

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



Thirty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 19 – 23 June 2023

COMPENDIUM

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Secretariat has summarized in this compendium the status of implementation of Decisions directed to the Secretariat and the Animals Committee that feature in its workplan (see document AC32 Doc. 8.2) regarding the *Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative*, *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*, *Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (*Panthera pardus*) hunting trophies*, *Appropriate and acceptable destinations* and *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices*. The updates contained in this document are for the Animals Committee to note.

Strategic matters

Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative

3. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.59, 18.60 (Rev. CoP19), 18.61, 19.24 and 19.25 on the *Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative* as follows:

Directed to range States of African carnivores

- 18.59** *Relevant range States of African carnivores are urged to work through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to implement CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.*

Directed to Parties

- 18.60 (Rev. CoP19)** *Parties are invited to recognize the importance of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative in implementing CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by the Initiative, and in seeking synergies as appropriate to implement complementary CMS resolutions and decisions.*

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

- 18.61** *Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support relevant African range States, through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, in their implementation of CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.*

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.24** *The Secretariat shall inform the Animals Committee regarding the activities and outputs of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI) that relate to the Committee's mandate and request advice from the Animals Committee, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 19.25** *The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on information that it provides regarding the activities and outputs of the ACI that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.*

4. The CITES and CMS Secretariats are organizing the Second Meeting of range States of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI) to be held from 1 to 4 May 2023 in Entebbe, Uganda. This meeting is made possible through the generous financial support provided by the European Commission, Switzerland, the Federal Government of Belgium and the Flemish Government.
5. The Programme of Work (POW) for the ACI was approved by the Standing Committee of CITES ([Notification to the Parties No. 2021/054](#)) in September 2021. Subsequently, this revised Programme of Work was put to the CMS Standing Committee at its 52nd meeting in September 2021 and approved by that body ([UNEP/CMS/STC52/Report](#)). It incorporates existing conservation strategies or comparable guidelines developed under the auspices of CITES and/or CMS, and Resolutions and Decisions of the Conferences of Parties (CoPs) of the two Conventions, for the four species covered by the ACI, i.e., African lion (*Panthera leo*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), and African wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*). It also calls for establishing structures for a sustainable funding mechanism for the ACI POW, as well as structures for the implementation of the POW (including regular range State meetings).
6. The main objective of the meeting in Entebbe is for range States to discuss the ACI POW, its implementation, including an assessment of progress at the national level, and prioritization of activities; conservation issues specific to the species covered by the ACI; and operational matters for the future of the ACI (including its governance, *modus operandi*, monitoring of implementation and funding). The Secretariat will provide an update on the outcomes of the discussions to the Animals Committee at the present meeting under the

respective agenda items, i.e., *African lions* (*Panthera leo*) (see document AC32 Doc. 32) and *Leopards* (*Panthera pardus*) *in Africa* (see document AC32 Doc. 33).

7. The Secretariat will furthermore inform the Animals Committee regarding the activities and outputs of the ACI that relate to the Committee's mandate as required in terms of Decision 19.24.

Regulation of trade

Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction

8. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.135 to 19.139 on *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

19.135 *The Secretariat shall invite Parties, other governments and stakeholders through a Notification to the Parties to submit information on their experiences in making non-detriment findings for specimens of CITES Appendix II-listed species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction, to share any non-detriment findings (NDFs) produced, to highlight any difficulties encountered in the process and any suggestions they might have for improvements.*

