

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

Seventy-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 3-8 February 2025

Illegal trade and enforcement

Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In [Resolution Conf. 12.5 \(Rev. CoP19\)](#) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*, paragraph 2 a), the Conference of the Parties instructs the Secretariat to:
 - a) *report to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties on the status of Asian big cats in the wild, their conservation, and trade controls in place in Parties, using information provided by the range States on measures taken to comply with this Resolution and related relevant Decisions and any relevant additional information provided by relevant countries;*
3. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 19.109, and revised Decisions 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.107 (Rev. CoP19), 18.108 (Rev. CoP19), and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19) on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*. At its 18th meeting (CoP18; Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.100, 18.101, 18.105, and 18.106 on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*, which remain in effect. At its 14th meeting (CoP14; The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.69 on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*, which also remains in effect. These Decisions are contained in Annex 1 to the present document.
4. The implementation of Decisions 14.69, 18.102 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.108 (Rev. CoP19) is reported in document SC78 Doc. 43.2 on *Asian big cats in captivity* and, for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in document SC78 Doc. 33.8 on *Application of Article XIII in the Lao People's Democratic Republic*. Matters concerning Asian big cats are also addressed in document SC78 Doc.42 on *CITES Big Cats Task Force*.
5. At its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023), the Standing Committee agreed on recommendation c) on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*, as outlined in summary record SC77 SR ([agenda item 41.1](#)). The Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties inviting all range States of *Panthera pardus* within its Asian range to submit a report to the Secretariat on conservation measures undertaken and poaching incidents detected, and further inviting all Parties that made *Panthera pardus* specimen seizures to report to the Secretariat on these seizures. The Committee further requested the Secretariat to report to the present meeting on information received in response to the Notification and to develop, where possible, country-specific recommendations for consideration by the Committee.
6. The Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties [No. 2024/086](#) of 6 August 2024 inviting Parties to report on their implementation of Decisions 14.69, 18.100, 18.101, 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105, 18.106 and 19.109. The Secretariat also requested reporting on *Panthera pardus*.
7. In response to the Notification, the Secretariat received reports from India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, the United States of America, Viet Nam, and Yemen. The Secretariat thanks these Parties for their responses, which are compiled in an information document for the present meeting, in the language and format in which they were received. The

Secretariat summarizes the key aspects contained in the reports received from Parties in the paragraphs below.

Conservation status and measures [Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19)]

Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and Tiger (*Panthera tigris*)

