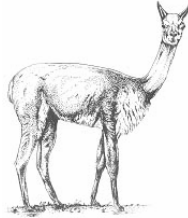


CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Twenty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Lima (Peru), 7-13 July 2006

Regional reports

AFRICA

1. General information and remarks from representatives

This report has been prepared by Dr Richard Bagine and Edson Chidziya, the regional representatives for Africa. Items under this report: General information, Follow up on the discussions and reporting of the AC21/CoP13: (Significant trade, technical workshops, research, capacity building, enforcement, Regional communication, meetings, planned work before next meeting, others)

a) Regional representation

- i) Regional representatives Dr Richard Bagine (Kenya) and Edson Chidziya (Zimbabwe).
- ii) Regional Alternate members Mr Khaled Zahzah (Tunisia) and Dr Mostafa Ahmed Mahmoud (Egypt).

b) Parties in the region: 52

- i) Parties contacted for country reports (by emails): 28
- ii) Parties responding to communication and providing input into this report during the twenty-second meeting of the Animals Committee (7-13 July 2006) in Lima: Kenya, Madagascar, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

c) Regional reports compilation: Dr Richard Bagine and Edson Chidziya.

General remarks

The level of participation by countries from the Africa Region of CITES is far from being satisfactory and remains a big challenge for all. For example, from a region of 52 Parties, only 5 countries are attending the present meeting. This is a reflection of the inherent communication and funding problems that many countries in the region find themselves in.

2. Follow up of reporting in the 21st meeting of the Animals Committee: Activities carried out

- a) Review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix II species: Resolution Conf.12.8 (Rev. CoP13) re: AC21 Doc 10.1.1 (Rev.1).

Kenya submitted to the secretariat comments on the Significant Trade Review process for the African Grey Parrot, (*Psittacus erithacus*) and Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) as requested. Madagascar submitted information on *Mantella* spp. Other submissions by other Parties in the region are as provided in AC22 Doc. 10.2.

- b) Resolution Conf. 11.16: Ranching and Trade in Ratched Specimens of Appendix II species

Kenya, Madagascar, Zambia and Zimbabwe responded to the Secretariat's communication regarding ranching, trade and reporting requirements of the Nile Crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) by submitting national reports in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.16.

Inspections and evaluation of all operations for ranching and breeding Nile crocodiles registered with the Management Authorities were done and the national registers of active operations updated. This information was included in the reports to the Secretariat.

Madagascar further developed and submitted for consideration in this meeting an action plan based on the recommendations adopted at AC17 meeting relating to the first country-based significant trade review.

3. Implementation of species programmes

Regional priorities to strengthen the scientific basis for the implementation of CITES (i.e. priority species and taxa; research projects being carried out, research needs, population management priorities, emerging issues, species listing needs.

- a) Nile crocodiles - (*Crocodylus niloticus*)

Zambia continues to utilize an annual quota of 300 wild specimens as documented in submissions at CoP13.

Kenya is planning to undertake a national crocodile population survey using spotlight count method in her major water systems with known significant crocodile subpopulations by the end of 2006. Water systems to be covered include Lake Turkana, Lake Baringo, Lake Victoria, Masai Mara River, Ewaso Nyiro River, middle and upper reaches of Tana River and Athi/Galana/Sabaki River. Data generated will be used in review of the crocodile conservation and management programmes in the country and strengthen country's reporting of ranching and trade in the species in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.16.

- b) African Lion - (*Panthera leo*)

Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe participated in the Eastern and Southern Africa regional workshop on African Lions held in Johannesburg in January 2006. Information on the status of African lions shared in this meeting is being used by National Task Force in Kenya on Large Predators to develop appropriate conservation and management programmes for the species among other Carnivores. Based on this information Kenya has established national guidelines and recommendations in predator research and management and also developed policy options for carnivore conservation and management.

Zambia is using information shared at the workshop to evaluate its current lion conservation activities. Furthermore, there is an ongoing study on the lion genetic variation in one of the major lion subpopulations in the country.

Zimbabwe is part of international efforts to try and develop appropriate conservation and management programmes for this species. Research in Lion ecology is on going.

- c) African Elephant - (*Loxodonta africana*) and the implementation of the MIKE Programme

MIKE programme

Implementation of the Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme is ongoing in the Parties under the programme across the region.

Zambia continues to implement the programme activities in the designated MIKE site with the support of the Norwegian government.

Implementation of the programme (MIKE) and ETIS continues within the constraints of limited budgets and personnel in Zimbabwe. In May 2006, a Sub-Regional Workshop on the Management of Elephant was held in Gaborone, Botswana. The main purpose of the workshop was to share information as well as find common ground on the management of the species.

