Specimen" (a term not used in the Convention) was the subject of a document prepared by the Netherlands and the Secretariat. The topic, interpretation of Article VII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, had been discussed at length at the last meeting, resulting in Resolution Conf. 4.11 on Interpretation of "Pre-Convention Acquisition" (another term not used in the Convention). Unfortunately that Resolution had been in some respects ambiguous, notably with regard to how to decide on what date the Convention becomes applicable to a specimen, and with regard to the effects of the uplisting of a species from Appendix II to I or from Appendix III to II or I. Moreover, Conf. 4.11 did not make any recommendation on the responsibilities of importing Parties, which are not addressed in Article VII, paragraph 2. The Netherlands proposed a draft resolution revoking Resolution Conf. 4.11

and making the following key recommendations: that the date of a specimen being 'acquired' be the date of removal from the wild, for live or dead animals and plants, or the date of introduction to personal possession, for parts and derivatives; that an exporting country issue a pre-Convention certificate only when, at the date of acquisition of a specimen, the species was not listed in the Appendices, or the state was not a Party or, if it were a Party, it had a reservation on the species involved; that a re-exporting country only issue a pre-Convention certificate when, at the date of acquisition of a specimen, the species was not listed in the Appendices, or the country of origin was not a Party or, if it were a Party, it had a reservation on the species involved, and the re-exporting country was also not a Party, or held a reservation on the species; that a pre-Convention certificate only be accepted by an importing country if the date of acquisition of the specimen is before the Convention entered into force in that country for the species concerned. The draft resolution also called on Parties to try to prevent stockpiling of specimens of species whose inclusion in Appendix I has been approved but is not yet in force. One further recommendation was amended by a proposal from the USA, to the effect that specimens of species uplisted to Appendix II or I be subject to the provisions applying to them at the time of being traded, i.e. uplistings should be applied retroactively. There was much discussion on this proposal but it was agreed and, with this change, the draft resolution was adopted by 50 votes to 1 against (Conf. 5.11).



The Cayman Turtle Farm was the subject of both a ranching proposal (see below) and an interpretative draft resolution. The latter, presented by the UK, recalled that the Farm had obtained no stock from the wild since 1978 and was established before the adoption of Resolution Conf. 2.12 (Specimens Bred in Captivity or Artificially Propagated). It was proposed that the Conference of the Parties resolve to interpret Article VII, paragraph 4, such that the products of Cayman Turtle Farm be regarded as specimens of Appendix II species, under certain conditions of marking and permitting, record-keeping, availability of information, and reporting. Although support was expressed by several Parties and the Secretariat, others were concerned by the potential precedent of adopting a resolution on a special case. A secret ballot was held and the proposal was rejected by 32 against to 26 in favour.

Consideration was given to a Regular Review of Alleged Infractions because St Lucia presented a document noting that some countries are knowingly violating the Convention and that attention should be drawn to them. A draft resolution was proposed, directing TEC, through its Regional Co-ordinators, to review and investigate any alleged infractions of the Convention, and to present a written report to each biennial meeting on those infractions that had not been corrected by the time of the meeting. During discussions in TEC, the Secretariat pointed out its responsibilities to investigate and report on the implementation of the Convention, under Articles XII and XIII. St Lucia therefore withdrew its draft resolution and it was agreed in plenary that the Secretariat would present a separate report on infractions to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.



Leopard Cat (*Felis bengalensis*)

© WWF/E.P. Gee

The document on Interpretation of Article XIV, paragraph 1 presented a resolution of ten African Parties which had been represented at the Seminar on CITES Implementation in Africa, held in Brussels, in June 1984. Their resolution urged the Conference of the Parties to review those cases where a Party's domestic legislation exceeded the provisions of CITES and to decide in each case whether the legislation violated the spirit of CITES; those Parties whose legislation was judged in violation were urged to amend these laws to comply with the spirit of CITES. No formal draft resolution for the adoption of the Conference of the Parties was proposed. Discussions in TEC indicated that this was a very complex subject and TEC recommended the establishment of a Working Group to discuss the subject and report to the next meeting. This was agreed by plenary and Zimbabwe was elected to chair the Working Group.

A document on Interpretation of "the text of the proposed amendment", prepared by the Secretariat, referred to the use of this phrase in Article XV, paragraph 1. The text of any proposal to amend Appendices I or II must be with the Secretariat at least 150 days before a meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and, under Resolution Conf. 3.15, ranching proposals must be received by the Secretariat 330 days before a meeting. In the past these deadlines have been met by submission of the amendment itself without a supporting statement, and the latter has sometimes been received too late for translation or for circulation for comments. The Secretariat therefore requested the Conference of the Parties to agree that the phrase "the text of the proposed amendment" be interpreted as including the substantially complete supporting statement, and this was approved.

The establishment of A CITES Register of Traders in Live Specimens of Wild Fauna had been proposed at the fourth meeting where it had been referred to TEC for further work. A new proposal to establish the register was presented in a draft resolution from Israel. It recommended that each Party notify all traders under its

jurisdiction that they may apply for registration, recommended that each Party submit a revised list of registered traders annually to the Secretariat, and directed the Secretariat to request the co-operation of non-Parties. As at the previous meeting, the term "trader" was defined and an explanatory note indicated how the register could be used, emphasising that registration does not imply approval. Unfortunately the proponent was not represented at the meeting to speak in favour of the proposal and, on the recommendation of TEC, it was rejected.

The Relationship between CITES Transport Guidelines for Live Animals and IATA Live Animals Regulations had been agreed at the fourth meeting where it was resolved that, for so long as the Secretariat and TEC agree, the IATA Regulations are generally deemed to meet the CITES guidelines in respect of air transport. TEC had since agreed a suitable wording, to this effect, to be inserted into the Guidelines for Transport and Preparation for Shipment of Live Wild Animals and Plants, and the wording was proposed in a draft resolution. A report by the Environmental Investigation Agency had been circulated at the fifth meeting, indicating the extremely poor implementation of Article III, paragraph 4(b), Article IV, paragraph 5(b) and Article V, paragraph 2(b), of the Convention, with respect to "injury, damage to health or cruel treatment" during transport. There was a great deal of discussion on this subject, resulting in two amendments to the draft resolution. Uruguay proposed additions: drawing attention to the fact that the IATA Live Animals Board is not a law enforcement body and that only some Parties have incorporated the Live Animals Regulations into their domestic legislation; noting that, in order to improve implementation of the Regulation, a greater awareness of them is needed and Parties should consider making them law; and instructing the Secretariat and TEC to seek amendment to the Regulations and more effective implementation. An addition to the draft resolution, proposed by the UK, directed TEC to establish a Working Group to prepare recommendations, for the sixth meeting, on further measures needed to improve the conditions under which live animals are transported. With the UK and Uruguay amendments, the draft resolution was adopted without objection (Conf. 5.18).

A draft resolution submitted by Israel sought the Endorsement in Principle of a Convention for the Protection of Animals which would establish international standards on the procurement, transport and captive maintenance of animals. Canada proposed that such endorsement was ultra vires to (beyond the legal power of) the meeting and, by a vote of 42 in favour and 5 against, the Conference agreed that the document could not be considered.

The report of the Secretariat had drawn attention to the extremely poor Implementation of the Convention in Bolivia, emphasising the lack of co-operation from Bolivia's Management Authority. In response, fourteen Central and South American states, including Bolivia, prepared a draft resolution with the following key elements: a recommendation that, if, within ninety days, the Government of Bolivia has not adopted all necessary measures to implement the Convention, to the satisfaction of the Standing Committee, the Parties thereafter reject shipments of CITES specimens accompanied by Bolivian documents or declared as originating in Bolivia, until such measures are implemented; an acceptance of Bolivia's commitment to reduce its exports of CITES species by fifty per cent of the annual average over the last five years, until population and environmental studies have been produced, when their recommendations would be adopted;



exhortations to importing countries to help establish such studies, and to NGOs to pay for them; finally the document urged the states bordering Bolivia to do all they could to bring the illegal border-trade under control. There was an extremely long discussion of this controversial proposal, during which Bolivia confirmed that its ban on exports of live animals would continue in force for the following ninety days. The USA said it had banned imports of Caiman crocodilus from Bolivia and Paraguay until the current problems were solved, and offered to co-operate with Bolivia in a study of this species. Italy said the European Community would consider ways in which it could contribute to studies for the proper management of Bolivia's wildlife. Several Parties commented on the unfairness of penalising Bolivia while the importing countries are not penalised. The draft resolution was adopted (Conf. 5.2) by 20 votes in favour to 14 against.

A Secretariat document on the Ten Year Review of the Appendices reported that there had been no progress, even though a Resolution adopted at the fourth meeting (Conf. 4.26) had urged the regions to complete their reviews and report to the Central Committee at least nine months before the present meeting. In response to a request from the Seminar on CITES Implementation for South and Central America and the Caribbean, the Secretariat had approached the Organisation of American States, with a view to obtaining funds to support a meeting of the Regional Committee for the Ten Year Review. However the Secretariat had received no response.

The document on Special Criteria for the Transfer of Taxa from Appendix I to Appendix II, prepared by Switzerland, addressed the problem that a number of Parties wished to remove certain taxa from Appendix I, which had been listed without applying the Berne criteria for the addition of species to Appendices I and II (Conf. 1.1). These were taxa for which "evidence of changing biological status" could not be provided, as required by the Berne criteria for downlisting species (in Conf. 1.2), but which were known to be able to withstand a certain level of exploitation. A drafting group of TEC had prepared a draft resolution with a number of safeguards designed to reduce the risk of threat to the taxa concerned, if they were downlisted, and further safeguards were proposed by the USA in plenary. The draft resolution as amended recommended: that, for Appendix I species listed without applying Resolution Conf. 1.1, and for which it is not practicable to apply Resolution Conf. 1.2, and which can withstand some level of commercial exploitation, the criteria in Conf. 1.2 may be waived for transfers to Appendix II if the countries of origin introduce quota systems that, the Conference is satisfied, will not endanger the species' survival; that this approach only be taken when, a) the species should be in Appendix II under the terms of Conf. 1.1, b) the Parties concerned will ensure that adequate trade controls on CITES species are maintained, c) the Parties concerned are able to fulfil their obligations under Article IV, paragraphs 2(b) and 3 of the Convention, and d) the Parties concerned have met and continue to meet the annual reporting requirements under Article VIII, paragraph 7; and that, pending a review of this Resolution at the seventh meeting, quotas be established or changed only by the Conference of the Parties. The draft resolution also: directed TEC to develop recommendations, before the sixth meeting, for marking and other methods of controlling trade in specimens of species subject to quotas, and for addressing any infractions under the quota system; and requested the Secretariat to report to each biennial meeting, the data on trade in species subject to quotas; if problems in implementing this Resolution come to light, the

Depository Government may be requested to prepare a proposal for transfer of the affected population to Appendix I. With little discussion, this was adopted as a Resolution (Conf. 5.21), without dissent.

