GENERAL DIRECTION OF CONTROL OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

SUPERIOR AUDIT OFFICE

OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY

THE SUPERIOR AUDIT OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY

is the entity of control of the economic and financial activities of the State, as well as the departments and the municipalities. The institution has functional and administrative autonomy.
(National Constitution, Art. 281)

The Law N° 276/94 defines its organic and functional structure.

GENERAL DIRECTION OF CONTROL OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

was created in 1996, with the objective of fulfilling the constitutional command settled down in the Art. 7º, that guarantees all the citizens the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment.

INSTITUTIONAL MISSION

The control and evaluation of policies, programs and projects, and the observance of the juridical framework of the State entities related to the environmental management, through government audits.

Results of the Audits carried out to the Environmental Secretariat (ES) related to the verification of the administrative procedures adopted for the concession of permits and licenses for the use, storing, hunts, transfer, holding, commercialization and other, of the wild fauna.
(audited period: years 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Superior Audit Office of the Republic

Audits related to the Use of the wild fauna in Paraguay

Use of the wild fauna

Use of the wild fauna

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

8 ECONOMIA

Tráfico de animais se alia a narcotraficante na fronteira

Comércio de aves e mamíferos movimenta US$ 2 bi

En el facsimil se observa la publicación en donde los brasileños denuncian la presunta alianza entre sus traficantes de animales con los que se dedican a producir y exportar drogas desde Paraguay.

Brasil denuncia alianza en Paraguay de traficantes de animales y drogas

EN EL MISMO AVION

Alerta en Ñeembucú ante posible caza de 7.000 animales silvestres

Es hora de investigar a la SEAM y de investigar actos de corrupción

Seam es responsable de legalizar pieles ilegales

Denounces madden by the citizens to the Public Ministry for supposed infraction to the Wild Life Law.

Denounces madden by the press for indiscriminate hunts of the wild fauna in the territory of the Alto Paraguay and the Marshland.

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Application of the Minister of the Environmental Secretariat for the realization of a Performance Audit of the administrative procedures for use of species of wild fauna in stays.

Application of the Public Ministry for the realization of two audits to the Environmental Secretariat, about the granted quotes for the capture of live animals, hunts of wild animals, store and commercialization of goods derived of the wild fauna.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Departments of

Amambay

Alto Paraguay

Superior Audit Office of the Republic

MAIN COMMITTED SPECIES

LIVE ANIMALS

Amazona aestiva
Parakau

Ramphastos toco
Tuka

Geochelone chilensis

Geochelone carbonaria
Carumbè

USE

Caimán yacaré
Jakaré jhu

Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris
Kapi - i va

Eunectes notaeus
Kuriju

Use of the wild fauna

TYPES OF AUDITS

4 special exams were carried out. Of:

- **Performance**
- **Regularity**

METHODOLOGY

STAGES OF THE AUDITS		
PLANNING	DEVELOPMENT	CONCLUSION
• Laws revision • Antecedents revision • Meetings with representatives of the citizenship and NGOs • **Joint work with the Public Ministry**	• Assessment of emitted documents and procedures made by the ES • Laws revision • Internal control evaluation • **Consultations to specialists** • **Technical and juridical criteria**	• Communication of the observations to the ES • Emission of the Report • **Joint work with the Public Ministry**

FINDINGS

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1. There were not policies, plans or programs toward the preservation and conservation of the wild fauna. The wild life law was not regulated and did not exist Manual of Procedures and Functions, either.

2. The procedures and permits of use of the wild life were not based on the law but in a routine product of the practice.

3. The administrative rules and/or technical criteria were particular or temporary for each permit and not regulated by legal norms.

4. The authorizations were general. They did not authorize physical and/or juridical entities, in many cases they did not establish date of conclusion of the hunt seasons, storing, transport and commercialization.

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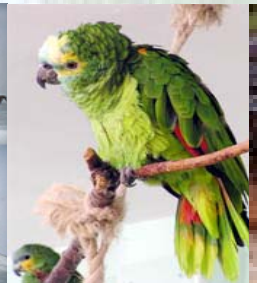
5 The ES did not require the Impact Environmental Assessment for emitting the permits so they were granted without the emission of the environmental license.

6 The CITES permits emitted by the ES did not demand the presentation of handling plans and sustainable use, and the scientific studies approved by the CITES Secretariat.

7 The ES authorized the exploitation of the wild fauna approving the data of the biologists' reports without verifying the real and geographical existence of the natural resources.



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8 These reports enclosed to the use applications contained non realistic information related to populations and geographical distributions of them. Besides, the populational studies did not reflect the state of health, population's size, reproductive capacity, the means of threats, neither the methodology used for studies.

9 The entity did not have resources and funds to carry out an appropriate control and pursuit of the authorized activities.

QUOTES GRANTED

TO THE NATIVES FOR COMERCIALIZATION OF FURS OF SUBSISTENCE HUNTS

The commercialization was authorized for a higher number of individuals to that of subsistence.

First period

SPECIES	QUANTITY	APROX. PROFIT (KG)		NATIVES POPULATION	DAYS	AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER DAY PER PERSON (KG)
		PER UNIT	TOTAL			
CARPINCHO	313	35	10955	848	88	0,147
YACARÈ	876	35	30660			0,365
KURIYÙ	687	15	10305			0,158
TOTAL	1876		51920			0,670

Authorized quantity: 1876 animals

Average consumption of wild meat per day: 700 grams per person.

