

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

Leopards (*Panthera pardus*)

QUOTAS FOR LEOPARD HUNTING TROPHIES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.165 to 18.170 on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies*, as follows:

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

**18.165** *Parties which have quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use, and which did not yet provide relevant information to the Animals Committee (Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia), 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 31st meeting.*

**18.166** *All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) are encouraged to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.*

***Directed to the Animals Committee***

**18.167** *The Animals Committee shall consider the information submitted by the relevant range States under Decision 18.165 and any other relevant information, and, if necessary, make any recommendations to these range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.*

**18.168** *The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.169 and make recommendations to the Secretariat and leopard range States, as appropriate.*

**18.169** ***Directed to the Secretariat***

*The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources:*

- a) *support the reviews to be undertaken by range States referred to in Decision 18.165, upon request by a range State;*

- b) *encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and*
- c) *in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), share the draft guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, make such guidance available on the CITES website, and encourage its use by relevant Parties.*

#### **18.170 Directed to the Standing Committee**

*The Standing Committee should consider any recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 18.167, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

#### Implementation of Decision 18.165

7. On 15 January 2020, the Secretariat wrote to Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia, the three Parties identified in Decision 18.165, informing them of the discussions that took place at CoP18 regarding leopard hunting trophies, and requesting them to review their quotas and to consider whether they are still set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild. In order for the Animals Committee to be able to review any such information at its 31st meeting, the Secretariat requested for the information to be submitted by 14 May 2020. Moreover, pursuant to Decision 18.169, the Secretariat expressed its willingness to assist Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia should they require any support concerning the reviews to be undertaken in accordance with Decision 18.165, and invited them to inform the Secretariat should they require its assistance.
8. At the time of writing of this document (May 2020), the Secretariat had received no requests for support from Botswana, the Central African Republic or Ethiopia.
9. Botswana and Ethiopia have provided relevant information for consideration by the Animals Committee concerning the outcomes of their review of their leopard hunting quota, and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental. The information is provided in Annex 1 and Annex 2 respectively.

#### Implementation of Decision 18.169

10. Thanks to funding from Switzerland, the Secretariat has engaged with experts of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to initiate the development of guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies. The results of this work will be submitted to the Animals Committee at its 32nd meeting. The outcomes will also contribute to the implementation of Decision 18.132 to 18.134 on *Non-detriment findings* (see document AC31 Doc. 14/PC25 Doc. 17), and be taken into consideration when developing the Programme of Work for the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative, as per Decision 18.56 (see document AC31 Doc. 12).

#### Recommendation

11. The Animals Committee is invited to implement Decision 18.167 by:
  - a) considering the information submitted by the leopard range States concerned by Decision 18.165 in Annexes 1 and 2 to document AC31 Doc. 29.2, 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.