Canada proposed the establishment of Guidelines for the Secretariat when Making Recommendations in Accordance with Article XV. Under paragraphs 2(b) and (c) of this Article, the Secretariat is required to make recommendations to the Parties on proposals to amend the Appendices. At the fourth meeting, unhappy about the adequacy of scientific advice provided, Canada had proposed the establishment of a scientific committee to advise the Secretariat. That proposal was withdrawn because the Parties felt it unnecessary. At the fifth meeting it was agreed, by a vote of 21 in favour and 6 against, that a resolution, to set guidelines for the Secretariat, was necessary. After conferring with the Secretariat, Canada proposed a draft resolution establishing that, when making recommendations on amendment proposals in future the Secretariat: would cite references and indicate the source of unpublished data used; for species previously listed or proposed for listing, may supply a brief history of their CITES treatment; would refer to any relevant Resolutions or draft resolutions; may request additional biological and/or trade data from any source; and would base its recommendations on as wide a range of information as possible. This was adopted (Conf. 5.20) with no objections.

A document on Criteria for the Inclusion of Species in Appendix III was proffered by F.R. Germany. It indicated that, although Resolution Conf. 1.5 (Recommendations Concerning the Interpretation and Implementation of Certain Provisions of the Convention) had recommended certain such criteria, they were vague. After amendment by TEC, a draft resolution was proposed, recommending: that only species native to the proponent country are included in Appendix III; and that a species be included in Appendix III only if, in the jurisdiction of the proponent country, it is protected by regulations preventing or restricting wildlife exploitation. It also requested the Secretariat to compile a new list of Appendix III species, consisting only of those native to their proponent countries. The draft resolution was adopted unanimously (Conf. 5.22).

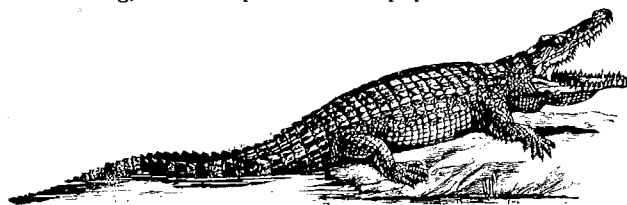
#### Proposals for amendment of the Appendices

##### 1. Ranching

Five parties had submitted proposals for transfer of populations from Appendix I to II for the purposes of ranching, as recommended in Resolution Conf. 3.15.

At the fourth meeting, Australia had submitted a proposal to transfer its Saltwater Crocodile (Crocodylus porosus) population to Appendix II, but withdrew it without discussion. The proposal had since been extensively revised and reviewed, and was resubmitted at the fifth meeting. There was little discussion and the proposal was adopted unanimously.

France had also presented a ranching proposal to the fourth meeting, with respect to the population of Green



Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) of Tromelin and Europa Islands; this had been extensively revised and resubmitted. France drew attention to the population data, the results of a scientific survey, its financial support for marine turtle research and conservation and its commitment to report on all aspects of the operation. Among the criticisms, the impracticability of the proposed marking system (identification by biochemical analysis) was noted. Monaco requested a secret ballot and the proposal was rejected by 32 votes against to 25 in favour.

A proposal from Indonesia to ranch its population of Salt-water Crocodile faced much opposition. The proponent therefore agreed to withdraw it from discussion under this agenda item and proffer it instead as an ordinary transfer from Appendix I to II under the special criteria in Conf. 5.21, adopted at this meeting.

At the fourth meeting, a proposal from Suriname to ranch its Green Turtle population was found to be acceptable except for the section on marking. The proposal had since been revised with particular attention to the marking system which included the use of labels and non-reusable tags that were serially numbered, the numbers being specified on the export permits. In opposition to the proposal it was said that this system was inadequate because it could be forged. Suriname requested a vote by secret ballot and the proposal was rejected by 26 in favour to 22 against. Suriname said that this vote was a decision against conservation and that its Government may now wish to reconsider its participation in CITES and may drop its marine turtle conservation programme.

The United Kingdom proposed the transfer to Appendix II for ranching, of the captive population in the Cayman Islands of Green Turtle. They emphasized the objectives of research, conservation and commercial viability, described the marking system (using date-coded and randomly-serialised labels and tags), noted the economic importance of the farm to the Islands, and said there was no evidence of illegal trade from there. Criticism focused on the problem of illegal turtle shell trade from the Caribbean and how this might be stimulated, on the biological and economic viability of the farm and on the fact that the proposal did not meet the criteria laid out in Resolution Conf. 3.15. Zimbabwe called for a secret ballot and the proposal was rejected by 27 votes in favour to 32 against. Following the rejection of this proposal and its draft resolution on the Cayman Turtle Farm, the UK stated that the Cayman Islands' Government would now have to review the position with respect to its participation in CITES.

## 2. Other amendment proposals

### (a) Proposals adopted:

#### MAMMALIA

##### Pygathrix (Rhinopithecus) spp., Golden/Stub-nosed Monkeys

Transfer from App. II to App. I - once hunted indiscriminately for their fur, these primates have been protected in China since 1962, but illegal hunting still occurs; there is difficulty in distinguishing species from each other.

##### Vulpes (Fennecus) zerda Fennec Fox

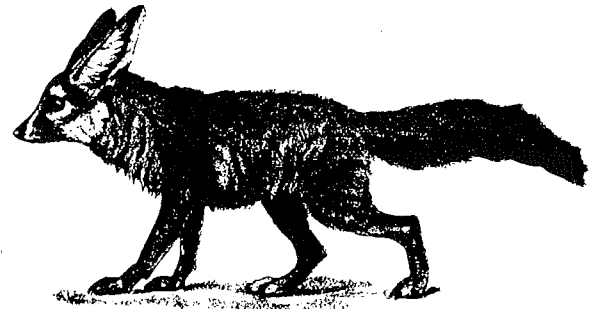
Inclusion in App. II - populations decreasing and very rare in Tunisia; demand for Fennec Foxes has given rise to illicit trapping and trade on the borders of the Sahara.

#### MAMMALIA (ctd)

Felis bengalensis bengalensis Leopard Cat  
Transfer of the Chinese population from App. I to App. II for this relatively common subspecies in China.

Muntiacus crinifrons Black Muntjac  
Inclusion in App. I - the trade in skins could further threaten the survival of this rare animal.

Budorcas taxicolor Takin  
Inclusion in App. I to preclude any threat to survival of the species caused by illegal hunting for the skin trade.



Fennec Fox  
(Vulpes (Fennecus) zerda)

#### AVES

Jabiru mycteria Jabiru  
Extremely rare in Mexico and Central America, this bird is much in demand by zoo dealers - inclusion in App. I.

Falco jugger Laggar Falcon  
Transfer from App. II to App. I - significant decline in some areas and has been heavily traded.

Falco rusticolus Gyrfalcon  
North American population transferred from App. II to App. I.

Gruidae spp. Cranes  
Inclusion in App. II, except for those already included in App. I. Some species being sparsely distributed, and already subject to other pressures, could become threatened by trade and others are hard to distinguish from them when young.

Ara ambigua Buffon's Macaw  
Transfer from App. II to App. I for this rare bird, in strong demand from private collectors.

Ara macao Scarlet Macaw  
Transfer from App. II to App. I - much sought after by private collectors and zoos.

#### REPTILIA

Crocodylus niloticus Nile Crocodile  
Transfer from App. I to App. II of populations of Cameroon (20), Congo (1000), Kenya (150), Madagascar (1000), Malawi (500), Mozambique (1000), Sudan (5000), Tanzania (1000), Zambia (2000), subject to annual export quotas (included in parentheses).

Crocodylus porosus Estuarine or Saltwater Crocodile  
Transfer from App. I to App. II for population of Indonesia, subject to an annual export quota of 2000 for two years.

Hoplocephalus bungaroides Broad-headed Snake  
Inclusion in App. II - population restricted to a small area in Australia and generally considered threatened; the attractive appearance of this species makes it popular with private collectors.

## REPTILIA (ctd)

Rheobatrachus spp. Platypus Frog/Gastric-brooding Frog

Inclusion in App. II - sought after for scientific research.

Bufo periglenes Golden Toad

Transfer from App. I to App. III (Costa Rica) as no international demand exists.

Rana hexadactyla Six-fingered Frog

Included in App. II on account of resemblance to R. tigrina.

Rana tigrina Indian Bullfrog

Included in App. II - once abundant but populations now drastically reduced in some areas largely due to intensive trade in frogs' legs.

## MOLLUSCA

Tridacnidae spp:

Hippopus hippopus Horse's Hoof Clam

Hippopus porcellanus Strawberry Clam

Tridacna crocea Crocus Clam

Tridacna maxima Fluted Clam

Tridacna squamosa Boring Clam

Inclusion in App. II for these Giant Clams, collected in large numbers for meat, both for commercial and subsistence fisheries, and for their shells.

## ARACHNIDA

Brachypelma smithi Mexican Red-kneed Tarantula

Commercial demand for this species and the unknown ecological effects of international trade warrant inclusion in App. II.

## CNIDARIA

Seriatopora spp. Birds Nest Corals

Pocillopora spp. Brown Stem Cluster Corals

Stylophora spp. Cauliflower Corals

Acropora spp. Branch Corals

Pavona spp. Cactus Corals

Fungia spp. Mushroom Corals

Halomitra spp.

Polyphyllia spp. Feather Corals

Favia spp. Brain Corals

Platygyra spp. Brain Corals

Merulina spp. Merulina Corals

Lobophyllia spp. Brain Root Corals

Pectinia spp. Lettuce Corals

Euphyllia spp. Brain Trumpet Corals

Millepora spp. Wello Fire Corals

Heliopora spp. Blue Corals

Tubipora spp. Organpipe Corals

Inclusion in App. II - stony corals are imported for souvenirs, jewellery, decorating fish tanks, etc.

## FLORA

Gymnocarpus przewalskii

Melandrium mongolicum

Silene mongolica

Stellaria pulvinata

No evidence of trade in these species - deletion from App. I.

Saussurea lappa Kuth

Transfer from App. II to App. I - believed to have become extinct in many of its natural habitats due to uncontrolled exploitation and destruction of habitats.

## FLORA (ctd)

Ammopiptanthus mongolicum

Thermopsis mongolica

Deletion from App. I and App. II respectively - no evidence of trade in these two species.

Anigozanthos spp. Kangaroo Paws

Macropidia fuliginosa Black Kangaroo Paw

Banksia spp. Native Honeysuckles

Conospermum spp. Smokebushes

Dryandra formosa Showy Dryandra

Dryandra polycephala Many-headed Dryandra

Xylomelum spp. Woody Pears

Crowea spp.

Geleznovia verrucosa

Pimelea physodes Qualup Bell

Deletion from App. II - these species predominantly enter trade as cut flowers, stems and leaves. Harvesting is unlikely to adversely affect the long-term survival of the species. All plant species indigenous to Western Australia are managed under the Wildlife Conservation Act.

Camellia chrysantha Jinhua

Inclusion in App. II - with a limited range, this is a very valuable ornamental plant and used for scientific and technological exchange.

Caryopteris mongolica

Deletion from App. II - used extensively for medicinal purposes but has little commercial value.

Ceratozamia spp. Cycads

Transfer from App. II to App. I - many populations have been seriously affected by collection.