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QUOTES GRANTED

TO THE NATIVES FOR COMERCIALIZACION OF FURS OF SUBSISTENCE HUNTS

Second period

SPECIES	QUANTITY	APROX. PROFIT (KG)		NATIVES POPULATION	DAYS	AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER DAY PER PERSON (KG)
		PER UNIT	TOTAL			
CARPINCHO	173	35	6055	**848**	**20**	0,357
YACARÈ	4135	35	144725			8,533
KURIYÙ	348	15	5220			0,308
TOTAL	**4656**		**156000**			**9,198**

Authorized quantity: 4656 animals
Average consumption of wild meat per day: more than 9 kilos

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QUOTES GRANTED

FOR THE EXTRACTION OF THE SPECIES OF AMAZONA AESTIVA

CALCULATION BASED ON THE STUDY OF THE BIOL. CARMEN VITALE						
ESTIMATE OF ADULTS (individuals/Ha) Biol. Carmen Vitale (1999)	AREA (Ha)	TOTAL OF ANIMALS	Nº OF COUPLES	Nº OF ACTIVE COUPLES	Nº OF PIGEONS	AVERAGE OF EXTRACTION 50%)
0,00115	710.244	817	408	102	204	102

SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENT						
ESTIMATES OF EXISTENCE						AUTHORIZED
ESTIMATE OF ADULTS (individuals/Ha)	AREA (Ha)	TOTAL OF ANIMALS	Nº OF COUPLES	Nº OF PIGEONS	AVERAGE OF EXTRACTION (50%)	Nº OF PIGEONS
0,01099	710.244	7.804	3.902	3.902	1.951	1.848

The technicians of the ES ignored the scientific data and they legitimated manipulated data.
To complete the granted quotes, it should be hunted animals of other not authorized areas.

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1. **Non existence of an Environmental Policy.**
2. **Lack of laws regulations and internal control system.**
3. **Non-unified criteria with CITES International.**
4. **Wrong handling of the natural resources and threatens to the protection, control, conservation, sustainable use of the wild fauna.**
5. **Procedures and regulations out of law and that do not guarantee the protection and the conservation of the biodiversity.**
6. **Institutional disorder.**
7. **Government not qualified to grant use rights of the wild fauna.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

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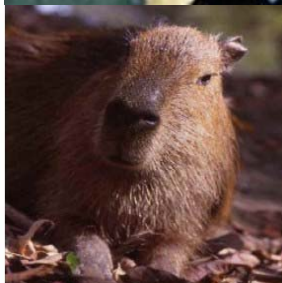
The audits recommended to:

1. **Suspend news grants of uses of the wild fauna.**
2. **Define the Environmental Policy.**
3. **Revise validity and harmonization of environmental laws.**
4. **Regulate the laws of wild life.**
5. **Settle down and regulate procedures according to existing normative.**
6. **Implement Manual of Procedures and Functions.**
7. **Establish an internal control system.**
8. **Implement mechanisms that guarantee the execution of the valid administrative procedures.**



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9 **Use of criteria according to those settled down by CITES International.**

10 **Normalize formats and fix terms of references for the Scientific Studies.**

11 **Make CITES Paraguay non dependent from the Environmental Secretariat.**

12 **Apply sanctions specified by the laws.**

13 **Elaborate a Corrective Action Plan.**

AUDITS IMPACTS

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1. It was suspended the hunt and use of the wild fauna for all the species, in the whole Paraguayan territory.

2. The National Environmental Policy was defined, after 5 years of the promulgation of the law.

3. The effects of the CITES Agreement were suspended temporarily, specially those relative to the international trade of the products of the wild fauna, until the wild life laws were regulated.

4. The process of regulation of the Wild Life Law began after 13 years of its promulgation.

5. The Public Ministry imputed to the technical officials of the Environmental Secretariat and individuals involved in the process, based on the Law Nº 716/96 "That Sanctions Crimes Against the Environment."

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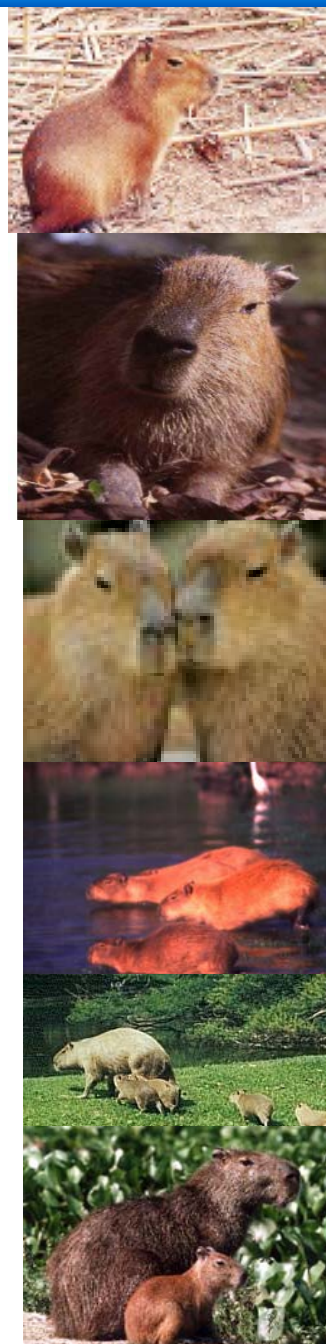
6 **The Public Ministry used the penal figure of "PREVARICATION" for the State officials.**

7 **It has been demonstrated the possibility of analyzing the biological data confronted with the legal normative.**

8 **The public sector recognised the importance of the AUDIT like a tool for the protection of the environment and the social interest.**



GENERAL DIRECTION OF CONTROL OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

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MUCHAS GRACIAS
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

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