

CEEWEB CITES WG Meeting Budapest, September 28, 2006

Present at the meeting:

- Marton Kelemen, Milvus
- Andrzej Kepel, Salamandra
- Borys Kala, Salamandra
- Katka Klimova, BROZ
- Petra Djuric, Green Action
- Davorko Feil, Osijek Greens
- Jelena Scekic, Young Researchers of Serbia
- Martin Raspor, ORCA

Activities in 2006

1. "CEETES" Project – research on CITES implementation in 7 CEE Countries¹; the project is sponsored by IFAW

Deadline for posting reports on internet monitoring is October 20

Deadline for posting reports on retail commerce monitoring is November 10

Deadline for posting reports on baseline documentation is November 30

- After that, Milvus, Salamandra and Green Balkans will start preparation for completion of joint reports for each of the three topics
 - Then we will have a long WG meeting in January / February, when we will address:
 - preparation of the final report on the CEETES project
 - study of proposals and strategy development for CITES CoP14
2. Leaflet Campaign "Don't Buy Endangered Species!" – leaflets will be distributed in 8 CEE countries²; the campaign is sponsored by the Visegrad Fund
 - Leaflets have been produced in Poland under co-ordination of Salamandra
 - 9 types of leaflets have been produced (8 national versions + english version)
 - Borys will find out if it is possible to prepare the leaflet in pdf for the CEEWEB website and for the organisations' web pages
 - leaflets have already arrived from Poland to the V4 countries³ but there are several problems with sending them to the non-Visegrad countries

¹ 7 CEE Countries = 7 CEE countries in which CEEWEB CITES WG has active member organisations (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia and Croatia)

² 8 CEE Countries = 7 CEE Countries + Czech Republic

³ V4 Countries = Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary;
the "non-Visegrad countries" are Croatia, Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria

Work Programme for 2007

1. CITES CoP 14 related activities

- a. Completion of the CEETES Project Report. National reports will be completed and posted to the three co-ordinating organisations (Milvus, Salamandra and Green Balkans) respecting the agreed deadlines. During December 2006 these three organisations will unite all national reports and prepare framework for drafting joint reports. In January / February 2007 a long **WG meeting #1** (3-5 days) will be organized in order to draft the final joint report. (At this meeting we will also study the proposals for CITES CoP14 and develop a strategy for national lobbying processes prior to the CoP.)
- b. Printing and publication of the CEETES Project Report
- c. Lobbying national authorities "at home" and research on countries' positions regarding particular CoP proposals
- d. **WG Meeting #2** (March / April 2007): exchange of information on CEE countries' positions and developing a final strategy for lobbying processes at the CoP following the results of lobbying "at home"
- e. presence at CITES CoP14 (The Hague, Netherlands, June 3-15, 2006). The minimal acceptable version would be 5-6 people from the WG at the CoP but we should aim to reach some 12-15 people. That is important in order to give IFAW a strong lobbying support but also because CoP is an extraordinary chance to get experience on how the Convention works "from the inside". It is important that the Conference is being held in Europe, which will not happen again in the next 10-15 years, so that travelling is relatively simple and costs relatively low and this opportunity should be used. Costs: 2 000 EUR per person + travel costs*

* Notice: calculation was made for a 10-day meeting but according to the CITES homepage the Conference will last 13 days.

2. International campaign for raising public awareness on CITES:

- a. distribution of leaflets "Don't Buy Endangered Species!" in the 8 CEE Countries. We hope that by the beginning of 2007 leaflets will reach even the 4 non-Visegrad countries so that distribution of leaflets will cover all the 8 countries included in the project. Distribution is planned with regards to target groups: primarily tourists, through airports and tourist agencies.
- b. a Campaign Co-ordinator in each of the 7 CEE Countries (8 if Czech Republic joins the project) will be in charge to constantly prepare texts on CITES implementation and CITES species and push them through newspapers – max. costs EUR 3 000 per country for the whole project period
- c. a short documentary (~ 30 min) will be produced, translated into national languages and showed on TV networks (possibly broadcast) in all countries
- d. a travelling photo exhibition

The campaign would run in two stages, first before CoP14 and second immediately after CoP has finished.