

Convention to Control the Rare Animal Trade

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora which, as briefly mentioned on page 4 of the *May Oryx*, was signed by 26 of the 88 nations represented at the Washington Conference in February (36 have now signed), is at once a great achievement for the wildlife lobby and, temporarily, a great peril for endangered wildlife.

The achievement is obvious. It brings success to ten years of effort by IUCN, FPS, WWF and many other bodies since the proposal to control trade in endangered species was made at IUCN's Nairobi General Assembly in 1963. The peril is less obvious, but is underlined both by the skin smuggling scandal in the US, reported on page 7 of the *May Oryx*, and by the more recent disgraceful involvement in similar traffic of Swiss furriers who were supposedly co-operating in the IUCN/ITTF voluntary ban on the furs of certain endangered species. In Germany the principal offenders are not even members of the German Fur Trade Federation. The peril, in short, is that the traders in endangered species, especially the spotted cats of the fur trade, the monkeys and birds of the pet trade, and turtles and crocodiles for the frivolous end of the leather trade, will make hay while the sun shines and redouble their efforts to harvest—and exterminate—the rare species before it becomes not only illegal but impossible to do so.

The great urgency therefore is to get the convention ratified, because it does not come into operation until at least ten countries have ratified it. The United States, which master-minded the Conference, may be expected to take the lead here*, and it is up to British conservationists to make sure that their country does not lag behind. The British have a reputation of not ratifying any international convention until they are quite sure of being able to enforce it. This admirable sentiment, however, gives untold opportunity for delay. Already, one is told, the Government machine is actively investigating the changes in the law that will be necessary if Britain is to sign. Unless the pressure is kept up, the need for fresh legislation will be used as an excuse for delaying ratification beyond 1974, which is the very latest date we ought to be prepared to accept. Pressure on the Parliamentary timetable is a well



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known excuse, but perhaps the Government political managers might reflect that an Act to strengthen the present machinery for controlling rare animal imports would be a very popular achievement with the electorate on the eve of a General Election.

The Convention is a long and complex document. It was given in full as a Supplement to the March 1973 issue of the *IUCN Bulletin*; the following is a brief outline of its major provisions.

The Appendices

The core of the Convention is that signatories shall not allow trade in species threatened with extinction except as allowed by the Convention. Threatened species are grouped in three Appendices. Appendix I contains animals and plants in actual danger of extinction. Trade in these may only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, and on condition that their export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species, that they were obtained legally, and shipped under conditions that minimise the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. Appendix II contains species which may become in danger of extinction if trade in them is not controlled, and species whose trade must be controlled in order to safeguard Appendix I species. Appendix III contains any species identified by a signatory as needing trade control to prevent or restrict exploitation, e.g. the mute swan, which is a very rare bird in Mongolia, is likely to be added to Appendix III by Mongolia in order to safeguard this endangered small population.

The full list of mammals, reptiles and amphibians in Appendix I follows. There are also a large number of birds and plants, a small number of fish and a handful of invertebrates, including the apollo butterfly *Parnassia apollo* of the Alps, in Appendix II.

An important new precedent was set by the inclusion in the Convention of 'introductions from the sea', to cover all oceanic animals that hitherto have been treated as common property. Now when they are imported into a signatory country they will come within the Convention. This will enable whales, for instance, to be protected for the first time as rare species rather than as a stock to be exploited by the whaling industry, and the blue whale and several other species are included in Appendix I.

The Secretariat allowed for in the Convention will be provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), now about to occupy its new offices in Nairobi. It is to be hoped that UNEP will make use of the specialised knowledge of IUCN in carrying out this function. Switzerland has agreed to act as the Depositary Government (perhaps it will also control the activities of its furriers?). The countries which signed the Convention on March 3 were: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, France, West Germany, Guatemala, Iran, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Niger, Panama, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, UK, USA, Venezuela and South Vietnam. But signature is not enough; ratification is what counts.

R.F.

* As we go to press we learn that the US is on the point of ratifying the Convention.

