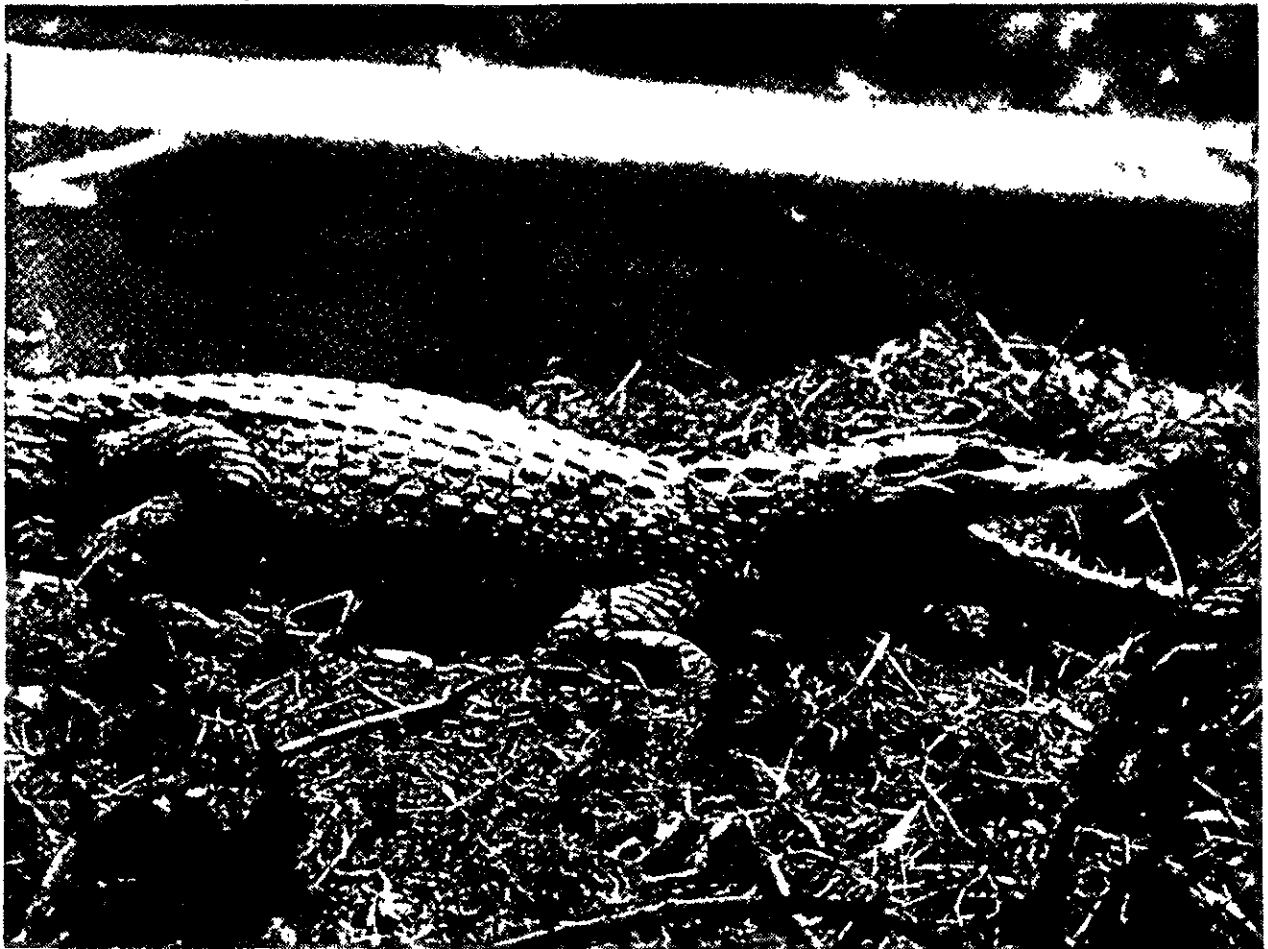


# CROCODILE SPECIALIST GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 11 No. 1 ■ JANUARY 1992 - MARCH 1992



IUCN World Conservation Union ■ Species Survival Commission

# CROCODILE SPECIALIST GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 11 Number 1  
JANUARY 1992 - MARCH 1992

IUCN--The World Conservation Union  
Species Survival Commission

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COVER PHOTO: Adult *Crocodylus mindorensis* in the breeding pens at CFI, Palawan, Philippines, see page 19. W. King photo.

