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

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Seventy-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee Panama City (Panama), 13 November 2022

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

ILLEGAL TRADE IN ASIAN BIG CATS (FELIDAE SPP.)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

### Background

2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.102, 18.108 and 18.109 on *Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)* as follows:

### **Directed to Parties**

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

## Directed to the Secretariat

#### 18.108 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, undertake a mission 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 73rd and 74th meetings on implementation of Decisions 18.107 to 18.108, 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 The Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings shall review the report and recommendations of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of [Decision 18.108 b)] 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. CoP18).
- 3. These Decisions were a continuation of Decisions 17.224, 17.227 and 17.229 adopted at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016). As reported to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018), following CoP17, using funds generously provided by the European Union, the Secretariat reviewed the number of facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity in

the territories of Parties and the number of Asian big cats kept in these facilities. This review provided the following statistics as also presented in document SC70 Doc. 51:

	Number of facilities keeping the species in captivity	Number of specimens kept in these facilities	Number of Parties in which the facilities are found
Tiger Panthera tigris	1,038	12,574	68
Leopard <i>Panthera pardus</i>	369	1,208	59
Snow leopard <i>Uncia uncia</i>	179	438	33
Clouded leopard Neofelis nebulosa	93	315	29
Asiatic lion Panthera leo persica	71	383	23

- 4. In light of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat concluded that facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity could be "of concern" for two reasons:
  - a) Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale which might be failing to 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 [Decision 14.69].
  - b) Parties which may be failing to ensure that adequate management practices and controls are in place to prevent parts and derivatives from Asian big cats from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities [paragraph 1 g) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP17) now paragraph 1 h] of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)].
- 5. Concerning Decision 14.69, drawing on information obtained regarding the practices of members of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), the principal membership body for zoos around the world, as a baseline in the absence of other benchmarks, the Secretariat concluded that facilities holding fifty or more tigers would be of concern, as this figure exceeds the highest number held by any member of WAZA holding tigers for conservation purposes. Thirty-six facilities in four Parties, holding around 4,297 tiger specimens in total, fulfilled this criterion.
- 6. Concerning the facilities from or through which parts and derivatives of Asian big cats might be entering illegal trade, the Secretariat used its experience of cases which have come to its attention in the course of its regular work, consultation with International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) partners, literature review and a direct request to all CITES observer organizations that have spoken on this topic at CITES meetings to identify facilities of concern. Any facility for which any information indicated that it might be involved in illegal trade was included as a facility which may be of concern. From this exercise, 36 facilities in six Parties were identified which may be of concern. Some of these overlapped with facilities referred to in the previous paragraph of the present document.
- 7. Combining the results of these two exercises together resulted in the number and location of facilities keeping Asian big cat species in captivity, which may be of concern, being as follows:

Species	Party	Number of facilities
Tiger Panthera tigris	China	36
	Czech Republic	2
	Lao People's Democratic Republic	6
	Thailand	10
	South Africa	1
	United States of America	6
	Viet Nam	5
	Total	66
Leopard <i>Panthera pardus</i>	Total	0
Snow leopard <i>Uncia uncia</i>	Total	0
Clouded leopard Neofelis nebulosa	Total	0
Asiatic lion Panthera leo persica	Total	0

8. At SC70, the Standing Committee noted the progress reported by the Secretariat in paragraphs 5 to 13 of document SC70 Doc. 51 and requested the Secretariat to take into consideration the concerns expressed on this issue during the discussions at that meeting.

- 9. In July 2019, the Secretariat wrote to the seven Parties in which there were facilities which may be of concern to present them with details of the facilities identified and the reason for the concern and proposing, where appropriate, that the Secretariat conduct a mission to visit identified facilities to gain a better understanding of their operations and activities. Replies were received from all affected Parties but the Secretariat was not able to undertake any missions prior to the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee, which was initially scheduled for 22 May 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka but which eventually took place on 28 August 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 10. Decisions 17.224, 17.227 and 17.229 were replaced by Decisions 18.102, 18.108 and 18.109 at CoP18.

