

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



Thirtieth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 16-21 July 2018

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

QUOTAS FOR LEOPARD HUNTING TROPHIES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted four Decisions on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies*, as follows:

Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16)

17.114 *Parties, which have quotas, established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use are requested to review these quotas, and consider whether these quotas are still set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, and to share the outcomes of the review and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental, with the Animals Committee at its 30th meeting.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

17.115 *The Animals Committee shall consider the information submitted by the relevant range States under Decision 17.114 and any other relevant information, and, if necessary, make any recommendations to the range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.*

Directed to the Secretariat

17.116 *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, support the reviews to be undertaken by range States, referred to in Decision 17.114, upon request by a range State.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.117 *The Standing Committee should consider any recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 17.115, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

3. In March 2017, the Secretariat wrote to the 12 Parties that have quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), i.e. Botswana, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Secretariat encouraged these Parties to initiate, in the course of 2017, their reviews of the levels of their

national leopard export quotas to assess whether they are non-detrimental. It offered its assistance in undertaking these national reviews upon request, and within its financial and technical means.

4. In response to the Secretariat's letter, and as orally reported at the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC29, Geneva, July 2017), **Malawi** stated that its mammal populations are generally too low for any form of sustainable utilization. It specified that, although the leopard is not much of a poaching target judging from seizure and arrest records, the population size and status was not well known. Evidence from patrol sightings in protected areas and also from local communities pointed to the fact that the leopard population was very low. At the time the quota was set [in Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16)], the leopard population was thought to be healthy largely due to abundant prey and unaltered habitat. Without a detailed survey, it recommended that the quota for Malawi for *Panthera pardus* hunting trophies be removed or suspended until the situation improved.
5. In April 2018, the Secretariat wrote to Botswana, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe to remind them of Decision 17.114.

Discussion

7. At the time of writing of this document (May 2018), **Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia** and **Zimbabwe** had shared the outcomes of their reviews of the quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental, in Annexes 1 through 6 to the present document (in English only).
8. By the deadline for the submission of documents for AC30, five of the 12 leopard range States with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) had not shared the outcomes of their reviews with the Secretariat. The Secretariat will inform the Animals Committee about any relevant information that it may receive.
9. The Secretariat would like to draw attention to document AC30 Doc. 10.2, submitted by the European Union, on the results of an *International expert workshop on non-detriment findings for hunting trophies of certain African species included in Appendix I and II*, which took place in Seville in April 2018. The workshop developed, amongst other things, guidance for the making of non-detriment findings for trade in hunting trophies of leopards, which may be of relevance for the Animals Committee in its implementation of Decision 17.115.

Recommendation

10. The Animals Committee is invited to implement Decision 17.115 by:
 - a) considering information submitted by the leopard range States concerned by Decision 17.114, and any other relevant information; and
 - b) if necessary, making any recommendations to the range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.