19.136 *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding:*

- a) *convene a technical workshop to consider how non-detriment findings might best be achieved for the introduction from the sea of specimens of CITES Appendix II-listed, commercially exploited aquatic organisms taken by multiple Parties in waters beyond national jurisdiction; and invite workshop participants and Parties to contribute relevant information and expertise at the workshop;*
- b) *invite the Animals Committee, the Secretariats of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and relevant daughter agreements and MoUs, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), other Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs), other relevant scientific advisory bodies, representatives from States especially those which flag vessels which undertake high seas fisheries, importing countries, fishery stakeholder and industry representatives, and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in this workshop;*
- c) *taking into consideration the responses to the Notification to the Parties in Decision 19.135, existing NDFs submitted by Parties for specimens taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction, outcomes of the second international expert workshop on Non-detriment findings and any other relevant information, prepare workshop documents on:*
 - i) *the level (current and anticipated) of trade in CITES-listed species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction;*
 - ii) *the difficulties encountered by Parties when making NDFs for specimens taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction;*
 - iii) *the current role, if any, of RFMOs and other RFBs in making data and information available to CITES Scientific Authorities making non-detriment findings; and*
- d) *submit findings and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee for their consideration and to make recommendations to the Standing Committee for its consideration, and any recommendations to be considered by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.137 *The Animals Committee shall consider the report of the workshop in Decision 19.136 and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Standing Committee as appropriate.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.138 *The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations and comments of the Animals Committee and shall submit recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

19.139 *Parties, intergovernmental organizations, RFMOs and other RFBs, non-governmental organizations, fishery stakeholders and others are encouraged to respond to the Notification issued by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.135.*

9. The Secretariat estimated a total cost of USD 120,000 to implement Decision 19.136 (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2023/024](#)). Thanks to the generous contribution by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Secretariat has secured a subset of the funding required for the implementation of Decision 19.136. Additional funds are required to convene the workshop referred to in Decision 19.136 paragraph a). In this regard, donor Parties and stakeholders are invited to contribute additional financial support.
10. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties [No. 2023/027](#) inviting Parties, other governments and stakeholders to submit information on their experiences in making non-detriment findings for specimens of CITES Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction; share any non-detriment findings produces, highlight any difficulties encountered in the process; and submit any suggestions they might have for improvements.
11. In implementation of Decisions 19.132 to 19.134 on *Non-detriment findings*, a workstream on “NDFs for marine or aquatic species, including regional implications for shared species, introduction from the sea, and NDFs for marine or aquatic invertebrates” is currently ongoing under the process relating to the implementation of Decision 19.132 on *Non-detriment findings*. This will address in part the making of non-detriment findings for specimens taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction. The outcome of the workstream will be discussed at the second international workshop on non-detriment findings to be held at the end of 2023 [Decision 19.132 paragraph a) ii)].
12. The Secretariat plans on preparing background documents for the workshop referred to in Decision 19.136 paragraph a), taking into consideration the responses to the Notification to the Parties and the outcome of the second international workshop on NDFs. Subject to available funding, this workshop will be convened in early 2024.

Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (*Panthera pardus*) hunting trophies

13. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.166, 18.168 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.169 (Rev. CoP19) on *Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (Panthera pardus) hunting trophies* as follows:

Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19)

18.166 *All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) are encouraged to conduct regular surveys, adjust quotas as appropriate, and exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

18.168 (Rev. CoP19) *The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.169 (Rev. CoP19) and make recommendations to the Secretariat and leopard range States, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Secretariat

18.169 (Rev. CoP19) *The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources:*

- a) *encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and*
- b) *in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19), share the draft guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, make such guidance available on the CITES website, and encourage its use by relevant Parties*

14. The Conference of the Parties also adopted amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use* to change the quota indicated for Ethiopia from “500” to “20” and removing the quotas for Kenya and Malawi.
15. The Secretariat estimated a total cost of USD 30,000 to develop guidance in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies and has not secured funding (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2023/024](#)).
16. The Secretariat will reach out to Parties with leopard hunting trophy quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP19) to encourage and support the exchange of information and lessons learnt so that established quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

Appropriate and acceptable destinations

17. At its 19th meeting (CoP19, Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 on *Appropriate and acceptable destinations* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

