

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

Other proposals

Introduction

The Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CITES (Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, 1994) authorized Peru to transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II all Peruvian vicuña populations in order to utilize this resource with the specific intent of permitting international trade in sheared vicuña fibres from live animals whose populations are included in Appendix II and existing stocks in Peru (3,249 kilos of fibre), of cloth and of products made from these fibres. A logo must appear on the reverse side of this cloth. This logo was adopted by the countries within the vicuña's range and by the signatories to the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña. On the borders of the cloth, the designation "VICUÑANDES - CHILE" or "VICUÑANDES - PERU" should appear, depending on the country of origin.

A: Proposal

Replace the designation "VICUÑANDES - [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]" with "VICUÑA [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]" for use in international trade of cloth and derivatives of vicuña fibre from live animals, while maintaining the logo approved by the Sixth Conference of the Parties of CITES.

B: Proponent

Peru, representing the signatories to the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña.

C: Supporting Statement1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class		Mammalia
1.2 Order		Artiodactyla
1.3 Family		Camelidae
1.4 Genus and species		<i>Vicugna vicugna</i>
1.5 Scientific synonyms		-
1.6 Common names	Spanish	Vicuña
	Aymara	Huari
	English	Vicuña
	French	Vigogne
	German	Vikunga
	Quechua	Vicuña
1.7 Code numbers	CITES	A-119.004.002.002
	ISIS	5301419004002002001
	FAO	1.19.031.001
	RDB-1	19.123.2.1.V

2. Biological Parameters

It is extremely important that there be a designation for cloth using vicuña fibres traded internationally by the signatories to the Convention for the Vicuña, in order to regulate this trade and, therefore, support conservation of this species.

Peru has entered into specific agreements with international firms for the processing of vicuña fibres into cloth using modern technology. This product should bear the designation "VICUÑA" followed by the name of the country of origin. The work carried out by Peru will allow international trade in this cloth, bearing a designation guaranteeing the type and origin of these products and the conservation of this species.

The designation originally adopted tends to produce confusion in international trade regarding the origin of the fibre and, therefore, the authenticity of the product. We feel that the designation "VICUÑANDES" is suitable for a person, but not for an article. It is a collective, not singular, noun; a noun which evokes an action; a word difficult to memorize and lacking the connotation of high quality.

Reference is made to the agreements of the IV Special Meeting of the Technical Management Commission of the Convention for the Vicuña held in Lima, Peru from 19 to 20 December 1994 and the XV Regular Meeting of the Technical Management Commission of the Convention for the Vicuña held in Jujuy, Argentina from 1 to 3 November 1995 stating the approval of the member countries of the Peruvian proposal to change the designation "VICUÑANDES [country of origin]" to "VICUÑA [country of origin]".

IV Special Meeting of the Technical Management Commission of the Convention for the Vicuña, Lima, Peru 1994

Resolution 19 E/94

Adopts the designation "VICUÑA - [country of origin]" in place of "VICUÑANDES - [country of origin]" for the identification of cloth and vicuña products commercialized by the signatories to the Convention.

Maintains the logo adopted by the signatories to the Convention and whose design is included in the report prepared by Peru. This logo was referred to in Resolution 59/87 and was approved during the Sixth Conference of the Parties of CITES (Ottawa, 1987). Requests that the signatories to the Convention register domestically and internationally the trademark "VICUÑA [country of origin]" and that the pro tempore secretary of the Convention inform CITES in the name of the signatories about the decision to adopt the trademark "VICUÑA - [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]."

XV Regular Meeting of the Technical Management Commission of the Convention for the Vicuña (Jujuy, Argentina, 1995)

Resolution 161/95

Requests that Chile and Peru present in the name of the signatories to the Convention for the Vicuña to the CITES Secretariat a request to replace the designation "VICUÑANDES - [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]" by "VICUÑA - [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]" for approval by the Parties following the procedure established in Paragraph 2 of Article XV of the Convention stating the procedures for amending Appendices I and II between meetings or, if necessary, at the meeting of the Tenth Conference of the Parties.

2.1 Distribution and habitat availability

Peru has the largest population of this species, distributed throughout the high Andean region up to the borders with Bolivia and Chile, throughout an area of 6,600,000 hectares (out of a total of 15,000,000 hectares) in the departments of Ancash, Apurimac, Arequipa, Ayacucho, Cajamarca, Cuzco, Huancavelica, Huánuco, Junín, La Libertad, Lima, Moquegua, Pasco, Puno and Tacna. The largest populations are found in the departments of Ayacucho and Lima.

