

CPTPP Workshop on Combating Illegal Trade of Wildlife Species: Illegal Trade of Turtles and Tortoises

MARCH 3-4, 2021

REPORT



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



MEDIO AMBIENTE
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OVERVIEW

On March 3-4, 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) virtually held the first edition of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership's (CPTPP) Workshop on Combating Illegal Trade of Wildlife Species, with a focus on the illegal trade of turtle and tortoises.



This capacity-building workshop directed to border control and law enforcement officers, members of the scientific and technology community, diplomats and international affairs experts from CPTPP member states sought to strengthen their capabilities for inspection, sampling and monitoring of cross-border movements of protected wildlife species, with the overarching goal of tackling the supply and demand of illicit wildlife trade.

The workshop was successful in securing the participation of over 180 representatives from Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru and Singapore (8 out of 11 CPTPP members). Experts from the Wildlife Conservation Society, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and the Autonomous University of Queretaro in Mexico, also participated.

The workshop featured seven sessions:

- It takes a Network to Defeat a Network;
- Current Status of the Legal and Illegal Trade of Turtles and Tortoises;
- Public Policy and Regulations: Developing Effective Policies for the Sustainable Use of Wildlife Species while Addressing Illegal Trade;
- Border and Law Enforcement: "The Importance and Applications of Digital Evidence in Wildlife Trafficking Investigations;
- Technology & Science: Science-Based Tools for the Identification of Illegal Trade;
- Case Studies: Detecting, Investigating and Notifying Illegal Trade of Turtles; and,
- Next Steps in the Fight Against Illegal Wildlife Trade.

The following actions items and timelines were proposed:

- Draft and share a workshop report - March 2021;
- Create an ongoing list of contacts of like-minded experts from the CPTPP - April 2021;
- Measure the effectiveness of this workshop over the medium and long term through specific indicators - May 2021;
- Create a notification system between the CPTPP members - June 2021; and,
- Organize a second edition of the workshop - spring 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WORKSHOP

- Mr. Agustí Bordas-i-Cusco, Manager of Pan-American Affairs at ECCC, moderated the workshop, provided introductions to the respective panelists and moderators of the sessions, and ensured to that the session was carried out within the allocated times.
- In their opening remarks, Canada, Mexico and Japan highlighted the importance of environmental cooperation under the CPTPP, and the overarching goals of Canada and Mexico in organizing the workshop. Opening remarks were provided by:
 - Ms. Iris Adriana Jiménez Castillo, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation, International Affairs Unit, SEMARNAT;
 - Mr. Toshio Torii, Director General, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan;
 - Ms. Lucie Desforges, Director General, Bilateral Affairs and Trade Directorate, ECCC; and,
 - Ms. Shauna Hemingway, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Canada in Mexico.
- Ms. Lucie Desforges and Mr. Iván Rico López, Head of the International Affairs Unit, at SEMARNAT, closed the workshop highlighting the need to emplace more sophisticated technologies to support the illegal traffic of wildlife as well as to support the conservation of habitats, providing opportunities for greater cooperation among the parties of the CPTPP. Both Canada and Mexico confirmed their commitment to continue to support the organization of future editions of this workshop.
- ZOOM proved to be a very effective platform for this event, including for simultaneous interpretation

DETAILED REPORT

Session 1: “It takes a Network to Defeat a Network”

This session featured Mr. Sheldon Jordan, Director General, Wildlife Enforcement, ECCC, who presented on the importance of networks in the fight against illegal wildlife trade.

Key Takeaways:

1. The CPTPP has wildlife trade provisions that allow for sanctions to be imposed on countries that fail to protect their wildlife, which was innovative at the time of the negotiations of the agreement.¹ These provisions have now also been included in the Canada-Mexico-United States Agreement and other agreements.
2. Globally, legal wildlife trade has increased by 500% since 2005. However, at the same time, illegal wildlife trade has also increased significantly. Wildlife crimes are estimated to be worth \$155 to \$225 billion annually.
3. Criminal, and law enforcement and regulatory networks both have similar attributes: common purpose, leadership, specialization of labour, geographic, agile, trust is earned, and weaknesses.
4. To be successful in their fight against environmental crimes, law enforcement networks need: engaged leadership, crosscutting commitment, initiative, openness, enthusiasm, judgement, funding and a purpose. In addition, for collaboration to be meaningful, there has to be development of trust and common purpose, as well as sharing of information and resources.