FLORA spp. plants

listed in App. II, inclusion of all parts and derivatives, except:

- I seeds and pollen (including pollinia) except seeds of Cycadaceae spp., Stangeriaceae spp. and Zamiaceae spp.
- II tissue cultures and flaked seedling cultures;
- III for particular plant species:
  - a. cut flowers of artificially propagated Orchidaceae spp.;
  - b. separate leaves and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated Aloe vera Barbados Aloe;
  - c. fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of artificially propagated Vanilla spp.;
  - d. parts and derivatives, other than roots and readily recognizable parts thereof, of Panax quinquefolius; and
  - e. fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated Cactaceae spp., and separate stem joints (pads) and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated Opuntia subgenus Opuntia spp. Prickly Pears.

## b) Proposals rejected

Sweden's proposal to include in Appendix II the Hooded Seal (Cystophora cristata), emphasized the lack of knowledge about its status and that, although trade had decreased, the Government of Canada sought new markets for the products. Arguments against the proposal

noted that there was no evidence of a trade threat and that a recent survey indicated that the population may be larger than previously thought. The proposal was rejected by 19 votes in favour to 24 against.

F.R. Germany had proposed the transfer from Appendix II to I of the Narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*). Presentation of the proposal stressed the lack of data on the status of this species, the large number of animals "struck but lost" by hunters and the big increase in value of the tusks. In opposition, Canada presented a status report with the results of an aerial survey which, they argued, indicated that the species was not in danger of extinction. Denmark, also in opposition, noted that an Appendix I listing would not reduce the take in Greenland where tusk sales merely provide extra money to the communities involved. Uruguay requested a secret ballot and the proposal was lost by 21 votes in favour to 20 against.

Bangladesh was not represented at the meeting to present its proposal to transfer the Indian Roofed Turtle (*Kachuga tecta tecta*) from Appendix I to II. In support it was only said that the IUCN/SSC Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group is believed to favour the proposal. In opposition it was said not to meet the Berne criteria. It was rejected by 4 votes in favour to 18 against.

Indonesia proposed the transfer of its populations of Green Turtle and Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) from Appendix I to Appendix II. Noting the population declines in some areas through over-harvesting, Indonesia also drew attention to recovery in other areas, through protective measures. Export quotas were requested, of 10 000 Green Turtles (being reduced, by stages, to 2000 in future) and 1000 Hawksbills (reducing to 500). Indonesia also committed itself to drastic restrictions on hunting Green Turtles. It was pointed out that the proposal did not meet the accepted criteria for downlisting, that a WWF/IUCN report indicated that Green Turtles cannot withstand further exploitation in Indonesia, and that there had been a large trade in Hawksbill shell from there to Japan. The Green Turtle proposal was rejected by 23 votes against to 2 in favour, and the Hawksbill proposal by 27 votes against to 3 in favour.

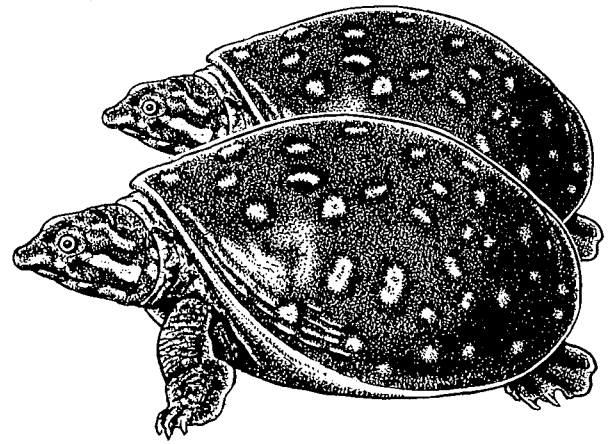
A Seychelles proposal, to transfer its population of Hawksbill Turtles from Appendix I to II, requested an export quota in worked shell representing a hundred male turtles. It was admitted that the population had declined as a result of exploitation but a proposal for management of stocks in future was presented and Seychelles committed itself to a ban on export of raw tortoiseshell which had accounted for 2.5% of the income from domestic exports. Arguments against the proposal noted that it did not meet the Berne criteria, and it was rejected by 33 votes against to 17 in favour.

Bangladesh had proposed the transfer from Appendix I to II of the Spotted Flap-shell Turtle (*Lissemys punctata punctata*). However, the proponent was not represented at the meeting and the proposal was rejected by 23 against to 3 in favour.

Proposals from Bangladesh to transfer the Indian Monitor (*Varanus bengalensis*) and the Yellow Monitor (*Varanus flavescens*) from Appendix I to II were not voted on because no delegation from Bangladesh was present.

#### c) Proposals withdrawn

Of the ninety-three proposals made to amend Appendices I and II, twenty-two were withdrawn, including one (involving *Kachuga tecta tecta*) that had been proposed by two Parties and was also the subject of a rejection, and one that became redundant (involving *Crocodylus niloticus*). Some of these were withdrawn only after considerable discussion had taken place, and others without discussion.



Flap-shell Turtle  
(*Lissemys punctata punctata*)

#### MAMMALIA

- Loris tardigradus* Slender Loris, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Alouatta palliata* Mantled Howler, deletion from App. I.  
*Presbytis entellus* Entellus Langur, transfer from App. I to II.  
*Presbytis phayrei* Phayre's Leaf Monkey, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Selenarctos thibetanus* Asiatic Black Bear, transfer from App. I to II.  
*Equus kiang* Tibetan Wild Ass, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Camelus bactrianus* Bactrian Camel, inclusion in App. I.  
*Cervus albirostris* White-lipped (Thorold's) Deer, inclusion in App. I.

#### REPTILIA

- Kachuga tecta tecta* Indian Roofed Turtle, transfer from App. I to II.  
*Trionyx gangeticus* Ganges Soft-shelled Turtle, transfer from App. I to II.  
*Trionyx hurum* Peacock-marked Soft-shelled Turtle, transfer from App. I to II.  
*Crocodylus niloticus* Nile Crocodile, transfer from App. I to II of the population of Mozambique.

#### FLORA

- Fitzroya cupressoides* Chilean False Larch, transfer from App. I to II of the population of The Andes in Chile.  
*Cycas panzihuaensis* Panzihua Suetie, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya aelandiae*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya amethystoglossa*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya dorminiana*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya granulosa*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya schilleriana*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya schofieldiana*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cattleya velutina*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Laelia tenebrosa*, transfer from App. II to I.  
*Cathaya argyrophylla* Yinshan, inclusion in App. I.

\* \* \* \* \*

## International Trade in Raw Sea Turtle Shell

by Richard Luxmoore and Jeff Canin

### INTRODUCTION

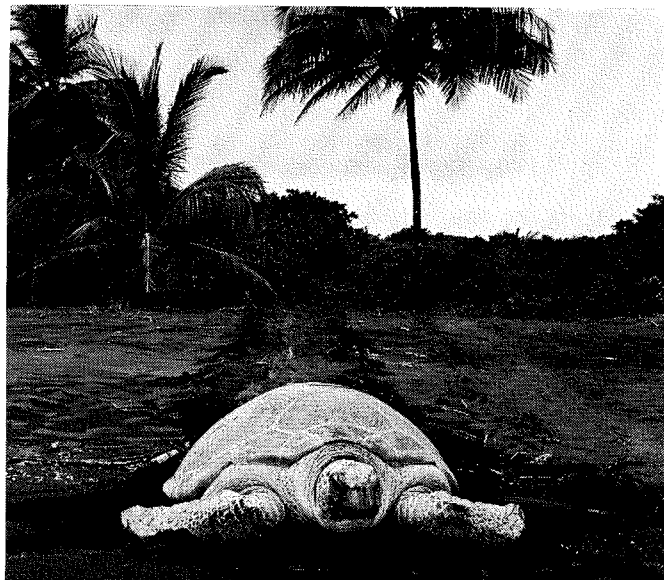
All species of sea turtle except the Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) are classified as "Endangered" in the IUCN Amphibia-Reptilia Red Data Book (Groombridge, 1982) and all are listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The latter listing implies that they are "threatened with extinction" and largely prohibits international commercial trade in them between countries party to the Convention. In spite of this, there remains a substantial international trade in sea turtle products and, as Weber *et al.* (1983) pointed out, "no other group of animals presently protected under Appendix I of CITES is traded more often or in such volume as sea turtles". Numerous authors have stressed the importance of curbing this international trade to ensure the continued survival of sea turtle populations (Mack *et al.*, 1981; Mortimer, 1983; Weber *et al.*, 1983; Carr, 1984; Meylan, 1984; Anon., 1984). The dangers of attempting to exploit sea turtles have been discussed by Ehrenfeld (Bacon *et al.*, 1984, p. 148). He argued that, because of their extremely long maturation period, the effects of over-exploitation would not necessarily be noticed for many years, possibly not before irreversible damage had been done to the wild populations.

The first comprehensive study of trade in sea turtle products was carried out in 1979 (Wells, 1979; Mack *et al.*, 1981) when it was shown that the world trade had increased dramatically since the early 1970s, and that the trend was still upwards in 1978. A restricted survey examining the trade of Japan and Indonesia was published in 1983 (Weber *et al.*, 1983), and indicated that there had been some reduction in the levels since a peak in 1980. An intensive and comprehensive survey of the internal and export trade in Indonesia in 1984 concluded that the current levels of trade gave urgent cause for concern (Anon., 1984). The present survey is intended to update the survey by Wells (1979) using similar sources of data, and to see how the trade has developed in recent years.

Turtles have many commercial uses, but the major products traded internationally are: shell, mostly of Hawksbill Turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) but increasingly also of Green Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*); meat, mostly of Green Turtles; and leather, mostly of Olive Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*). Mack *et al.* (1981) provide a more thorough discussion of the species traded and the uses to which they are put. Although skin, meat and eggs are traded in large quantities, they found that the most comprehensive statistics available were for shell, which is traded as "tortoiseshell", and is often specified under a separate category in published Customs statistics. This makes it unusual among wild animal products, which are normally combined in the statistics in broad classifications which are of little use for the analysis of trade in individual species or small taxonomic groups. Furthermore, the specification of tortoiseshell allows some comparison of the Customs statistics with annual reports of trade submitted by CITES Parties, and provides a good opportunity of monitoring the implementation of the Convention and the quality of the Parties' reports.

The present survey is therefore confined to turtle shell. It examines the international trade from 1979 until 1984 from two sources of information: the Customs reports of import, export and re-export of raw tortoiseshell and the CITES reports of trade in shell. However it must be borne in mind that such an analysis does not represent the full amount of turtle exploitation

actually occurring. There is, for example, a great deal of trade in turtle products amongst Caribbean countries which is never recorded in Government statistics (Meylan, 1984). Furthermore, in some parts of the world, such as Indonesia, there is considerable internal trade which never enters the international market (Anon., 1984). The CITES statistics are limited by the facts that only 88 countries are Parties and that many of these do not submit annual reports.



Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

© WWF/J. Conner

There is also a considerable trade in worked tortoiseshell reported in Customs statistics which was investigated. However the figures are much less reliable because several countries only report the monetary values of material traded and if the weights of the products are quoted they do not always accurately represent the quantity of turtle shell involved. For brevity the export and import figures for worked tortoiseshell have been omitted from this report but they are available from WTMU. The major exporters are Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, Fiji, Singapore and, increasingly, Republic of Korea. The major importers are Japan, and Fiji. The carving industries of Japan, Taiwan and Republic of Korea are clearly supported by the import of raw tortoiseshell while those of Indonesia and the Philippines probably depend on turtles caught in home waters.