## PATRONS

The following Patrons of the CSG have contributed more than U.S. \$500.00 during the past 12 months. The funds donated have been deposited with University of Florida Foundation, Inc., and are used to support the CSG program:

Mainland Holdings Ltd., Lae, Papua New Guinea.

Philippe Roggwiler, Tanneries des Cuirs d'Indochine et de Madagascar, Paris, France.

Crocodile Farmers Association of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

American Alligator Farmers Association, Plant City, FL, U.S.A.

Yoichi Takehara, Horiuchi Trading Co., Tokyo, Japan.

Ken Ogiso, Stock Kojima, Tokyo, Japan.

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Molino Ltda., Bogotá, Colombia.  
Jonathan Politano, Miami Beach, FL, U.S.A.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

The Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES took place in Kyoto Japan 2-13 March 1992 and numerous important decisions were made that will directly affect many CSG members. Researchers, management authorities, farmers and traders will all need to be aware of the new regulations. To make this vital information available to CSG members this issue of the NEWSLETTER is devoted completely to reporting the CITES meeting. Materials submitted on other topics, and the 1991 literature review, will appear in a later issue.

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### CROCODILE SPECIALIST GROUP STEERING COMMITTEE, MINUTES, 29 FEBRUARY 1992, KYOTO, JAPAN

Present: H. Messel (Chairman), G. Hemley, J. Hutton, N. Ishii, R. Luxmoore, P. Ross, G. Webb, CITES Observers: J. Berney, O. Menghi. Observers: Y. Takahara, Y. Kaneko, T. Inoue, S.

Sano, T. Tanabe, Y. Kobuchi, H. Tokonaga, Giam C.H., Koh C.T., Leong H.K., Koh C.H., Kwan M.W., Kwan K.W., A. Bari, T. Saleh, W. Ramono, Y. Raharjo, S. Pakoewibowo, M. Yoshinaga, J. Cox, S. Nash, C. Youngprapakorn, N. Youngprapakorn, P. Ratanakorn, S. Kokonutakorn, A. Gaski, H. Kelly, C. Bishop, J. Jackson, D. Morgan, H. Jenkins.

H. Messel opened the meeting at 9.03. A progress report on response to subscriptions for the Newsletter was presented by the Executive Officer. Of 657 invitations sent out with the Newsletter in late January, 17 responses were received. Of these, 7 sent the \$40 Newsletter donation, two sent \$40 and an additional \$500, and 8 requested continued Newsletter subscription without making a donation. Total revenue to date was \$1,390 which would pay for production of one newsletter. [Results as of 15 April are 67 returns, 54% making donations and \$3,300 donated. -- Eds]

A financial report for calendar year 1991 was presented by the executive officer. After beginning the year with \$11,765.68, revenues of \$71,469.44 and expenses of \$63,376.52 were reported, leaving a balance of \$19,858.60 at year end. Expenses and revenues were quite close to budget estimates and the small excess of revenues gave the CSG operating funds to carry into 1992. An expense item of \$1,600 for "Bank fees" was explained as charges levied by the University of Florida Foundation where we deposit our funds. The advantages received from the Foundation were accounting and banking services and tax exempt status in the US and these charges could be offset against interest earned on our account. Unfortunately, poor performance of the Foundation's investment account last year resulted in low interest earnings but this could be reversed if economic conditions generally improve. Alternative banking support services were also being investigated. Jon Hutton asked if the capital assets of the CSG such as computers shouldn't be reported and depreciated as per normal business practice and the executive officer agreed to do so in future.