Session 2: “Current Status of the Legal and Illegal Trade of Turtles and Tortoises”

This session featured Adrián Reuter Cortés, Senior Adviser on Illegal Wildlife Trade for Latin America and the Caribbean, Wildlife Conservation Society, as moderator, and Dr. Anna Wong, Director for Wildlife Trade, National Parks Board, Singapore, Richard Kott, National Intelligence Manager, Wildlife Enforcement, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Jessica Maria Gálvez-Durand Besnard, Director, Directorate of Sustainable Management of Wild Fauna Heritage, National Forest and Wildlife Service, Peru, as panelists. They provided an overview of the current status of the legal and illegal trade of turtles and tortoises in the Trans-Pacific region.

Key Takeaways:

1. The use and trade of turtles and tortoises has been a common practice historically. Currently, there are 467 total species of living turtles and tortoises in the world, and 60% of these are considered endangered or critically endangered. Turtles and tortoise are mainly used for pets and consumption in the Trans-Pacific region.
2. Dr. Wong provided an overview of Singapore’s experience in the management of wildlife trade. Singapore, as a CITES party, has adopted a whole of government approach to ensure the implementation and enforcement of CITES. Singapore has been internationally recognized, (notably from the CITES Secretariat, the United Nations and INTERPOL) for such approach as it

¹ Article 20.17 on Conservation and Trade of the CPTPP.

holds a close network of national regulatory and law enforcement agencies, as well as regional and international law enforcement partners who are in close communication. Dr. Wong stressed that reptiles, notably turtles, continue to be a highly sought specie in Asia and continually prone to illegal trade. Singapore, in addition to supporting CITES compliance, has ventured into promotion of conservation and investigation efforts of turtles through national hatcheries.

3. Ms. Galvez presented on Peru's experience on the management of illegal and legal trade of wildlife. Peru as megadiverse country holds a total of 21 varieties of turtles and tortoises, 11 of which have been categorized as threatened and 11 are included in the CITES appendices. Peru closely surveys the legal trade of legal turtle species as these are highly sought in the black market. Therefore, in 2010 the Peruvian government launched a ten-year National Plan for the Conservation of Turtles to combat their illegal commercialization. Peru also launched a ten-year action plan to reduce illegal wildlife trade which has brought significant results such as an increased number of wildlife seizures and a binational repatriation protocol with Ecuador. Ms. Galvez concluded by highlighting some of the challenges faced by Peru, which include the proper identification of seized species and training to customs officials, rehabilitation of specimens that can be released, limited information about the origin and the genetics of the population, and to properly link wildlife trade to organized crime.
4. Mr. Kott discussed the Canadian experience in the legal and illegal trade of turtles, highlighting the priority species in Canada, its consumers and the level of involvement of enforcement agencies to curb the traffic of traffic. Canada's primary concern are four species of turtles which are native to the country (i.e. spotted turtle, blanding's turtle, wood turtle and eastern box turtle), as these enjoy complete protection. Canada identifies that the primary consumers of turtles and tortoises are for commercial pet trade, largely supplied by domestic breeders or illegal imports. Canada has joined efforts led by the Commission of Environment Cooperation to support an Action Plan for North America Sustainable [and traceable] Trade in Turtles and Tortoises, calling for a review of ranks and import procedures. The trade of turtles whether legal or illegal is responsibility of both the provincial and federal governments, which continually collaborate for its proper management.

Session 3: "Public Policy and Regulations: Developing Effective Policies for the Sustainable Use of Wildlife Species while Addressing Illegal Trade"

This session featured Hesiquio Benítez, Hesiquio Benitez, Director General for International Cooperation and Implementation of the Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico (CONABIO), as moderator, and Víctor Campuzano, Deputy Director of Health, Direction General of Wildlife, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico, Paola Mosig Reidl, Coordinator of Mexico's CITES Scientific Authority, CONABIO, and Rodrigo Peña, Legal Counsel, Specialized Unit for Money Laundering, Economic and Environmental Crimes and Organized Crime, Attorney General's Office, Public Ministry of Chile, as panelists. They presented on policy-making efforts to address both the demand and supply of protected species of turtles and tortoises.

