

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



Sixty-second meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 23-27 July 2012

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Elephants

Review of Resolution Conf. 10.10. (Rev. CoP15)

REVISION OF THE MIKE AND ETIS SECTIONS
OF RESOLUTION CONF. 10.10 (REV. COP 15)

1. This document has been submitted by Uganda as Chair of the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup of the Standing Committee .
2. At its 61st meeting, the Standing Committee instructed the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup to review those sections of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP 15) that concern MIKE and ETIS.
3. In 2012 Uganda, as chair of the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup, requested the United States of America to lead the review process, to which the United States of America gracefully agreed. A draft revision was prepared and circulated to the MIKE ETIS Subgroup for review and comment. Once the comments of the Subgroup had been integrated, the draft was circulated to all African and Asian elephant range States, in English and in French, as well as to the MIKE and ETIS Technical Advisory Group (TAG).
4. Comments were received from Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria and South Africa, as well as from the TAG.
5. The United States of America incorporated as many of the comments received as possible. However, there were cases where comments conflicted or presented substantive changes that required resolution by the Subgroup, but for which there was insufficient time before the deadline for submission of documents to the present meeting.
6. The draft revision of the MIKE and ETIS sections of the Resolution, current as of 24 May 2012, is presented in Annex 1. Some of the comments that require resolution by the MIKE ETIS Subgroup are included in the document in square brackets. It is hoped that the Subgroup will reach agreement on the bracketed text, through electronic means, prior to SC62, and that the resulting changes will be incorporated in a revised version of this document.
7. On behalf of the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup of the Standing Committee, Uganda would like to express its gratitude to the United States of America for the considerable progress it has made and the broad consultation it has overseen for the revision of the MIKE and ETIS sections of the Resolution.

* *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.*

Regarding monitoring of illegal ~~hunting-killing~~ of and trade in elephant specimens

AGREES that:

- a) the systems known as Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) and the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS), established under the supervision of the Standing Committee, shall continue ~~[and be expanded]~~ with the following objectives:
 - i) measuring and recording levels and trends, and changes in levels and trends, of illegal elephant hunting-killing and trade in ivory in elephant range States, ivory consumer States and in trade entrepôts;
 - ii) assessing whether and to what extent observed trends are related to changes in the listing of elephant populations in the CITES Appendices and/or the resumption of legal international trade in ivory;
 - iii) establishing an information base to support the making of decisions on appropriate management, protection and enforcement needs; and
 - iv) building capacity in elephant range States;
- b) these monitoring systems shall be in accordance with the framework outlined in Annex 1 for Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens and in Annex 2 for Monitoring of illegal ~~hunting-killing~~ in elephant range States;
- c) information on elephant populations, illegal killing of elephants and trade in their products from ~~other~~ credible law enforcement bodies, such as the Lusaka Agreement Task Force, Interpol and ASEAN WEN, and professional resource management and scientific bodies, such as the IUCN SSC African and Asian Elephant Specialist Groups and UNEP-WCMC, should also be taken into consideration; and
- d) data and information from these monitoring systems sources should be consolidated and integrated, with technical oversight will be provided to both MIKE and ETIS through an independent technical advisory group to be established by the [Standing Committee][Secretariat];
- e) the sustainability of the monitoring systems should be ensured, by integrating field-based elephant killing and trade data collection into the routine biodiversity monitoring and law enforcement operations of the range States, and by integrating the information synthesis and analysis mechanisms into CITES decision-making processes relating to trade in elephant specimens.

Annex 1

Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens

1. Introduction

In order to monitor and record levels of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens on a global basis, there is a need for a system to collect and compile law enforcement data on seizures and confiscations. The 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties recognizes ~~recognized~~ the Bad Ivory Database System (BIDS) established by TRAFFIC for this purpose in 1992.

Through further development and refinement, ~~of~~ BIDS, evolved into the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS), ~~was developed~~ which has been used to monitor the pattern and scale of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens since 1998.

