

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



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TIGER RANGE STATE REPORT – CHINA

The attached document has been submitted by China in compliance with Decision 14.65 (*Asian big cats*).*

* *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 Implementation of Res. Conf. 12.5 and Decision 14.69 in China

In order to meet Decision 14.65, we would like to introduce the progress made by China in implementation of Res. Conf. 14.65 and Decision 14.69 as following,

1. Regarding the Progress in Implementation of Res. Conf. 12.5

- 1.1 Tiger was listed on category I of China's National Key Protected Animals in 1988. Any hunting and catching of tiger has been strictly forbidden. All poaching of and illegal trade in tiger should be handled as criminal case. The maximum penalization to the smuggling of tiger or its parts and derivatives is life imprisonment or death, concurrently with a confiscation of his/her property;
- 1.2 Over 20 nature reserves have been established in the confirmed and possible tiger habitats, where 7 are at the national level. The management authorities are set up for routine patrol in the reserves. For the conservation of tigers outside of the reserves, many efforts are also made in setting up wildlife authority, capacity building, strict enforcement and public education;
- 1.3 The implementation of National Project for Conversion of Farmland to Forest and National Project for Protection of Nature Forest in the tiger habitats in recent years have made the tiger habitat expanded, recovered and optimized in China;
- 1.4 In order to support the global wild tiger conservation effort, the State Council of China prohibited the trade in tiger bone in 1993. Such policy had resulted in enormous economic losses in China;
- 1.5 The relevant wildlife enforcement agencies have put the enforcement of tiger trade ban as their priority and made many tiger relevant seizures in 16 years;
- 1.6 The wildlife authorities at all levels have widely carried out education programs to raise the public awareness in an effort to make them not purchase the tiger products;
- 1.7 China is implementing its National Wildlife Conservation and Nature Reserve Construction Project. The releasing of captive bred tigers into the wild is being considered by the project. In achieving so, some captive bred tigers are being trained in an imitated nature environment and some releasing sites are being selected;
- 1.8 China has signed multi-lateral MOU on tiger conservation with India and Russia respectively, and implemented many cooperative tiger conservation projects with international NGOs. The enforcement officials from India, Nepal and ASEAN-WEN have been invited to visit China for the purpose of promoting the exchange of intelligence and the cooperation of tiger enforcement. Three sub-regional CITES enforcement workshops had been organized by China since 2005 and the officials from Cambodia, India, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand and Viet Nam attended such events. The conservation and trade control of tiger were always on the agendas;
- 1.9 In an effort to promote the combating on tiger related crime, the Workshop on Control of Trade in Endangered Species in West China are held annually since 2005. We are happy to see the illegal trade in tiger parts has been reduced significantly;
- 1.10 The stockpiled and household tiger and leopard skins and derivates are being registered and labeled, and the online trade in tiger parts and derivates are being monitored and handled timely;
- 1.11 Many tiger bone substitutes have been developed and approved for medicinal use;
- 1.12 In response to the requirement of Res. Conf. 12.5, China is evaluating its strategy beneficial to the global wild tiger conservation and two opposed views are already on the table. However, China takes a very

cautious approach to these two views. We'll continue to collect the relevant information and do the intensive policy research.

2. Regarding the Progress in Implementation of Decision 14.69

- 2.1 China reiterates that it has strictly implemented the provisions of the CITES text. Any commercial export, import and export of tiger specimens is forbidden.
- 2.2 Most of the captive tigers have been labeled with microchip by the wildlife authority and a centralized database has been developed for monitoring of the farmed tiger.
- 2.3 The Chinese government has informed the major tiger farms about the Decision 14.69. The major tiger farms are considering or have already taken the relevant measures and the growth of their captive tiger population has slowed down.
- 2.4 The major tiger farms have evacuated some of their captive bred individuals by tour exhibition, adoption and donation. The public awareness on conservation of tiger has been raised by those activities.