Key Takeaways:

1. Dr. Campuzano's presentation discussed the role of Wildlife Conservation Management Units (UMAs) and Premises or facilities which manage wildlife in a confined manner, outside the wildlife's natural habitat (PIMVs) for the conservation and commercialization of turtles in Mexico. The UMAs are registered facilities which operate following a set of pre-approved parameters inspected by the State. These not only ensure the proper monitoring of wildlife but also support

the management of the habitat in which species live. PIMVs are breeding grounds or nurseries whose purpose is to ensure a safe and controlled reproduction of species for commercial use. Mr. Campuzano highlighted that these facilities provide an opportunity to ensure sustainable use and commercialization species to limit illegal trade.

2. Ms. Mosig presented on Mexico's experience in the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) for the promotion of legal and traceable use of turtles. Ms. Mosig outlined the differences of the three appendices included under CITES. Each of the three appendices holds a different level of scrutiny and protection. For instance, Appendix I includes all endangered species, Appendix II lists species whose unregulated commercial use could cause uncontrollable survival and Appendix III are species whose commercialization must be regulated by each respective country. Mexico has identified turtles as potential species to drive economic development in rural areas, through community involvement and the implementation of *in situ - ex situ* management schemes, that include species and habitat monitoring, harvesting of eggs in the wild, and captive breeding of specimens until these reach commercial sizes. Nevertheless, it continues to constantly evaluate the different species based on data to whether classify them under Appendix I, II, or III.
3. Mr. Peña's presentation provided an overview of the mechanisms emplaced by Chile for the compliance of CITES. In Chile, the compliance of CITES is carried out in three specialized tiers: (1) *Administrative*, issuing permits and certificates for the import and export of species included in CITES, (2) *Scientific*, providing advise to the administrative authorities by evaluating the legality of species, and (3) *Law enforcement*, which ensure the proper compliance of law regulations and the investigation of incidents related to the trade of wildlife. Mr. Peña signaled that the best way to ensure the proper compliance of CITES is to strengthen institutional communication among the various government entities responsible in overseeing commercial operations of wildlife, as well as to ensure the proper education for the public at large.

Session 4: "Border and Law Enforcement: "The Importance and Applications of Digital Evidence in Wildlife Trafficking Investigations"

This session featured Sylvain Boyreau, Analytical Coordinator, Illicit Markets, Organized and Emerging Crime Directorate of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). The presentation focused on the links of illegal wildlife trade and the internet, and how police investigation can be facilitated through digital means, including the recollection and use of digital evidence.

Key Takeaways:

1. With the rise of digital services and the continued use of technology for daily activities, there has been a significant surge in the use of the internet for illegal wildlife trade. Those engaging in these illegal activities use services such as VPN, encryption, crypto currencies in order to maintain their anonymity in the internet and of their virtual transactions.
2. Illegal investigations through the internet, or cyber investigations, encompass the collection of specific data through the channels accessed by a user when reaching content or services in the internet, according to national and/or international legislations, when applicable. The data collected may include, IP addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, digital credentials, geolocation, photos, biometrics, among others. Essentially any information that is able to direct investigators to the identification of the person or organization engaging in illegal activity.
3. The presentation also covered a case study, in which it presented the investigation of a website, which sold various wildlife species including tigers, pangolins and turtles. Mr. Boyreau highlighted

the importance of locating information or “identifiers” within the website that would prove useful for an investigation since they can be linked to a physical person. For instance, an email address or a phone number can direct the investigator to an Application Service Provider or Internet Service Provider who could then provide further details and preserve the evidence leading to a person’s location and/or identity.

Session 5: “Technology & Science: Science-Based Tools for the Identification of Illegal Trade”

The session comprehended four presentations delivered by Canadian and Mexican experts on taxonomy guides and forensic approaches used in the tracing and monitoring of illegally and legally traded flora and fauna. The session was moderated by Hesiquio Benitez, Director General for International Cooperation and Implementation, CONABIO, and featured the participation of: Dr. Keith Hobson, Biologist, Wildlife Research Division, Science and Technology Branch, ECCC; Ms. Helen Gerson, Senior Program Advisor, Food, Plant and Animal Program, OGD Programs Unit, Commercial and Trade Branch Commercial and Trade Branch, Canada Border Services Agency; Mr. Francisco Soberón Mobarak, Biologist, Morphological Identification of Species, Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); Dr. Gracia González Porter, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Autonomous University of Querétaro (UAQ).