There were several proposals made at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, held at Buenos Aires, to transfer various populations of marine turtles to Appendix II. This report was prepared to provide information on the world trade in turtle products to allow the assessment of these proposals. In the event all of the proposals were rejected. The data presented below provide an indication of the effects that CITES-listing has had on the trade and an understanding of the current pattern of world trade.

### METHODS

This report covers trade in sea turtle shells from 1979 to 1984. It is based mainly on published external trade (Customs) data from various countries. The sources consulted are listed at the end of the report, together with the Customs categories used. From all categories of raw tortoiseshell (SITC commodity heading 291.16 and

CCCN heading 05.09) the weights of shell recorded in trade were added together. For 1984, only the import data of Japan are complete; those of other countries all refer to only part of the year, but in each case the months covered are indicated.

Additional statistics were consulted for the export of raw tortoiseshell from Panama and Nicaragua, supplied by the Government representatives at the Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium (Bacon *et al.*, 1984), and from the Seychelles, supplied by the Department of Agriculture (Mortimer, 1983).

Statistics held on computer at WTMU, derived from the annual reports of CITES Parties, were also analysed. The majority of transactions recorded were small, involving one or two shells, and so to simplify the analysis, only commercial shipments of over 50 kg of "shell" or "scales" were considered.

Unfortunately none of these sources is complete. For many countries the Customs statistics are not available and others combine tortoiseshell with other commodities such as ivory and coral. In these cases, it was sometimes possible to estimate minimum exports of one country by using the reported imports of the country receiving these products. These inferred figures are shown in brackets in the Tables; they will not always reflect the full extent of the trade, as in many cases they only relate to the trade with one other country. Furthermore, the sources listed by the importer may not be reliable as some importers report countries of origin, and others countries of consignment without specifying which. Similarly, the reported destinations of exports are not totally reliable as some may subsequently be re-exported. Where no statistics were found at all, a dash has been recorded in the Tables. Where statistics have been published by the Government concerned but no trade in tortoiseshell was recorded, a "0" appears.

Unlike CITES statistics, where the species of turtle is usually identified, Customs statistics list only "tortoiseshell". This has been assumed to be mainly the shell of Hawksbill Turtles, but it also includes the shell of other species of sea turtle, especially Green Turtles (Mack *et al.*, 1981), and of freshwater turtles and possibly tortoises. One exception to this is the statistics of Japan which list "bekko" separately from "other tortoiseshell", and there is good evidence that bekko is only the shell of Hawksbills (Hemley and Luxmoore, 1984). Taiwan also lists up to four categories of raw tortoiseshell, but it is not clear whether these all refer to different species. One category, "Amydae Carapax" (sic), is thought to refer to freshwater turtles as *Amyda* is a synonym of *Trionyx*. This category was therefore excluded from the estimation of raw tortoiseshell in this report. Hong Kong is also known to import considerable quantities of land tortoise and freshwater turtle shell for medicinal use and, since CITES came into force, little or none of the material reported in the Customs statistics refers to sea turtle shell (M.K. Cheung, *in litt.*, 1985). The medicinal use of freshwater turtles is very common in Hong Kong, and sea turtles are seldom used for this purpose (Melville, *in litt.*, 1985). The major suppliers of freshwater turtle shell to Hong Kong are Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore, and consequently it is probable that at least some of the tortoiseshell reported in their export statistics is of freshwater species. Thailand is also one of the major suppliers of tortoise and freshwater turtle shell to Japan where it is similarly used for medicinal purposes (Milliken, *in litt.*, 1982). This highlights one of the major problems of trying to infer trade in sea turtle shell from Customs reports of tortoiseshell; it is probable that the medicinal use of freshwater turtle shell may account for some of the other reported trade. Taiwan's reports of "Amydae carapax" from 1980 to 1984 account for between 3.7% and 7.3% of all raw tortoiseshell imports.

Large discrepancies often exist between the exports reported by one country and the imports reported by its trading partners. This may be due to different methods of classifying or recording the data, exchange conversion,

time lags between the departure and arrival at the country of destination, import and immediate re-export, or simply clerical errors. Where the differences are large this may signify that illegal trade is taking place (Mack *et al.*, 1981).

To permit a longer-term view of the world trade in tortoiseshell, figures for the years 1976-1978 are also presented in the Tables. Unless otherwise stated these all derive from Wells (1979), reproduced in part in Mack *et al.* (1981), the chief exception being export figures from Panama, Nicaragua and the Seychelles which have become available since the earlier reports were produced.

## RESULTS

### Customs Statistics

Exports of raw tortoiseshell are shown in Table 1. The total exports appear to have fallen from a peak of around 423 t in 1978 to a relatively steady value of 150 t-168 t since 1980. Indonesia is by far the world's largest exporter and has accounted for between forty per cent and seventy per cent of the total since 1979. However at least some of its reported exports (9.6 t to Hong Kong in 1984) are probably of freshwater turtle. It should be noted that the Indonesian Customs figures available for 1984 were incomplete and that this may significantly reduce the total exports. The world peak in 1978 can be largely accounted for by Indonesia's having more than doubled its exports to 220 t in that year. One possible explanation of this, suggested by Mack *et al.* (1981), is that as Indonesia acceded to CITES in 1978, the treaty coming into force in 1979, the trade in 1978 may have represented an attempt to move stocks of shell in advance of restrictive legislation. After 1979 the exports from the main countries appeared to decline, possibly as a result of a flooding of the market in the previous year. Some of the decline could be attributed to a lack of Customs data, notably of Ecuador, Panama and Fiji, but for other countries it appears to have been a real decrease. The reduction of exports from Indonesia has probably been assisted by attempts to tighten up export controls, but traders are quoted as attributing it to a fall in demand (Anon., 1984). Thailand, the second largest exporter in 1978, maintained a lower level of exports, between 2 t and 8.5 t from 1979-1982 but exports built up to 25 t in 1983. The majority of this (15 t) was destined for Hong Kong, and was therefore probably of freshwater turtle.

Ecuador's sporadically reported exports of 50 t and 90 t indicate that it may still be a major source, as is Panama. Nicaragua has also reported exports in excess of 4 t. Other major exporters in the Caribbean are signalled by Japan's import figures (see Table 5): Cuba has maintained a supply of 2-8 t and Haiti, Honduras and Jamaica have all supplied up to about 2 t. The Cayman Islands' Government only claims to have exported Green Turtle shell, originating in Cayman Turtle Farm, however Japan reports large imports of bekko from there. These could not have come from the farm and are unlikely to have originated in the Cayman Islands at all; some other country of origin therefore seems probable (Hemley and Luxmoore, 1984). Meylan (1984) reports that there is considerable inter-island trade in the Caribbean, with buyers travelling between islands making private transactions which are not recorded in official Government export statistics. Under these circumstances it is almost impossible to discover the true country of origin. Carr (1984) asserts that buyers from the Cayman Islands purchase shell from a variety of sources and export them via Panama to Japan. It seems likely that at least some of this might be recorded by Japan as coming from the Cayman Islands.

In recent years several Asian countries have emerged as important suppliers of freshwater turtle shell to Hong Kong. Since 1982 Viet Nam appears to have exported

over 7 t to Hong Kong, whose import data indicate that China has exported 1-6 t each year, and Lao PDR supplied over 2 t in 1982.

The destinations of the exports and re-exports from the major exporting countries are shown in Table 2. Clearly Japan is the main market for Indonesian tortoiseshell, followed by Singapore. Thailand supplies mainly freshwater turtle to Hong Kong, while the Philippines exported more to Taiwan and Japan and can therefore be inferred to be producing sea turtle. Ecuador, too, supplies Japan, but it has also exported large quantities to Italy and Switzerland.

The corresponding reported imports are also shown in Table 2, and there are clearly some big discrepancies: Japan and Hong Kong consistently report importing smaller quantities from Indonesia than the latter reports exporting to them, and the Republic of Korea has also reported importing substantial quantities. Thailand reports sending almost all its exports to Hong Kong but in 1981 Taiwan reports receiving 10 t from Thailand. Possible reasons for the discrepancies have been discussed above.

Imports of raw tortoiseshell are shown in Table 3. As would be expected, the world totals have followed roughly the course of the exports, declining from a peak of 321 t in 1978 to 119 t-142 t since 1980. The fact that reported imports are all lower than the total exports, except in 1984 for which complete export figures for Indonesia are not available, can largely be accounted for by the discrepancy between the exports reported by Indonesia and the much lower imports from Indonesia reported by other countries (Table 2).

The main importers are Hong Kong, Japan and Taiwan, but since 1979 the Republic of Korea has imported between 9 t and 22 t a year, mainly from Indonesia, and China has been the destination of increasing amounts. Taiwan has recently been the largest importer, the total of 40 t in the first half of 1984 exceeding its imports for the whole of 1983. Thailand appears to have been importing substantial quantities since 1982, mainly from China and Lao PDR, which is somewhat surprising as it has in the past been a net exporter of raw tortoiseshell, although it is possible that different species are involved.

Japan's imports declined sharply in 1980, and this can be attributed to the fact that when it accepted CITES in 1980, although keeping a reservation on Hawksbill and Green Turtles, it imposed a limit of 30 t on imports of bekko. This limit has not been substantially exceeded (Table 5).

F.R. Germany has reported imports of approximately 2 t in 1982 and 1983. Some of these may derive from the Cayman Turtle Farm, which reports having exported 3054 t of shell to F.R. Germany in 1981, although none in 1982.

The imports of Hong Kong are perhaps the most interesting, having plummeted from a peak of 102 t in 1978 to 5 t in 1980, and then risen to 35 t in 1983. Hong Kong, as a dependent territory of the UK, was included in the UK ratification of CITES in 1976, but initially its enforcement of the Convention was lax. This was tightened up in 1979 and several shipments of sea turtle shell were seized. By 1980 much less was entering the country, and material arriving from Indonesia under the Customs category of "raw tortoiseshell" was found to be the shells of freshwater turtles, mainly *Trionyx* spp., and assorted bits of bone for use in Chinese medicine (Huxley, pers. comm.). The growth of Hong Kong's imports to 35 t of freshwater turtle shell in 1983 do not all represent net imports as the re-export figures have also increased (Table 4). Even so, the net imports over the three years increased to up to 11 t a year. There are several possible explanations for this: one is that an entirely new market for medicinal products has developed; another explanation might be that similar quantities of freshwater turtle shell were used prior to 1980 and that imports fell in 1980 for commercial reasons (e.g. stockpiling), or because they

were affected by the ban on sea turtle shell.

The other country with substantial re-exports of raw tortoiseshell is Singapore (Table 4), and these figures have consistently exceeded its imports. The likely source of these imports is Indonesia, as Table 2 shows large exports of tortoiseshell to Singapore reported by Indonesia. This discrepancy was pointed out by Mack *et al.* (1981), who suggested that it indicated persistent illegal imports. However, it now appears that Singapore does not report imports from Indonesia for political reasons, and this would explain the disparity. The destinations of the re-exports from Hong Kong and Singapore are shown in Table 2. Most of Hong Kong's re-exports go to China, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan, suggesting that these countries also use substantial quantities of freshwater turtle shell.

