



## International Primate Protection League

Working to protect all primates since 1973.

### IPPL E-Bulletin

May 21, 2007

#### The Lorises Need Your Help!

Dear E-Friends,

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) will meet in The Hague June 3-15. There, international representatives from governments, wildlife trade organizations, and animal protection groups will meet to decide the fate of many species who rely on this treaty for protection from traffickers.

Cambodia has made a proposal to increase protection for three species of slow loris by upgrading them from CITES Appendix II to Appendix I (the listing providing most protection). This would mean that these primates could no longer be legally used in international commercial trade.

Most people have never heard of lorises. Because they are small and nocturnal, they are rarely seen. At night they use their large eyes to search for food, such as insects, in the forests of Southeast Asia.

Many organizations, including the Species Survival Network (to which IPPL belongs), are supporting the Cambodian proposal. IPPL is sponsoring loris pins that will be provided to CITES delegates and observers as part of the pro-loris publicity campaign.

A decision to oppose the proposal has come from a strange source: the wildlife trade monitoring group TRAFFIC, which is part of the World Wildlife Fund. We asked Stephen Broad, Executive Director of TRAFFIC, to "please identify the names of those involved in the decision-making process and provide IPPL with their e-mail addresses." However, he refused to respond.

IPPL knows that many experts in SE Asian primates, such as Dr. Ardith Eudey and Dr. Ulrike Streicher, were not consulted. Unfortunately, TRAFFIC shares the same position as many of the trade lobbies, such as the International Wildlife Management Consortium, which works to promote sport hunting, whaling, ivory trafficking, and other animal exploitative activities.

Such groups claim that lorises are not deserving of increased protection because the number of "official" trafficking cases reported to the CITES Secretariat has been small. Sadly, these quiet little animals would be very easy to smuggle, and IPPL has reported on several attempted incidents in [IPPL News](#). Surely we would wish to prevent such trafficking from escalating. Please help me to prevent further loris exploitation!

Sincerely,

Dr. Shirley McGreal, IPPL Founder/Executive Director



▲ A slow loris.

(photo courtesy Ulrike Streicher)

**Action Note:** Please ask your nation's CITES authorities to support Cambodia's proposal. Go to [http://www.cites.org/common/directy/e\\_directy.html](http://www.cites.org/common/directy/e_directy.html) and click on your country of residence.

US residents should contact [managementauthority@fws.gov](mailto:managementauthority@fws.gov) and [scientificauthority@fws.gov](mailto:scientificauthority@fws.gov)

UK residents should contact [cites.ukma@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cites.ukma@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and [hilary.thompson@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:hilary.thompson@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

#### International Primate Protection League

PO Box 766  
Summerville, SC 29484  
USA

Phone: 843-871-2280

Fax: 843-871-7988

E-mail: [info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)

Web: [www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)

To send us a question or comment, or to remove your name from our mailing list, please e-mail us at [info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org) or call us at 843-871-2280.