Key Takeaways:

1. Dr. Hobson highlighted that a common challenge in the detection of illegal wildlife trade is the forensic determination of animal origin. Dr. Hobson focused his presentation on the applications of stable isotope technologies, a method which essentially analyses the isotope ratio of heavier elements relative to the abundance of lighter elements in animal food webs. The isotopic ratios change depending on biogeochemical processes or *isoscapes*, meaning that depending on the location (terrestrial or marine) there are different isotope patterns which become attached to fixed in inactive tissues (hair, feather, claws, scutes, bones and teeth). This technology is used to track animal migration patterns (i.e. birds, butterflies), but offers tremendous potential in determining the origin of turtle and tortoise populations.
2. Helen Gerson highlighted the need of a system that compiles information to automatically recognize illegal or suspicious wildlife trade alerting border agents. The Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) is exploring a new technology which uses Optical Character Recognition (OCR) to capture and digitize species information and use machine learning as a means of distinguishing between legal and illegal wildlife trade. This technology, known as the Nature Intelligence System, compiles the information from import declarations to produce a dashboard, and linking it to wildlife information databases. The technology then helps to visualize the information for the officer to identify whether there are any anomalies in the shipments.
3. Dr. Soberón’s presentation was a proposal for the creation of an easy-to-access information network for the members of the scientific and non-scientific communities to be able to better identify the morphological variation of turtle and tortoise populations. Dr. Soberón highlighted that the inclusion of amateur people provides added value as they have great knowledge and first-hand experience gained from self-interest to study the turtle and tortoises. The network would be able to report on the characteristics of turtle populations found in the field by a wider number of people involved in turtle conservation and industry.
4. Dr. Gonzalez proposed the creation of (1) an electronic identification guide and (2) a molecular analysis system, as current processes in border and port authorities is done manually with the

support of paper-based methods. The electronic identification guide would be a software based dichotomy guide containing a question-based identification guide for border officer and agents to identify live specimens or carcasses. The molecular analysis system would verify the DNA of the cargo being shipped to genetically identify each species, making this an automatic and quicker system.

Session 6: “Case Studies: Detecting, Investigating and Notifying Illegal Trade of Turtles”

This session featured a presentation from Pedro Romo Obregón, Biologist for the Directorate General for Environmental Inspection at Ports, Airport and Borders of Mexico’s Federal Attorney of Environment Protection (PROFEPA). The presentation focused on Mexico’s experience in the seizure and capture of illegally traded turtles.

Key Takeaways:

1. Mr. Romo Obregón presented three relevant case studies in the interception of illegal traded species, notably turtles, at Mexican airports. The first two were of Japanese citizens who commercialize reptiles from Mexico to Japan without the use of permits or documentation which allowed the commercialization of the species. PROFEPA carried out an investigations in which suspects were identified travelling from Mexico City to Narita, Japan. The airport authorities inspected the luggage, were over 180 species of reptiles were being transported in a suitcase. The suspects were then prosecuted and charged. Consequently, the Mexican Government has put into force greater surveillance in the airport, and PROFEPA has worked closely with the Federal police and airport authorities by providing them with detailed training on this issue.
2. The third case study consisted of a shipment of turtles that had some irregularities. The personnel of PROFEPA carried out the inspection of the cargo, proceeded to seize the shipment consisting of 15,053 fresh water turtles, which were intended to be illegally exported to China. The shipment was transferred for inspection, in its inspection it was confirmed that none of the turtles could be legally commercialized. The shipment was inspected by wildlife technicians, and due to its size, it needed careful taxonomic identification of the specimens.
3. PROFEPA shared that the existing mechanisms for the detection of illegal trade is labour intensive, and time consuming and at times it can be irregular in detecting wildlife species at destination or transit countries. PROFEPA highlighted the need to implement a digital identification guide, the exchange of experiences and good practices, and support training and cooperation for personnel to properly implement CITES regulations.

Session 7: “Next Steps in the Fight Against Illegal Wildlife Trade”

This session featured a joint presentation delivered by Agustí Bordas-i-Cusco, Manager of Pan-American Affairs at ECCC and Iris Adriana Jiménez Castillo, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation, International Affairs Unit, SEMARNAT, in which it was outlined the expected outcomes and action items to be conducted following the completion of the first CPTPP workshop focused on addressing illegal trade of wildlife.