2. Scope

ETIS is a comprehensive information system whose central feature is a database holding ~~will include~~ the details of law enforcement records for seizures or confiscations of elephant ivory and other elephant

specimens which have occurred anywhere in the world since 1989. ETIS will also include ~~entails~~ contains a series of subsidiary information on law enforcement effort and efficiency, rates of reporting, legal and illegal elephant product markets, governance and background economic data and other factors.

3. **Methods**

Data and information on illegal trade in elephant ivory and other elephant specimens will be collected by TRAFFIC in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat. In this regard, a standardized methodology will be developed for the collection of data, including, *inter alia*:

- source of information
- date of seizure
- agency responsible for seizure
- type of transaction
- country of seizure
- country of origin
- country of export
- country of destination/import
- type of ivory and quantity
- [law enforcement outcome]
- mode of transport
- *modus operandi*
- ~~profile of offenders/nationality of suspects~~
- ~~status of cases in the courts~~
- ~~law enforcement effort.~~

~~A Standardized data collection form has been designed and circulated to all Parties by the CITES Secretariat. will be promoted through a number of mechanisms and formats, including direct on-line data submission to the ETIS website, using the ETIS Data Collection Form for individual seizure cases or the ETIS Data Collection Spreadsheet for reporting multiple seizure cases at one time. Reporting elephant product seizure cases using other formats is also acceptable.~~

4. **Data collection and compilation**

The MIKE and ETIS Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will support the development and implementation of ETIS. ETIS will be managed and coordinated by TRAFFIC in consultation with the TAG [and the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup].

All Parties should provide information on seizures and confiscations of ivory or other elephant specimens ~~or~~ in the prescribed form formats either to the Secretariat or directly to TRAFFIC within 90 days of their occurrence. In addition, law enforcement agencies in non-Party States ~~not party~~ are also requested to provide such information.

TRAFFIC will assist the relevant Parties with the collection of data, ensure data quality and consistency, and provide tools and training in data collection and information management techniques to designated officials around the world as appropriate.

5. *Data analysis and interpretation*

The analysis and interpretation of data will be coordinated by TRAFFIC in association with the CITES Secretariat and institutions involved with monitoring the illegal ~~hunting-killing~~ of elephants (see Annex 2) and in consultation with the TAG [and the MIKE-ETIS Subgroup].

6. *Reporting*

TRAFFIC will produce a comprehensive analytical report with full explanatory and interpretive notes for each meeting of the Conference of the Parties and other reports and updates on ETIS to the Standing Committee and other related fora and meetings as appropriate.

7. *Intersessional remedial action*

In the event that there is a need for urgent intersessional action, TRAFFIC will report to the Standing Committee via the Secretariat as appropriate. [***Recommendation to elaborate on what might constitute a need for urgent intersessional action and on the mechanism for responding to such a situation.***]

8. *Funding*

A funding mechanism will be established to ensure that ETIS is fully operational.

Annex 2

Monitoring of illegal ~~hunting-killing~~ in elephant range States

1. *Introduction*

In order to address the concerns of many elephant range States, ~~it is necessary to establish a system has been established to monitor trends in levels of illegal killing of elephants and to elucidate factors associated with such trends through which the impact of CITES decisions with respect to elephants and trade in elephant specimens can be assessed. Of primary importance is the establishment of.~~ The system relies on ~~a simple, standardized protocols system of~~ for international reporting of incidents of illegal killing, from which levels and trends can be determined and changes in these levels and trends can be detected.

~~It is recognized that s~~Such measurement ~~must consists~~ of two elements. The first of these is the monitoring of parameters relevant to the issue, such as the pattern and scale of illegal killing ~~of elephants,~~ the pattern and scale of illegal trade in ivory, as well as the effort and resources being applied to detection and/or prevention, and the monetary value of illegally traded ivory, ~~as well as other factors that might affect these parameters, such as civil strife, the flow of illegal arms and ammunition, loss of habitat and drought.~~

The second element is the establishment of correlations between relevant parameters, identified above, and decisions of the Conference of the Parties with regard to elephants. Other factors at the site and at country and global levels, such as civil strife, the flow of illegal arms and ammunition, loss of habitat, and drought will also be examined. ~~and decisions of the Conference of the Parties with regard to elephants.~~

The overall aim of this system is to provide information needed for range States and other Parties to CITES to make appropriate management and enforcement decisions, and to build institutional capacity within the range States for the long-term management of their elephant populations by improving their ability to monitor elephant populations, detect changes in levels of illegal killing, and to use this information to provide more effective law enforcement and to strengthen any regulatory measures required to support such enforcement. The system should be established in such a way that it can continue after financial support for the programme has come to an end.