A planning budget for 1992 was presented incorporating changes made by the Steering Committee last November. The planning budget anticipates expenses totaling \$68,498 to be met by estimated revenues of \$68,500. Expenditures for the first two months of 1992 exceeded

**Crocodile Specialist Group  
Annual Financial Report, Jan - Dec 1991**

Actual revenues and expenses as of 15 February 1992

	Projected 1991	Actual 1991
<b>Revenues</b>		
Donations	\$50,000	\$55,307.00
Interest	2,000	536.06
Sales	3,000	3,575.51
Misc.,	5,000	6,253.00
Fees for Services	5,000	5,797.87
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$71,469.44</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries Staff		28,275.00
Benefits		7,928.48
Consultants & casual		1,100.00
<b>Office</b>		
Phone & Fax		1,950.00
Mail		5,415.93
Supplies		1,392.20
Misc.		185.80
<b>Equipment</b>		
Capital (\$500+)		0.00
Disposable		141.68
Repair		0.00
<b>Publications</b>		
Photo developing, film		169.05
Printing and Copying		5,578.82
<b>Travel</b>		
Airfares		5,125.00
Other travel expenses		104.56
Accomms & Meals		4,379.07
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Bank fees, charges		1,630.93
<b>Total Expenses 1991</b>		<b>\$63,376.52</b>

**Summary**

Balance at 1 Jan 1991	\$11,765.68
Total Revenues 1991	\$71,469.44
Total expenses 1991	\$63,376.52
Balance at 31 Dec 1991	\$19,858.60

[Totals adjusted to end of year 1991. Small discrepancies appear between this report and preceding quarterly reports due to changed (and improved) allocation of expenses to various categories.]

**Crocodile Specialist Group  
BUDGET 1992**

Projected revenues and expenses in \$ US, 1 Jan 1992 - 30 Dec 1992. Revised November 1991, Jan 1992.

<b>Revenues Estimated</b>	
Current donors	\$55,000
Interest	1,000
Sales	3,000
Newsletter subscriptions	4,500
Fees for Services	5,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$68,500</b>
<b>Expenses.</b>	
Salaries Staff	30,000
Benefits	10,648
Consultants and Casual	250
<b>Office</b>	
Phone and Fax	2,000
Mail	5,500
Supplies	1,500
<b>Equipment</b>	
Capital	3,000
Disposable	200
Repair	500
<b>Publications</b>	
Newsletter (4 issues)	5,500
<b>Travel</b>	
Airfares	3,800
Other transportation	800
Accomms & Meals	3,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Bank fees, charges	1,800
<b>Total General Operations</b>	<b>\$68,498</b>

\$20,000 including expenses of the Kyoto trip, a laptop computer and the last Newsletter, and the current CSG balance was only \$6,494.97. The chairman emphasized yet again his gratitude to patrons who support the CSG and reiterated the need for continued fundraising. It was agreed to publish the financial reports in the Newsletter. The chairman and Steering Committee endorsed a statement by Jon Hutton congratulating the executive officer for his extremely clear reporting

of the group's financial affairs.

The chairman reported that the Crocodile Action plan was supposed to have been printed and copies brought to Kyoto but had not yet been received from the IUCN delegation. IUCN had agreed to mail copies of the action plan directly to all CSG members and additional copies would be available for the Steering Committee and Gainesville office. (Copies of the action plan were received the next day.)

Zimbabwe meeting. Response to the call for papers for the meeting were slow, and in particular very few abstracts had been received from the African region, which was surprising. However, it was expected that late submissions would be forthcoming and a full program was confidently expected. Jon Hutton reported on organizational progress which was well advanced. Over 300 advanced registrations were received but confirmed registrations with hotel reservations were also rather slow in coming back to the organizing office in Zimbabwe. Jon presented a very handsome meeting letterhead developed for the meeting and the first issue of a Delegate Newsletter that would be distributed to keep delegates informed of meeting plans. The great urgency of finalizing travel and hotel reservations before the Zimbabwe tourist rush closed out all seats and rooms was stressed. Jon reported that the meeting registration fee of \$100 dollars was insufficient to cover all the expenses but if additional fees of \$25 for Proceedings and \$25 for the cocktail party and the barbecue could be charged then his budget would balance. It was agreed that the charge of \$150 was reasonable and provided some flexibility for contingencies. A full schedule of events was presented including social events and field trips. This will be circulated in the Newsletter.

Mr. Howard Kelly of the Crocodile Farmers Association of South Africa repeated CFAS invitation to delegates to visit South Africa after the Zimbabwe meeting and described arrangements that his group had planned. He asked for assistance in scheduling this visit to coordinate with the Zimbabwe schedule and Mr. Kelly, Jon Hutton and Perran Ross were instructed to work out a compatible schedule which Mr. Kelly could advertise to delegates and could appear in the CSG Newsletter.