Key Takeaways:

1. Canada and Mexico proposed in creating a contact list of like-minded professionals dedicated to fight against illegal wildlife trade. This contact list would include the points of contact of key government institutions involved in the fight against illegal wildlife trade, such as border control and law enforcement officers, trade officers, members of the scientific and technology community, as well as diplomats and international affairs experts.
2. The second proposal raised by Canada and Mexico was the establishment of indicators to measure the effectiveness of the workshop over the medium and long term, by looking at: (a) the number of cases and confiscated turtles and tortoises, (b) number of cases that were corroborated and (c) the number of prosecutions and criminal sanctions related to the illegal trade of wildlife.
3. The content and discussions of the CPTPP Workshop on Illegal Wildlife Trade will be shared with the participants and members of the CPTPP Environment committee in the form of a report. The report would be used as a basis for future engagement on the issue of illegal wildlife trade.
4. Another proposal was the improvement of the notification system between CPTPP member states, creating a unified system that optimizes communication between governments. This unified notification system would allow transit and final destination countries to be promptly notified of indication of illegal trade events and to anticipate the seizure of illegal shipments.
5. Canada and Mexico, under its bilateral cooperation, would like to seek the organization of a second edition of the workshop for 2022. The second edition would be focused on a different species of fauna and flora, categorized as endangered and predominant in the trans-pacific region.

ANNEX A – Agenda

CPTPP Workshop on Combating Illegal Trade of Wildlife Species:

Illegal Trade of Turtles and Tortoises

March 3-4, 2021 / March 4-5, 2021

Time: 7:00 - 10:00 pm (Ottawa, Canada) – 6:00 - 9:00 pm (Mexico City, Mexico) – 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (Tokyo, Japan)

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86054673827>

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

| Trans-Pacific Trade of Turtles and Tortoises: Present State of its legal and illegal trade | |
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| Time | Agenda Item |
| 30 min | <p>1. Opening Session</p> <p>1.1 Introduction and guidelines</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Agustí Bordas-i-Cusco, Manager, Pan-American Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> <p>1.2 Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Iris Adriana Jiménez Castillo, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation, International Affairs Unit, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico (SEMARNAT) ○ Toshio Torii, Director General, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan ○ Lucie Desforges, Director General, Bilateral Affairs and Trade Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada ○ Shauna Hemingway, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Canada in Mexico |
| 15 min | <p>2. It takes a Network to Defeat a Network</p> <p>Objectives: This presentation will allow participants to assess and make recommendations for the improvement of law enforcement, compliance, and intelligence-sharing collaboration between countries and multi-level government entities.</p> <p><i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Sheldon Jordan, Director General, Wildlife Enforcement, Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> |
| 45 min | <p>3. Current status of the legal and illegal trade of turtles and tortoises</p> <p>Objectives: This panel will provide an overview of the current status of the legal and illegal trade of turtles and tortoises in the Trans-Pacific region. That discussion will focus on: the main species involved, the main uses (food, pet, medicine), statistics on the legal vs illegal trade, main national institutions involved in the management of the legal trade and in combating the illegal trade.</p> |

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| | <p>Moderator: Adrián Reuter Cortés, Senior Adviser on Illegal Wildlife Trade for Latin America and the Caribbean, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</p> <p>Panel Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Anna Wong, Director for Wildlife Trade, National Parks Board, Singapore ○ Richard Kott, National Intelligence Manager, Wildlife Enforcement, Environment and Climate Change Canada ○ Jessica Maria Gálvez-Durand Besnard, Director, Directorate of Sustainable Management of Wild Fauna Heritage, National Forest and Wildlife Service, Peru |
| 10 min | Break |
| 45 min | <p>4. Public Policy and Regulations: Developing effective policies for the sustainable use of wildlife species while addressing illegal trade.</p> <p>Objectives: This session will display policy-making efforts to address both the demand and supply of protected species of turtles and tortoises, seeking transition towards a model of sustainable use and legal trade of wildlife species aligned with commitments under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Non Detrimental Findings (NDF), and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This panel will seek to share the experiences on the formulation and available tools for complying with CITES and to promote sustainable trade of wildlife species.</p> <p>Moderator: Hesiquio Benítez, Director General, International Cooperation and Implementation, National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico (CONABIO)</p> <p>Panel Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Víctor Campuzano: Deputy Director of Health, Direction General of Wildlife- Mexico's CITES Administrative Authority, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico ○ Paola Mosig Reidl, Coordinator of Mexico's CITES Scientific Authority, National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico (CONABIO) ○ Rodrigo Peña, Legal Counsel, Specialized Unit for Money Laundering, Economic and Environmental Crimes and Organized Crime, Attorney General's Office, Public Ministry of Chile |
| 2 min | <p>5. Closing Remarks</p> <p>Moderator: Agustí Bordas-i-Cusco, Manager, Pan-American Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada</p> |

