



REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE 66TH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

At the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee of CITES (SC66) that took place in January 2016, the Standing Committee adopted the following recommendations on Rhinoceros related to Mozambique and South Africa (SC66 Com. 7):

j) encourage Mozambique and South Africa to:

- i) conclude the signature of the MoU Implementation Plan, and consultations and sign-off of the 2015/2016 Action Plan and the Terms of Reference as required in the MoU signed by them, described in paragraph 37 of document SC66 Doc. 51.1, as a matter of urgency;*
- ii) progress the draft treaties on extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in criminal matters submitted to Mozambique by South Africa, as described in paragraph 39 of document SC66 Doc. 51.1, as a matter of urgency; and*
- iii) invite Mozambique and South Africa to jointly submit a report to the Secretariat on progress made with the matters outlined in recommendation j) i) and ii), by 30 June 2016, so that the Secretariat can make the report available to the Standing Committee at SC67.*

As required in terms of recommendation j) iii) above, Mozambique and South Africa jointly report to the CITES Secretariat on the matters outlined in recommendations j) i) and ii).

In response to paragraph j) i), please find attached Annexure A containing:

- a) the MoU Implementation Plan, signed in 2015 – NOTE: Confidential;
- b) the Terms of Reference of the Joint Management Committee (adopted on 8 June 2016) – NOTE: Confidential; and
- c) The 2015/16 Action Plan – NOTE: Confidential

In response to paragraph j) ii), please note the following progress made:

- Officials of the South African Department of Justice and Correctional Services visited Mozambique to discuss the draft treaties on extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in criminal matters and draft documents were subsequently sent to Mozambique for its consideration. The Department in South Africa received confirmation that Mozambican officials received the document and that they will provide comments in due course. Both countries remain committed to give this matter the attention it deserves.
- With regard to an awareness raising session for the Mozambican Judiciary relating to wildlife crime, the South African Judicial Training Institute (SAJEI) in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa) is planning a Colloquium from 30 November - 2 December 2016 in South Africa. The Department is currently in communication with Mozambique regarding this matter.
- Officials from the Department of Environmental Affairs (South Africa) visited Mozambique (ANAC) twice to collect DNA samples from Rhino horns seized by Mozambican officials. The DNA samples were brought to South Africa for analysis.
- Co-operation between law enforcement officials from both countries takes place on a regular basis and South Africa has committed to supply ANAC officials with a scanner to enable Mozambican officials to scan rhino horns for micro-chips.
- The South African Revenue Service has assisted Mozambique to train detector dogs specifically for the detection of wildlife products such as rhino horn and ivory.
- Regular communication between South African National Parks (SANParks) staff and the Mozambique police occurs at formal meetings where joint planning is done. This open channel of communication has ensured mutual invitations to participate in investigations subsequent to arrest of rhino horn seizures in both countries.
- Interaction between SANParks and ANAC is cordial, frequent and both formal and informal. With this sister organization, conservation and law enforcement matters are pursued in both the Limpopo National Park and Greater Limpopo Concessions. This ensures inter-operability because of similar equipment and training. Good cross border cooperation is ensured with all law enforcement agencies. The formal MoU and the detail action plan led to the formulation of a Standard Operating Procedure that ensured sound joint cross border operations based on shared intelligence on a continuous basis.
- With regards to the GLC, it should be noted that in close coordination with ANAC, the cooperation with individual concessions are pursued and this ensures effective law enforcement especially as part of the Intensive Protection Zone (IPZ) concept in the south of the Kruger National Park.