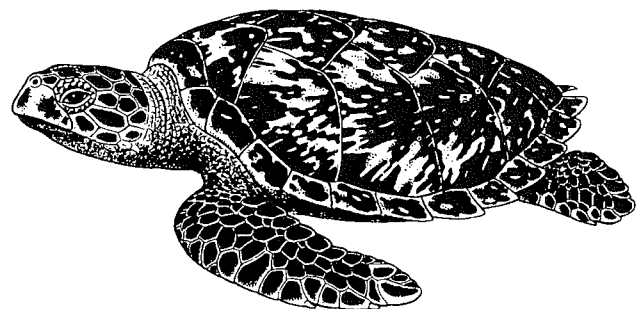
### CITES Reports

All commercial shipments of raw sea turtle shell in excess of 50 kg reported to CITES from 1976 to 1983 are shown in Tables 7 and 8. The total trade indicated by these reports is generally an order of magnitude lower than that indicated by the Customs figures each year. This is not surprising as the majority of the trade in recent years is probably in contravention of the Convention; that which is not is mostly between non-Party states and therefore would not have been reported.

Where it is possible to compare CITES reports with Customs statistics, the corresponding figures are also shown in Tables 7 and 8. It can be seen that there are some fairly good instances of correlation, notably Italy's imports from Indonesia in 1981 and 1982 and from the Philippines in 1981. Exports to Japan from the Seychelles in 1978 and from the UK in 1976 also show a reasonable degree of correlation. Italy's import from Ecuador in 1981 is interesting as Italy reports 74 t in the CITES report while Ecuador gives 47 t in the Customs statistics; it is possible that one of the figures has become transposed.

These correlations are useful indicators that at least some of the trade in tortoiseshell recorded in Customs statistics does truly refer to sea turtle shell.

Hawksbill Turtle  
(*Eretmochelys imbricata*)



### IMPLEMENTATION OF CITES

As all sea turtles have been in CITES Appendix I since June 1981 there should not generally be any legal commercial trade in turtle products involving Parties unless they hold reservations. The only Parties which have held reservations on sea turtles are Japan, Suriname, France and Italy, although the latter two withdrew their reservations in 1984. Exceptions to this ban are made for pre-Convention material and the products obtained from recognised captive-breeding operations. At present, there is only one turtle-breeding farm, this being in the Cayman Islands, the validity of whose claim to exemption for its captive-bred animals is currently under dispute.

Of the transactions reported in Tables 7 and 8, only those before 1979 are likely to represent pre-Convention material. The remainder are possibly in contravention of the Convention. Every year since 1978, F.R. Germany has imported commercial shipments of turtle products from various sources. Often these have been declared as pre-Convention material, and while this may be possible with turtle shell, it is stretching credulity to claim, as has been done, that meat is also in this category.

The lines drawn through each of Tables 1 and Tables 3-5 indicate when the Convention came into force in each of the countries. All trade which appears above the line should be subject to the terms of the Convention, except for trade between Japan, Suriname, France and Italy and non-Party states. Trade reported to originate in the Cayman Islands is of disputed status, and imports to and re-exports from Hong Kong since 1979 probably do not represent sea turtles. With these exceptions the remainder of the trade appearing above the line is potentially illegal and the total quantities from each category have been added up and are shown in Table 6. Up to eighty-eight per cent of all raw tortoiseshell exported may have been traded in contravention of CITES. The majority of this originates in Indonesia. Other major suppliers of raw tortoiseshell who are Party to CITES are Panama, Nicaragua and Ecuador and, to judge from reported imports, Kenya, Tanzania, the Seychelles and China.

Since 1979, between zero and twenty-six per cent of reported imports each year potentially contravene CITES, with the exception of 1981 when Ecuador supplied 47 t to Italy, raising the proportion to fifty per cent. The majority of the other imports from CITES Parties were into Japan (Table 5), up to fifty per cent of whose imports are potentially illegal. China acceded to CITES in 1981 but since then it has been reported to be the destination of 11-15 t of raw tortoiseshell each year.

Indonesia clearly plays a central role in the world trade in sea turtle products. It has no reservation on any species of sea turtle and yet has been freely exporting huge quantities of their products to CITES Parties and non-Parties alike since it joined CITES. In a proposal to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, to transfer the Indonesian population of Green Turtles to Appendix II (Anon., 1985), it was stated that:

"Indonesia is a large country with 13 667 islands and long, open, maritime boundaries. Control over all islands and all of this maritime boundary is near impossible."

Therefore it is not surprising that, in addition to the trade recorded in official Customs statistics, there is considerable illegal and unreported international trade (Anon., 1984). The size of the trade reflects the size of the wild turtle population in the islands, but it is equally certain that this population is being depleted. Around Bali, the centre of the turtle meat industry, the wild population has already been wiped out, and the average size of turtles landed there has decreased sharply in recent years, a classic symptom of over-exploitation (Anon., 1984). Japanese traders also report declining sizes of Hawksbill shells originating in Indonesia, with some now as small as 350-500 g, whereas formerly the average size was 1.5-2 kg (Milliken, *in litt.*, 1985). An intensive survey of the turtle trade recommended that immediate measures were necessary to protect the population from further decline. These involved a total ban on all exports of turtle products, and the setting and enforcement of strict quotas and size limits for turtles killed for consumption within the islands (Anon., 1984). Persuading Indonesia to implement CITES by enforcing the prohibition on commercial trade in Appendix I species must be seen as the priority in the control of sea turtle trade.

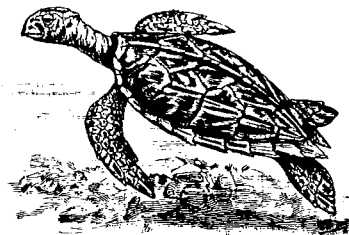
Several European and North American countries, notably Canada and F.R. Germany, feature in Table 3 as the reported destination of raw tortoiseshell. If verified, some of these imports could represent infringements of CITES. These markets are currently relatively small, however efforts to control them could be made more difficult by the introduction of legal farmed products.

The mechanisms already exist within CITES to control trade in sea turtle products but clearly they are not being adequately implemented. As a first step to improving this, countries not currently party to the Convention should be urged to become Parties. However control by Parties is far from perfect and pressure must be brought to bear on both importing and exporting Parties to improve enforcement. Among importers, Japan has reservations on Green, Hawksbill and Olive Ridley Turtles, justifying them partly by the maintenance of a traditional shell-carving industry. Although, to judge from the Customs statistics, the 30 t quota on raw bekko imposed in 1980 appears to have been largely adhered to, this does not include worked bekko or Green Turtle shell, which are also imported, and it would be preferable if the reservations were withdrawn altogether.

Indonesia, although it has no reservations, is the chief exporter. The major noticeable effect of its accession to CITES in 1978 was to increase temporarily the volume of exports to almost double their previous levels.

#### SUMMARY

1. In spite of listing in CITES Appendix I, there is still a substantial trade in sea turtle shell; exports of raw shell amount to over 100 t a year. Although this is lower than the peak levels in 1978 and 1979, it represents a marked increase over the levels traded in the early 1970s.
2. The major exporter of raw sea turtle shell is Indonesia, with substantial quantities coming also from the Caribbean, notably Cuba and Panama.
3. The major importers of raw sea turtle shell are Japan, Taiwan, China, the Republic of Korea and Singapore. The last-named also re-exports large amounts.
4. The vast majority of tortoiseshell therefore appears to originate in Indonesia and end up in Japan, possibly passing through Singapore and the growing shell-carving industries in Taiwan and the Republic of Korea.
5. Many of the countries now trading in sea turtle shell are Parties to CITES, and up to eighty-eight per cent of all raw shell exported is potentially in contravention of the Convention. In any one year as little as 0.04% of the trade indicated by Customs export statistics involving CITES Parties is reported in their CITES annual reports.



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank all those who have helped with comments on this report, in particular J. Barzdo, G. Hemley, T. Inskipp and M. Weber.



## LITERATURE CITED IN TEXT

- Anon., (1984):  
Sea turtle trade in Indonesia. IUCN/WWF Report No. 5, Project 3108 Field Report, Bogor, 56 pp.
- Anon., (1985):  
Proposal for the transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II of the Indonesian population of Chelonia mydas (green turtle). Submitted by the Republic of Indonesia to the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES.
- Bacon, P., Berry, F., Björndal, K., Hirth, H., Ogren, L. and Weber, M. (1984):  
Proceedings of the Western Atlantic Turtle Symposium, July 1983, Costa Rica. RSMAS Printing, Miami.
- Carr, A. (1984):  
Secrets of the sea turtles. Animal Kingdom (December 1984 - January 1985): 11-18.
- Groombridge, B. (1982):  
The IUCN Amphibia-Reptilia Red Data Book, Part I. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland, 426 pp.
- Hemley, G. and Luxmoore, R. (1984 unpubl.):  
A preliminary analysis of trade in sea turtles from 1980-82. Wildlife Trade Monitoring Unit.
- Mack, D., Duplaix, N. and Wells, S. (1981):  
Sea turtles, animals of divisible parts: international trade in sea turtle products. In: Björndal, K.A. (Ed.) Biology and conservation of sea turtles. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA, pp. 545-563.
- Meylan, A. (1984):  
A study of the Caribbean Hawksbill Turtle. WWF Monthly Report (October): 269-275.
- Mortimer, J.A. (1983 unpubl.):  
Marine turtles in the Republic of the Seychelles: a report on their status and management. WWF Project 1809.
- Weber, M., Roet, E., Escherich, P.C., McManus, R.E. and Teeple-Hewes, J. (1983):  
Sea turtles in trade, an evaluation. Center for Environmental Education, Washington, DC, USA: 40 pp.
- Wells, S.M. (1979 unpubl.):  
The international trade in marine turtle products. TRAFFIC (International).
- India:  
Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Government of India, Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. SITC 2911400, 8991100.
- Indonesia:  
Foreign Trade Statistics, Central Bureau of Statistics, Jakarta. CCCN 509200 (SITC 2911620), CCCN 9505100 (SITC 8991110).
- Italy:  
Statistica Mensile del Commercio con l'Estero Istituto Centrale di Statistica, Roma. CCCN 005.09.001, 095.05.500.
- Japan:  
Japan Exports and Imports: Commodity by Country, Japan Tariff Association. CCCN 05.09-060, 05.09-070, 95.05-211, 95.05-231.
- Korea, Rep. of:  
Statistical Yearbook of Foreign Trade, Department of Customs Administration, Republic of Korea. CCCN 0509.0501, 0509.0599, 9505.0201.
- Malaysia:  
Annual Statistics of External Trade, Department of Statistics, Kuala Lumpur. SITC 29116000, 89911900.
- Malta:  
Trade Statistics, Central Office of Statistics. SITC 291140, 899110.
- Mexico:  
Anuario Estadístico del Comercio Exterior de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, Secretaría de Industria y Comercio, Dirección General de Estadística. CCCN 95.01.A01.
- Netherlands:  
Maandstatistiek van de Buitenlandse Handel per Goederensoort, Central Bureau voor de Statistiek. CCCN 0509000, 9505500.
- Philippines:  
Foreign Trade Statistics of the Philippines, National Economic and Development Authority, National Census and Statistics Office, Manila. SITC 291.1640, 891.1100.
- Singapore:  
Singapore Trade Statistics, Department Statistics, Singapore. SITC 2911620, 8991110 (CCCN 0509.200, 9505.100).
- Spain:  
Estadística del Comercio Exterior de España Ministerio de Hacienda, Dirección General de Aduanas. CCCN 05.09.11, 95.05.09.
- Sri Lanka:  
External Trade Statistics, Sri Lanka Customs.
- Switzerland:  
Statistique Annuelle de Commerce Extérieur de la Suisse Direction Général des Douanes, Berne. CCCN 050910, 950504.
- Taiwan:  
The Trade of China (Taiwan District) Statistical Series No. 1, Statistics Department, Inspectorate General of Customs, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China. CCCN 05090410, 05090420, 05090490, 95050110, 95050210.
- Thailand:  
Foreign Trade Statistics of Thailand (B.E. 2519) Department of Customs, Bangkok. CCCN 051100, 950100.
- United Kingdom:  
Overseas Trade Statistics of the UK, Department of Trade and Industry. SITC 291, 899.11.
- United States of America:  
US General Imports Schedule A FT135 US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC, SITC 2911600.

