

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



Fifty-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 6-10 July 2009

Reports

Reports of regional representatives

AFRICA

The attached report for Africa has been submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya and Zambia*. As it was received by the Secretariat after the deadline for submission of documents, it is provided herewith in English only, the language in which it was submitted.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

The attached report for Africa has been submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya and Zambia. Its compilation was finalized at the meeting in Geneva to allow collate reports from the various Parties in the region that had not submitted country reports to the representatives by the time of the meeting.

*This report is therefore compiled based on information provided during this meeting as presented by the members participating as follows: **Kenya** and United Republic of Tanzania from Eastern Africa sub-region, **Ghana** and Côte d'Ivoire from the Western Africa sub-region, **Democratic Republic of Congo & Cameroon** from the Central Africa sub-region and **Zambia**, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa from the Southern Africa sub-region.*

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General Information

- Regional Representatives: Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya and Zambia
- Alternate Regional Representatives: Botswana, Egypt, Mali and Uganda
- Number of Parties providing information for this report: (Parties attending the meeting)

GENERAL REPORT TO THE REGION

I) IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONVENTION

a) African Elephant Conservation and Management

Twenty –nine out of the thirty –seven African elephant range States convened at the second African elephant meeting in Gigiri, Kenya, from 9 to 11 March 2009, in compliance with Decision 14.79, and as a follow-up to the first African elephant meeting held in Mombasa, June 2008 as reported at SC57 meeting.

The meeting was convened by the CITES Secretariat and funded through the Secretariat's programme on Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE).

Range States that did not participate in the meeting included Angola (non-Party), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Niger, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland and Zambia

The Gigiri meeting advanced the development of the African Elephant Action Plan and African Elephant Fund. To further progress its work, the meeting established two working Groups-one on the African Elephant Action Plan and the other on the African Elephant Fund drawing two Party representatives from each of the four sub regions ; Kenya and Rwanda (Eastern Africa), Republic of Congo and Gabon(Central Africa), Nigeria and Mali (Western Africa) and South Africa and Zimbabwe (Southern Africa).

The Working Group on the African Elephant Action Plan was to convene at a later date to finalize drafting of the Action Plan on the basis of priority activities identified in the meeting and in the context of an overarching "*Strategic Framework for an African Elephant Action Plan.*"

The African Elephant Fund working group was to meet virtually and communicate electronically on formulation of recommendations on composition and modus operandi of the Fund's Steering Committee and on the nature of the fund.

The meeting of the African Elephant Action Plan was convened in Dar es Salaam, on 22-26 June 2009 hosted and partially supported by United Republic of Tanzania. The Working group developed a fair draft of the African Elephant Action Plan with indicative budget of USD 97,350,000. The draft would be circulated to all the other range States for their comments/inputs by July 25 2009 and eventual finalization.

The Virtual working Group on the African Elephant Fund could not convene by the time of the Standing Committee however, Nigeria in consultation with Kenya, Mali and Republic of Congo and a few other range States had developed and circulated for comments/inputs to the rest of the range States a draft working document on the Fund upon which Parties could build towards establishing the Fund.

Preceding the Dar es salaam meeting and in an effort to solicit as many inputs as possible from the range States on the African Elephant Action Plan and the African Elephant Fund, Rwanda hosted a meeting of representatives of the Eastern, central and Western Africa sub regions to the African Elephant Action Plan Working Group and the African Elephant Fund Virtual Working Group on 26-29 May 2009 in Kigali. The inputs from the meeting were used to realign the priority activities of the African elephant Action Plan and the development of the draft working document on the African Elephant Fund

b) *Prunus africana* conservation and management

Kenya hosted on 8-11 September 2008 a workshop of the *Prunus africana* Working Group on implementation of recommendations of significant trade review for the *Prunus africana*. The Working Group and the workshop was meant to provide guidance to relevant countries identified as countries of concern regarding trade in *Prunus africana* on the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the review of significant trade for *Prunus africana*. The workshop was supported by Italy, France, Germany and Spain. All the countries identified in the Significant Trade review process as countries of concern in regard to *Prunus africana* trade; Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar and United Republic of Tanzania participated. Uganda participated as a representative Party to the Plants Committee and also as a *Prunus africana* range State

c) Law enforcement Activities

i) enforcement skills to combat wildlife trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa

Seven African countries, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia participated in an investigative training at the International Law Enforcement Academy in Gabarone, Botswana conducted by the USFWS Office focusing on the enforcement skills needed to combat wildlife trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa.

ii) East Africa Rhino Management Group

Kenya hosted a meeting of East Africa Rhino Management Group that was attended by Director's of Wildlife Authorities or their representatives from Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya & Burundi to promote a metapopulation management of black rhinos in Eastern Africa. Kenya was appointed to coordinate this process.

iii) Rhino Enforcement Task Force meeting

Kenya hosted the Rhino Enforcement Task Force meeting in November 2008 where Zimbabwe, South Africa and Mozambique attended the meeting.

d) Capacity Building-CITES training

Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia sent one student each from the Scientific authorities to participate in the 8th edition of the CITES Masters Course at the International University of Andalusia Spain.

