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**Training module under project “Co-operation with national judges in the field of environmental law under the European Commission Framework Contract ENV.A.1/FRA/2012/0018” on**

**HOW TO ENFORCE EU LEGISLATION ON BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING**

**Case 1: Import of reptiles**

You receive the following email: I have seen the well known importer and trader of reptiles, Mr. X, when he visited Sorong in Indonesia. He has been in contact with native reptile collectors and he has joined these persons when they went out to collect reptiles from the wild. He has collected several live specimens of Green Tree pythons (*Morelia viridis*) and some lizards (*Varanus* spp.).

Mr. X returned just recently and his shipment will arrive in short time.

In addition you received the following information from your CITES Management Authority: Mr. X has applied for import permits for different reptiles from Indonesia including Green Tree pythons and different lizards. He was able to provide a copy of the Indonesian Export permit stating that all animals are legally bred in captivity by a known and reliable Indonesian breeder. In total he received permits for the import of nearly 150 reptiles of different snake and lizard species.



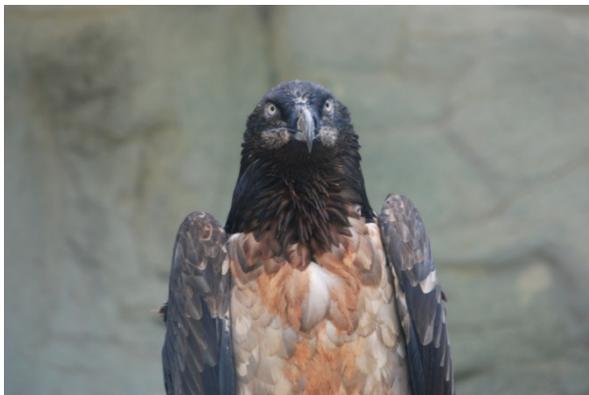
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**Case 2: Birds of prey**

An authority became aware of the increasing trade in rare birds of prey. All the animals offered for sale were declared to be bred in captivity in the EU. This information was passed on to your office. Nearly at the same time another person was stopped in Southern Europe when smuggling eggs of rare vultures into the EU. The eggs were hidden in an incubator which was hidden in the fridge of his camper. Short time later another EU member state reported the withdrawal of several document issued as exemption from the prohibition of commercial activities. The withdrawn documents had been issued for specimens of different birds of prey like falcons, eagles or vultures. Finally another country in the EU reported the dramatic decrease of chicks of wild breeding birds of prey especially rare eagles.



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**Case 3: Reptile trade fair**

The reptile trade fair takes place 4 times a year and is known as the most popular reptile trade fair in Europe. The fairground is surrounded by huge parking areas with access from different directions. Each fair will be visited by several ten thousands of people regularly.

Rumors about illegal trade in reptiles and amphibians are circulated permanently. A Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) has informed your authority about possible illegal activities at the fair. In addition several publications in different newspapers and via internet are distributed to force you to take further action. To prove the suspicion of illegal trade several internet advertisements are add to the report to your office placed by people from outside the EU but also from EU citizens. These advertisements are dealing with rare tortoises and chameleons but also with rare snake.