**Philippines report.** Professor Messel presented a written report on the workshop at the Palawan Crocodile Farming Institute held

just three days previously. The chairman expressed his conviction that CFI had among the best crocodile research facilities in the world for captive breeding crocodiles and described it as an excellent establishment with enormous potential for good work. Extracts from this report are presented on page 19 below.

Mr. Y. Takehara responded on behalf of Japanese Leather Association and JICA thanking Prof. Messel and the other workshop members for their effort. He outlined the organizational structure of CFI which is advised and supported by Mr. Saiko Akira and Mr. Takehara in their capacities with both the JLIA CITES promotional committee and as advisors directly to JICA. He expressed great satisfaction that after some time of poorly informed negative criticism of the project the CSG had come forward with the first reliable assessment that had led to an affirmation of the good work being done at CFI. He requested that this good report be well publicized during the CITES meeting so that the well deserved credit for the operation could be widely recognized. He stated that such positive image building would help JLIA in its progress toward developing similar projects elsewhere in the world.

Hank Jenkins drew the attention of the meeting to two proposals before the current CITES meeting containing language suggesting that captive breeding and closed cycle farming had no conservation benefits. Given the obvious benefits revealed in the Philippines project it was agreed that this language was too restrictive and CSG needed to intervene during the proposal drafting sessions to change the wording to a more favorable form.

**Chinese alligator farms.** Prof. Messel described the very rapid response to the Steering Committee's concerns on the Chinese alligator farming proposal made possible by the concerted efforts of Dietrich Jelden and Brian Vernon of Mainland Holdings, PNG, who arranged funding, Professor Wang Sung of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, who facilitated permits, and the field team of Grahamme Webb and Brian Vernon. He noted the very rapid production of their detailed report which is summarized on page 17.

After discussion of the report, the meeting agreed that the CSG should recommend that the CITES Secretariat approve the certification of the Chinese alligator farms. The recommended proposal for a special marketing program

emphasizing the conservation benefits of the program required more careful development but would be pursued by CSG. The chairman took the opportunity to express his conviction that the present time and opportunity of the CITES meeting was a strategic opportunity to become proactive on the issue of opposition to sustainable use by some organizations. He questioned the motivation of groups who made big publicity events out of opposing sustainable use of wildlife when such use was demonstrably well designed and had conservation benefits. Such opposition constituted an anti-conservation action and often seemed to be motivated toward gaining money from a misinformed and credulous public. Issues such as the very favorable conservation benefits of the Chinese farming program should be used to refute and expose the anti-conservation stance of the anti sustainable use argument.

**Caiman Trade and Singapore.** Prof. Messel reviewed the recent events following Singapore's withdrawal of its reservation on *Caiman crocodilus*. Prof. Messel formally thanked the Singapore authorities, Dr. Giam and Mr. Koh for their efforts in bringing about this very positive development. He expressed his sincere appreciation for the steadfast manner that our colleagues in both Singapore and Japan have honored the undertakings they have given him concerning improvements in crocodylian trade. However, a remaining unresolved issue is the request of the Secretariat and of the South American parties that Singapore conduct an inventory of existing stocks in conjunction with the withdrawal of their resolution.

Dr. Giam Hoo Choo, head of the Singapore management authority thanked Prof. Messel and the CSG for their assistance and for the opportunity to attend the Steering Committee meeting. He noted that Singapore now has no remaining CITES reservations and expressed his hope that in response to Singapore's action, Paraguay and the South American co-sponsors would withdraw the draft resolution calling for trade bans in caiman products from Singapore. He stated that Singapore was ready to play a positive role in international conservation and would support CSG positions on captive breeding and sustainable use. He asked the CSG for assistance with advice on humane killing of crocodiles, which, while not a CITES issue, was of concern to Singapore. Dr. Giam noted that

Singapore had acted in a completely legal manner with respect to both CITES and Singapore law and was disappointed in false statements about illegal activities by Singapore. Jaques Berney of CITES Secretariat responded to Dr. Giam noting that Singapore's withdrawal of its reservation had met the bulk of the Paraguay resolution requirements but the continuing problem of inventory and disposal of existing stocks must be addressed. Such problems were complex but required resolution in order to allow Singapore to fully comply with the requirements for legal trade in the future. He noted the similarity to the problem of ivory stocks that had been satisfactorily resolved. Mr Y. Takehara, representing JLIA expressed concern from the Japanese perspective that stocks of skins originating from illegal sources might be traded in the future. The increased sensitivity of the Japanese public to endangered species trade issues was causing the industry to be very careful to avoid any appearance of improper trade.