8. India reported implementing reserve-specific tiger conservation plans and protected area-specific wildlife management plans, which include security measures for protection, monitoring, and surveillance, underpinned by the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
9. Indonesia reported that *Panthera pardus* is one of its native species and that it is categorized as protected under national regulations in the country. Indonesia further reported that it conducted a Javan wild leopard survey to update the population status of the Javan leopard.
10. The Lao People's Democratic Republic reported that the wild population of *Panthera pardus* in the country is unknown, referring to a 2019 study on [Documenting the demise of tiger and leopard, and the status of other carnivores and prey, in Lao PDR's most prized protected area: Nam Et - Phou Louey](#). The Lao People's Democratic Republic further noted that it is not a signatory to any bilateral or multilateral agreements for the co-management of Asian leopards. Despite the absence of a specific plan for Asian leopards, the country implemented its first National Tiger Action Plan (NTAP) 2010-2020, which aimed to protect and recover tiger populations and other wildlife, including the Asian leopard. The Party reported that the plan has positively contributed to biodiversity, ecosystem services, and community livelihoods, creating conditions for the potential recovery of Asian leopards. The NTAP provided a framework for improving law enforcement, protecting habitats, and fostering collaboration with local communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders. The Lao People's Democratic Republic also reported that it is developing a National Tiger Recovery Action Plan (NTRAP) for 2025-2035, which will build on the achievements of the previous plan to ensure the long-term survival of tigers and Asian leopards in the country.
11. Pakistan reported that its wild population of *Panthera pardus* decreased over the last five years, noting that this information is based on the findings of a 2019 study.¹ Pakistan further reported that habitat degradation in some areas has adversely affected prey availability, leading to increased attacks on livestock and humans, resulting in retaliatory killings of leopards.
12. Thailand reported that, although its leopard population is classified as endangered, no national assessment of leopard population status has been done in the country. Thailand further reported that its Western Forest Complex (WFC) and the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (KKFC) are two key habitats for leopards, where ongoing research and monitoring reported a small but stable population of leopards in some parts of these two complexes. Additionally, Thailand referenced a 2016 study, which estimated that 400 to 800 leopards inhabit the Tenasserim Mountain Range along the Thailand-Myanmar border. Thailand in its report provided a number of references for these leopard population estimates.
13. Viet Nam reported that a recent survey by its Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) found that Asian leopards were previously distributed widely across the country, but the population size has declined by over 80% in the past 30 years, with fewer than 250 individuals remaining. Viet Nam attributed this decline mostly to habitat loss and limited resources for big cat conservation, including Asian leopards. The Party reported that specimens of Asian leopards have been poached and trafficked for medicinal and decorative purposes, as evidenced by multiple seizures made by Vietnamese enforcement agencies in the past five years. Viet Nam also reported that, while it does not have an updated database of tigers or other Asian big cats due to a lack of comprehensive field surveys in recent years, according to its CITES Scientific Authority, the current tiger distribution in the country is limited to six protected areas with an estimate of fewer than 30 tigers remain in small groups, facing pressures from hunting and habitat loss. Viet Nam informed that Decision No. 539/QĐ-TTg of the Prime Minister approved the national tiger conservation programme for 2014–2022, which established priority areas to recover tiger populations, their prey, and natural habitats. A new tiger conservation programme is currently under development. Viet Nam further reported its cooperation with Cambodia through an agreement on forest protection management and cross-border biodiversity conservation, as well as on the cooperation with World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Viet Nam to develop a programme for the conservation of endangered, precious, and rare species, including tigers and Asian leopards. Viet Nam is a member of the Global Tiger Forum and the Global Tiger Initiative Council and has joined the Joint Declarations on tiger conservation (Saint Petersburg, 2010; Vladivostok, 2022). It committed

¹ Asad M., Martoni F., Ross J. G., Waseem M., Abbas F., and Paterson A. M. (2019), *Assessing subspecies status of leopards (Panthera pardus) of northern Pakistan using mitochondrial DNA*, published in *PeerJ* 7, e7243, available at <https://peerj.com/articles/7243/>

to developing a national tiger conservation action plan for 2022–2034 and requested cooperation from countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to implement the Southeast Asia Tiger Recovery Action Plan and cross-border tiger conservation efforts.

14. Yemen reported that the wild population of Asian leopards in the country has declined over the last five years due to challenging conditions, which have led to lax implementation of conservation laws. Yemen highlighted that the primary challenges to conservation efforts include a lack of financial and technical support to protect the Arabian leopard and the inability to establish natural reserves for their protection.

Enforcement measures and activities to address illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens
[Decisions 18.100, 18.101, Decision 18.103 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.105]