Under the assistance of TRAFFIC and CITES Secretariat, Mozambique conducted one week training workshop on law enforcement in Maputo.

Botswana with the assistance of the CITES Secretariat delivered a CITES related presentation at a regional workshop on Trade and Environment for English speaking African countries held in Gabarone in March 2009

e) Participation in CITES Committees:

18th Meeting of the Plants Committee (PC18) and 24th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC24)

Kenya, Namibia, Tanzania and South Africa were represented at 24th Meeting of the Animals Committee (AC24) which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, April 20-24, 2009 and at the 18th meeting of the Plants Committee by the Africa regional representatives to the Animals Committee, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 17 – 21, 2009,

The Region's representatives in consultation with Party members developed the draft document "Improving the Participation of Parties in the African Region in CITES and Strengthening the Implementation of CITES throughout Africa" for consideration by the SC58 meeting. This document posted as SC58 Doc. 46 proposes creation of a Working Group with ToRs on the participation of the African region in CITES to assist with improving communication between and among the Parties and coordination of implementation of the Convention in the region. Kenya, following consultation with the parties in the region for comments/inputs submitted this document to SC58.

f) Participation in International meetings

i) International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-detriment Findings-Decision 14. 49

Kenya, South Africa and United Republic of Tanzania participated and presented case studies in this workshop to share country experiences on Non-detriment Findings in an effort to contribute towards enhancing CITES Scientific authorities' capacities particularly those related to methodologies, tools, information ,expertise and other resources needed to formulate NDFs as required by Articles III and IV of the Convention.

ii) E-Commerce workshop, Vancouver (Canada) 24-26 February 2009- Decision 14.35

Madagascar, Ghana and Kenya participated in the E-Commerce workshop held in Vancouver, Canada on 24-26 February 2009 to examine issues related to electronic commerce in CITES specimens and make recommendations on resolving the problems/issues associated with monitoring and regulating legal trade/combating illegal trade in wildlife via the internet or associated with e-commerce in CITES specimens.

II) National Laws for implementation of the Convention and the National Legislation Project

Kenya; A follow up meeting of the Chief, Legal Affairs and Trade Policy Unit of the Secretariat with Kenya was held at the CITES Management Authority for Kenya in February in the margins of the 25th meeting of the Governing Council to UNEP (Nairobi, February 2009).

Mozambique; legislation under review and has designated by law, the Management Authority and Scientific Authorities.

Namibia; Enactment of the legislation that provides for the implementation of the CITES and incidental matters in Namibia. The Controlled Wildlife Product and Trade was enacted during December 2008, which saw Namibia in category 2.

South Africa; Drafted National Legislation for the implementation of CITES which will be published for the period of 30 days for public comment and which will be published for implementation by the end of 2009.

United Republic of Tanzania; In February, Tanzania (mainland) enacted new legislation which puts more emphasis on the implementation of provisions of the Convention. The review of CITES implementation will accommodate Zanzibar and issues outlined in the new wildlife conservation Act.

Zambia; received comments from the CITES Secretariat to work on the draft legislation. The legislation is now under review and a roadmap has been given to the Secretariat.

III) National reporting to the secretariat

Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia submitted their CITES annual report for 2007-2008 by the set deadline of 31 October 2008.

IV) Species programmes

- a) **South Africa**; there is been reports increased in illegal killing of rhino in the past and one and a half years in South Africa. South Africa is working with other law enforcement agencies in south Africa and in other countries to try and put a stop to rhino poaching and illegal trade. South Africa is also co-operating with the CITES Secretariat
- b) **Zimbabwe**; there is been a review in the national rhino policy and management strategy in light of the increased levels of poaching in the region. An emergency Rhino Action Plan is currently being implemented with the co-operation of other law enforcement agencies.

V) Sale of ivory after CoP 14

Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe sold the ivory after CoP 14 and details are in SC Doc. 36.3 (Rev. 1). Revenue from the sale has been used for elephant conservation and community programmes.

VI) Elephant strategies

Zambia conducted countrywide elephant population surveys in 2008. The current national elephant management plan is under review to enhance the conservation of Zambia's elephant and shared populations. On enforcement matters, Zambia Wildlife Authority is currently working with Zambia Police to combat illegal trade.