2005 No. 1674

The Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement) (Amendment) Regulations 2005

Amendment of the 1997 Regulations

3. For regulation 8 of the 1997 Regulations there shall be substituted the following regulation–

"8.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), a person who, contrary to Article 8 of the Principal Regulation, purchases, offers to purchase, acquires for commercial purposes, displays to the public for commercial purposes, uses for commercial gain, sells, keeps for sale, offers for sale or transports for sale any specimen of a species listed in Annex A to the Principal Regulation shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), any person who, contrary to Article 8 of the Principal Regulation, purchases, offers to purchase, acquires for commercial purposes, sells, keeps for sale, offers for sale or transports for sale any specimen of a species listed in Annex B to the Principal Regulation which has been imported or acquired unlawfully shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Paragraph (1) does not apply to anything done under, and in accordance with the terms of, any certificate or general derogation granted pursuant to Article 8 of the Principal Regulation.

(4) A person shall not be guilty of an offence under paragraph (1) or (2) if he proves that at the time the alleged offence was committed he had no reason to believe that the specimen was a specimen of a species listed in Annex A, or as the case may be Annex B.

(5) A person shall not be guilty of an offence under paragraph (2) if he proves -

- (a) that at the time when the specimen first came into his possession he made such enquiries (if any) as in the circumstances were reasonable in order to ascertain whether it was imported or acquired unlawfully; and
- (b) that at the time the alleged offence was committed, he had no reason to believe that the specimen was imported or acquired unlawfully.

(6) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (5) above, a person shall be taken to have made such enquiries as are mentioned there if he produces to the court a statement which was furnished by the person from whom he obtained possession of the specimen ("the supplier"), which was signed by the supplier or by a person authorised by him, and which states that—

- (a) the supplier made enquiries at the time the specimen came into his possession in order to ascertain whether it was a specimen which had been imported or acquired unlawfully; and
- (b) the supplier had no reason to believe at the time he relinquished possession of the specimen to the accused that the article was at that time a specimen which had been imported or acquired lawfully.

(7) A person who furnishes, for the purposes of paragraph (6) above, a statement which he knows to be false in a material particular, or recklessly furnishes for those purposes a certificate which is false in a material particular, shall be guilty of an offence.

(8) A person shall be guilty of an offence under paragraph (1) or (2) above shall be liable-

- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both; and
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to a term of imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine, or to both.
- (9) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (7) above shall be liable
 - (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both; and
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a term of imprisonment not exceeding two years or to a fine, or to both."