### Progress since CoP18

11. As reported to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee (Lyon, March 2022) the Secretariat received external funds generously provided by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in December 2021 in order to be able to undertake some of the missions envisaged in Decision 18.108. The list of facilities which may be of concern was subsequently updated in the light of additional information resulting in the following revised totals of facilities which may be of concern:

Species	Party	Number of facilities which may be of concern
Tiger Panthera tigris	China	37
	Czech Republic	2
	Lao People's Democratic Republic	10
	Thailand	16
	South Africa	4
	United States of America	6
	Viet Nam	8
	Total	83

- 12. On 5 August 2022, the Secretariat wrote to each of the seven Parties within whose territory there were facilities which may be of concern requesting them to complete a questionnaire in order to provide an update on the situation concerning these facilities in advance of a possible mission to the Party concerned and return this to the Secretariat by 15 September 2022. Completed questionnaires were received from the Lao People's Democratic Republic, South Africa, Thailand and the United States of America. The Czech Republic and Viet Nam requested more time to complete the questionnaire and no reply was received from China. A summary of the responses received is shown in Annex 1 to the present document. These will be used to inform the conduct of the missions.
- 13. A continuation of Decisions 18.102, 18.108 and 18.109 is proposed in document CoP19 Doc. 68 to be considered by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Secretariat has prepared terms of reference for the missions to Parties within whose territory there are facilities which may be of concern which are contained in Annex 2 to the present document for information. Using funds provided by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Secretariat intends to conduct missions to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam in the first half of January 2023 and further information about the arrangements for these missions will be provided orally at the present meeting. Missions to the other Parties with facilities which may be of concern will be undertaken as and when further external funding is received.

### Recommendation.

14. The Standing Committee is invited to note the present document and to encourage China to respond to the request of the Secretariat to complete a questionnaire in order to provide an update on the situation concerning these facilities in advance of a possible mission.

# SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRES ADDRESSED TO PARTIES WITHIN WHOSE TERRITORY THERE WERE FACILITIES WHICH MAY BE OF CONCERN KEEPING TIGERS IN CAPTIVITY

# Lao People's Democratic Republic

# Background

	T
Implementing Decision 14.69?	No reply
Implementing paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)?	No reply
Implementing Decision 17.226?	No reply
Copies of national legislation applies these management practices and controls.	No reply
Management practices and controls reviewed in accordance with Decision 17.226?	No reply
Competent authority designated for ensuring that provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)	No reply
and Decision 17.226 are complied with?	
Actions taken during the past 5 year to ensure compliance with these provisions of Resolution Conf.	No reply
12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and Decision 17.226, including the number of inspections of facilities breeding	
tigers and measures taken by the authorities as follow up on inspections.	
Illegal trade of tiger specimens linked to tiger facilities detected during the past 5 years?	No reply
(If yes, number of seizures, arrests and prosecutions made and convictions and penalties	
imposed).	

Question		Facility								
	LA1*	LA2	LA3*	LA4	LA5*	LA6*	LA7*			
Is the facility still open/operational?	Yes	No information	Yes	No information	Yes	Yes	Yes			
If not, where are the tigers that were previously housed in it?	-	No information	-	No information	-	-				
How many tigers are presently at the facility?	67	No information	149	No information	53	146	36			
How many tigers have been bred in the facility in each of the last 5 years?	None	No information	None	No information	None	None	None			
Is the facility open to the public?	Not at present due to COVID.	No information	Temporarily closed	No information	Open	Not at present due to COVID.	Temporarily closed			
Who is the owner of the facility?	Provided	No information	Provided	No information	Provided	Provided	Provided			
Why are tigers being kept at the facility? – what is its purpose?	Tourism and research studies	No information	Tourism	No information	Tourism	Tourism	Tourism			
What records of tiger presence and breeding are kept by the facility?	Annual registration	No information	None	No information	Registered	Registered	Registered			
Are the tigers sterilized and/or are the sexes kept apart?	No	No information	No	No information	Sexes kept apart	No	Sexes kept apart			
Are the tigers marked or individually identified?	Marked	No information	No information	No information	Marked	Marked	Marked			

How are the carcasses of tigers which die at the facility	Buried	No information	No deaths yet	No information	Given to	No deaths yet	No deaths yet
disposed of?					government		
Do any stockpiles of tiger carcasses or parts and derivatives from the facility exist?	No reply	No information	No	No information	No information	No	No
What kind of management practices and controls are in place regarding the disposal of specimens from tigers that die in captivity?	Given to government	No information	-	No information	Given to government	-	-

<sup>\*</sup>only the five facilities for which information is provided are allowed to keep Asian big cat species in captivity.