19.164 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *issue a Notification to the Parties within one year of the close of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, inviting feedback on experience with using the guidance documents and other information provided on the CITES webpage “Appropriate and acceptable destinations”, and*
- b) *report on this feedback to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee for their consideration and recommendations, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.165 *The Animals Committee shall review the report from the Secretariat on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 19.164 and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.166 *The Standing Committee shall review the report from the Secretariat and any comments and recommendations coming from the Animals Committee on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 19.164 and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting.*

Background

18. To assist Parties in undertaking the obligations of Article III, paragraphs 3 b) and 5 b) of the Convention and paragraph 2 a) of Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP18) on *Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’*, the Conference of the Parties adopted [Non-binding guidance for determining whether a proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it](#) at its 18th meeting (CoP18; Geneva, 2019).
19. As reported in document [CoP19 Doc. 48](#) and in compliance with [Decision 18.152](#), the Secretariat created a dedicated webpage to make this guidance available and to compile other reference materials, published references, best practice examples, examples of Parties’ appropriate and acceptable destination findings and suitably equipped to house and care for living specimens’ findings, and other relevant information, as supplied by Parties and organizations in response to Notification to the Parties No. [2019/070](#). Parties and relevant organizations are invited to continue submitting additional materials to the Secretariat for inclusion on this webpage.
20. To assist Parties in undertaking the obligations of Article III, paragraphs 3 b) and 5 b) of the Convention and paragraph 2 a) of [Resolution Conf. 11.20 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#), the Conference of the Parties further adopted [Non-binding guidance for determining whether a proposed recipient of a living specimen of African elephant and/or southern white rhinoceros is suitably equipped to house and care for it](#) at its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022). To assist Parties in undertaking the obligations of Article III, paragraphs 3 b) and 5 b) of the Convention and paragraph 2 b) of [Resolution Conf. 11.20 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#), it also adopted [Non-binding best practice guidance on how to determine whether “the trade would promote in situ conservation”](#) at CoP19.
21. The CITES [webpage on appropriate and acceptable destinations](#) has been updated to include the new guidance documents that were adopted at CoP19.

Implementation of Decisions 19.164 and 19.165

22. To implement Decision 19.164, paragraph a), the Secretariat will issue a Notification inviting Parties to provide feedback on experience with using the guidance documents and other information provided on the CITES webpage “Appropriate and acceptable destinations”. It is proposed to issue the notification in the third quarter of 2023 to give Parties an opportunity to apply the newly adopted guidance material adopted at CoP19. The Secretariat will bring any feedback reported to the attention of the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting in 2024.

Species conservation and trade

Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices

23. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 on *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

19.189 *Subject to the availability of resources, the Secretariat shall:*

- a) *convene a technical workshop to consider the application of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) and its footnote 2 (found in annex V), with regards to relevant commercially exploited Elasmobranchii and other aquatic species, taking into account the information provided in document CoP19 Doc 87.2 and available scientific information and data;*
- b) *issue a Notification to the Parties inviting all interested Parties, members of the Animals Committee, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and other relevant intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations to participate in this workshop; and*
- c) *submit the conclusions and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee for review.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.190 *The Animals Committee shall review the report of the workshop and make recommendations to the next meeting of the Standing Committee, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.191 *The Standing Committee shall consider the report of the workshop and the recommendations and comments of the Animals Committee and submit recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

24. The Secretariat estimated a total cost of USD 80,000 to implement Decision 19.189 and has not secured funding to convene the workshop (see Notification to the Parties [No. 2023/024](#)).
25. Given the possible overlap in participants of the technical workshop referred to in Decision 19.189 on *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices* and Decision 19.136 on *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*, the Secretariat is considering convening the two workshops back-to-back in early 2024, subject to available funding.
26. The Secretariat will submit the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop, if financial resources are secured in time, to the Animals Committee for review at its 33rd meeting in 2024 as required in terms of Decision 19.189 paragraph c).

Recommendations

27. The Animals Committee is invited to take note of the progress in the implementation of Decisions on the *Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative*, *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*, *Guidance on non-detriment findings for trade in leopard (Panthera pardus) hunting trophies*, *Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'* and *Aquatic species listed in the Appendices*.