Basic information	
2006/2016(DCE) DCE - Written declaration (historic)	Procedure completed
Declaration on rising international concern over the farming of bear bile in China **Subject** 3.10.04.02 Animal protection	

Key events			
Date	**Event**	**Reference**	**Summary**
17/01/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0008/2006	Summary
17/01/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/2016(DCE)
Procedure type	DCE - Written declaration (historic)
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Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Written declaration		T6-0008/2006	17/01/2006	Summary

Declaration on rising international concern over the farming of bear bile in China

2006/2016(DCE) - 17/01/2006 - Written declaration

The European Parliament adopted a Declaration on rising international concern over the farming of bear bile in China.

The Parliament recalls that 7 002 Asiatic Black Bears (Moon Bears) are currently 'milked' for their bile in China and notes that these bears are endangered, featuring in the list in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). Moreover, it stresses that new 'humane' bile extraction methods continue to cause agonising suffering and the death of bears on Chinese farms, with at least one new method directly contravening new regulations.

The Parliament welcomes the acknowledgement by eminent practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine of the existence of at least 54 herbal alternatives to bear bile, together with a synthetic version, as well as the action taken by the Chinese Government since 2000 in closing over 40 bear farms and confiscating 188 bears into the care of the Animals Asia Foundation (AAF). However, it notes the serious concern, internationally and within the Chinese media, public and Government, at the fact that such a cruel and uncivilised practice exists.

In this context, the Parliament calls on the Chinese Government to take account of this grave worldwide concern as the 2008 Beijing Olympics approach, by taking a clear stance on bear farming, initiating a countrywide ban forthwith on the breeding of bears on farms and setting a time-limit for the ending of bear farming. Moreover, it requests that the Chinese Government liaise with the AAF in accelerating the closure of all bear farms through programmes benefiting bears currently held captive and farmers reliant on the industry and calls for cooperation with the AAF in developing far-reaching education programmes to deter consumers of bear bile.