15. Several Parties reported information relevant to the provisions in Decision 18.100, which amongst others encourages Parties to address illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens through enforcement efforts, including joint investigations and operations.
 - a) India reported on its transboundary engagements with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal to monitor and combat organized criminal networks involved in this illegal trade.
 - b) South Africa reported limited seizures of Asian big cat specimens but highlighted that regular joint enforcement operations are undertaken, and that adequate training is provided for first responders to address illegal wildlife trade.
 - c) Thailand reported ongoing efforts to combat big cat trafficking, including recent significant arrests and seizures. Thailand further reported that bilateral Memorandums of Understanding on law enforcement cooperation with the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Malaysia are under development following meetings with each of these two Parties in 2023, which could facilitate effective collaboration on illegal trade of Asian big cats.
 - d) The United States of America reported robust legislative and regulatory measures against illegal trade and emphasized joint investigations with domestic and international partners targeting organized criminal networks involved in wildlife crime.
 - e) Viet Nam reported regular information exchange with ASEAN countries through the ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement. This working group aims to facilitate the sharing of information on seizures and the development of national and regional control measures. It also reported on bilateral cooperations with the Lao People's Democratic Republic and China. Viet Nam detailed its recent enforcement efforts, including cases that involved illegal transportation, storage and trafficking of tiger and other big cat specimens, along with related prosecutions leading to significant prison sentences. In addition, Viet Nam reported on its CITES-related training activities for enforcement officials including on tigers, targeted towards provincial forest protection, customs, environment police, border guards, and market management, on CITES implementation and identification of wildlife species, including tigers. Furthermore, Viet Nam reported that it developed training materials in collaboration with interministerial agencies and scientific organizations to support enforcement activities.
16. Decision 18.101 encourage Parties with tourist markets contributing to illegal cross-border trade in Asian big cat specimens to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with neighbouring Parties. India reported that bilateral instruments with tiger range States sharing borders with India include safeguards to address and mitigate such illegal trade. South Africa reported that there are no tourist markets contributing to illegal cross-border trade involving Asian big cat specimens within its territory and emphasized that, should it become aware of such markets, it will strengthen law enforcement cooperation with relevant neighbouring Parties to address it.
17. Decision 18.105 concerns addressing illegal trade in leopard parts and derivatives. Indonesia reported that *Panthera pardus* is protected under its national regulations and that, as of 2023, no incidents of illegal trade involving this species have been recorded. The Party reported that it closely monitors illegal trade involving all Asian big cats, including the Javan leopard. It has also improved tools to track and follow up on wildlife crime cases, and enhanced coordination with law enforcement agencies across countries to prevent illegal trade. Indonesia initiated and intensified smart patrols in areas vulnerable to the poaching of Javan leopards and has mapped the distribution of illegal wildlife trade vulnerabilities. Thailand reported strengthening its legal framework under the Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act (WARPA) of 2019, increasing

penalties for violations involving illegal poaching, trade, and possession of protected species, both in terms of imprisonment terms and fines .

18. Some Parties reported Asian leopard poaching incidents that occurred since 1 January 2019. The Lao People's Democratic Republic reported an incident involving the confiscation of a frozen Asian leopard suspected of being smuggled from a neighbouring country and suspected of dying from a snare or trap. This case remains under investigation. Pakistan reported five incidents of leopard poaching, stating that all these were linked to human-wildlife conflicts and that there is no evidence of poaching linked to illegal trade. Yemen reported nine poaching incidents involving animals that were shot or caught in traps. Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam all reported that there were no poaching incidents involving Asian leopards in their territories during the period since 1 January 2019.
19. Parties reported various seizures involving Asian leopard specimens that occurred between 2019 and 2023, reflecting ongoing illegal trade. Spain reported 13 seizures of *Panthera pardus* specimens, including one seizure of a body of a leopard belonging to the Asian population, while the data on the population origin of the leopard specimens in the other cases remain unknown. These leopard specimen seizures included skins, bodies, fur products, and one skull. Mexico reported a single seizure of a live animal in 2019. Pakistan reported three seizures, two in 2019 involving fur products and skins, and one in 2021 involving leopard skins. Thailand reported two cases of domestic illegal trade and possession, including one seizure involving numerous skin pieces or amulets of *Panthera pardus* and another seizure of a head. The United States of America reported a total of 17 seizures during the mentioned period, mostly involving medicinal products. Viet Nam reported three cases since 2019, while Yemen noted attempts to smuggle Arabian leopards out of the country to sell it elsewhere. These reports illustrate how challenging it is to distinguish illegal trade in Asian leopard specimens from trade involving specimens of leopard from other regions, which highlights the difficulty in tracking population origins.
20. Parties reported various enforcement challenges related to illegal activities involving the Asian leopard. The Lao People's Democratic Republic highlighted that enforcement of existing laws is often undermined by limited resources, insufficient training of law enforcement personnel, and a lack of coordination among relevant agencies. However, the Lao People's Democratic Republic also highlighted that there has been noticeable progress in enforcing laws and mitigating illegal activities under a new leadership at the CITES Management Authority and law enforcement agencies, complemented by increased international support. Viet Nam reported that the demand for big cat specimens is increasing both domestically and internationally, creating enforcement challenges especially when traffickers use a variety of concealment and other methods, including leveraging social networks, altering vehicle license plates and changing transportation routes. Moreover, Viet Nam noted that species identification skills among its enforcement officers remain limited, hampering their ability to intercept illegal wildlife consignments. Yemen reported financial constraints and lack of enforcement capacity as key challenges.
21. In response to Decision 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), regarding photographic identification databases for tigers, India reported that it uses a protocol for the annual monitoring of tigers and leopards, verified every four years during the All India Tiger Estimation Exercise. The images collected are stored in a national repository, and allow for the comparison of photographs from seized tiger skins both within and outside India, aiding in the efforts to combat illegal trade. South Africa underscored its commitment to sharing images within 90 days following any seizure of tiger skin, as required by Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19). Thailand reported maintaining extensive photographic databases from long-term monitoring of wild populations in key habitats and from facilities housing captive tigers and expressed readiness to collaborate with others to help identify tigers from photographs of tiger skins seized in other countries. The United States of America reported that, while it does not currently share photographs of tiger skins or skins of other Asian big cats seized in the country with the range States, it is willing to do so in the future, provided it aligns with the national regulations and policies of the range States concerned. Viet Nam reported that it submitted a report to the CITES Secretariat and the CITES Management Authority of India concerning tiger skin seizure images from 2017 to 2018.