In extensive discussion the complex nature of pre-reservation withdrawal stocks was examined. Such stocks are legal under Singapore law but as some stocks lack original export documents from their country of origin they cannot be re-exported. It was noted that such stocks would only be a problem if they were traded to another CITES party. Dr. Giam asked for assurance that CITES Secretariat did want an inventory and if it were conducted that the inventoried stocks could be made legal and enter trade. Jaques Berney responded that the legalization of stocks must be agreed to by the Conference of the parties, not unilaterally by the Secretariat. Dr. Giam expressed concern that such an inventory had never been required of another country but repeated Singapore's commitment to vigorously enforce CITES and have no illegal trade. The reluctance of the South American parties to withdraw their resolution without an inventory was noted. To resolve this issue Obdulio Menghi recommended that a meeting be held between Paraguay, Singapore, the Secretariat and the CSG to negotiate a solution to this issue and hopefully resolve it before it came to the floor of the convention and he undertook to convene this meeting. The following resolution was then approved: the Chairman and the Steering Committee of the CSG: Commends and congratulates Singapore on its withdrawal of its reservation on *Caiman crocodilus* and strongly

recommends to Singapore that, in its own interests and the interests of conservation, Singapore adheres to the request of the CITES Secretariat and parties to inventory existing stocks of caiman skins from all sources. (The Chairman later chaired a meeting referred to above and the matter was resolved in a satisfactory manner).

**Madagascar.** Jon Hutton briefed the meeting on the background to the Madagascar proposal and the serious internal problems experienced in Madagascar. A rough translation of responses from Madagascar to the questions asked by the CSG at its last meeting was presented. The remaining basic issue was that while the ranching program in Madagascar was developing effectively, the hunting of wild crocodiles remained a very difficult issue to control. This proposal provided an example of the undue complexity that had evolved in CITES with the application of multiple sometimes contradictory Conference resolutions to crocodile management. Jon Hutton and Hank Jenkins both proposed that the CSG should undertake a detailed analysis and possible overhaul of CITES in relation to crocodiles, and recommend an improved procedure to the next conference of the parties. They proposed to undertake such an analysis at a workshop at the CSG Zimbabwe meeting. With regard to the Madagascar proposal, after discussion it was resolved that the CSG should support the ranching proposal with the condition that the wild harvest should be restricted to the minimum number required for the resolution of nuisance crocodile problems. It was agreed that this and all the other recommendations on CITES proposals would be introduced by CSG delegates at the appropriate Committee and drafting sessions for consideration and adoption by the parties as well as communicated to the CITES Secretariat.

**Tanzania ranching proposal.** The Tanzanian proposal for ranching contains a request for a quota of 2000 wild skins that the CSG opposed. Information was received that Tanzania was likely to persist in this request despite the CSG's opposition and discussion was held on whether the CSG position should be modified. After discussion the Steering Committee decided not to modify its position and remain opposed to such a large wild quota.

**Somalia crocodile population on Appendix II.** Somalia is entitled to continue its Appendix II status and annual quota of 500 skins for the next period of the Convention and this can be done by default without submitting any proposal as long as no increase in quota is requested. Jon Hutton reported on the civil unrest and complete breakdown in communications with that country that completely prevent any surveys or management plan development. There seemed no reason to immediately return the Somalia crocodile population to Appendix I but a zero quota should be recommended.