As reported in the last AC meeting, poaching continues to be a threat to the elephant population in Kenya. Kenya continued to curb elephant poaching by increasing patrols, capacity building and law enforcement. Recent seizures of ivory consignments both nationally and internationally as presented in paragraph 4 (Enforcement matters) below were recorded.

Elephant Management

Kenya's process of developing a national elephant management strategy is ongoing and consultations with neighbours on cross-border issues are considered critical to the completion of the process.

South Africa is in the process of developing national norms and standards for the management of its elephants in terms of the National Environment Management: Biodiversity Act.

- d) Black Rhino – (*Diceros bicornis*) conservation and management

Kenya: A National Black Rhino Strategy is now due for review and Kenya has put in place mechanisms for a detailed review before the end of the year. As reported at AC21, the rhino population in Kenya is threatened by poaching for horns. There are reported cases of rhino poaching in the Tsavo East National Park this year. The trophies from the poached rhinos were recovered.

South Africa donated 15 Live Black Rhinos to Zambia for reintroduction into North Luangwa National Park as part of the SADC Rhino Management Programme

Black Rhinos were introduced for the first time to a conservation area, managed and owned by community in South Africa

The implementation of the National Rhino Conservation Strategy in Zimbabwe is on-going

- e) Leopard - (*Panthera pardus*) quota adopted at CoP13

South Africa, in cooperation with the Endangered Wildlife Trust's (EWT) Conservation Breeding Specialist Group did a Population Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA). Based on these results, the additional quota adopted at CoP13 was allocated. Total Quota for the species for South Africa now stands at 150 individuals.

- f) Reptiles

Kenya has been following discussions on Scientific and taxonomic reviews and waiting for the recommendations of the Nomenclature committee regarding taxonomy of the *Chamaeleo excubitor/Bradypodion fischeri* listings in the CITES Appendices. Kenya has also been collecting information on status of Mount Kenya Bush Viper (*Atheris desaixi*) and Kenya Horned Viper (*Bitis worthingtonii*). This information once gathered, will be used in preparing listing proposals for the two species.

Zambia has maintained the captive breeding of Testudines and no wild capture for exports is allowed. Guidelines on captive breeding of Testudines were formulated.

g) Other CITES-listed species

Chimpanzees rescued in Southern Sudan

In April and June 2006, Kenya received a request to issue an import permit and allow for quarantine in Kenya of 2 baby Chimpanzees and six (6) sub-adults rescued from illegal trade in southern Sudan. The Jane Goodall Institute Chimpanzee Sanctuary (JGI) in South Africa has agreed to receive them. Kenya wrote to the Management Authority of Sudan requesting for confirmation of willingness to release the chimpanzees to South Africa. In absence of response from the Management Authority of Sudan, Kenya's decision on the request for an import permit and provision of a quarantine ground for the specimens is pending.

Rescue centres for chimpanzees

The Chimpanzee rescue centre at Sweetwaters, Kenya has been partly renovated and expanded to cater for 50 Chimpanzees. Currently, there are 41 Chimpanzees in the centre however, when fully expanded, it will have a capacity to hold 100 individuals. JGI, South Africa has so far received some animals and has a capacity to hold 40 individuals.

4. Enforcement matters

Cameroon	<p>A shipment of 3,900 kilograms of raw ivory from Cameroon was seized in Hong Kong in early May 2006.</p> <p>97 tusks were seized near border with Gabon in September 2005 and five persons arrested. (Bill Clark <i>Pers.Com</i>)</p>
Kenya	<p>Together with LATF and Interpol, in three separate but coordinated operations, Kenya seized 160kg of Ivory and arrested 14 persons (including 7 Italians, 6 Kenyans and 1 Tanzanian) involved.</p> <p>Filipino Customs seized a consignment of 335 kilograms of ivory in air consignment from Kenya in September 2005.</p> <p>Records of illegal collection and trade in reptiles in Kenya have been established and measures to stop the collection put in place. A well-known foreigner and smuggler of reptiles' especially rare snakes was arrested, convicted in court and deported early this year.</p>
Congo	<p>66 pieces of ivory weighing 253 kilograms were seized in August 2005 while being exported to Ivory Coast. One person was arrested (Bill Clark <i>Pers.Com</i>)</p>
Uganda	<p>Filipino Customs seized in September 2005 an air consignment from Uganda with 525 kg of Ivory. (Bill Clark <i>Pers.Com</i>)</p>
South Africa	<p>Two separate consignments of ivory products illegally imported into South Africa were confiscated.</p> <p>On two separate occasions, individuals were convicted for illegal collection of reptiles in the Western Cape</p>
United Republic of Tanzania	<p>Filipino Customs seized in September 2005, 6,000 kilograms of ivory in a container arriving from Dar es Salaam. This consignment was reported "pilfered" while still under Customs control on 8 May 2006 (Bill Clark <i>Pers.Com</i>)</p>