Asian big cats in captivity (Decision 14.69)

22. Responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2024/086 related to Asian big cats in captivity are summarized below. Additional information on Asian big cats kept in captivity submitted to the Secretariat in the context of the work conducted in accordance with Decision 18.108 (Rev. CoP19) is available in document SC78 Doc. 43.2.
 - a) India reported that there are no commercial tiger breeding operations in the country and that apart from zoos, there is no facility keeping big cats in captivity.

- b) South Africa reported that although it has intensive tiger breeding operations on a commercial scale, tigers are not bred for trade in their parts and derivatives and are mostly exported as live animals to zoos, safari parks and exhibition facilities and thus imported for non-commercial purposes. The Party also reported that it took note of the recommendations on *Asian big cats in captivity* directed to South Africa as outlined in summary record SC77 SR (agenda item 41.2), and that it is working to address them.
- c) Thailand reported that under the WARPA, *Panthera tigris* is a protected species, and its breeding for trade in live specimens or their parts and derivatives is prohibited. WARPA also regulates matters related to captive tigers kept in zoos. A draft Ministerial Regulation concerning permit issuance to zoos and operations of zoos was approved by the Cabinet on 2 April 2024, after passing a public hearing process and will be enforced alongside a subordinate regulation from the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation (DNP) once it has been cleared by the Office of the Council of State. This includes comprehensive zoo management standards covering areas such as animal care, welfare, safety, and public education also applying to the management of captive tiger populations. Non-compliance may lead to the suspension or revocation of zoo permits. DNP has initiated strict administrative measures to tighten controls over zoo facilities, particularly those keeping tigers, through guidelines on managing tiger populations within zoos, an online database for captive tigers, and a requirement for zoo facilities to report all tiger births and deaths.
- d) The United States of America reported that a Big Cat Public Safety Act (BCPSA) was enacted on 20 December 2022 to end the private ownership of big cats as pets and prohibit exhibitors from allowing public contact with big cats, including cubs. The BCPSA placed new restrictions on the commerce, breeding, possession, and use of certain big cat species. Additional information on the BCPSA can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/what-you-need-know-about-big-cat-public-safety-act>.
- e) Viet Nam reported having 21 facilities housing a total of 372 tigers and other big cats (including *Panthera pardus* and *Panthera onca*). Of these, 17 are registered as zoos, display facilities, and rescue centers that operate for non-commercial purposes, while the remaining four facilities are non-commercial households or pilot raising facilities. Domestic laws strictly prohibit the captive raising of tigers for commercial purposes, with most tigers housed in national and private zoos (approximately 73%), rescue centres (approximately 12%), and non-commercial pilot facilities or households. The origins of these tigers were reported to be legally imported from Europe and South Africa. Tigers housed in pilot raising facilities and households are animals kept for evidential purposes in relation to violations and ongoing cases under investigation. The Prime Minister of Viet Nam authorized this form of pilot farming since 2008 and the Soc Son Wildlife Rescue Center, under the management of the Ha Noi Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, cares for 36 tigers that were seized by enforcement agencies. Viet Nam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and its Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment advise competent authorities to promulgate legal regulations, mechanisms, and policies to protect and conserve wild animals, including tigers. Most facilities keeping tigers are privately owned, requiring stringent oversight, including maintaining detailed inspection reports and animal logbooks. In 2021, Viet Nam introduced a National Standard on "Enclosures for tiger, lion, sun bear, and black bear", to improve management and safety in tiger raising facilities. It was reported that challenges remain due to limited space and potential safety concerns in some facilities.