**Sudan.** The CSG had previously opposed Sudan request for continued Appendix II status for *niloticus* and a one time special export quota to allow the clearing of stockpiled skins. Jon Hutton reported that he had examined the stockpile and it contained 11,120 skins of which 8,000 were of saleable quality. He had also heard of a previously unreported trade from Sudan to Egypt. Jaques Berney presented the Secretariat's view that a special quota would allow the regularization of this situation under the Convention. He requested the CSG support an export quota with a 90 day time limit and conditions restricted the transfer to Egypt with no subsequent re-export. After discussion the meeting recommended:

- i. That the Swiss (Depository Government) proposal to transfer the Sudan population of *C. niloticus* to Appendix I be accepted, but delayed 30 days (i.e. to take effect 120 days after the 8th C.O.P)
- ii. That the stockpile be disposed of within the 30 days immediately before the App. I listing takes place.
- iii. That the skins be sold to Egypt for domestic use and not be re-exported to the European or other market.
- iii. That funds from the sale be made available to TRAFFIC to conduct marketing studies in the north African region
- iv. That an independent observer verify the inventory and tag the skins before export.

**South African proposal.** Mr. Howard Kelly expressed the intention of South Africa to accept the CSG recommendation and devise a method to submit the South African proposal as a ranching proposal rather than under Conf. 2.23 as originally submitted. He explained that South

Africa suffered from being the only country trading in Nile crocodiles from Appendix I as farmed specimens. Jon Hutton offered to propose from the floor that the proposal be accepted by the parties as a ranching proposal under Conf 3.15 but the CITES observers expressed concern that circumventing the spirit of the farming resolutions was not acceptable to the Secretariat. An alternative was proposed that South Africa accept Appendix II status under a quota which could be achieved without violating the articles of the Convention. After discussion in which the CSG reaffirmed its strong opposition to accepting a proposal under Conf. 2.23 it agreed to recommend that South African populations be transferred to Appendix II with quota of 1000 farm raised skins per year.

**Indonesia.** Mr. Widodo Ramono responded to the chairmans invitation to present to the meeting the Indonesian response to the criteria defined by the CSG before it could consider support for their proposal. Mr. Widodo reported that the law addressing wildlife protection and trade had been revised and specific provisions relating to crocodiles had been approved. A task force to regulate crocodile management in Indonesia had been established and begun functioning, overdue reports to CITES had been completed and submitted and an inventory of farmed crocodiles and skins was largely complete. Procedures for the reporting of trade in crocodiles were begun but not complete and a detailed schedule was presented showing how this would be achieved. The schedule included regular reporting to CSG, CITES and TRAFFIC and concrete goals and deadlines by which progress with the plan could be checked.

Jaques Berney replied for the Secretariat that he was gratified by the apparent concrete progress. He stressed the importance of continuation of the Irian Jaya crocodile project as a component of the management plan and noted current initiatives for the World Bank to continue funding that project. He welcomed Indonesia's new commitment to action in crocodilian conservation but cautioned that the long history of previous failure to keep commitments would necessitate keeping continuous scrutiny on the project. Ginette Hemley of TRAFFIC USA also expressed encouragement over the positive results but also noted that the farm inventory was incomplete and some discrepancies remained. Hank Jenkins

supported the steady progress of Indonesia toward more effective crocodile management since the Lausanne CITES meeting and suggested that in the next phases of this development the developing Indonesian management plan should be coordinated with croc management in Papua New Guinea to ensure compatible management throughout Irian Jaya. Mr. Takehara stated that at the practical level the issue of correct export documents from Indonesia had become much more prompt, reflecting the greatly improved efficiency of the new management structure. Richard Luxmoore asked for an estimate of the size distribution of crocodiles in farms and Widodo answered that the great majority are less than 80 cm length. Notwithstanding these advances the data base for wild crocodile population assessment in Indonesia remains weak.

Professor Messel summarized by stating that for the first time he felt that Indonesia was taking crocodile management seriously and this progress must continue. He noted that CSG support of the Indonesian program was a continuing process that would not allow Indonesia to revert to ineffective management following CITES and noted that return of Indonesia's *porosus* populations to Appendix I could be quickly and easily accomplished. Despite the continuing cautious reservations about the Indonesian program, and some lingering uncertainty based on past problems, he expressed the willingness of the CSG to extend support for their program and their current CITES proposal on the basis that their activities would continue to be carefully scrutinized. He also emphasized that even with the support and recommendation of the CSG, the decision to approve Indonesia's proposal lay entirely with the parties to the convention. The widespread dissatisfaction with Indonesian action on other wildlife trade issues might affect the decision on crocodiles.