The vicuña's habitat is the Andean altiplano at an altitude of 3200 to 4600 metres, in an area which coincides with the biogeographic province of the puna.

2.2 Population status and trends

A survey carried out in 1994 of the vicuña population in Peru found 66,559 specimens in an area of 6,598 137 hectares. All of the vicuña population of Peru is included in Appendix II of CITES, in accordance with the agreement reached during the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Fort Lauderdale, Florida,

1994) for the sole purpose of permitting international trade in sheared fibre from live vicuñas and in cloth made from vicuña fibre using the logo and designation, "VICUÑANDES PERU".

The Peruvian government through the Ministry of Agriculture and with the participation of the "Comunidades Campesinas" has been carrying out an intensive promotional programme since 1994 for the conservation, management and use of the vicuña. Equipment and technical assistance have been provided, and this has led to an increase in the rate of population increase and to the curtailing of the harmful effects of illegal hunting during the past four years. The vicuña population is now estimated to be 75,000 specimens.

2.3 Threats

Illegal hunting is considered to be the principal threat, but it is currently under control. Nonetheless, in order to ensure that this species is not threatened, Peru continues to pursue actively a policy of protecting this resource, and the "Comunidades Campesinas", now owners of the vicuña herds, have become directly involved in the programme against illegal hunting and trade in vicuña fibre and in the capture and sheering of wild vicuñas in order to eliminate the possibility of illegal hunting and to create legal trade in products produced with the vicuña fibre obtained from live animals.

3. Utilization and Trade

3.1 National utilization

Parliamentary Decree 653 and Decreto Supremo 048-91-AG establish regulations for trade in vicuña fibre and derivatives obtained from live animals and authorised culling of vicuña populations carried out by rural organizations under government supervision.

Article 4 of **Decreto Supremo 26496**, dated 23 June 1995, concerning the ownership, trade and hunting of vicuña, guanaco and their crossbreeds authorizes the "Comunidades Campesinas", as owners of the herds of vicuñas, guanacos and their crossbreeds, to store, utilize and trade the fibre or products manufactured therefrom directly or through agreements with third parties, either Peruvian or of other nationality, under strict compliance with international agreements and under the supervision of the Peruvian government.

Decreto Supremo 007-96-AG, dated 7 June 1996, establishes Regulation 26496, concerning the ownership, trade and hunting of vicuña, guanaco and their crossbreeds.

Peruvian rural organizations involved in the management and use of the vicuña have entered into specific agreements with foreign companies under government supervision, for the manufacture of cloth using vicuña fibre and for their international sale using advanced technology through a system of joint ventures that allows the producers of fibre to control the production process and to profit directly from greater value added to the final product.

3.2 Legal international trade

In 1987, Peru and Chile obtained authorization from the Sixth Conference of the Parties of CITES to trade in cloth and derivatives from the sheering of live animals included in Appendix II of CITES, using the designation "VICUÑANDES", and the designation "CITES PRE-OTTAWA 1987" for trade in cloth and products from authorised culling.

3.3 Illegal trade

Efforts have been successful to eliminate and control illegal hunting that during the past four years has significantly affected vicuña populations and illegal trade. This is due to Law 26496 that grants Andean rural organizations ownership and the use of the vicuña and guanaco herds on their lands and that imposes drastic sanctions on illegal hunting with prison sentences from 2 to 25 years.

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

Illegal trade in cloth or derivatives risks leading to the further illegal hunting, although this could be controlled with strict enforcement by the police, the judiciary and customs officials, and especially with direct involvement of rural organizations in the protection and the use of the vicuña. In addition, there should be strict control of the whole productive process and international recognition of the designation for vicuña products and the drafting and dissemination of appropriate legislation.

4. Conservation and Management

4.1 Legal status

4.1.1 National

Parliamentary decree 653 establishes a law on the promotion of investment in the agrarian sector and promotes the development and the protection of the vicuña and the guanaco by entrusting the custodianship and use of the herds of these species to the Andean rural communities.

Decreto Supremo 0048-91-AG, establishing the regulations mandated by Parliamentary decree 653, establishes the provisions of the parliamentary decree concerning the vicuña.

Decreto Supremo 0040-91-AG redefines the aims and attributions of the "Consejo Nacional de la Vicuña".

The code for environmental and natural resources (Parliamentary decree 613) establishes important measures relating to renewable and non-renewable natural resources concerning the vicuña.

