

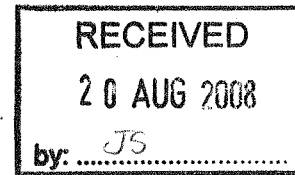


Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Exhibit No.6.2
TT 12 March 2008

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Department of House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your email of 15 August 2008 providing the proof transcript of the hearing of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties on 29 July 2008. As requested, I am providing corrections and comments to the transcript.

I would like to clarify two issues that I took on notice during the hearing. In my evidence I stated that it is normal practice for the Department to seek interest from relevant parties in being on delegations, and I was of the opinion that this was the case, in relation to Cairns Marine Aquarium Fish's inclusion in the delegation to CITES CoP14. I stated (page TR 57) that I would need to double-check if this was the case. I have checked the Department's records in regards to the CoP14 delegation, and have confirmed that letters requesting input into Australia's position were indeed sent to several industry and NGO bodies. As a result of this process the Department invited Cairns Marine Aquarium Fish to be part of the delegation.

In my evidence, I also stated that to my knowledge, *Pristis microdon* was the only CITES-listed Australian native species exported to zoos and aquaria. This is incorrect. I had overlooked that all parrot species are CITES-listed and there have been a number of exports of Australian native parrots to overseas zoos. All crocodile species are CITES-listed too, and there have been some exports of Australian native crocodiles. There may also be a few other examples but we would need to undertake an extensive database search, and I doubt whether the Committee needs an exhaustive list.

On page TR 57 of the transcript, it states that I said the CSIRO report talks about a survey that was undertaken in 2004. The survey was actually undertaken in 2002 and the report was published in 2004.

I am enclosing a copy of the transcript with my annotations.

Yours sincerely

Kerry Smith
Assistant Secretary
Wildlife Branch
19 August 2008



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