MARSUPIALIA

Macropodidae

Phalangeridae

Burramyidae

Vombatidae

Peramelidae

Dasyuridae

Thylacinidae

PRIMATES

Lemuridae

Indriidae

Daubentonidae

Callithricidae

Cebidae

Cercopithecidae

Hylobatidae

MAMMALIAParma wallaby *Macropus parma*Bridled nail-tail-wallaby *Onychogalea frenata*Nail-tail-wallaby *O. lunata*Western hare-wallaby *Lagorchestes hirsutus*Banded hare-wallaby *Lagostrophus fasciatus*Plain rat kangaroo *Caloprymnus campestris*Brush-tailed rat kangaroo *Bettongia penicillata*Lesueur's rat kangaroo *B. lesueur*Queensland rat kangaroo *B. tropica*Scaly-tailed possum *Wyulda squamicaudata*Mountain pigmy possum *Burrmys parvus*Hairy-nosed wombat *Lasiiorhinus gillespiei*Barred bandicoot *Perameles bougainvillei*Pig-footed bandicoot *Chaeropus ecaudatus*Rabbit bandicoots *Macrotis lagotis*, *M. leucura*Southern planigale *Planigale tenuirostris*Little planigale *P. subtilissima*Marsupial mice *Sminthopsis psammophila*, *S. longicaudata*Eastern jerboa-marsupial *Antechinomys laniger*Rusty numbat *Myrmecobius fasciatus rufus*Tasmanian tiger *Thylacinus cynocephalus*Lemurs *Lemur* spp., except *L. catta*Sportive and weasel lemurs *Lepilemur* spp.Gentle lemurs *Haplemur* spp.Dwarf lemurs *Allocebus* spp., *Cheirogaleus* spp.Mouse lemurs *Mirocebus* spp.Fork-marked mouse lemurs *Phaner* spp.Indri *Indri indri*Sifakas *Propithecus* spp.Avahi *Avahi laniger*Aye-aye *Daubentonia madagascariensis*Maned tamarins *Leontopithecus (Leontideus)* spp.Goeldi's Marmoset *Callimico goeldii*Oersted's squirrel monkey *Saimiri oerstedii*Black saki monkey *Chiropotes albinasus*Ukaris *Cacajao* spp.Mantled howler monkey *Alouatta palliata (villosa)*Geoffroy's spider monkeys *Ateles geoffroyi frontatus*, *A. g. panamensis*Woolly spider monkey *Brachyteles arachnoides*Mangabey *Cercocebus galeritus galeritus*Wanderoo *Macaca silenus*Tana river red colobus *Colobus badius rufomitratu*sZanzibar red colobus *C. b. kirkii*Langurs *Presbytis geei*, *P. pileatus*, *P. entellus*Proboscis monkey *Nasalis larvatus*Pagi island langur *Simias concolor*Douc langur *Pygathrix nemaus*Gibbons *Hylobates* spp.

Pongidae	Siamang <i>Symphalangus syndactylus</i> Orang-utan <i>Pongo pygmaeus</i> Gorilla <i>Gorilla gorilla</i>
EDENTATA Dasypodidae	Giant armadillo <i>Priodontes giganteus-</i> (<i>maximus</i>)
PHOLIDOTA Manidae	Pangolin <i>Manis temmincki</i>
LAGOMORPHA Leporidae	Volcano rabbit <i>Romerolagus diazi</i> Bristly rabbit or Hispid hare <i>Caprolagus hispidus</i>
RODENTIA Sciuridae Castoridae Muridae	Mexican prairie dog <i>Cynomys mexicanus</i> N. European beaver <i>Castor fiber birulaia</i> N. American beaver <i>C. canadensis mexicanus</i> Thick tailed rat <i>Zyromys pedunculatus</i> Australian stick-nest rat <i>Leporillus conditor</i> Australian false mice <i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i> , <i>P. praeconis</i> , <i>P. shortridgei</i> , <i>P. fumeus</i> , <i>P.</i> <i>occidentalis</i> , <i>P. fieldi</i> Australian kangaroo mouse <i>Notomys aquilo</i> False water rat <i>Xeromys myoides</i>
Chinchillidae	Bolivian chinchilla <i>Chinchilla brevicaudata</i> <i>boliviana</i>
CETACEA Platanistidae Eschrichtidae Balaenopteridae Balaenidae	Ganges dolphin <i>Platanista gangetica</i> Grey whale <i>Eschrichtius robustus (glaucus)</i> Blue whale <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> Humpback whale <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> Bowhead whale <i>Balaena mysticetus</i> Right whales <i>Eubalaena</i> spp.
CARNIVORA Canidae Viverridae Ursidae Mustelidae	Mexican wolf <i>Canis lupus monstrabilis</i> Northern kit fox <i>Vulpes velox hebes</i> Spotted linsang <i>Prionodon pardicolor</i> American black bear <i>Ursus americanus emmonsii</i> Italian brown bear <i>U. arctos arctos</i> Grizzly bear <i>U. a. nelsoni</i> , <i>U. a. pruinosus</i> Blackfooted ferret <i>Mustela nigripes</i> Long-tail otter <i>Lutra longicaudis (platensis/</i> <i>annectens)</i> Marine otter <i>L. telina</i> Southern river otter <i>L. provocax</i>