- Zambia As part of the elephant conservation plan directed for all African range states during CoP13 Dialogue meeting, Zambia held a workshop with major law enforcement agencies to strengthen forces against illegal ivory trade.
- Zimbabwe 72 tusks were seized in July 2005 and two persons arrested (Bill Clark *Pers.Com*)

5. Regional meetings and communication with Parties

A meeting of delegates from the Eastern Africa sub region was held as a side event courtesy of the CITES Management Authority of Kenya during the Africa regional CITES Legislation Workshop for Anglophone Africa, (Nairobi, Kenya, 31 October-4 November 2005). The meeting chaired by Mr Richard Bagine, the Animals Committee regional representative for Africa, discussed among other things, ways of improving communication between Parties in the sub-region. Parties represented included: Eritrea, Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Sudan. Parties were encouraged to enhance representation in CITES meetings. The following were proposed as priority actions for the sub region:

- a) Establishment of a database for individual contacts from each Party as an elaborate communication system for use to make follow-ups with the respective governments in an effort to improve on communication across the sub region.
- b) Adequate consultations across the sub region on proposals for submission for consideration at CITES meetings. This would make the other Parties aware and initiate discussions on possible positions to be taken by the sub region. The Division of Wildlife within the East African Co-operation would be an appropriate instrument to facilitate the communications and consultations.
- c) Holding a meeting of the sub region before CoP14.
- d) Adoption of a communication system where written communication is followed up with a telephone call as this would reflect a mutual acceptance and reduce mutual suspicion, building confidence and helping improve on the communication.
- e) Each Party should ensure national reporting to the Secretariat is done in time and the same is shared with the other Parties across the sub region.
- f) South Africa hosted a delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania who visited the country to gather information relating to the management of the hunting industry in the country.

6. Capacity building

The CITES Secretariat's training workshop for Anglophone Africa, (Nairobi, Kenya, 31 October-4 November 2005) on CITES legislation helped in building capacity for the region for implementation of the Convention.

Through the Environmental Investigation Agency, Zambia held a Multi Agency law enforcement-training workshop in April 2006.

Zimbabwe, in conjunction with TRAFFIC (East and Southern Africa), held a national CITES capacity building workshop in June 2006 targeted at law enforcement, Customs and judicial officers. The main focus was on the identification of CITES-listed species in trade in Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe is currently re-examining its organizational structure with a view to strengthening research inputs into the new authority, both in terms of manpower and equipment.

South Africa donated USD 5,000 towards the sponsoring of a student from Africa to the 5th CITES Masters Course in Spain in 2005. Zambia participated in the Masters course during 2005.

Kenya, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe will be participating in the PhD+ programme on *Management, Access and Conservation of Biodiversity: The International Framework* at the International University of Andalucia and University of Cordoba, Spain as part of capacity building in the implementation of the Convention.

7. Implementation issues

Kenya re-launched its wildlife law review process in August 2005 for further consultations following recommendations on an earlier parliamentary draft bill. A mission visited southern Africa in June for consultations. When finalized and acceded to, the new act will provide for the domestication of CITES among other MEAs and also provide for reviewed species schedules in line with CITES listings.

South Africa published draft regulations in terms of the National Environment Management: Biodiversity Act. These regulations provide for the regulation of activities involving threatened or protected species. All CITES species are regarded as protected and will be regulated in terms of these regulations, which include registration of captive breeding facilities, nurseries, marking requirements, reporting requirements, and risk assessment provisions.

Zambia is in the process of finalising its national legislation and it will be translated into the major local languages.

8. Other issues

South Africa intends to list the endemic Abalone species, *Haliotis midae* in Appendix III of CITES. National stakeholder consultations have taken place and resulted in agreement that the species should be included in the Appendices.

The establishment and development of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) and Parks in southern Africa continues to gather momentum with almost all the mainland countries of the sub-region participating in one or more TFCA Initiatives. This new development offers excellent opportunities for all participating countries to strengthen and/or broaden their scope for cooperation and collaboration on matters of international conservation, particularly the implementation of MEAs including CITES. There is also immense potential within the institutional frameworks of these initiatives to further enhance communication and coordination of CITES related issues within the sub-region.

8. Work planned for implementation by the next AC meeting

As a regional representative in the Standing Committee and through the regional representative for Africa, Kenya is considering as of critical importance the organization of a sub regional/regional meeting before CoP14 to discuss common sub regional/regional animal issues and make a follow up of the outcome of AC22.

The regional representatives plan to share with the Parties represented the outcome of AC22 and emphasize the need for an enhanced communication among the Parties in the region. To this end, an emphasis will be placed on development of database of experts on animals issues across the region.