

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Species specific matters

Pangolins (*Manis* spp.)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE AND THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

1. This document has been submitted by the Standing Committee in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee.*
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.238 to 18.243 on *Pangolins* (*Manis* spp.), as follows:

Directed to all pangolin range States

18.238 *All pangolin range States that have not yet done so, are encouraged to take urgent steps to develop and implement in situ pangolin management and conservation programmes, which includes population assessments, as anticipated in paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on Conservation of and trade in pangolins, and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.*

Directed to the Secretariat

18.239 *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts and in collaboration with the pangolin range States to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species, that will enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for court purposes.*

18.240 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *report on the implementation of Decisions 18.238 and 18.239, to the Animals Committee, as appropriate;*
- b) *bring any tools or materials brought to its attention in accordance with Decision 18.242, to the attention of the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, as appropriate, together with any recommendations it may have, and taking into account any subsequent recommendations from the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, make such tools or materials available to the Parties;*

* 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.

- c) *subject to external funding, work with relevant experts and the pangolin range States to prepare a report for review by the Animals Committee and Standing Committee on:*
 - i) *the national conservation status of pangolin species,*
 - ii) *legal and illegal trade in pangolins,*
 - iii) *stocks of specimens of pangolins and stockpile management, and*
 - iv) *enforcement issues.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.241 *The Standing Committee shall:*

- a) *consider the report and any recommendations of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.240 paragraphs b) and c), and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decision 18.243;*
- b) *make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and*
- c) *report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have, to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.*

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and nongovernmental organizations

18.242 *Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that develop tools or materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10, are invited to bring such tools or materials to the attention of the Secretariat.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.243 *The Animals Committee shall review any information brought to its attention by the Secretariat in accordance with Decisions 18.238, 18.239, 18.240 and 18.242, and make recommendations as appropriate to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.*

3. The Secretariat reported on the implementation of the Decisions to the Animals Committee at its 31st meeting (AC31, online, June 2021) in document [AC31 Doc. 27](#) and its [addendum](#), and to the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting (SC74, Lyon, March 2022) in document [SC74 Doc. 73](#).
4. In the context of Decision 18.238, the Secretariat did not receive any information from the pangolin range States. At SC74, the Standing Committee encouraged all pangolin range States to step up efforts and actively pursue the implementation of Decision 18.238, by taking urgent steps, where not yet done, to develop and implement *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes, which include population assessments. Further, the Committee agreed to propose to the 19th meeting of the Conference of Parties (CoP19) the renewal of Decision 18.238.
5. At AC31, the Animals Committee was unable to consider the development of conversion parameters for all pangolin species as anticipated by Decision 18.239 since these parameters were not yet finalized and available at the time of AC31. The Animals Committee therefore agreed to extend this work beyond CoP19 and to propose a draft decision to CoP19 in this regard. In consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee, this draft decision has been prepared and is included in the present document as draft decision 19.AA in Annex 1.
6. In accordance with Decision 18.240 and thanks to generous funding from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Strategic Programme of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), the Secretariat, in cooperation with relevant experts and pangolin range States, prepared a report on the national conservation status of pangolin species; legal and illegal trade in pangolins; stocks of specimens of pangolins and stockpile management; and enforcement issues. The report is available as [Annex 2](#) to document [SC74 Doc. 73](#).

7. SC74 also noted the information on tools or materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins*, submitted by some Parties in response to [Notification to the Parties No. 2021/016](#) of 5 February 2021 (Annex 2 to document SC74 Doc. 73). A number of Parties indicated that they have, or are, developing such tools or materials. The Standing Committee reminded Parties about the [Pangolin Species Identification Guide and reference materials](#) developed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and encouraged Parties to bring the guide and materials to the attention of all relevant authorities.
8. In order to continue its work on pangolins, the Standing Committee agreed to submit to CoP19 draft decisions 19.BB to 19.FF as contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

Recommendations:

9. The Conference of the Parties is invited to renew Decision 18.238 and adopt the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON *PANGOLINS* (MANIS SPP.)

Revised Decision: Added text shown underlined and deleted text shown in ~~strike through~~.

Directed to all pangolin range States

18.238 (Rev. CoP19)

All pangolin range States that have not yet done so, are encouraged to take urgent steps to develop and implement *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes, which includes population assessments, as anticipated in paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on Conservation of and trade in pangolins, and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

New Decisions:

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.AA The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review the conversion parameters for all pangolin species, developed in accordance with the provisions of Decision 18.239, to enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, and that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for law enforcement and court purposes; and
- b) make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.

Directed to Parties

19.BB All Parties are strongly encouraged to identify seized pangolin specimens at species level and report the seizures at species level in their annual illegal trade reports.

19.CC Parties in whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist are encouraged to take urgent steps to establish and apply, where not yet done, strict control measures to secure these stocks, as called for in paragraph 3 of [Resolution Conf. 17.10](#) on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins* and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.DD The Secretariat shall:

- a) issue a Notification inviting Parties, international organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that developed identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, to bring such materials to the attention of the Secretariat;
- b) bring any materials reported in accordance with Decision 19.CC paragraph a) to the attention of the Animals Committee, together with any recommendations the Secretariat may have;
- c) subject to external funding, provide training to Parties on the identification of pangolin specimens;
- d) work with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to initiate activities and support the efforts of Parties to address illegal trade in Pangolin specimens; and
- e) report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decision 19.CC.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 19.EE** The Animals Committee shall review existing identification materials concerning pangolin species, their parts and derivatives, and consider the need for new or additional materials to be developed, including to support the identification of seized pangolin specimens at species level, and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.FF** The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the report and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decisions 19.AA and 19.DD, and make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and
- b) report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.