- Hyaenidae
 Felidae
- Giant otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*
 African clawless otter *Aonyx microdon*
 Southern sea otter *Enhydra lutris nereis*
 Brown hyena *Hyaena brunnea*
 Flat-headed cat *Felis planiceps*
 African black-footed cat *F. nigripes*
 Pumas *F. concolor coryi*, *F. c. costaricensis*,
F. c. cougar
 Golden cat *F. temmincki*
 Leopard cat *F. bengalensis bengalensis*
 Jaguarundis *F. yagouaroundi cacomilli*, *F. y.*
fossata, *F. y. panamensis*, *F. y. tolteca*
 Ocelots *F. pardalis mearnsi*, *F. p. mitis*
 Margay cats *F. wiedii nicaraguae*, *F. w. salvinia*
 Little spotted cat *F. tigrina oncilla*
 Marbled cat *F. marmorata*
 Andean cat *F. jacobita*
 Bobcat *F. (lynx) rufa escuinapae*
 Clouded leopard *Neofelis nebulosa*
 Tiger *Panthera tigris*
 Leopard *P. pardus*
 Snow leopard *P. uncia*
 Jaguar *P. onca*
 Cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus*
- PINNIPEDIA
 Phocidae
- Monk seals *Monachus* spp.
 Northern elephant seal *Mirounga angustirostris*
- PROBOSCIDEA
 Elephantidae
- Indian elephant *Elephas maximus*
- SIRENIA
 Dugongidae
 Trichechidae
- Dugong *Dugong dugon*
 West Indian (Florida) manatee *Trichechus*
manatus
 Amazonian manatee *T. inunguis*
- PERISSODACTYLA
 Equidae
- Mongolian wild horse *Equus przewalskii*
 Kulan *E. hemionus hemionus*
 Khar *E. h. khur*
 Mountain zebra *E. zebra zebra*
 Mountain tapir *Tapirus pinchaque*
 Central American tapir *T. bairdii*
 Malayan tapir *T. indicus*
- Tapiridae
- Rhinocerotidae
- Great Indian rhinoceros *Rhinoceros unicornis*
 Javan rhinoceros *R. sondaicus*
 Sumatran rhinoceros *Didermocerus sumatrensis*
 Northern square-lipped rhinoceros *Ceratotherium*
simum cottoni