## CUSTOMS REPORTS CONSULTED

- Belgium:  
Bulletin Mensuel du Commerce Extérieur de l'Union Economique Belgo-Luxembourgeoise Ministère des Affaires Economiques, Institut National de Statistique. CCCN 0509.000, 9505.
- Ecuador:  
Anuario de Comercio Exterior Ministerio de Finanzas, Departamento de Estadísticas Aduaneras. CCCN 0511099.
- Fiji:  
Overseas Trade Bureau of Statistics, Suva. SITC 291.161, 899.100.
- France:  
Statistiques du Commerce Extérieur de la France. Importations/Exportations Ministère du Budget, Direction Générale des Douanes et Droits Indirects. CCCN 0509000, 95055.
- Germany, Fed. Rep. of:  
Aussenhandel nach Waren und Ländern (Spezialhandel). Reihe 2 Herausgeber: Statistisches Bundesamt Wiesbaden. CCCN 0509004.
- Hong Kong:  
Hong Kong Trade Statistics, Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong. SITC 291167.

TABLE 1

Exports of raw tortoiseshell (kg) derived from Customs reports  
1976-1984

| Country              | 1976    | 1977    | 1978    | 1979   | 1980   | 1981   | 1982   | 1983   | 1984    |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| <u>CITES PARTIES</u> |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| Costa Rica           | 1390    | (260)   | (47)    | (89)   | -      | (234)  | (79)   | (5)    | -       |
| Ecuador              | 12323   | 37423   | -       | 90394  | -      | 49752  | -      | -      | -       |
| Madagascar           | (164)   | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Mauritius            | (55)    | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Puerto Rico          | (262)   | (264)   | (25)    | (18)   | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Australia            | (1087)  | (192)   | -       | -      | -      | (200)  | -      | -      | -       |
| Cayman Is            | (4002)  | (3875)  | (7500)  | (7687) | (3040) | (3456) | (4162) | (84)   | (168)   |
| Hong Kong            | -       | -       | -       | 2345   | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| India                | 21460   | 82855   | 11918 a | (2370) | (600)  | 0      | (1144) | (713)  | -       |
| Pakistan             | (745)   | -       | -       | (136)  | (330)  | 0      | 1800 d | 1868 e | -       |
| Nicaragua            | (1446)  | (2573)  | (1014)  | (949)  | 109    | 4721   | 4131   | -      | -       |
| Seychelles           | 459 f   | 759 f   | 1480 f  | 968    | 862    | 2527   | 591    | (675)  | (629)   |
| Fr. W. Indies        | (152)   | (236)   | (276)   | (123)  | (196)  | (231)  | (215)  | -      | -       |
| Réunion              | (377)   | -       | (46)    | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Malaysia             | 7253    | 8879    | (9311)  | -      | -      | -      | (196)  | (1349) | (1574)  |
| Panama               | 61000 g | 35000 g | 27000 g | 27000  | 18000  | 13000  | (2243) | (3889) | (4259)  |
| Venezuela            | (1000)  | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Bahamas              | (532)   | (922)   | (1018)  | (1886) | (767)  | (29)   | (728)  | -      | -       |
| Indonesia            | 71373   | 85577   | 219585  | 175214 | 117943 | 59817  | 104323 | 95312  | 54007 b |
| Kenya                | 1661    | 872     | 761     | (2051) | (463)  | (1404) | (1287) | (938)  | (2540)  |
| Sri Lanka            | 2       | -       | -       | (150)  | (46)   | 0      | 0      | (17)   | -       |
| Tanzania             | 1813    | 1836    | 1625    | (5943) | (1202) | (845)  | (836)  | (168)  | (540)   |
| China                | -       | -       | -       | (4168) | (1563) | (2801) | (3200) | (6042) | (768)   |
| Mozambique           | (463)   | (290)   | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Philippines          | 15607   | 27905   | 38145   | 13511  | 1461   | 300    | 8820   | 0      | -       |
| Bangladesh           | -       | (4960)  | (4150)  | (2500) | (1000) | -      | -      | (190)  | (1352)  |
| St Lucia             | -       | (489)   | (349)   | (491)  | (238)  | (267)  | (270)  | (362)  | -       |
| Thailand             | 23859   | 37941   | 53618   | 7680   | 6940   | 2420   | 8520   | 24691  | 2617 c  |
| Trinidad             | -       | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | (329)  | (453)   |
| <u>NON-PARTIES</u>   |         |         |         |        |        |        |        |        |         |
| Barbados             | 22      | -       | (23)    | -      | (9)    | -      | (11)   | -      | -       |
| Belize               | (12)    | (40)    | -       | (314)  | (258)  | -      | (702)  | (538)  | -       |
| Burma                | -       | (1100)  | (500)   | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Cape Verde           | (63)    | -       | -       | (67)   | (117)  | (81)   | (45)   | (85)   | -       |
| Cuba                 | (6985)  | (3984)  | (6600)  | (4475) | (7563) | (2650) | (7883) | (5017) | (4660)  |
| Dominica             | (126)   | (507)   | -       | (219)  | (534)  | (401)  | (872)  | (248)  | (636)   |
| Dominican Rep.       | (367)   | (1000)  | (62)    | (114)  | (90)   | (60)   | (39)   | (40)   | -       |
| Fiji                 | 53587   | 362     | 35243   | 111    | 152    | (162)  | (280)  | (309)  | (242)   |
| Grenada              | -       | (59)    | -       | -      | (9)    | (7)    | -      | -      | -       |
| Haiti                | (1219)  | (1173)  | (1004)  | (1689) | (1020) | (892)  | (1188) | (1788) | (1988)  |
| Honduras             | -       | (71)    | (9)     | (9)    | (1132) | (481)  | (636)  | (1886) | (2463)  |
| Indian Oc. (sic)     | -       | (68)    | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Jamaica              | (343)   | (1136)  | (128)   | (559)  | (1692) | (419)  | (1499) | (709)  | (614)   |
| Lao PDR              | -       | -       | (781)   | (615)  | -      | -      | (2241) | (262)  | -       |
| Maldives             | (625)   | (317)   | (567)   | (1680) | (167)  | (355)  | (601)  | (508)  | (1052)  |
| Mexico               | 6334    | -       | -       | -      | -      | -      | -      | (36)   | -       |
| St Vincent           | (130)   | (230)   | (144)   | 0      | 0      | 0      | (36)   | (108)  | (242)   |
| Singapore            | 370     | 2501    | 230     | 868    | 45     | 2700   | 1000   | -      | -       |
| Solomon Is           | (873)   | (756)   | (528)   | (924)  | (704)  | (336)  | (1206) | (992)  | (1127)  |
| Somalia              | (5099)  | (236)   | (30)    | -      | -      | -      | -      | -      | -       |
| Taiwan               | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1109   | 0      | 0      | 0      | 4448   | -       |
| Viet Nam             | -       | (1854)  | -       | -      | -      | -      | (7918) | (7132) | (5352)  |
| <u>TOTAL</u>         | 304640  | 348502  | 423717  | 358426 | 168252 | 150548 | 168702 | 150018 | 82283   |

a = January-February only

b = January-May

c = January only

d = July 1981-June 1982

e = July 1982-June 1983

f = Not given in Mack et al. (1981) but subsequently obtained from Mortimer (1983).g = Not given in Mack et al. (1981) but subsequently obtained from Bacon et al. (1984).

TABLE 2  
Exports and re-exports of raw tortoiseshell (kg) and countries of destination for major exporters  
1979-1984