# **Thailand**

# **Background**

Implementing Decision 14.69?	Yes
Implementing paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)?	Yes
Implementing Decision 17.226?	Yes
Received copies of national legislation applies these management practices and controls?	Yes
Management practices and controls reviewed in accordance with Decision 17.226?	Yes
Competent authority for ensuring that provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and	Yes
Decision 17.226 are complied with named.	
Actions taken during the past 5 year to ensure compliance with these provisions of Resolution Conf.	Provided
12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and Decision 17.226, including the number of inspections of facilities breeding	
tigers and measures taken by the authorities as follow up on inspections.	
Illegal trade of tiger specimens linked to tiger facilities detected during the past 5 years?	Yes.
(If yes, number of seizures, arrests and prosecutions made and convictions and penalties	Some details provided.
imposed).	

Question						Fa	acility					
	TH1	TH2	TH3	TH4	TH5	TH6	TH7	TH8	TH9	TH10	TH11	TH12
Is the facility still open/operational?	Yes	No	Under maintenance	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
If not, where are the tigers that were previously housed in it?	-	5 transferred to another (named) park	-	-	137 made state property. 38 still in state hands – to be transferred to other (named) parks.	-	37 held at facility pending legal proceedings	transferred to other (named) facilities	-	-	-	-
How many tigers are presently at the facility?	181	-	209	54	-	26	37	-	27	60	43	4
How many tigers have been bred in the facility in each of the last 5 years?	206	-	183	10	-	c. 5	-	-	13	c.20	None	No information
Is the facility open to the public?	Yes	-	Not at present	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Who is the owner of the facility?	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided	-	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided	Under responsibility of government	Provided

Why are tigers being kept at the facility? – what is its purpose?	Business purposes as public zoo	-	Business purposes as public zoo	To attract tourists	-	Visitors' study purposes	Formerly business purposes	-	Business purposes as public zoo	Conservation, study and business.	Housing confiscations and education	Business purposes as public zoo
What records of tiger presence and breeding are kept by the facility?	No information	-	Records kept	Records kept	-	Database established in conformity with government regulations	DNA and stripe pattern	-	No information	No information	No information	Serial numbers
Are the tigers sterilized and/or are the sexes kept apart?	Males sterilized. Sexes kept apart	-	Sexes kept apart	Some sterilized. Sexes kept apart.	-	No	Sexes kept apart	-	Sexes kept apart.	Mostly no	Sexes kept apart	Sexes kept apart
Are the tigers marked or individually identified?	Microchip	-	Microchip	Marked	-	Stripe pattern photos	Stripe pattern photos	-	Microchip and stripe pattern photos	Microchip and stripe pattern photos	Microchip and stripe pattern photos	Microchip, stripe pattern photos and DNA.
How are the carcasses of tigers which die at the facility disposed of?	No information	-	Disposed of.	Incineration	-	In accordance with government regulations	In accordance with government regulations	-	Normally, incineration	Disposed of.	Disposed of.	Incineration
Do any stockpiles of tiger carcasses or parts and derivatives from the facility exist?	Only those waiting to be disposed of.	-	-	Skeletons, bones and stuffed specimens	-	No	1 skin, 2 stuffed.	-	Cub carcass, skulls, claws and skins for educational purposes	No	No	No
What kind of management practices and controls are in place regarding the disposal of specimens from tigers that die in captivity?	Government regulations	_	Reported to government	Find cause of death and incinerate	-	Government regulations	Legal action underway	-	Incineration in front of authorized officer	Disposed of in front of authorized officer	Government regulations	Government regulations

Question	Facility						
	TH13	TH14	TH15	TH16			
Is the facility still open/operational?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
If not, where are the tigers that were previously housed in it?	-	-	-	-			
How many tigers are presently at the facility?	79	29	116	149			