With respect to the vicuña in Peru, considered a wildlife species under government protection, **Parliamentary decree 635** and the new penal code establish harsh penalties for damage to the country's natural resources which is considered an ecological crime.

Decreto Supremo 0026-92-AG declares the promotion, conservation, development, improvement and the use of South American ruminant (genus *Lama*) to be of national interest. This includes the vicuña and the "Consejo Nacional de Camélidos Sudamericanos (CONACS)".

Law 25902 creates the "Instituto Nacional de Recursos Naturales (INRENA)" whose aim is the management and the rational and full use of renewable resources and their context, including wildlife, in order to achieve sustainable development. In addition, INRENA is the designated CITES management authority for Peru. This law also ratifies Peruvian participation in CONACS.

Decreto Supremo 12-95-AG, dated 20 May 1995, requires the declaration of all existing products containing vicuña fibre.

Law 26496, dated 11 July 1995, establishes provisions for the ownership, trade and the hunting of vicuña, guanaco and their crossbreeds and grants ownership of the herds of these animals to the Andean rural communities.

Decreto Supremo 007-96-AG, dated 7 June 1996, establishes regulations authorized by law 26496 concerning the ownership, trade and hunting of vicuña, guanaco and their crossbreeds and establishes the "Registro Unico de Camélidos Sudamericanos Silvestres del Perú".

4.1.2 International

Law 21080, passed in 1975, ratifies Peruvian participation in CITES.

Law 22984, dated 15 April 1980, ratifies Peruvian participation in the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña.

4.2 Species management

4.2.1 Population monitoring

The government's direct responsibility for the protection of the vicuña is delegated to the Ministry of Agriculture which through CONACS, INRENA and its regional offices regulates, supervises and implements technical field measures for the main vicuña populations. Regulation and monitoring are carried out in the national parks and reserves (protected nature areas) as well as in private areas belonging to the rural communities. In these areas, protection is carried out with the direct participation of rural organizations organized into local "Comités Comunales de la Vicuña" and on the national level by the "Sociedad Nacional de Criadores de Vicuñas y Guanacos del Perú."

4.2.2 Habitat conservation

The Ministry of Agriculture through specific agreements with CONACS and INRENA has prepared a programme to increase protection and to produce staff and logistical support in the protected nature areas (Parque Nacional Huascarán, Reserva Nacional de Pampas Galeras and the Reserva Nacional de Salinas y Aguada Blanca).

The "Sociedad Nacional de Criadores de Vicuñas del Perú" intends to increase protection in communal areas where vicuñas are found through the participation of communal organizations and the "Comités Comunales de Vicuña".

Existing official protected areas do not cover all of the vicuña's habitat in Peru.

4.2.3 Management measures

Under the National Plan for the Vicuña, studies are being carried out to define and create a network of protected areas throughout the species's range in Peru. In addition to the conservation of the vicuña, this network seeks to preserve the vicuña's genetic diversity.

4.3 Control measures

4.3.1 International trade

The Ninth Conference of the Parties of CITES (Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, November 1994) authorized transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II of all populations of Peruvian vicuñas.

The Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña provides a legal and technical framework for the adoption of decisions on the sustainable use of the vicuña throughout its range, ensuring the conservation of all South American vicuña populations.

4.3.2 Domestic measures

With the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Parliament and the private sector, represented by the "Sociedad Nacional de la Vicuña del Perú", Law 26496 was adopted on the ownership, trade and hunting of vicuña, guanaco and their crossbreeds, and the regulations provided for by Decreto Supremo 007-96-AG establish heavy penalties for the illegal hunting of vicuñas with penalties ranging from 2 to 25 years of prison. Decreto Supremo 12-96-AG provides for the declaration and the registration of all products with vicuña fibre. In addition, the ecological police is supporting the "Comites Comunales de la Vicuña" by including the "Comunidades Campesinas" in areas with vicuña populations in the "ecological brigades" that the national police has organized in order to prevent illegal trade in vicuña products and to prevent illegal hunting. The Ministry of Agriculture, through CONACS and INRENA, and the "Sociedad Nacional de la Vicuña", through its own organizations, have maintained control and supervision of the main areas of vicuña populations throughout its range with federal and communal park rangers. As part of activities to promote the species, international workshops have been held on the control, management and sustainable use of the vicuña.

5. Other Comments

The legal status of the ownership and the use of the vicuña in Peru is a decisive aspect for the protection of the species because the majority of the vicuña populations are found in lands held by the "Comunidades Campesinas".