Thursday, March 4, 2021

| Towards sustainable legal trade: Best practices and lessons learned in combatting illegal trade of turtles and tortoises | |
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| Time | Agenda Item |
| 5 min | 1. Introduction |
| 25 min | <p>2. Border and Law Enforcement: “The importance and applications of digital evidence in wildlife trafficking investigations”</p> <p>Objective: This panel will discuss the applications of digital evidence in wildlife trafficking investigations. That discussion will cover the commercialization of wildlife through the Internet, the use of Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), the applications of Artificial Intelligence for illegal wildlife trade investigations, in addition to the use of digital forensics.</p> <p><i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Sylvain Boyreau, Analytical Coordinator, Illicit Markets, Organized and Emerging Crime Directorate, INTERPOL</p> |
| 60 min | <p>3. Technology & Science: Science-Based Tools for the identification of Illegal Trade</p> <p>Objectives: This block will provide an overview of available taxonomy guides as well as new forensic approaches for tracing and monitoring illegally and legally traded flora and fauna. This session also seeks to enhance capacity to trace origins of illegally captured and traded wildlife using forensic analyses of endogenous tissue markers, showcasing the use of morphological identification and the use of DNA analysis.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Hesiquio Benítez, Director General, International Cooperation and Implementation, National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity of Mexico (CONABIO)</p> <p><i>Panel Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Keith Hobson, Biologist, Science and Technology Branch, Environment and Climate Change Canada ○ Ms. Helen Gerson, Senior Program Advisor, Food, Plant and Animal Program, OGD Programs Unit, Commercial and Trade Branch Commercial and Trade Branch, Canada Border Services Agency ○ Mr. Francisco Soberón Mobarak, Biologist, Morphological Identification of Species, Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) ○ Dr. Gracia González Porter, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Autonomous University of Querétaro (UAQ) |
| 10 min | Break |
| 45 min | <p>4. Case Studies: Detecting, investigating and notifying illegal trade of turtles</p> <p>Objectives: This keynote presentation will provide an overview of how an investigation of illegal trade of turtles unfolds, from the detection to the communication. It will also discuss the</p> |

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| | <p>challenges on the coordination amongst different authorities and the relevance of the international cooperation in the process of addressing illegal trade cases.</p> <p>Panel Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pedro Romo Obregón, Biologist, Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection of Mexico (PROFEPA) |
| 20 min | <p>5. Next Steps in the Fight Against Illegal Wildlife Trade</p> <p>Objectives: This open discussion will seek the participation of attendees to develop recommendations and action items that may help to address illegal trade of turtles and tortoises in the Trans-Pacific region. This session will also examine how to maintain a network of professionals specialized in the field of illegal wildlife trade. The goal is to compile the experiences of each represented country to describe the challenges and opportunities faced in the monitoring of wildlife trade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agustí Bordas-i-Cusco, Manager, Pan-American Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada ○ Iris Adriana Jiménez Castillo, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation, International Affairs Unit, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico (SEMARNAT) |
| 10 min | <p>6. Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lucie Desforges, Director General, Bilateral Affairs and Trade Directorate, Environment and Climate Change Canada ○ Iván Rico López, Head of the International Affairs Unit, International Affairs Unit, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico (SEMARNAT) |

ANNEX B – Social Media coverage

The workshop was highlighted through ECCC's Facebook and Twitter accounts, in addition to Canada's missions abroad.

Twitter:

1. ECCC:
 - o <https://twitter.com/environmentca/status/1367958462043414535>
 - o <https://twitter.com/environmentca/status/1367565868205559817>
2. Canada's Embassy in Chile:
 - o <https://twitter.com/CanEmbChile/status/1368951288453603342>

Facebook:

- ECCC:
 - o <https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentandClimateChange/photos/a.642042859517676/1597154607339825/>







