

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



Fifty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 14-18 July 2008

Reports

Reports of regional representatives

AFRICA

The attached report for Africa has been submitted by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya and Zambia. As it was received by the Secretariat after the deadline for submission of documents, it is provided herewith in English only, the language in which it was submitted.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The Africa report is presented in four sub-sections reporting on the activities of the four sub-regions in the region: Eastern Africa, Central Africa, Western Africa and Southern Africa.

General to the region, African elephant range States met in Mombasa, Kenya on 23-35 June 2008 in accordance with Decision 14.75 and 14.79 on the African elephant and ivory trade. Nigeria, Somalia and Angola however, did not participate in this meeting. At the meeting, the regional representatives to the Standing Committee requested the parties in sub-regions to submit their country reports for eventual compilation into regional report for presentation during this present meeting.

At the time of coming to the meeting, no inputs had been received by the representatives. This report is therefore compiled based on information provided during this meeting as presented by the members participating as follows: **Kenya** and United Republic of Tanzania from Eastern Africa sub-region, **Ghana** and Mali from the Western Africa sub-region, **Democratic Republic of Congo** and Cameroon from the Central Africa sub-region and **Zambia**, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa from the Southern Africa sub-region.

EASTERN AFRICA-REP. KENYA

National Laws for implementation of the Convention and the National Legislation Project

Discussions were held with the Chief, Legal Affairs and Trade Policy Unit of the Secretariat in August 2007 separately with Uganda and Kenya to seek technical comments from the Secretariat on the Wildlife trade policy and Wildlife bill in Uganda and Draft Wildlife policy and Bill for Kenya under review. Written comments from the Secretariat on the draft Kenya Wildlife policy and Bill have been received and incorporated into the documents for further consideration and finalization before presentation to Parliament for direction.

The Chief, Legal Affairs and Trade Policy Unit of the Secretariat held consultations in April 5-8, 2008 with the United Republic of Tanzania on how to improve national legislation for implementation of the Convention. The comments from the Secretariat have been received and incorporated for wider consideration.

Implementation of Decisions and Resolutions of the Convention

Decisions on the African elephant and Ivory trade.

Kenya and Rwanda participated in a consultative meeting of 15 countries from the Eastern, Central and Western Africa in Bamako, Mali in February 2008 and later in Mombasa, Kenya in June 2008 to discuss ways of implementing the decision.

All the parties except Rwanda responded in time to the *Elephants and ivory trade* questionnaire by the deadline of 31 December 2007 to help implement the Action Plan for the control of trade in elephant ivory as amended and adopted at CoP14 and referred to in Decision 13.26(Rev CoP14). Rwanda made a late submission of the questionnaire and receipt was confirmed at the Secretariat.

The entire sub region Parties participated in the African elephant meeting held in Mombasa, Kenya, June 23-25, 2008 in accordance with Decision 14.75 and Decision 14.79 and contributed to the process for implementing the decisions on the African elephant.

National reporting to the secretariat

All parties submitted their annual reports for 2006-2007 by the set deadline of 31 October 2007.

Significant trade review process and implementation

Kenya completed her process for the significant trade review of Aloe species and has been cleared from the process. The process culminated into development and publication as Subsidiary legislation in November 2007, "Aloe Species Regulations; the Wildlife (Conservation and Management) (Aloe Species) Regulations, 2007" and in June 2008 of a country strategy for conservation and management of the 5 commercial aloe species and a national status report of the species. The Aloe Regulations 2007, the Aloe Strategy and Status report were launched on 11 July 2008 by the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife and implementation work on the legislation and strategy begun.

Kenya invited Uganda to the launch of the Aloe Regulations, the Strategy and the Status report to share experiences in the management of the species and also to seek cooperation and collaboration in the management and conservation of the species.

Kenya and Uganda through the regional representatives to the Plants Committee continued to be involved in the planning and organizing together with the Secretariat and through the UNEP office, Nairobi, the workshop of the *Prunus africana* working Group to be held in Naivasha, Kenya on 8-11 September 2008.

Kenya through the Management Authority offered to host the workshop and organize for field excursion for practical aspects on Non Detriment Finding studies on the *Prunus africana*.

Law enforcement Activities

United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya continued with enforcement activities within the cross border wildlife law enforcement initiative.

United Republic of Tanzania undertook training on Rhino surveillance in 2007

Kenya developed and launched in 2007, a strategy to conservation and management of the Black Rhino population

Participation in International meetings

Kenya through the regional representative to the Plants committee and United Republic of Tanzania participated in the AC23 and PC 17 meetings in Geneva, April 2008. Decisions of the two committees taken at the meetings have been communicated by the region representative and the CITES Secretariat and initiatives have been started to prepare responses especially those regarding significant trade review process.