Reducing demand for illegal Asian big cat specimens (Decision 18.106)

23. Regarding Decision 18.106, India reported that there is no domestic demand for tiger or leopard specimens and their derivatives within the country. India also highlighted its efforts to address demand from other countries through outreach and awareness programmes under the ongoing Project Tiger scheme. South Africa reported that it is not a consumer country for tiger or Asian big cat specimens. It acknowledged the possibility of some individuals consuming such products within the country, noting, however, that no significant incidents have been detected. The United States of America reported that, while not a significant consumer State, it has implemented strong legislative and regulatory measures, alongside routine monitoring and evaluation of domestic trade. Thailand highlighted its efforts to raise awareness through events such as World Tiger Day to educate the public about tiger conservation through various interactive means. Viet Nam reported collaborative campaigns between governmental agencies, and conservation organizations to reduce demand for wildlife products, noting a partnership between its Ministry of Education and Humane Society International to incorporate matters related to tiger conservation into high school curricula.

Wildlife forensics related to Asian big cat specimens (Decision 19.109)

24. In response to Decision 19.109, India highlighted that its National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India published work on genetic research of tigers in India in peer-reviewed literature. South Africa noted the forensic methods developed in the Czech Republic for the identification of tiger species and individuals and expressed interest in leveraging these techniques and analytical kits. The United States of America provides detailed information on their advanced forensic capabilities and ongoing research of their national Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory to support efforts in addressing illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens. The national Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory houses a reference sample collection for casework and research and shares data in accordance with national regulations. Additionally, the United States of America expressed interest in collaborating with the Czech Republic and other international partners on tiger species and individual identification methods, including sharing analytical kits and techniques to strengthen global wildlife forensic efforts.

Conclusions

25. The Secretariat welcomes the information provided by Parties on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) and the Decisions and recommendations on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*. These efforts are vital for tackling illegal trade affecting Asian big cats and improving conservation practices.
26. The Secretariat encourages all Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cats to fully implement the strategies, measures and activities outlined in the [CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document](#), which provides a strong basis for Parties to address this illegal trade. The draft decisions proposed in document [SC78 Doc. 42](#) on the *CITES Big Cats Task Force* fully incorporate these.
27. The Secretariat has provided detailed reporting to the Standing Committee, both in the present document and in document [SC77 Doc. 41.1](#) on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)* considered by the Committee at SC77, regarding the information reported by Parties in accordance with Decision 18.107 (Rev. CoP19). Regarding Decisions 18.100, 18.101, 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105, 18.106 and 19.109, the Secretariat notes that most of the provisions in these Decisions are incorporated in the CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19), most notably in paragraphs 1. b) to i), 1. l), 3. a) to d) and 5 a) to d) of the Resolution. The Secretariat therefore proposes that the Committee recommend that these Decisions be deleted, as they are sufficiently incorporated in the CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19). Further, the Secretariat proposes that Decisions 18.107 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19) be deleted, as they have been implemented.

