

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



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

AFRICAN LION

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Co-Chairs: the Chair of the Animals Committee (Mr. Lörtscher) and the representative of Africa (Mr. Mensah);

Parties: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, India, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Namibia, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, IUCN, Animal Welfare Institute, Annamiticus, Born Free Foundation, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Force, Environmental Investigation Agency UK, Humane Society International, IFAW, International Professional Hunters Association, Safari Club International Foundation, FACE, TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Animal Protection, WAZA, World Wildlife Fund, Zoological Society of London and Zoological Society of San Diego.

Mandate

Pursuant to Decision 17.242, the in-session working group shall, based on document AC30 Doc. 25 and the revised report in information document AC30 Inf. 15, undertake the following:

- a) consider the Secretariat's progress report, as well as any further updates provided by the Secretariat, on its implementation of Decision 17.241;
- b) consider the draft study on trade in African lions, *Panthera leo*, in the annex to document AC30 Doc. 25, and any updates provided;
- c) draft recommendations, as appropriate, for the Animals Committee to submit to the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting and the African lion range States; and
- d) advise on the suggestions by the Secretariat in paragraph 29 of the document regarding reporting on the African lion to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

Recommendations

The working group recommends that the Animals Committee agrees to the following:

- a) Concerning the progress report by the Secretariat on its implementation of Decision 17.241, the Animals Committee noted the report, and was informed on the details of the Joint CMS/CITES workshop of the African Carnivore Initiative to be held early in November 2018 in Bonn, as well on the scope and timeframe of the African Lion Conservation Framework that IUCN is developing.

- b) Concerning the draft study on trade in African lions, the Animals Committee recommends that the authors (TRAFFIC) incorporate the additional information generated at AC30 in its final study, and if additional information becomes available, to have it transmitted to TRAFFIC (willow.outhwaite@traffic.org) by 27 July 2018 at the latest.
- c) The Animals Committee agrees to submit the following recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting:
 - i) Information on the populations, illegal killing and illegal trade of all big cats should be shared amongst Parties in order to be able to detect trends, possible common issues and any linkages.
 - ii) Parties should be encouraged that when collecting and communicating data on illegal killing and illegal trade in lions and other big cats, details on which parts were removed, or which parts were observed in illegal trade, should be captured.
 - iii) in order to improve traceability Parties that are importing lion specimens from South Africa are encouraged to use the information generated by South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project that South Africa developed for priority CITES species including lions and including DNA analyses of lions bred in captivity and exported as skeletons.
- d) The Animals Committee supports the suggestion by the Secretariat in paragraph 29 of document AC30 Doc. 25 regarding reporting on the African lion to the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting, and suggests that the Secretariat works with the chairs of the Animals and Standing Committees finalising its report.