How many tigers have been bred in the facility in each of the last 5 years?	15	16	35	None
Is the facility open to the public?	Yes	Yes	No (under construction)	No information
Who is the owner of the facility?	Public body	Provided	Provided.	Provided
Why are tigers being kept at the facility?  – what is its purpose?	Business, conservation, research and breeding.	Business purposes as public zoo	Business purposes as public zoo	Housing retired tigers
What records of tiger presence and breeding are kept by the facility?	No information	No information	No information	No information
Are the tigers sterilized and/or are the sexes kept apart?	Sexes kept apart	Sexes kept apart	Sexes kept apart	Sexes kept apart
Are the tigers marked or individually identified?	Microchip	Microchip and stripe pattern photos	Microchip and stripe pattern photos	Microchip and stripe pattern photos
How are the carcasses of tigers which die at the facility disposed of?	Incineration	Incineration	Disposed of	Normally incinerated
Do any stockpiles of tiger carcasses or parts and derivatives from the facility exist?	No	Carcass, skeletons, skulls, claws and skin for educational purposes.	Tanned leather, skulls, bones and skeletons.	Carcass, skeletons, skulls, claws and skin.
What kind of management practices and controls are in place regarding the disposal of specimens from tigers that die in captivity?	Incineration in front of authorized officer	Incineration in front of authorized officer	Incinerated, and stuff. Whole skeletons preserved.	Disposed of in front of an authorized officer

# South Africa

# <u>Background</u>

Implementing Decision 14.69?	No
Implementing paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)?	Yes
Implementing Decision 17.226?	No
Received copies of national legislation applies these management practices and controls?	-
Management practices and controls reviewed in accordance with Decision 17.226?	-
Competent authority for ensuring that provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and	-
Decision 17.226 are complied with	
Actions taken during the past 5 year to ensure compliance with these provisions of Resolution Conf.	Details provided
12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and Decision 17.226, including the number of inspections of facilities breeding	
tigers and measures taken by the authorities as follow up on inspections.	
Illegal trade of tiger specimens linked to tiger facilities detected during the past 5 years?	Four cases. Details provided
(If yes, number of seizures, arrests and prosecutions made and convictions and penalties	
imposed).	

Question		Facility					
		ZA1	ZA2	ZA3	ZA4		
Is the facility still open/operational?		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
If not, where are the tigers that were previously housed in it?		-	-	-	-		
How many tigers are presently at the facility?		65	30	13	41		
How many tigers have been bred in the facility in each of the last 5 years?		35	40	13	75		
Is the facility open to the public?		No	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Who is the owner of the facility?		Provided	Provided	Provided	Provided		
Why are tigers being kept at the facility? – what is its purpos	se?	Enhance property's economic productivity and for personal effects	Exhibition and breeding	Education, awareness- raising and export of offspring to zoos	Conservation, breeding and export of live specimens		
What records of tiger presence and breeding are kept by the facility?		Captive breeding register submitted quarterly	Stock sheets/records	Register	Records kept		
Are the tigers sterilized and/or are the sexes kept apart?		Not routinely	No	Sexes normally kept apart	Sometimes kept apart		
Are the tigers marked or individually identified?		No	Some microchipped	Microchipped	Microchipped.		
How are the carcasses of tigers which die at the facility disp	osed of?	Consumptive use of meat by themselves. Skins tanned for own use.	Burned	Small animals burned or buried; larger ones stuffed.	Incinerated		
Do any stockpiles of tiger carcasses or parts and derivatives from the facility exist?		No	No	No	No		
What kind of management practices and controls are in place regarding the disposal of specimens from tigers that die in captivity?		Deaths to be declared to authorities and logged in breeding register.	Burning	Authorities notified.  Veterinarian assessment of cause of death.	Self-regulation.		

# **United States of America**

# <u>Background</u>

Implementing Decision 14.69?	Yes
Implementing paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)?	Yes
Implementing Decision 17.226?	Yes
Received copies of national legislation applies these management practices and controls?	Details received
Management practices and controls reviewed in accordance with Decision 17.226?	No reply
Competent authority for ensuring that provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and	Several agencies mentioned.
Decision 17.226 are complied with	
Actions taken during the past 5 year to ensure compliance with these provisions of Resolution Conf.	No reply
12.5 (Rev. CoP18) and Decision 17.226, including the number of inspections of facilities breeding	
tigers and measures taken by the authorities as follow up on inspections.	
Illegal trade of tiger specimens linked to tiger facilities detected during the past 5 years?	Some information on enforcement provided – see table of facilities which may be of concern
(If yes, number of seizures, arrests and prosecutions made and convictions and penalties	
imposed).	

