

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



Thirty-first meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 13-17 July 2020

Species specific matters

PANGOLINS (MANIS SPP.)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.238 to 18.243, *Pangolins* (Manis spp.) as follows:

18.238 Directed to all pangolin range States

All pangolin range States that have not yet done so, are encouraged to take urgent steps to develop and implement in situ pangolin management and conservation programmes, which include population assessments, as anticipated in paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on Conservation of and trade in pangolins, and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.

18.239 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts and in collaboration with the pangolin range States to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species, that will enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for court purposes.

18.240 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *report on the implementation of Decisions 18.238 and 18.239, to the Animals Committee, as appropriate;*
- b) *bring any tools or materials brought to its attention in accordance with Decision 18.242, to the attention of the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, as appropriate, together with any recommendations it may have, and taking into account any subsequent recommendations from the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, make such tools or materials available to the Parties;*
- c) *subject to external funding, work with relevant experts and the pangolin range States to prepare a report for review by the Animals Committee and Standing Committee on:*
 - i) *the national conservation status of pangolin species,*

- ii) *legal and illegal trade in pangolins,*
- iii) *stocks of specimens of pangolins and stockpile management, and*
- iv) *enforcement issues.*

18.241 Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) *consider the report and any recommendations of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.240 paragraphs b) and c), and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decision 18.243;*
- b) *make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and*
- c) *report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have, to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.*

18.242 Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and nongovernmental organizations

Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that develop tools or materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10, are invited to bring such tools or materials to the attention of the Secretariat.

18.243 Directed to the Animals Committee

The Animals Committee shall review any information brought to its attention by the Secretariat in accordance with Decisions 18.238, 18.239, 18.240 and 18.242, and make recommendations as appropriate to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.

3. Decisions 18.239 and 18.240 are being implemented thanks to contributions from France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Strategic Programme of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC).
4. As directed in Decision 18.239, the Secretariat has started consultations with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts to determine the best way to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species. In this regard, pangolin range States are encouraged to support the implementation of this Decision by providing data and expertise on pangolin species.
5. The outputs from the two studies referred to in Decisions 18.239 and 18.240 may become available prior to the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee. The Animals Committee may wish to establish an intersessional working group that could review these documents once available and draft recommendations for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 32nd meeting.
6. To date, the Secretariat has not received any information in the context of Decisions 18.238 and 18.242. The Secretariat reminds pangolin range States to report to the Secretariat on their implementation of Decision 18.238. The Secretariat further reminds Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations to bring to the attention of the Secretariat tools or materials described in Decision 18.242 that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on *Conservation of and trade in pangolins*. The Secretariat will issue a notification before the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee as a reminder to Parties of the reporting requirements concerning pangolins.

Recommendations

7. In support of the implementation of Decision 18.243, the Animals Committee is invited to establish an intersessional working group on pangolins (*Manis* spp.) to:
 - a) review the conversion parameters for all pangolin species developed in accordance with Decision 18.239;
 - b) review the study on pangolins developed in accordance with Decision 18.240, paragraph c);
 - c) review any tools or materials brought to the attention of the Secretariat under Decision 18.242; and
 - d) draft recommendations directed to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee, as appropriate, for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 32nd meeting.