

DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO CITES IN EFFECT AFTER ITS 19TH MEETING

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Strategic matters

Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative

Directed to range States of African carnivores

18.59 Relevant range States of African carnivores are urged to work through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to implement CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.

Directed to Parties

18.60 (Rev. CoP19) Parties are invited to recognize the importance of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative in implementing CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by the Initiative, and in seeking synergies as appropriate to implement complementary CMS resolutions and decisions.

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

18.61 Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support relevant African range States, through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, in their implementation of CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.24 The Secretariat shall inform the Animals Committee regarding the activities and outputs of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI) that relate to the Committee's mandate and request advice from the Animals Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.25 The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on information that it provides regarding the activities and outputs of the ACI that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.

Illegal trade and enforcement

CITES Big Cats Task Force

Directed to the Secretariat

19.92

The Secretariat shall:

subject to external resources

- a) establish and convene, the CITES Big Cats Task Force (Task Force), in accordance with the terms of reference and modus operandi agreed by the Standing Committee as presented in Annex 2 to document CoP19 Doc. 67 on *CITES Big Cats Task Force (Felidae spp.)*;
- b) provide support to the Task Force allowing it to effectively carry out its mandate as stated in the terms of reference, including to:
 - i) discuss enforcement and implementation issues related to the illegal trade in specimens of big cats;
 - ii) as deemed appropriate, exchange intelligence and other information on the illegal trade in big cats; and
 - iii) develop strategies and make recommendations to improve international cooperation regarding the enforcement of CITES concerning illegal trade in specimens of big cats; and
- c) report the findings and recommendations of the Task Force to the 77th and 78th meeting of the Standing Committee for its consideration, and for making its own recommendations as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.93

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider at its 77th meeting the reports submitted by the Secretariat, as per Decision 19.92, and make recommendations to the Secretariat and big cat source, transit, and destination countries, as appropriate.
- b) report on the implementation of the present Decision and any relevant recommendations as appropriate to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.
- c) publish information generated by the Big Cat Task Force on the CITES website to keep relevant stakeholders informed and support the development of appropriate measures by source, transit, and destination countries.

Illegal trade in cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*)

Directed to Parties affected by illegal trade in cheetahs

19.104

Parties affected by illegal trade in cheetahs are encouraged to:

- a) review their national legislation taking into consideration the provisions of paragraph 6 c), d), f), and g) in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev.CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, and where needed revise such legislation to ensure that it adequately addresses illegal wildlife trade, including illegal trade in cheetahs;
- b) make use of the secure communication channels provided by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization to strengthen information and intelligence exchange, and the resources available through the Cheetahs webpage on the CITES website;
- c) scale up activities to address illegal online trade in cheetah specimens, including by drawing upon the support available through INTERPOL, the *Wildlife Crime Linked to the Internet: Practical Guidelines for Law Enforcement Practitioners*, and as appropriate, reviewing their implementation of the provisions under “Regarding wildlife crime linked to the Internet”, in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Compliance and enforcement*, and pursue the full implementation of these provisions; and
- d) report to the Secretariat in advance of the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.105

Subject to available resources and upon request from Parties, the Secretariat shall:

- a) work with INTERPOL and other ICCWC members to support source, transit and destination Parties to combat illegal trade in cheetahs; and
- b) report to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting on implementation of Decisions 19.104 and 19.105, paragraph a).

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.106

The Standing Committee shall consider the report of the Secretariat on implementation of Decisions 19.104 and 19.105, and any relevant outcomes from the CITES Big Cats Task Force specific to the conservation of and illegal trade in cheetahs and develop recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Regulation of trade

Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (*Panthera pardus*) hunting trophies

Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19)

18.166 All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) are encouraged to conduct regular surveys, adjust quotas as appropriate, and exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.168 (Rev. CoP19) The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.169 (Rev. CoP19) and make recommendations to the Secretariat and leopard range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.169 (Rev. CoP19) The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources:

- a) encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and
- b) in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19), share the draft guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, make such guidance available on the CITES website, and encourage its use by relevant Parties.

FAUNA

African lions (*Panthera leo*)

Directed to the Secretariat, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

- 19.205** Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, as appropriate, taking into consideration the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* in information document CoP18 Inf. 10:
- a) support the implementation of activities in joint African lion conservation plans and strategies that relate to trade in African lion specimens and the implementation of CITES and as needed, the review of such plans and strategies;
 - b) jointly with the CMS Secretariat, undertake a comparative study of African lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade;
 - c) support capacity-building in African lion conservation and management including where appropriate, in the making of non-detriment findings by range States according to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings* and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.9 on *Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II*;
 - d) assist in maintaining a joint CITES-CMS web portal on African lions, that also allows for the posting and sharing of information and guidance on the conservation and management of African lions;
 - e) share any relevant update of the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* with the Animals Committee for its review; and
 - f) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee and to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 19.206** The Animals Committee shall:
- a) review any relevant update of the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa*;
 - b) review the information reported by the Secretariat under Decision 19.205 and submit recommendations to the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and African lion range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.207** The Standing Committee shall:
- a) review any reports received from the Secretariat and the Animals Committee under Decisions 19.205 and 19.206 and;
 - b) make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, the Animals Committee, the Secretariat and/or African lion range States to improve the implementation of the Convention for African lions, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

- 19.208** Parties, including range States and consumer countries of African lion, as relevant, are encouraged to:
- a) increase enforcement efforts to detect illegal, unreported or misreported trade in specimens of African lion and other big cats;
 - b) use, where appropriate, South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project to help identify lion specimens in trade and, when importing lion specimens from South Africa, collaborate where necessary with relevant authorities in South Africa to improve the traceability of such specimens;
 - c) provide details on the observed and/or removed lion body parts in trade when collecting and communicating data on illegal killing and illegal trade in lions to CITES in their annual reports; and
 - d) cooperate on lion conservation, including by sharing information on lion populations, illegal killing and illegal trade.

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities

- 19.209** All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities are encouraged to support African lion range States and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore African lions across their range, taking into consideration the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* and the implementation of Decision 19.205 and 19.208.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.210** The Secretariat shall:
- a) share relevant information generated through the implementation of Decision 19.208 with the CITES Big Cats Task Force, the Standing Committee, or both, as appropriate; and
 - b) report on the implementation of the previous Decision 18.246 to the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee.

Leopards (*Panthera pardus*) in Africa

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.211** The Secretariat shall share with the Animals Committee the *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa* by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for its review.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 19.212** The Animals Committee shall review the *Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa* by IUCN, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate, concerning the aspects of it that relate to the implementation of CITES.