Recommendations

28. The Standing Committee is invited to:
- a) note the information provided by Parties in response to Notification to the Parties No. 2024/086;
 - b) recommend to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 18.100, 18.101, 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105, 18.106, and 19.109, as they are incorporated in Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*, the CITES Big Cats Task Force outcome document and the draft decisions proposed in SC78 Doc.42; and
 - c) recommend to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 18.107 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.109 (Rev. CoP19), as they have been implemented.

DECISIONS ON ASIAN BIG CATS (FELIDAE SPP.)

Directed to Parties, especially Appendix-I Asian big cat range States.

14.69 *Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.*

Directed to Parties

18.100 *Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, in particular Parties identified in document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take into consideration the information in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, and pursue enforcement efforts to address this illegal trade, including through the initiation of joint investigations and operations aimed at halting the members of organized crime networks across the entire illegal trade chain.*

18.101 *Parties, in whose territory tourist markets exist that are contributing to illegal cross border trade involving Asian big cat specimens, are encouraged to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with their neighbouring Parties to target such illegal trade.*

18.102 (Rev. CoP19) *Parties in whose territories there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity referred to in Decision 18.108 (Rev. CoP19), paragraph a) are invited to welcome a mission from the Secretariat, to visit these facilities.*

18.103 (Rev. CoP19) *All Parties that make seizures of tiger skins are encouraged to take note of the information on tiger range States which have photographic identification databases for tigers, and the capacity to identify tigers from photographs of tiger skins, as presented in paragraph 14 in document SC70 Doc. 42.1, and to share images in accordance with Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species, paragraph 1 l) within 90 days of such seizure.*

18.105 *Parties, in particular those mentioned in section 3.1.5 of Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take serious consideration of the concerns regarding illegal trade in leopard parts and derivatives as outlined in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1 and take measures to address these.*

18.106 *Consumer States of specimens from tiger and other Asian big cat species are urged to take action to end demand for illegal tiger and other big cat parts and derivatives by working with relevant specialists such as consumer behaviour change, social marketing and communication experts to conduct targeted behaviour change initiatives ensuring initiatives are underpinned by sound evidence, are properly baselined, and have strong monitoring and evaluation built in, including appropriate metrics to assess efficacy; and adopting and implementing appropriate legislative and regulatory measures, to deter consumers from purchasing any illegal big cat products.*

18.107 (Rev. CoP19) *Parties are invited to report to the Secretariat on implementation of Decisions 14.69, 19.109, 18.100, 18.101, 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105 and 18.106 in time for the Secretariat to report to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties as per requirements in paragraph 2 a) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19).*

19.109 *Parties are encouraged to:*

- a) *inform the Secretariat of forensic research projects, including genetic and other methods, undertaken in their territory focusing on the development of techniques to support addressing illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, for this information to be made available to Parties;*

- b) *in accordance with their national regulations, share samples of Asian big cat specimens from living animals, seized animals or products that could contain DNA of Asian big cats with genetic research projects focusing on the development of techniques to address illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens; and*
- c) *take note that methods for the identification of tiger species and individual identification from different types of specimens of tiger parts and derivatives have been developed in the Czech Republic, and that analytical kits for use of these methods, as well as testing of tiger samples, are available to Parties free of charge.*

Directed to the Secretariat

18.108 (Rev. CoP19) *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *subject to external funding, undertake a mission prior to the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee to those Parties identified in document SC70 Doc. 51 and in whose territories there are facilities which may be of concern keeping Asian big cats in captivity, with the purpose of gaining a better understanding of the operations and activities undertaken by these facilities; and*
- b) *report to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting on implementation of Decision 18.108 (Rev. CoP19), paragraph a), and progress with regard to the missions concerned and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.109 (Rev. CoP19) *The Standing Committee at its 77th and 78th meetings shall review the report and recommendations of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of Decisions 19.109, 18.100, 18.101, 18.102 (Rev. CoP19), 18.103 (Rev. CoP19), 18.105, 18.106, 18.107 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.108 (Rev. CoP19) and determine whether any further time-bound, country specific measures are needed to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, of Decision 14.69 and of paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP19).*