| COUNTRY OF<br>DESTINATION | EXPORTING COUNTRY        |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
|                           | Indonesia                |                            | Thailand                 |                            | Philippines              |                            | Ecuador                  |                            | Singapore                |                            | Hong Kong                |                            |
|                           | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports | Reports<br>of<br>exports | Derived<br>from<br>imports |
| <b>1979</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| China                     | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 300                      | -                          |
| France                    | 328                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 46                       | -                          | 800                      | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | 21633                    | (14064)                    | 7500                     | (0)                        | 68                       | (0)                        | 1030                     | (0)                        | -                        | (1050)                     | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Italy                     | 1200                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 110                      | -                          | 16288                    | -                          | -                        | -                          | 10                       | -                          |
| Japan                     | 98168                    | (19163)                    | 180                      | (1980)                     | 7964                     | (3696)                     | 53826                    | (0)                        | -                        | (2451)                     | 2154                     | (1976)                     |
| Korean Rep.               | 0                        | (10319)                    | 0                        | (1500)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 3689                     | (0)                        |
| Singapore                 | 49372                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 5                        | -                          | 1450                     | -                          | -                        | -                          | 2035                     | -                          |
| Switzerland               | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 40                       | -                          | 16000                    | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | 4448                     | (16998)                    | 0                        | (30)                       | 5278                     | (1524)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (20900)                    | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Others                    | 65                       | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 1000                     | -                          | -                        | -                          | 125                      | -                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>175214</b>            | <b>(60544)</b>             | <b>7680</b>              | <b>(3510)</b>              | <b>13511</b>             | <b>(5220)</b>              | <b>90394</b>             | <b>-</b>                   | <b>23851</b>             | <b>(24401)</b>             | <b>8313</b>              | <b>(1976)</b>              |
| <b>1980</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| China                     | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 600                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| France                    | 96                       | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | 17777                    | (3000)                     | 6500                     | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Italy                     | 400                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 100                      | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Japan                     | 41750                    | (4911)                     | 0                        | (1200)                     | 348                      | (3728)                     | -                        | (0)                        | 7152                     | (364)                      | 100                      | (0)                        |
| Korean Rep.               | 0                        | (9000)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 900                      | (0)                        |
| Singapore                 | 56880                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | 1040                     | (340)                      | 0                        | -                          | 1013                     | (190)                      | -                        | -                          | 5190                     | (8242)                     | 0                        | (85)                       |
| Others                    | 0                        | -                          | 440                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 5090                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>117943</b>            | <b>(17251)</b>             | <b>6940</b>              | <b>(1200)</b>              | <b>1461</b>              | <b>(3918)</b>              | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b>                   | <b>17942</b>             | <b>(8506)</b>              | <b>1000</b>              | <b>(85)</b>                |
| <b>1981</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| China                     | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 538                      | -                          | 8196                     | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | 6260                     | (0)                        | 2420                     | (1578)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (2600)                     | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Italy                     | 600                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 300                      | -                          | 47700                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Japan                     | 29151                    | (1579)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (1459)                     | 2052                     | (0)                        | 0                        | (622)                      | 104                      | (104)                      |
| Korean Rep.               | 0                        | (6300)                     | 0                        | (1000)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 1200                     | (2255)                     |
| Singapore                 | 23606                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | 0                        | (3772)                     | 0                        | (10000)                    | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (8500)                     | 0                        | (494)                      |
| Others                    | 200                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 5838                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>59817</b>             | <b>(11651)</b>             | <b>2420</b>              | <b>(12578)</b>             | <b>300</b>               | <b>(1459)</b>              | <b>49752</b>             | <b>-</b>                   | <b>6376</b>              | <b>(11722)</b>             | <b>9500</b>              | <b>(2853)</b>              |
| <b>1982</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| China                     | 0                        | -                          | 2650                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 4743                     | -                          | 7062                     | -                          |
| France                    | 150                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| F.R. Germany              | 882                      | (113)                      | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | 8313                     | (4500)                     | 5870                     | (7001)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Italy                     | 850                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Japan                     | 57613                    | (2032)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | 8820                     | (1376)                     | -                        | (0)                        | 13380                    | (724)                      | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Korean Rep.               | 0                        | (12270)                    | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Singapore                 | 36515                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | (18850)                    | 1500                     | (16150)                    |
| Others                    | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 6315                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>104323</b>            | <b>(18915)</b>             | <b>8520</b>              | <b>(7001)</b>              | <b>8820</b>              | <b>(1376)</b>              | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b>                   | <b>24438</b>             | <b>(19574)</b>             | <b>8562</b>              | <b>(16150)</b>             |
| <b>1983</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| China                     | -                        | -                          | 8100                     | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 15489                    | -                          |
| France                    | 575                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Italy                     | 500                      | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | 1550                     | (7995)                     | 15991                    | (15184)                    | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (5360)                     | 0                        | (0)                        |
| Japan                     | 62343                    | (3605)                     | 600                      | (0)                        | 0                        | (232)                      | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (1471)                     | 0                        | -                          |
| Korean Rep.               | -                        | (14400)                    | 0                        | (1300)                     | 0                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 10020                    | (0)                        |
| Singapore                 | 30344                    | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | -                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | 0                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | (3702)                     | 1015                     | (30916)                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>95312</b>             | <b>(26000)</b>             | <b>24691</b>             | <b>(16484)</b>             | <b>0</b>                 | <b>(232)</b>               | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b>                   | <b>-</b>                 | <b>(10533)</b>             | <b>26524</b>             | <b>(30916)</b>             |
| <b>1984</b>               |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |                          |                            |
| Canada                    | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 144 a                    | -                          |
| China                     | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 15368 a                  | -                          |
| Hong Kong                 | -                        | (9650)                     | -                        | (7600)                     | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (5000)                     | 0 a                      | (0)                        |
| Japan                     | -                        | (6604)                     | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (1227)                     | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (1865)                     | 0 a                      | (0)                        |
| Korean Rep.               | -                        | (6500)                     | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | -                        | (0)                        | 0 a                      | (0)                        |
| Singapore                 | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 600 a                    | -                          |
| Taiwan                    | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | -                        | -                          | 2689 a                   | -                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>-</b>                 | <b>(22754)</b>             | <b>-</b>                 | <b>(7600)</b>              | <b>-</b>                 | <b>(1227)</b>              | <b>-</b>                 | <b>-</b>                   | <b>-</b>                 | <b>(6865)</b>              | <b>18801 a</b>           | <b>-</b>                   |

a = January-October

TABLE 3  
Imports of raw tortoiseshell (kg) derived from Customs reports  
1976-1984

| Source country       | 1976   | 1977    | 1978   | 1979    | 1980  | 1981    | 1982    | 1983    | 1984    |
|----------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| <u>CITES PARTIES</u> |        |         |        |         |       |         |         |         |         |
| Canada               | 0      | 0       | (50)   | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | (144)   |
| Nepal                | -      | (1699)  | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Switzerland          | 126    | 39      | -      | (16000) | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| USA                  | (5160) | (11853) | (164)  | 0       | 0     | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Australia            | (975)  | (60)    | 0      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| F.R. Germany         | 3937   | 8281    | (9309) | 0       | 0     | 0       | 2120    | 2348    | 1838 c  |
| Hong Kong            | 26620  | 42788   | 102275 | 18369   | 4604  | 4178    | 19419   | 35861   | 29554 c |
| Pakistan             | 0      | 0       | 2000 a | 0       | 0     | 6070 b  | 0       | 0       | -       |
| UK                   | 320    | 26      | -      | 0       | 0     | 0       | 0       | 0       | -       |
| France               | 1000   | 1000    | (240)  | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Fr. Pacific Is       | (425)  | (352)   | (150)  | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Malaysia             | 9133   | 30060   | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| New Caledonia        | -      | (302)   | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Italy                | 2500   | 3000    | (784)  | (16288) | -     | (47700) | -       | -       | -       |
| Japan                | 46060  | 45818   | 44039  | 70846   | 38809 | 21596   | 31285   | 25969   | 32177   |
| China                | (3911) | (3381)  | (3827) | -       | (600) | (8734)  | (11805) | (15489) | (15368) |
| Thailand             | 1238   | 2231    | 2622   | 2944    | 1158  | 1201    | 4231    | 3810    | 405 d   |
| Belgium              | 400    | 100     | -      | (125)   | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Netherlands          | 3000   | 3000    | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| <u>NON-PARTIES</u>   |        |         |        |         |       |         |         |         |         |
| Barbados             | -      | (22)    | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Korea, Rep. of,      | 6100   | 6100    | 7333   | 18029   | 9600  | 10555   | 12970   | 21500   | 11200 c |
| Kuwait               | -      | (50000) | -      | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Mexico               | 18021  | -       | -      | (1060)  | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Singapore            | 4140   | 21002   | 18469  | 1138    | 2974  | 445     | 1010    | -       | -       |
| Spain                | 1531   | 824     | 1080   | 487     | 284   | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Taiwan               | 52427  | 37704   | 128846 | 62287   | 10023 | 22966   | 36253   | 37162   | 40861 e |
| Vanuatu              | -      | -       | (102)  | -       | -     | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Viet Nam             | (2700) | (647)   | -      | -       | -     | (300)   | -       | -       | -       |
| <u>TOTAL</u>         | 189724 | 270289  | 321290 | 207573  | 68052 | 123745  | 119093  | 142139  | 131547  |

a = July 1977-June 1978

d = January only

b = July 1980-June 1981

e = January-July

c = January-October

TABLE 4  
Re-exports of raw tortoiseshell (kg) derived from Customs reports  
1976-1984

| Country              | 1976   | 1977  | 1978  | 1979   | 1980   | 1981  | 1982  | 1983    | 1984    |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| <u>CITES PARTIES</u> |        |       |       |        |        |       |       |         |         |
| F.R. Germany         | 47     | 73    | 0     | (5)    | 0      | 0     | 862   | 656     | 217     |
| Hong Kong            | 7497   | 6471  | 10128 | 5968   | 1000   | 9500  | 8562  | 26524   | 18801 a |
| UK                   | 1742   | -     | -     | 0      | 0      | 0     | (188) | (104)   | 0       |
| Malaysia             | 5587   | 46212 | 0     | -      | -      | -     | -     | -       | -       |
| Italy                | 58     | 0     | 0     | -      | -      | -     | -     | -       | -       |
| Japan                | 24     | 274   | 2258  | (500)  | (96)   | -     | 0     | 0       | 0       |
| Portugal             | 400    | 200   | 0     | 0      | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0       | 0       |
| Netherlands          | 64000  | 2000  | 0     | (3549) | (1305) | (448) | 0     | (1077)  | 0       |
| <u>NON-PARTIES</u>   |        |       |       |        |        |       |       |         |         |
| Singapore            | 20026  | 30014 | 45578 | 22983  | 17897  | 3676  | 23438 | (10533) | (6865)  |
| Taiwan               | 2376   | 338   | 2233  | (1350) | (2350) | 0     | 0     | 0       | 0       |
| <u>TOTAL</u>         | 101757 | 85582 | 60197 | 34355  | 22648  | 13624 | 33050 | 38894   | 25883   |

a = January-October

TABLE 5  
Imports of raw tortoiseshell (kg) reported in Japanese Customs statistics  
1976-1984

| Source country       | 1976         | 1977         | 1978         | 1979         | 1980         | 1981         | 1982         | 1983         | 1984         |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>CITES PARTIES</b> |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| American Samoa       | 0            | 0            | 42           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Canada               | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 40           | 0            | 0            |
| Costa Rica           | 170          | 260          | 47           | 89           | 0            | 234          | 79           | 5            | 0            |
| Madagascar           | 60           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Puerto Rico          | 262          | 264          | 25           | 18           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| USA                  | 0            | 66           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 22           | 0            | 0            |
| Australia            | 1087         | 192          | 6            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Cayman Is            | 4002         | 3863         | 7500         | 7687         | 3040         | 3456         | 4162         | 84           | 168          |
| F.R. Germany         | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 226          |
| Hong Kong            | 46           | 163          | 89           | 1976         | 0            | 104          | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| India                | 194          | 89           | 20           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Pakistan             | 745          | -            | 0            | 136          | 330          | 0            | 0            | 133          | 0            |
| UK                   | 209          | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Nicaragua            | 1446         | 1573         | 1014         | 949          | 7            | 475          | 417          | 0            | 0            |
| Seychelles           | 106          | 577          | 1066         | 1089         | 744          | 423          | 472          | 675          | 629          |
| France               | 0            | 0            | 0            | 18           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Fr. W. Indies        | 152          | 236          | 276          | 123          | 196          | 231          | 215          | 0            | 0            |
| Malaysia             | 0            | 0            | 45           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 196          | 349          | 74           |
| Panama               | 5885         | 4450         | 6505         | 4810         | 3812         | 3373         | 2243         | 3889         | 4259         |
| Réunion              | 377          | 0            | 46           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Bahamas              | 532          | 922          | 1018         | 1886         | 767          | 29           | 728          | 0            | 0            |
| Indonesia            | 6464         | 10114        | 5735         | 19163        | 4911         | 1579         | 2032         | 3605         | 6604         |
| Kenya                | 2712         | 2655         | 2850         | 2051         | 463          | 1404         | 1287         | 938          | 2540         |
| Sri Lanka            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 150          | 46           | 0            | 0            | 17           | 0            |
| Tanzania             | 2152         | 1474         | 1410         | 5943         | 1202         | 845          | 836          | 168          | 540          |
| China                | 1851         | 1331         | 240          | 569          | 405          | 600          | 1210         | 250          | 168          |
| Mozambique           | 277          | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Philippines          | 3160         | 3313         | 1439         | 3696         | 3728         | 1459         | 1376         | 232          | 1227         |
| Portugal             | 55           | 88           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| St Lucia             | 0            | 489          | 349          | 491          | 238          | 267          | 270          | 362          | 0            |
| Thailand             | 0            | 200          | 1550         | 1980         | 1200         | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| <b>NON-PARTIES</b>   |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
| Belgium              | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 203          | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Netherlands          | 536          | 1017         | 1288         | 3549         | 1305         | 448          | 0            | 1077         | 0            |
| Trinidad             | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 329          | 544          |
| Belize               | 12           | 40           | 0            | 314          | 258          | 0            | 702          | 538          | 0            |
| Cuba                 | 6985         | 3984         | 6600         | 4475         | 7563         | 2650         | 7883         | 5017         | 4660         |
| Dominican Rep.       | 113          | 507          | 62           | 219          | 534          | 401          | 872          | 248          | 636          |
| Fiji                 | 189          | 82           | 399          | 539          | 328          | 162          | 280          | 309          | 242          |
| Haiti                | 1094         | 1173         | 1004         | 1689         | 1020         | 892          | 1188         | 1788         | 1988         |
| Honduras             | 0            | 71           | 9            | 9            | 1132         | 481          | 636          | 1886         | 2463         |
| Indian Ocean (sic)   | 0            | 68           | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Jamaica              | 343          | 1136         | 128          | 559          | 1692         | 419          | 1499         | 709          | 614          |
| Maldives             | 485          | 317          | 567          | 1680         | 167          | 355          | 601          | 508          | 1052         |
| Singapore            | 3129         | 4080         | 1844         | 2451         | 364          | 622          | 724          | 1471         | 1865         |
| Solomon Is           | 873          | 756          | 528          | 924          | 704          | 336          | 1206         | 992          | 1127         |
| Taiwan               | 0            | 0            | 0            | 1323         | 2350         | 0            | 0            | 50           | 23           |
| Other Non-CITES      | 332          | 289          | 167          | 291          | 303          | 148          | 131          | 318          | 528          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>46060</b> | <b>45818</b> | <b>44039</b> | <b>70846</b> | <b>38809</b> | <b>21596</b> | <b>31285</b> | <b>25969</b> | <b>32177</b> |
| "Bekko" only         | 41374        | 43653        | 40544        | 63555        | 30830        | 20036        | 26506        | 25400        | 30697        |