Ginette Hemley then rose to express dissatisfaction with this result and suggested that in view of the past history of problems in implementing promised activities, that the CSG should closely monitor the situation. Mr. Yono Raharjo pointed out that the schedule presented included commitments to submit reports at three monthly intervals. Jaques Berney requested that copies of export permits should be forwarded to the Secretariat to assist with the verification of authentic documents by importing countries.

After careful review of the submissions of the Indonesian management authority and farmers association in response to the CSG resolution of 11 November 1992, the CSG resolved that in view of the substantial progress achieved on the action items of the November 11 resolution, the CSG is prepared to support Indonesia's proposal for Appendix II listing with certain conditions. Should that proposal not be accepted, the CSG would support the extension of Appendix II status with a quota, feeling that at this time transfer of the Indonesian populations of *C. porosus* to Appendix I would not be beneficial to conservation of crocodiles in Indonesia or the development of sustainable management plans. The CSG further resolved that it will, with the cooperation of the Indonesian authorities and the farmers association, convene an annual, on site review committee of 3 CSG members chosen by the CSG chairman and with costs covered by the Indonesians, to monitor continued progress in crocodile management and the suppression of illegal trade of crocodilians from Indonesia. In clarification it was added that the review committee would function in the period up to the next C.O.P and could be revised at that time, and that the expenses involved would be travel and accommodation and food costs for the committee.

Mr. Ramono responded on behalf of Mr. Tazir Saleh, President of the Task Force, and the Indonesian representatives that he and the other members of the task force were grateful for the confidence of the CSG, accepted the obligations of the CSG resolution, and felt responsible for the continued development of effective crocodile management. He expressed their commitment to continue the current progress. They hoped that the crocodile program might become a model for effective wildlife management for other resources in Indonesia.

In response to the question of what recommendation the CSG should make should a quota approval be necessary, Prof. Messel asked Grahame Webb and Hank Jenkins to confer with the Indonesian representatives and forward a recommendation for an appropriate quota as a contingency position.

Prof. Messel then noted that of the seven species identified as the highest priority in the CSG Action Plan, five species were Asian. Of these, substantial progress had been made in initiating conservation on the gharial in India and Nepal, and in recent months progress was

initiated by the CSG on the Chinese alligator, the Philippine crocodile and the Siamese crocodile, however, the situation of *Tomistoma* remained completely unaddressed. This species was now becoming a very urgent priority. Recent reports indicated small populations were still present in Indonesia and he expressed his intention to call upon Indonesia in the near future to assist with the conservation of *Tomistoma*.

**Thailand.** The chairman summarized the background to the trade prohibition recommended by the CITES Standing Committee and referred to the CSG resolution of November 1991. Jaques Berney reported that this firm action had very good responses in Thailand both from the government and private groups. He noted that the ban will remain until the Standing Committee of CITES recommends a change. Prof. Messel then invited the Thai representatives to report on their response to the CSG resolution. Dr. Parntep Ratanakorn, president of the Crocodile Management Association of Thailand (CMAT) noted that his organization was established prior to the import ban not in response to it. The association's goals are to promote conservation, sound husbandry practice and improved communication among crocodile farmers and to advise and assist the Thai management authority, the Royal Forestry department (RFD). He reported that the trade ban was having serious consequences for the manufacturing and tanning industries in Thailand and a large proportion has closed. Samutprakan Farm, the largest farm and only operating exporter, was experiencing severe overcrowding of stock with associated increases in mortality due to their inability to dispose of stocks. In response to the CSG resolution he reported that CMAT had initiated the complete tagging with microchip transponders, of all skins in trade in Thailand starting January 1992. The tagging system is coordinated through registries with both CMAT and RFD providing a cross check mechanism for tracking stock. He reported that a completely new law concerning wildlife trade and protection had been passed by the parliament and only awaited the signature of the King for implementation. The law enables the implementation of CITES including a complete report from all farms on their stocks to RFD and controls of inventory and exports that should eliminate illegal trade in crocodile skins. CMAT was also developing proposals to conduct surveys