2. *Scope and methodology*

The monitoring system ~~will includes~~ elephant range States in both Africa and Asia ~~and trade entrepots.~~

~~It will be~~The monitoring system is based on a standardized methodology for the reporting of illegal elephant ~~hunting killing,~~ by relevant CITES Management Authorities in range States, and for monitoring in

specific sites or areas. Relevant databases and standard reporting protocols ~~will be~~ have been established by the CITES Secretariat and implementing partners in consultation with the range States and the MIKE and ETIS TAG.

3. Roles and responsibilities ~~Data collection, compilation, and reporting~~

Elephant range States are primarily responsible for the collection and regular submission of field data as part of their routine biodiversity monitoring activities. Data collection ~~will~~ covers the following topics:

- elephant population data/trends;
- incidence and patterns of illegal ~~hunting-killing~~; and
- measures of the effort and resources employed in detection and prevention of illegal hunting and trade.

~~Data and information on illegal hunting and illegal trade in ivory will be collected through active communication with range States through the implementation of MIKE and ETIS (see Annex 1).~~

The CITES Secretariat is primarily responsible for global data compilation, analysis and reporting, but may request/sub-contract technical support from appropriate experts and organizations, with the advice of the TAG, ~~to~~ for the coordination of the following activities:

- a) Obtain and compile data and information on illegal elephant ~~hunting-killing~~ and elephant populations through active communication with range States.
- b) select sites for monitoring as ~~representative samples,~~ and expand that the number of samples as appropriate, to the maximum extent possible;
- c) develop and refine a standardized methodology for data collection analysis;
- d) facilitate the provision of ~~provide~~ training to designated officials in countries with selected sites and to CITES Management Authorities of elephant range States;
- e) establish appropriate databases and develop linkages with existing databases containing relevant data for analysis;
- f) collate and process all data and information from all sources identified; and
- g) provide a reports to the CITES Secretariat for transmission to the Standing Committee and Parties to CITES ~~the CoP.~~

The CITES Secretariat or implementing partners may enter into specific agreements with range States regarding the implementation of the monitoring system.

4. Data access and release

Summaries and the aggregates of data provided to MIKE system, and analyses of such data, will be considered to be in the public domain once they are published on the CITES website. Detailed data on individual elephant mortalities or law enforcement data submitted to MIKE are owned by the respective range States. Such data will be accessible to members of the TAG and to the respective range State for review purposes, but will not be released to any third party without the consent of the range State concerned.

Data on elephant populations will be maintained by the existing systems established by the IUCN SSC African and Asian Elephant Specialist Groups, to which the MIKE system will have direct access. Access by and release to third parties will be subject to the standard data release policies of those Specialist Groups. [Data may be released to contractors (e.g., statisticians) under appropriate non-disclosure agreements.]

45. Reporting

The CITES Secretariat will provide an updated report on information collected, as part of this monitoring programme, at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and at any other time as required by the Standing Committee.

56. Funding and operational support

Substantial funding ~~will be~~ is required for the above activities. It is expected that most of the data collection functions will be absorbed into routine national-level biodiversity monitoring and law enforcement activities, but a long-term support mechanism will be required to ensure the continuity and sustainability of coordination, provision of refresher training, and global data compilation, analysis and reporting. In this regard, the CITES Secretariat will maintain existing partnerships and establish new ones as appropriate, such as the existing collaboration with IUCN in support of activities in the field and the provision and compilation of elephant population data.