ARTIODACTYLA

- Suidae Pygmy hog *Sus salvanius*
 Babirusa *Babirusa babyrussa*
- Camelidae Vicuña *Vicugna vicugna*
 Bactrian camel *Camelus bactrianus*
- Cervidae Musk deer *Moschus moschiferus moschiferus*
 Deer *Axis porcinus annamiticus*, *A. calamianensis*, *A. kuhli*
 Barasingha or Swamp deer *Cervus duvauceli*
 Eld's deer *C. eldi*
 Hangul or Kashmir stag *C. elaphus hanglu*
 Andean deer *Hippocamelus bisulcus*, *H. antisianensis*
 Swamp deer *Blastoceros dichotomus*
 Pampas deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus*
- Antilocapridae Pudu *Pudu pudu*
 Pronghorns *Antilocapra americana sonoriensis*,
A. a. peninsularis
- Bovidae Tamaraw *Bubalus mindorensis*
 Anoa *B. depressicornis*
 Mountain anoa *B. quarlesi*
 Seladang (Gaur) *Bos gaurus*
 Wild yak *B. (grunniens) mutus*
 Kouprey *Novibos (Bos) sauveli*
 Wood bison *Bison bison athabascae*
 Lechwe *Kobus leche*
 Sable antelope *Hippotragus niger variani*
 Arabian oryx *Oryx leucoryx*
 Bontebok *Damaliscus dorcas dorcas*
 Mongolian saiga antelope *Saiga tatarica mongolica*
 Goral *Nemorhaedus goral*
 Serow *Capricornis sumatraensis*
 Chamois *Rupicapra rupicapra ornata*
 Markhors *Capra falconeri jerdoni*, *C. f. megaceros*, *C. f. chiltanensis*
 Cyprus mouflon *Ovis orientalis ophion*
 Marco Polo sheep *O. ammon hodgsoni*
 Urial *O. vignei*

AMPHIBIA

URODELA

- Cryptobranchidae Japanese giant salamander *Andrias davidianus japonicus*
 Chinese giant salamander *A. d. davidianus*

SALIENTIA

- Bufo nidae Cameroon toad *Bufo superciliaris*
 Monte Verde toad *B. periglenes*
 Viviparous toads *Nectophrynoides* spp.
- Atelopodidae Golden frog *Atelopus varius zeteki*

REPTILIA

CROCODYLIA

Alligatoridae

Alligators *Alligator mississippiensis*, *A. sinensis*
 Black caiman *Melanosuchus niger*
 Apaporis river caiman *Caiman crocodilus*
apaporiensis

Crocodylidae

Broad-snouted caiman *C. latirostris*
 Tomistoma *Tomistoma schlegelii*
 Dwarf crocodiles *Osteolaemus tetraspis tetraspis*,
O. t. osborni
 African slender-snouted crocodile *Crocodylus*
cataphractus
 Siamese crocodile *C. siamensis*
 Muger crocodiles *C. palustris palustris*, *C. p.*
kimbula
 Philippine crocodile *C. novaeguineae mindorensis*
 Orinoco crocodile *C. intermedius*
 Cuban crocodile *C. rhombifer*
 Morelet's crocodile *C. moreletii*
 Nile crocodile *C. niloticus*
 Gavial *Gavialis gangeticus*

Gavialidae

TESTUDINATA

Emydidae

Asian river terrapin *Batagur baska*
 Hamilton's terrapin *Geoclemmys hamiltonii*
 Bengal three-keeled terrapin *Geoemyda*
tricarinata

Testudindae

Roof terrapin *Kachuga tecta tecta*
 Bergal eyed terrapin *Morenia ocellata*
 Water box tortoise *Terrapene coahuila*
 Galapagos tortoise *Geochelone elephantopus*
 Geometric tortoise *G. geometrica*
 Madagascar radiated tortoise *G. radiata*

Cheloniidae

Madagascar tortoise *G. yniphora*
 Hawksbill turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata imbricata*
 Atlantic ridley turtle *Lepidochelys kempi*

Trionychidae

Spotted soft-shell terrapin *Lissemys punctata*
punctata
 Coahuilan soft-shell terrapin *Trionyx ater*
 Sacred soft-shell terrapin *T. nigricans*
 Ganges soft-shell terrapin *T. gangeticus*
 Brown soft-shell terrapin *T. hurum*
 Short-necked terrapin *Pseudemydura umbrina*

Chelidae

LACERTILIA

Varanidae

Komodo monitor *Varanus komodoensis*
 Yellow monitor *V. flavescens*
 Indian monitor *V. bengalensis*
 Grey monitor *V. griseus*

SERPENTES

Boidae

Puerto Rican boa *Epicrates inornatus inornatus*
 Jamaica boa *E. subflavus*
 Indian rock python *Python molurus molurus*

RHYNCHOCEPHALIA

Sphenodontidae

Tuatara *Sphenodon punctatus*