TABLE 6  
Trade in raw tortoiseshell (kg) which potentially contravenes CITES regulations  
(the numbers in brackets refer to the percentage of the total trade reported in each year)

|                | 1976   | 1977    | 1978    | 1979    | 1980    | 1981    | 1982    | 1983    | 1984    |
|----------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Exports        | 13932  | 121994  | 14484   | 124392  | 138716  | 132760  | 129593  | 111166  | 68286   |
| (Table 1)      | (4.6%) | (35.0%) | (3.4%)  | (34.7%) | (82.4%) | (88.2%) | (76.8%) | (74.1%) | (82.9%) |
| Imports        | 5286   | 58275   | 103670  | 16000   | 0       | 62363   | 25056   | 28120   | 34022   |
| (Table 3)      | (2.8%) | (21.6%) | (32.3%) | (7.7%)  |         | (50.4%) | (21.0%) | (19.8%) | (25.9%) |
| Imports(Japan) | 492    | 805     | 2286    | 7232    | 11276   | 8593    | 11131   | 10283   | 16267   |
| (Table 5)      | (1.1%) | (1.8%)  | (5.2%)  | (10.2%) | (29.1%) | (39.8%) | (35.6%) | (39.6%) | (50.6%) |

TABLE 7  
Imports of commercial shipments of raw sea turtle shell in excess of  
50 kg reported to CITES and corresponding Customs reports  
1977-1983

| Species             | Importer     | Exporter     | Shipment         | Customs Report |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| <u>1977</u>         |              |              |                  |                |
| Cheloniidae         | F.R. Germany | Netherlands  | 55 kg shell      | 1095 kg        |
| <u>1978</u>         |              |              |                  |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | USA          | Cayman Is    | 57 kg shell      | -              |
| <u>1981</u>         |              |              |                  |                |
| Cheloniidae         | F.R. Germany | France       | 300 scales       | 0              |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is    | 2708 kg scales   | 0              |
|                     | Italy        | Ecuador      | 74882 kg claws)  | 47700 kg c     |
|                     | Italy        | Ecuador      | 1000 claws )     |                |
|                     | Italy        | Indonesia    | 1850 scales )    | 600 kg c       |
|                     | Italy        | Indonesia    | 400 kg scales)   |                |
|                     | Italy        | Philippines  | 300 kg scales    | 300 kg c       |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | F.R. Germany | Indonesia    | 273 kg scales    | 0 c            |
| <u>1982</u>         |              |              |                  |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | Italy        | Indonesia    | 850 kg scales    | 850 kg c       |
|                     | F.R. Germany | Haiti        | 8413 kg scales a | 2120 kg b      |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | F.R. Germany | Jamaica      | 153 kg scales    | -              |
| <u>1983</u>         |              |              |                  |                |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | France       | Cuba         | 250 kg scales    | -              |
|                     | UK           | F.R. Germany | 50 shells        | -              |
|                     | F.R. Germany | Jamaica      | 450 kg scraps)   | 2348 kg b      |
|                     | F.R. Germany | Jamaica      | 101 kg scales)   | -              |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is    | 210 kg shell )   | -              |
|                     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is    | 159 kg shell )   | -              |
|                     | Italy        | Indonesia    | 500 kg scales    | -              |
|                     | Italy        | Singapore    | 400 kg scales    | -              |
|                     | Italy        | Somalia      | 200 shells       | -              |

a = Illegal shipment seized by CITES Authorities

b = Total amount imported from all countries

c = Reported by exporter

TABLE 8  
Exports of commercial shipments of raw sea turtle shell in excess of  
50 kg reported to CITES and corresponding customs reports  
1976-1983

| Species             | Importer     | Exporter   | Shipment       | Customs Report |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>1976</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | France       | UK         | 616 kg shell   | 1000 kg        |
|                     | Japan        | UK         | 215 kg shell   | 209 kg d       |
|                     | F.R. Germany | India      | 50 kg shell    | 60 kg a        |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | USA          | Costa Rica | 200 kg shell   | 0              |
| <u>1978</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | Australia    | Seychelles | 126 kg shell   | 177 kg b       |
|                     | Japan        | Seychelles | 1268 kg shell  | 1066 kg d      |
| <u>1979</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | F.R. Germany | USA c      | 1101 shells    | 0 d            |
|                     | UK           | USA c      | 2000 lb shell  | 0 d            |
| <u>1980</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is  | 8806 lb shell  | 0 d            |
|                     | Haiti        | Cayman Is  | 18490 lb shell | -              |
|                     | Japan        | Cayman Is  | 4500 lb shell  | 535 kg d       |
| <u>1981</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is  | 8383 shells    | 0 d            |
| <u>1982</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | Italy        | Indonesia  | 850 shells     | 850 kg         |
| <u>1983</u>         |              |            |                |                |
| <u>E. imbricata</u> | Japan        | Indonesia  | 750 shells     | 3605 kg d      |
| <u>C. mydas</u>     | Japan        | Indonesia  | 350 shells     | 0 d            |
|                     | Italy        | Indonesia  | 500 kg shell   | -              |
|                     | F.R. Germany | Cayman Is  | 450 lb scales  | -              |
|                     | Japan        | Cayman Is  | 122 lb shell   | 84 kg d        |

a = April 1976-March 1977

b = 1977-1978

c = Country of origin reported as Cayman Is

d = Reported by importer

## \* Eggshell Raids in Australia

The Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service (ANPWS), in recent months, has seized eight collections of native bird eggs in New South Wales (NSW), containing a total of 33 000 eggshells, reports The Sydney Morning Herald, (11.4.85).

These seizures are the result of a two-year investigation into major illegal theft of birds' eggs, many from species of protected and endangered birds. The ANPWS first offered a six-month moratorium to collectors, during which they could surrender their eggs. When this ended in March, and no-one had come forward, the Service raided the homes of known eggshell collectors. The large collections were housed in elaborate glass-topped cabinets with the marked egg specimens resting on cotton wool. One collector had 8000 eggshells. The eggs are blown using drills and suction syringes to avoid damaging the shells.

According to the new Director of ANPWS (NSW), shells from overseas birds were also found in the collections, which may indicate an exchange trade; and live eggs were also being smuggled out of Australia. Mr Whitehouse fears that the future of several native endangered birds could be in the balance due to the continuous theft of eggs from nests. "The terrifying thing is that some of these collections contain over 500 different species of protected and endangered birds."

There are forty known illegal large collections throughout Australia and up to thirteen in New South Wales. The collectors face possible maximum fines of AU\$10 000 (US\$6250) or five years' jail, or both, for possessing eggs of endangered fauna.

## Threatened Flowers Sold

A South African farmer has been fined R300 (\$US c.300) and sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment for taking flowers of threatened *Protea* species. According to *African Wildlife* (38, 4), between 1980 and 1981 he sold a total of 25 894 flowers of *Protea holosericea* to two companies, Kapflor and Honingklip Dryflower Exporters, for export.

This species was rediscovered only in 1965 after an absence of records since 1801, and is confined to two separate populations totalling about 1500 plants in mountains in the south-west Cape.

## Orchid Extinct in the Wild?

The Golden Slipper Orchid (*Paphiopedilum armeniacum*), first described in 1982, may now be almost extinct in the wild. Within two years of its existence being made known to the scientific world, enormous numbers have been collected from its only known location in south Yunnan, China. Phillip Cribb, Curator of the Orchid Herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, in *The Garden* (109, 9) reports that he saw 200 specimens in nurseries and collections in California. The California plants are no doubt only a proportion of those collected from the wild; specimens are also on sale in Taiwan, where the plants now in the USA came from, Japan and the UK where they are offered at £150 each.

The Golden Slipper Orchid is closely related to *P. delenatii*, which is now known only in cultivation, all specimens having been derived from one plant collected from Viet Nam in 1924. It has not been seen in the wild since and it may be already too late to save the wild population.

Source: *Oryx* Volume XIX, April 1985

## Without Comment

Under the newly adopted criteria for downlisting certain species from Appendix I to II of CITES, if particular conditions are met (Conf. 5.21), the Nile Crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) populations of nine African countries were downlisted, with quotas (see p. 27). One of the conditions adopted in the new Resolution was that it should apply only to populations in those countries which have met and continue to meet the annual-reporting requirements under Article VIII of the Convention. In the case of the Nile Crocodile, however, the countries concerned have submitted the following annual reports:

| Country    | Party since | Reports submitted |
|------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Cameroon   | 3.9.81      | 1981-1983         |
| Congo      | 1.5.83      | 1983              |
| Kenya      | 13.3.79     | none              |
| Madagascar | 18.11.75    | 1976-1983         |
| Malawi     | 6.5.82      | none              |
| Mozambique | 23.6.81     | 1983              |
| Sudan      | 24.1.83     | none              |
| Tanzania   | 27.2.80     | 1982-1983         |
| Zambia     | 22.1.81     | 1983-1984         |

\* \* \* \* \*

## Bulletin Subscription

*Traffic Bulletin* is sent free to WTMU consultants, government agencies, conservation organisations and other institutions in a position to further the conservation of threatened species. Donations to defray costs will continue to be welcomed. To commercial enterprises and private individuals, the *Bulletin* subscription is US\$14.00 (£7.00 in UK) per volume. (For orders of more than one copy, a reduced rate is available).

### SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANISATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose cheque/bank draft/international money order for US\$14.00 (£7.00 in UK) per volume, payable to the IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL, UK.