Question	Facility					
	US1	US2	US3	US4	US5	US6
Is the facility still open/operational?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, but owner has been indicted on federal wildlife trafficking and money laundering charges. Case remains ongoing. For more information, see: https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/docantle-owner-myrtle-beach-safariand-others-indicted-federal-wildlife-trafficking-and	Yes
If not, where are the tigers that were previously housed in it?	-	Transferred to bona fide sanctuaries (not named).	-	-	-	-
How many tigers are presently at the facility?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
How many tigers have been bred in the facility in each of the last 5 years?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
Is the facility open to the public?	No	-	Yes	Yes	No information	Yes
Who is the owner of the facility?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
Why are tigers being kept at the facility? – what is its purpose?	Sanctuary/rescue. Does not sell animals	-	Sanctuary/rescue. Does not sell animals	Sanctuary/rescue. Does not sell animals	No information	Sanctuary/rescue. Does not sell animals
What records of tiger presence and breeding are kept by the facility?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
Are the tigers sterilized and/or are the sexes kept apart?	No breeding occurs at facility	-	Does not allow breeding	Does not allow breeding	No information	Does not allow breeding
Are the tigers marked or individually identified?	No information	=	No information	No information	No information	No information
How are the carcasses of tigers which die at the facility disposed of?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information

Do any stockpiles of tiger carcasses or parts and derivatives from the facility exist?	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
What kind of management practices and controls are in place regarding the disposal of specimens	No information	-	No information	No information	No information	No information
from tigers that die in captivity?						

# TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MISSIONS TO PARTIES WITHIN WHOSE TERRITORIES THERE ARE FACILITIES OF CONCERN KEEPING ASIAN BIG CATS IN CAPTIVITY

## Instruction from CITES Parties

### Directed to the Secretariat

### 18.108 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, undertake a mission 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 73rd and 74th meetings on implementation of Decisions 18.107 to 18.108, paragraph a), and progress with regard to the missions concerned and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

#### **Directed to Parties**

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

## Directed to the Standing Committee

18.109 The Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings shall review the report and recommendations of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of [Decision 18.108 b)] 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. CoP18).

#### Parties identified in document SC70 Doc. 51:

- China
- Czech Republic
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- South Africa
- Thailand
- United States of America
- Viet Nam

## **Determination of facilities of concern**

Facilities for which any information, drawn from consultation with ICCWC partners, literature review and a direct request to all CITES observer organizations that have spoken on this topic at recent CITES meetings, indicated that it might be involved in illegal trade was included.

Facilities holding fifty or more tigers were included, as this figure exceeds the highest number held by any member of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) holding tigers for conservation purposes.

### Purpose of missions

- gain a better understanding of the operations and activities undertaken by these facilities;
- report to the Standing Committee that will determine whether any further time-bound, country specific measures are needed to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, of Decision 14.69 [restrict

the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers and not breed tigers for trade in their parts and derivatives] and of paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) [adequate management practices and controls are in place and strictly implemented, including for the disposal of Asian big cats that die in captivity, to prevent parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities].

### Pre-mission preparation

Advise affected Parties of the purpose of the missions and provide list of facilities of concern keeping Asian big cats in captivity within their territory.

#### Provide questionnaire:

- legislative overview of controls pertaining to facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity and the domestic and international trade in tigers and tiger products (including labelling of such products)
- summary of organizational and administrative processes in place to administer these controls: frequency of inspections
- action taken in past 5 years to enforce these measures: seizures, arrests, prosecutions made, convictions, penalties
- request knowledge of the status of these facilities post-COVID
- seek facility-by-facility information on current tiger stocks, facility purpose, conservation and other activities, record-keeping, marking/individual identification, sterilization/separation of sexes, disposal of tiger carcasses and/or stockpile management/security, whether it is open to the public or private, issuance of licences, affiliated businesses, other species kept, bred and sold.

Follow-up video conference with responsible officials to flesh out understanding.

#### Missions

Mission personnel: Secretariat scientific and enforcement staff (one each) and experts in captive tiger conservation (one, e.g. WAZA) and enforcement and inspections (one, e.g. ICCWC partner). Interpreter where needed.

Dates and schedules to be completed with Party visited, but will include:

- Preliminary discussions with responsible authorities in capital, as well as IGOs/NGOs/individuals with relevant expertise.
- Spot visit to sample facilities determined by 'degree' of concern and logistical travel considerations.
- Check how theory is being delivered in practice on-site.

#### Post-mission outputs

Preparation of report to Standing Committee by Secretariat in conjunction with experts who accompanied the missions in line with Decision 18.109.