United Republic of Tanzania hosted in May 2008 a meeting of the African Rhino Specialist Group in Arusha. Kenya participated in this meeting.

CENTRAL AFRICA-REP: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Central African Republic participated in a meeting of the African Elephant Coalition in Bamako, Mali in February 2008, and later with DR Congo in Mombasa, Kenya in June 2008 to discuss collaborative implementation of the CoP14 decisions on the African elephant.

As sub region with Parties affected by the PC 16 recommendations and decision of the SC on the *Prunus africana* under framework of significant trade review process, the sub region continued to work towards implementation of the decision and would be participating in the workshop of the *Prunus africana* working group in September, 2008 in Kenya.

WESTERN AFRICA-REP: GHANA

National laws for implementation of the Convention and the National Legislation project

Comments on Ghana Draft Wildlife Bill were received from the Secretariat in 2007

The Draft Wildlife Bill has been finalised and submitted to the Ministry in charge of wildlife in May 2008 for consideration and further action.

Mali continued with review of her wildlife legislation and initiated a program for establishment of ranching operations for crocodiles.

Implementation of the Action Plan for the control of trade in African elephant ivory

Ghana participated in an Interpol Consultative Planning meeting in Naivasha, Kenya together with Nigeria on plans to shut down illegal ivory markets. Draft action plan for the exercise is being finalized.

Implementation of MIKE

Collection of data from the 2 MIKE sites continued and Ghana participated in the MIKE TAG meeting in Nairobi 14-16 January 2008

Ghana participated in the MIKE sub-regional steering committee for the West Africa in 2007 in Ouagadougou.

Implementation of Decisions and Resolutions of CoP

Ghana participated in a consultative meeting which was attended by other 15 countries in the African Elephant Coalition of African elephant range States in Bamako, Mali in February 2008 and later in Mombasa, Kenya in June 2008 to discuss the implementation of Decisions 14.75-14.78 on the African elephant.

Significant Trade review Process

Mali undertook a study of *Uromastyx geyri* and *Poicephalus senegalus*, species identified in the significant trade review process for the country to prepare a response regarding these species.

SOUTHERN AFRICA; REP: ZAMBIA

National Laws for the implementation of the Convention and National Legislation Project

Countries with category 2 legislation namely South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia are currently working on upgrading national legislation for the effective implementation of CITES.

Zambia is currently reviewing her Wildlife policy and Act to include stiffer penalties of protected and endangered species maintaining the issues of conservation and livelihoods.

Capacity Building

In April 2008, law enforcement officers in Botswana were trained by the MIKE CCU on MIKE data management techniques.

Law enforcement

Southern African countries are enforcing the provisions of CITES and are committed to regional law enforcement meetings and initiatives such as the Rhino and Elephant Security group meetings, transfrontier programmes and consultative forums.

The transfrontier programmes have consolidated cross-border security measures to prevent illegal trafficking in wildlife and other illegal activities.

Despite not having a sub-regional representative, Southern African countries are committed to the implementation of the MIKE programme and are providing information to TRAFFIC on ETIS.

South Africa has appointed environmental management inspectors to enforce specific environmental management Acts. South Africa further held a meeting to discuss rhino management and enforcement issues with all stakeholders including private farmers. This will hopefully strengthen the current regulatory system.

The promulgation of the elephant norms and standards and the subsequent redrafting of improved management plans by different tiers of government responsible for conservation have enhanced elephant management strategies in South Africa.

Zimbabwe instituted an emergency rhino strategy aiming at addressing the increasing rhino poaching.

Participation in regional and international meetings

Zambia, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe participated in the 23rd Animals and 17th Plants Committee meetings held in April 2008.

The countries including Mozambique took part in the African elephant Action Plan meeting held in Mombasa in June 2008.

South Africa and Zimbabwe had a meeting on cross border rhino issues, facilitated by TRAFFIC

All SADC countries attended a regional meeting held in Mozambique on sustainable use issues.

Namibia hosted a best hunting practices sub-regional workshop to promote best ethics in the sustainable use of wildlife resources.

International collaboration

Zambia and Namibia visited the Chinese CITES Management Authority to increase collaboration in ivory management. Zambia also visited Botswana and Namibia to learn lessons on ivory management.

General

In an effort to increase and restore the rhino range, South Africa and Namibia donated rhinos to Zambia where they have since established a founder population and are fully protected.

Elephant population surveys were conducted in Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

A leopard population habitat viability assessment will be conducted in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe