

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



Sixty-fifth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 7-11 July 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Rhinoceroses

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.84-16.92 on *Rhinoceroses* (Rhinocerotidae spp.) as follows:

Directed to all Parties

16.84 *All Parties should:*

- a) *immediately bring every seizure of illegal rhinoceros specimens made within their territories to the attention of authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination, as applicable, and to the attention of the Secretariat. Information on the seizure should be accompanied by available associated information, to enable follow-up investigations to take place;*
- b) *notify the CITES Secretariat of seizures of rhinoceros horn for which the origin cannot be determined. Such a notification should include information describing the circumstances of the seizure;*
- c) *enact legislation or use existing legislation to:*
 - i) *facilitate the use of specialized investigation techniques such as controlled deliveries and covert investigations in the investigation of wildlife-crime-related offences, as appropriate, in support of conventional investigation techniques;*
 - ii) *maximize the impact of enforcement actions by using other tools and regulations, such as anti-money laundering and asset forfeiture legislation, in support of wildlife legislation; and*
 - iii) *prosecute members of organized crime groups implicated in rhinoceros related crimes under a combination of relevant legislation which carry appropriate penalties that will act as effective deterrents, whenever possible;*
- d) *submit rhinoceros horn samples from specimens subject to criminal investigation, to designated accredited forensic laboratories as described in document CoP16 Doc. 54.2 (Rev. 1), for DNA analysis, in accordance with relevant legislation regulating the exchange of such specimens;*
- e) *prior to issuing permits or certificates, including pre-Convention certificates, authorizing the movement of specimens of rhinoceroses, consult with the country of destination, so that the true nature of the trade may be confirmed and monitored;*
- f) *introduce national measures, as appropriate, in support of CITES implementation, to regulate internal trade in specimens of rhinoceros, including any specimen that appears from an*

accompanying document, the packaging, a mark or label, or from any other circumstances, to be a rhinoceros part or derivative; and

- g) consider introducing stricter domestic measures to regulate the re-export of rhinoceros horn products from any source.*

16.85 *All Parties implicated in the illegal trade of rhinoceros horn as a range or consumer State, where applicable, should:*

- a) develop and implement long-term demand reduction strategies or programmes and immediate actions aimed at reducing the illegal movement and consumption of rhino horn products, taking into consideration the draft demand-reduction principles included in the Annex to document CoP16 Doc. 54.1 (Rev. 1), to achieve measurable change in consumer behaviour;*
- b) develop and implement strategies or programmes to enhance community awareness with regard to the economic, social and environmental impacts of illicit trafficking in wildlife crime, and to encourage the general public to report illegal activities related to wildlife trade to appropriate authorities for further investigation. Such strategies or programmes and immediate actions could include the involvement of local communities that live in the immediate vicinity of conservation areas, community policing projects or other strategies as may be appropriate; and*
- c) provide information on the effectiveness of strategies or programmes referred to in paragraph a) and b) of this Decision, to the Working Group on Rhinoceroses, by 31 January 2015, to assist the Working Group in identifying best practices and challenges experienced, with the aim of developing ideas to further enhance the effectiveness of demand-reduction strategies, and to report on its findings at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee.*

Directed to Viet Nam

16.86 *Viet Nam should:*

- a) make progress with the development and implementation of the South Africa – Viet Nam 2012-to-2017 Joint Action Plan, including strengthening management of imported rhino horn trophies, and to improve investigations and prosecutions of Vietnamese nationals suspected of illegally possessing or trading in rhino horn, as referenced in document CoP16 Inf. 24; and specifically to include:*
 - i) development of legislation on the domestic management of imported rhino horn trophies addressing the issue of alteration and transfer of rhino horn trophies pursuant to the national laws and CITES Resolutions; and*
 - ii) establishment of a secure registration database to track legal rhino horn trophies;*
- b) conduct consumer behaviour research to develop and implement demand reduction strategies or programmes aimed at reducing the consumption of rhino horn products; and*
- c) provide a comprehensive report on progress made to the Secretariat by 31 January 2014, with regard to steps taken to effectively implement the requirements of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15), and include:*
 - i) an update on arrests, seizures, prosecutions and penalties for offences related to illegal rhinoceros horn possession and trade in Viet Nam since CoP16;*
 - ii) the effectiveness of Decision 11¹, reported in document CoP16 Inf. 24, to prevent illegal rhino horn trade; and*
 - iii) any other on-going activities and measures implemented to combat illegal killing of rhinoceros and illegal rhinoceros horn trade.*

¹ In January 2013, the Prime Minister of Viet Nam issued Decision 11 on the "Prohibition of the export, import, selling and buying of specimens of some wild animals listed in the CITES Appendices". See [document CoP16 Inf. 24](#) for further information.

Directed to Mozambique

16.87 Mozambique should:

- a) take steps to effectively implement the requirements of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15);
- b) give priority attention to the enactment and implementation of legislation with deterrent penalties to effectively combat wildlife crime, prevent illegal killing of rhinoceroses and illegal possession of and trade in rhinoceros horn, taking into consideration the content of Decision 16.84, paragraphs a)-g); and
- c) assist the Working Group on Rhinoceroses to implement its mandate by providing a comprehensive report on measures implemented, as specified in paragraph a) and b) of this Decision, and on any other activities conducted. This report should be submitted to the Secretariat by 31 January 2014.

Directed to Mozambique and South Africa

16.88 Mozambique and South Africa should further enhance bilateral cooperation with each other and with their neighbouring States, to enhance current efforts to combat illegal killing of rhinoceroses and illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, and should provide a comprehensive report to the Secretariat, by 31 January 2014, with regard to activities conducted in this regard.

Directed to the Secretariat

16.89 The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, convene a CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force consisting of representatives from Parties affected by rhinoceros poaching and illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime partner organizations, EUROPOL and, as appropriate, other Parties and experts. The Task Force should develop strategies to improve international cooperation, taking into consideration ongoing initiatives [such as the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between South Africa and Viet Nam], and promote similar MoUs as appropriate;
- b) subject to external funding, develop, in conjunction with relevant institutions and experts, a manual containing guidelines on best practices, protocols and operational procedures, that will promote the use of wildlife forensic technology;
- c) examine the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) in those range States where the illegal killing of rhinoceros poses a significant threat to the populations of these species, particularly South Africa and Zimbabwe, and share its findings with the Working Group on Rhinoceroses;
- d) examine progress with curtailing illegal trade in rhinoceros parts and derivatives by citizens of implicated States, particularly Viet Nam;
- e) seek external funding to undertake a technical mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic to assess current enforcement activities relevant to illegal trade in wildlife, in particular in rhinoceros parts and derivatives, and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15);
- f) revise Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15), taking into consideration the contents of Decisions 16.84 and 16.85 and submit this revised version for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- g) report at the 65th and 66th meetings of the Standing Committee on progress with regard to the implementation of paragraph a) to e) of this Decision.

Directed to the Working Group on Rhinoceroses

16.90 The Working Group on Rhinoceroses shall:

- a) evaluate the reports submitted in compliance with Decisions 16.86, paragraph c), 16.87, paragraph c), 16.88, and the findings of the Secretariat as per Decision 16.89, paragraph c); and report its findings and recommendations at the 65th meeting of the Standing Committee; and

- b) *evaluate the report submitted in compliance with Decision 16.85, paragraph c), and report its findings and recommendations at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

16.91 *The Standing Committee shall:*

- a) *at its 64th meeting, extend the mandate of the Working Group on Rhinoceroses established at its 61st meeting, to continue to work, primarily through electronic means; and*
- b) *at its 65th and 66th meetings, consider the reports and recommendations of the Working Group on Rhinoceroses as required in Decision 16.90, and of the Secretariat, and determine further actions to be implemented by Parties to reduce illegal supply and demand, including any necessary measures pursuant to Resolution Conf. 14.3.*

16.92 *The Standing Committee shall review the definition of 'hunting trophy' provided in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16), in relation to rhinoceros horn hunting trophies, and consider whether any revision is needed in order to eliminate the possible abuse of the definition to facilitate illegal trade in rhinoceros horn.*

3. This comprehensive suite of Decisions provides a strong basis for Parties to take concrete action to combat rhinoceros poaching and illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, and an important range of measures and activities have been implemented by Parties since CoP16. However, the number of rhinoceroses killed illegally continues to grow and give cause for great concern. The total number of rhinoceroses poached in South Africa, for example, reached 1004 in 2013, the highest number of rhinoceroses illegally killed in a single year in the country to date.

Implementation of Decision 16.89, paragraph a)

4. The Secretariat convened a meeting of the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force in Nairobi, Kenya, from 28 to 29 October 2013, in close cooperation with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC)². This meeting brought together a variety of experts, and 52 representatives from 21 countries affected by rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade (Botswana, Cambodia, China, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Viet Nam and Zambia). As required by Decision 16.89, paragraph a), participants in the meeting developed strategies and proposed actions to improve international cooperation and combat the growing trends in rhinoceros poaching and the associated illegal trade in rhinoceros horn³.
5. These strategies and proposed actions were made available to Parties as an Annex to Notification to the Parties No. 2014/006, of 23 January 2014⁴. The Secretariat also requested ICCWC partner agencies, EUROPOL and the permanent missions of CITES Parties in Geneva, to disseminate the strategies and proposed actions to all relevant authorities through their respective channels.
6. Paragraphs 4. a) to d) of the strategies and proposed actions are directed to the Secretariat as follows:

The CITES Secretariat should:

- a) *Maintain close contact with UNODC as it works towards the creation of Transnational Organized Crime Units, in order to promote the inclusion of activities aimed at combatting wildlife crime within the framework of activities to be conducted by these units;*
- b) *Explore possibilities for the wider distribution of WCO Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (RILO) Alerts on rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade amongst all authorities responsible for the investigation of these crimes;*
- c) *Work with WCO to explore the development of a CITES seizure notification system; and*

² <http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/icwc.php>

³ <http://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2014-006A.pdf>

⁴ <http://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2014-006.pdf>

d) *Prepare and distribute a directory of WEN focal points, to facilitate increased collaboration at the subregional, regional and international levels.*

7. As requested by paragraph 4. d), the Secretariat prepared a directory of Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN) focal points, which was made available to Parties through Notification to the Parties No. 2014/021, of 28 April 2014. The Secretariat is currently in discussions with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) on how best to achieve the aims of paragraphs 4. a) to c), and Parties will be informed of actions taken in this regard at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC66).
8. Paragraph 2. b) of the strategies and proposed actions is directed to all range, transit and consumer States implicated in the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, as follows:

All countries implicated in the illegal trade of rhinoceros horn as a range, transit or consumer State should:

...

b) *In accordance with relevant legislation regulating the exchange of information and national protocol, appoint a national focal point for matters related to the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn to facilitate increased collaboration and timely communication. The focal point should be responsible for the facilitation of initial contacts between relevant enforcement agencies within his or her country, and the authorities from the requesting country, on matters related to rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade. CITES Management Authorities are encouraged to engage with their national law enforcement agencies to identify a national focal point, and to provide their contact details to the CITES Secretariat by 28 February 2014. The CITES Secretariat will prepare a consolidated list of all focal points and make it available to the law enforcement community through the CITES Enforcement Authorities Forum, EUROPOL, INTERPOL, UNODC, WCO and other appropriate channels, such as Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs);*

9. The response rate to paragraph 2. b) of the strategies and proposed actions has been poor, and only China and Greece provided the Secretariat with the contact details of their national focal points. At the time of writing, the Secretariat was engaging with Parties through email correspondence to encourage them to provide the contact details of their national focal points, and the Secretariat will prepare and distribute a list of focal points as soon as it receives an adequate number of responses from Parties.
10. Subject to the good overall implementation of the strategies and proposed actions by all Parties, it could contribute significantly to the fight against rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade. The Secretariat welcomes information on the implementation of these strategies and proposed actions as it would assist not only in gauging any progress that may have been made in the implementation, but also any associated benefits or challenges to implementation. Parties were invited, through Notification to the Parties No. 2014/006, to report on their progress in the implementation of the strategies and proposed actions. The Secretariat believes that such reporting at SC66 should also be encouraged.
11. The Secretariat would like to thank Sweden for the generous funds it provided, which enabled the Secretariat to convene the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force.

Implementation of Decision 16.89, paragraph b)

12. It is vital for law enforcement officers working along and across borders and within protected areas to be equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to counter illegal wildlife trade effectively. This includes capacity building on specific investigative techniques and the increased use of forensics, which can be applied during follow-up actions that should be taken when seizures are made, crime scenes are investigated, information is being gathered or evidence is being presented in court. In consultation with rhinoceros range States, ICCWC identified as a priority the need for training on rhinoceros horn DNA-sampling for law enforcement officers. In support of the implementation of Decisions 16.84, paragraph d), and 16.89, paragraph b), the South African Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the University of Pretoria's Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL), in collaboration with ICCWC, hosted a rhinoceros DNA-sampling workshop⁵, held on 5 and 6 November 2013 at the Southern African Wildlife College (Hoedspruit, South Africa). The workshop also included field training in the Kruger National Park. Law

⁵ http://cites.org/eng/news/pr/2013/20131106_forensics.php

enforcement officers from the 11 African rhinoceros range States, as well as from China, Thailand and Viet Nam and the South African National Parks (SANParks), participated in the workshop. It was designed as a train-the-trainer event, with a special focus on the increased use of rhinoceros horn DNA-sampling to combat illegal trade. The Secretariat would like to thank the Government of the Netherlands for the generous funding it made available to ICCWC, which made it possible to host this workshop.

13. In its documents on rhinoceroses for SC62⁶ and CoP16⁷, the Secretariat reported on the Rhino DNA Index System (RhODIS)⁸ initiated by the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory of the University of Pretoria. Samsung has partnered with RhODIS and developed an eRhODIS Application⁹ as an adjunct for RhODIS, to assist in the collection of samples and information relevant to the RhODIS. The eRhODIS guides the user through the standard procedure of collecting samples and completing required data fields, and was unveiled at the above-mentioned rhinoceros DNA-sampling workshop in South Africa.
14. In further support of the implementation of the CoP16 Decisions on the use of wildlife forensic technology, and with the aim of facilitating the use of forensics to the fullest extent possible to combat wildlife crime, under the auspices of ICCWC, UNODC took the lead in the development of a set of *Guidelines for forensic methods and procedures of ivory sampling and analysis*. The Secretariat worked closely with UNODC and the other ICCWC partners in the development of these guidelines, and has reported on them in more detail in document SC65 Doc. 42.2. While the emphasis in the manual is on the use of forensic technology to combat the illegal ivory trade, similar considerations apply in the investigation of wildlife crime offences involving other species. The manual could therefore be amended with the addition of specific annexes to be applied in different settings as appropriate, e.g. to address requirements related to rhinoceros horn in accordance with Decision 16.89, paragraph b). The Secretariat will continue to work with UNODC in pursuit of similar guidelines on forensic methods and procedures for rhinoceros horn sampling and analysis.
15. The Secretariat, in its documents on rhinoceroses for SC62 and CoP16, also reported on a project that was approved by the Governing Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) which will strengthen forensic capabilities in South Africa to combat wildlife crime¹⁰. The Secretariat supported the development of this first GEF project, the first of its kind for CITES and, in December 2013, the project document on "Strengthening Law Enforcement Capabilities to Combat Wildlife Crime for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Species in South Africa (target: Rhinoceros)" was endorsed by the GEF Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson. The Secretariat commends all those involved in the significant work to develop a comprehensive final project document, which was endorsed without any technical comments. This GEF project responds to the immediate threat posed to the survival of rhinoceroses in South Africa through poaching and smuggling, and represents a creative and innovative response to this crisis. Parties are encouraged to pursue similar projects in support of effective CITES implementation, through the GEF.

Implementation of Decision 16.89, paragraphs c) and d)

16. At its 61st meeting (Geneva, August 2011), the Standing Committee established a Rhinoceros Working Group consisting of China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, the United Kingdom, the United States, Zimbabwe, IUCN, Safari Club International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC and WWF. At its 64th meeting (Bangkok, March 2013), the Committee agreed that the Rhinoceros Working Group would be continued with its existing membership and with the United Kingdom as the Chair.
17. To facilitate the reporting of the Secretariat at the present meeting, and to assist the Rhinoceros Working Group in implementing its mandate, the Secretariat sent letters to Mozambique, South Africa, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe in early January 2014, reminding them of the above-mentioned Decisions and inviting them to submit their reports to the Secretariat. In the light of a number of media reports that came to the attention of the Secretariat suggesting increased poaching of rhinoceroses in India, the Secretariat at the same time also sent a letter to Indian authorities inviting them to submit information on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15). In response to these letters, reports were received from South

⁶ <http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/62/E62-47-02.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-54-02.pdf>

⁸ <http://www.rhodis.co.za/>

⁹ <http://www.erhodis.co.za/>

¹⁰ http://www.cites.org/eng/news/pr/2012/20120613_rhino_project.php

Africa, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe, which were subsequently submitted to the Chair of the Rhinoceros Working Group. No reports were received from Mozambique and India.

18. At the request of the Chair of the Rhinoceros Working Group, the Secretariat again wrote to Mozambique on 19 March 2014, inviting the country to submit its report, in accordance with Decisions 16.87 and 16.88. On 31 March 2014, the Secretariat received the report from Mozambique, which was submitted to the Chair of the Rhinoceros Working Group on the same day.
19. The Secretariat would like to thank Mozambique, South Africa, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe for their reports, and has limited its reporting on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) in the present document to these countries and India. In document CoP16 Doc. 54.2 (Rev. 1)¹¹ on *Rhinoceroses*, prepared for CoP16, the Secretariat reported on the issue of Czech citizens recruited by criminal groups to hunt rhinoceroses in South Africa. The laundering of rhinoceros hunting trophies into illegal trade by hunters from the Czech Republic persisted after CoP16, and the Secretariat will also report on this issue in the present document.

Czech Republic

20. Czech authorities (Customs Administration of the Czech Republic and Czech Environmental Inspectorate) have been investigating an extensive illegal trade in rhinoceros horns imported into the country from South Africa. Czech authorities reported that crime groups connected to the Vietnamese community in the Czech Republic recruited pseudo-hunters, whereby individuals with no hunting experience or background were recruited to hunt rhinoceroses to obtain their horns for purposes other than hunting trophies. These pseudo-hunters were predominantly Czech nationals from northern Bohemia. It is reported that rhinoceros horns were imported to the Czech Republic as hunting trophies; however, as the recruiters covered all the travel and other related expenses of the pseudo-hunters, the latter were obliged to give up their hunting trophies on their return to the Czech Republic.
21. Owing to measures implemented by South Africa to prevent pseudo-hunting, as reported in document CoP16 Doc. 54.2 (Rev. 1), the crime groups recruiting the pseudo-hunters changed their modus operandi, and started recruiting professional hunters. In the absence of evidence of any illegal intention with the horns by the professional hunters, this new modus operandi presented a significant law enforcement challenge for Czech authorities.
22. The Secretariat commends the enforcement action taken in the Czech Republic to address this threat, which resulted in the apprehension of 16 suspects on 16 July 2013, including recruited hunters, recruiters from crime groups and their assistants. It is further encouraging to note that the Czech Environmental Inspectorate collected samples from seized rhinoceros horns, which were sent to the University of Pretoria (RhODIS database) and the Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA) Wildlife Forensic Unit in Scotland, for forensic analysis.
23. The Czech Environmental Inspectorate has informed the Secretariat that it has proved difficult to obtain information on all Czech hunters who have hunted rhinoceroses in South Africa, and this was also a matter of discussion at the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force meeting in October 2013. The Task Force addressed the matter in the strategies and proposed actions it developed, and the Standing Committee might consider requesting the Czech Republic, South Africa and Viet Nam to report on measures implemented to combat this illegal trade and to increase their bilateral and trilateral cooperation.

India

24. Decision 16.89, paragraph c), directs the Secretariat to examine the implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) in those range States where the illegal killing of rhinoceros poses a significant threat to the populations of these species. Since CoP16, the Secretariat has noted a number of media reports suggesting that criminal syndicates might be targeting rhinoceros populations in India. It was reported that, in 2013, Assam lost 40 one-horned rhinos due to poaching in four national parks in the state. In April 2014, media reports suggested that nine rhinoceroses had been illegally killed in Kaziranga National Park since the beginning of 2014.
25. The Secretariat sent a letter to India in early January 2014, inviting it to submit information on its implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) to the Secretariat. At the time of writing, no reply

¹¹ <http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-54-02.pdf>

has been received. The Committee might consider requesting India to submit a comprehensive report on its implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15), for consideration at SC66.

Mozambique

26. The report submitted by Mozambique outlines a number of measures that have been implemented in the country since 2012 to enhance efforts to combat illegal killing of rhinoceroses and illegal trade in rhinoceros horn. These include: equipping all field rangers with new uniforms; the construction of a new field ranger base; the improvement of two existing field ranger bases; the issuing of rifles to field rangers; the distribution of bicycles to various field ranger posts; the provision of equipment to patrol units; and the procurement of three new vehicles. It was further reported that its protection unit was restructured in 2012, and that three new senior staff were appointed. Subject to meeting performance standards, salary incentives were initiated for leadership positions, and incentives were initiated to reward anti-poaching successes. It is reported that a new 30-man unit was trained, equipped and mobilized in late 2013, and that an Intensive Protection Zone (IPZ), which extends along the length of the border of South Africa's Kruger National Park (KNP) with Mozambique, was established. It was further reported that access to the IPZ is restricted and that it will be patrolled primarily by the new protection unit.
27. The report from Mozambique further indicates that a number of strategic and operational meetings were held between representatives from the KNP and Limpopo National Park (LNP) of Mozambique, to improve information sharing, strategy development and preparations for implementation of cross border patrols once the necessary protocols are approved. These two parks share a long border of about 200 km and, together with Gonorezhou National Park of Zimbabwe, form the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP). Mozambique reported that the resettlement of about 1500 families in seven villages within the LNP will be fast tracked as a vital element of the park's primary anti-poaching strategy. In 2013, 155 families in the village of Macavene were resettled out of the park, and it is foreseen that a further 420 families from two villages implicated in rhinoceros poaching will be resettled in 2014. It is reported that the resettlement programme should be completed by 2016, subject to sufficient financial resources for this purpose.
28. The community programme of LNP implemented a community nursery, 18 community irrigation schemes and water repair schemes. National regulations require that 20 per cent of park revenues should be used to benefit communities residing in the Park Buffer Zone. To further enhance community awareness on the economic, social and environmental impacts of illicit trafficking in wildlife, an environmental awareness programme was initiated in schools, and a community theatre group performed plays in over 30 villages in and around the park to promote the benefits of having a wildlife park and to bring an end to poaching. In addition, a local soccer team was sponsored with new soccer uniforms and anti-poaching banners will be displayed at their soccer matches.
29. The results of the anti-poaching measures undertaken by Mozambique are reflected in the following two figures included in its report:



30. As can be seen from these figures, 2013 saw a notable increase in the number of arrests made during anti-poaching interventions. A significantly higher number of fines were also issued in 2013, compared to previous years, but there was a notable decrease in the payment of fines, a fact that is also acknowledged by Mozambique in its report.
31. Mozambique has indicated that, in 2014, it intends to engage in resource improvements and to implement new strategic anti-poaching interventions involving:

- a) The establishment of a formal intelligence structure that will facilitate intelligence sharing;
 - b) The implementation of a sniffer dog capability within LNP;
 - c) The improvement of its ranger radio communications network; and
 - d) The establishment of Game Farmers Association.
32. The report from Mozambique also highlighted that it is currently implementing a number of national initiatives, including the establishment of an anti-poaching task force consisting of representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Tourism, Interior, Defence, Mine Resources, Finance and Fisheries and the improvement of judicial processes.
33. Subsequent to receiving the report from Mozambique, on 9 April 2014, its parliament enacted the Conservation Areas Act. This new Act provides for prison sentences of 8 to 12 years for persons convicted of illegally killing protected species. During the Secretariat's legislative and technical mission to Mozambique in 2013, discussions were held with a representative of the General Prosecutor's Office. He advised that, once there were legislative provisions authorizing CITES-related criminal prosecutions (e.g. in the Conservation Areas Act), his office was prepared to make use of them. He noted that specialized capacity building and an exchange of information and experience with other prosecutors in the region would be helpful in ensuring well-prepared and successful prosecutions. In relation to Decision 16.88, bilateral cooperation between Mozambique and South Africa was further enhanced by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two countries on 17 April 2014. (See the section on South Africa, below).
34. The measures already implemented by Mozambique, as well as those that are still being or expected to be implemented are encouraging and support the implementation of Decisions 16.87 and 16.88, as well as Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15). However, Mozambique continues to be a key country in relation to rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade, and states in its report that 75 per cent of rhinoceros poaching incursions in KNP originate from the KNP's eastern borders with the LNP. A number of seizures of rhinoceros horn allegedly originating from Mozambique have been made since CoP16. These include, for example, the seizure of eight pieces of rhinoceros horn weighing about 21.5 kg at Changi Airport in Singapore on 10 January 2014. A Vietnamese national was arrested, and investigations revealed that he had travelled to Mozambique to purchase the rhinoceros horns and bring them back to Viet Nam to sell. To evade checks, the offender allegedly travelled to other African countries before taking a flight from Uganda to Viet Nam via Dubai, Singapore and Lao People's Democratic Republic, with Viet Nam as his final destination. The pieces of horn were examined and determined by zoological experts in Singapore to be from the African black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*). The Vietnamese offender was sentenced to 15 months in prison for smuggling rhinoceros horns, on 16 January 2014. A further seizure of nine pieces of rhinoceros horn originating from Mozambique, transiting through Kenya and destined for Viet Nam were made in Thailand on 13 January 2014. The report received from Viet Nam, attached to the present document as Annex 1, includes information on a number of seizures of rhinoceros horn originating from Mozambique. These seizures indicate that crime syndicates continue to target Mozambique as a country from which rhinoceros horns can be obtained and smuggled to clandestine markets. The Secretariat believes that Mozambique could benefit from preparing a detailed action plan with time frames and milestones, capturing the measures that are still being or expected to be implemented, as contained in the report from Mozambique, and any other activities and measures that could be undertaken to combat illegal killing of rhinoceros and illegal rhinoceros horn trade.

South Africa

35. Statistics released by South Africa on 17 April 2014 indicate that 294 rhinoceroses had been poached in the country since the beginning of 2014, and that 93 people had been arrested for rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade in the same period. South Africa's KNP continues to bear the brunt of rhinoceros poaching in the country.
36. As mentioned in paragraph 33 above, the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 17 April 2014 for enhanced bilateral cooperation between Mozambique and South Africa was a significant development¹². Under this MoU, some of the main areas of cooperation will be biodiversity management, conservation and protection, the promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity as an integral part of

¹² https://www.environment.gov.za/speech/molewa_signingmou_mozambique

conservation of species and ecosystems, biodiversity law enforcement, protected areas management and community development. South Africa indicated that a further diplomatic agreement will be signed between Mozambique and South Africa to bring the MoU into force.

37. In addition to the MoU with Mozambique, the report received from South Africa outlines a number of activities that have been undertaken to further enhance bilateral cooperation between the two countries. In June 2013 the South African Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs had a bilateral meeting with her counterpart in Maputo, Mozambique. It is reported that the two Ministers discussed the current rhinoceros poaching crisis and agreed on several deliverables, including, amongst others: the establishment of joint law enforcement operations in the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP); the mobilization of resources to conduct these operations; and interventions aimed at creating sustainable jobs and improving livelihoods for local communities within the GLTP area. It is further reported that a "Cooperation Agreement on the Joint Protection and Management of the Rhino and Elephant Populations in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park" is being prepared for approval and signature by the Ministers. The aim of this Cooperation Agreement is to establish "One Park with One Mission in Unison against those that threaten GLTP Assets and Existence".
38. A meeting of officials from Mozambique and South Africa took place in Maputo, Mozambique, on 9 September 2013, prior to the start of the Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security (JPCDS), which is an agreement signed by both countries to cooperate in the fields of defence and security. It is reported that officials at this meeting discussed progress made on the defined outcomes of the bilateral ministerial meeting in June 2013. The 4th JPCDS meeting between the two countries was held from 10 to 14 September 2013, during which it was reiterated that crime along common borders between the two countries, which includes illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products remains a challenge. The Committee reportedly recommended the urgent formation of a joint technical team comprising police, defence, immigration, State security and environmental affairs, to develop a strategy and implementation plan to deal with all crimes carried out along the common borders of the two countries, and that this strategy and implementation plan include actions to deal with the illegal killing of rhinoceros and the subsequent illegal trade in rhinoceros horn. Both countries reportedly agreed to formalize the training of Mozambican Judiciary and State Law Advisors by concluding an MoU on legal cooperation. It was further reported that South Africa submitted draft treaties on extradition and Mutual Legal Assistance in criminal matters to Mozambique for comments.
39. Other reported activities between the two countries included the training of field rangers from LNP at the South African Wildlife College in late 2013, and the collection by officers from the South African Police Service, of DNA samples for forensic analysis from rhinoceros horns confiscated in Mozambique. It is reported that the results of analysis positively linked some of these horns to poaching incidents in KNP.
40. Significant financial support to combat the ongoing rhinoceros poaching crisis was also received by South Africa in February 2014, through a grant of 232.2 million South African Rand made to the Peace Parks Foundation by the Dutch and Swedish Postcode Lotteries¹³. It was reported that the South African Government and public entities, such as SANParks and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (Ezemvelo), are working closely with the Peace Parks Foundation to develop a multi-pronged approach to combat rhino poaching and wildlife crime, and that the majority of this funding will be spent on enhancing the existing efforts to protect rhinoceroses in South Africa, but that all other southern African rhinoceros range States have been consulted and that they will form an integral part of the strategies designed to save the species.
41. South Africa is taking significant steps and has implemented a number of important measures to combat rhinoceros poaching and the illegal rhinoceros horn trade, and in particular to enhance bilateral cooperation with Mozambique and Viet Nam (see paragraph 44 of the present document). On 24 July 2013, the President of South Africa signed the National Environmental Management Laws Amendment Act No. 14 of 2013, in which a substantial number of amendments were aimed at strengthening the implementation of legal requirements and administrative processes to limit the possible abuse of the permit system related to the hunting of rhinoceroses¹⁴. The actions taken by South Africa are commendable; however, as described in paragraphs 20 to 23 of the present document, organized crime groups are continuing to target the country to exploit rhinoceros trophy hunting to launder horns into illegal trade. South Africa should diligently continue to implement measures aimed at limiting the possible abuse of the permit system, as well as coordinate with destination countries to check whether they have measures in place to monitor and regulate the movement and possession of rhinoceros horn. All Parties are

¹³ https://www.environment.gov.za/mediarelease/ednamolewa_welcomes_grant

¹⁴ https://www.environment.gov.za/president_sign_nemlaa

encouraged to implement measures at the national level to ensure that rhinoceros horns acquired as legal hunting trophies remain in lawful possession.

42. On 24 April 2014, South Africa notified the Secretariat about the theft of 39 whole rhinoceros horns and 75 smaller pieces that were stolen from the safe at the office of Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Board (MTPB) in Nelspruit. This incident further highlights the significant demand that exists for rhinoceros parts and derivatives. Parties that have stocks of rhinoceros horn are reminded of the need to ensure that these stocks are marked and registered, as urged in Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) on *Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses*, and also encouraged to review the measures they have put in place to secure such stocks, i.e. to ensure that these measures are adequate.

Viet Nam

43. On 20 February 2014, the Prime Minister of Viet Nam issued a Directive on “Strengthening the direction and implementation of measures for controlling and protecting endangered, rare and precious wild animals”¹⁵, to Ministries and local authorities to prioritize and strengthen responses to wildlife crime, including the trafficking of rhinoceros horn¹⁶. This Directive acknowledges the serious threat that illegal trade in wildlife brings to Viet Nam, recognizes the role of transnational organized crime syndicates in wildlife crime, and reflects commitment from the highest political level to combat the illegal trade in wildlife in the country.
44. In addition to the Directive issued by the Prime Minister, a variety of other important activities were conducted and measures have been implemented since CoP16. On 12 December 2012, South Africa and Viet Nam signed an MoU on Biodiversity Conservation and Protection to promote co-operation between the two countries and to address a number of wildlife and conservation issues, in particular the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products. From 6 to 10 May 2013, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam led a delegation of senior officials on a working visit to South Africa, during which a plan of implementation for the MoU was signed. Following the signing of the implementation plan in May 2013, a high-level delegation from Viet Nam visited South Africa from 24 to 28 March 2014¹⁷. An important part of discussions held during this visit was to address the need to improve cooperation on biodiversity conservation, especially on controlling the illicit trade and poaching of wildlife, including rhinoceroses¹⁸.
45. The CITES Management Authority of Viet Nam hosted a roundtable meeting in Hanoi on 24 March 2014 to strengthen the coordination of key policy initiatives to combat wildlife crime and to facilitate a discussion on the priorities to be implemented to enhance law enforcement efforts to combat transnational wildlife trafficking. The meeting was attended by representatives of China, Germany, Mozambique, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as representatives of the key central agencies of the Vietnamese government, such as the Supreme People’s Procuracy, Customs and police, and the Asian Development Bank. In March 2014, the CITES Secretariat also received a formal request for the implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit¹⁹ in the country. Arrangements for the implementation of the Toolkit, led by the UNODC under the auspices of ICCWC, were ongoing at the time of writing.
46. The report received from Viet Nam, in compliance with Decision 16.86, on steps taken to effectively implement the requirements of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15), is comprehensive and informative, and has therefore been annexed to the present document in the language received (Annex 1). It highlights a number of other important activities and measures that have been initiated or implemented, such as: the renewal of Viet Nam’s National Inter-agency Committee on Combatting Illegal Trade in Wildlife; the issuing of several new or revised laws and regulations; the development of a circular on the management of hunting trophies; the finalization of a circular that will provide guidance to prosecutors and judges on cases involving rhinoceros and elephant specimens; increased awareness of illegal rhinoceros horn trade among law enforcement officers; the initiation of a rhinoceros horn demand reduction programme; and the approval of Viet Nam’s National Biodiversity Strategy by the Prime Minister.

¹⁵ http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/VietNam_Directive_Wildlife_Crime.pdf

¹⁶ http://www.cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2014/20140318_vn_pm.php

¹⁷ https://www.environment.gov.za/speech/tuyen_savietnam_biodiversitycooperation

¹⁸ https://www.environment.gov.za/mediarelease/southafrica_vietnam_biodiversityprotection_rhinopoaching

¹⁹ http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/common/resources/pub/ICCWC_Toolkit_v2_english.pdf

47. The report states that, in 2013, authorities in Viet Nam have been increasingly successful in their law enforcement efforts to combat illegal rhinoceros horn trade, as reflected in the number of seizures of rhinoceros horns since CoP16. These increased enforcement efforts are commendable, in particular in because authorities continue to detect illegal rhinoceros horn consignments destined for Viet Nam. The report indicates that new smuggling routes were identified through intelligence analysis. However, it does not indicate whether Viet Nam brought this to the attention of authorities in other countries, in accordance with the provisions of Decision 16.84, paragraphs a) and b). As a result, Viet Nam is encouraged to bring every seizure of illegal rhinoceros specimens made within its territory, as well as any available related information, to the attention of authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination, to enable follow-up investigations to take place.
48. Viet Nam reported that suspects were arrested in all seizure cases and that these cases are currently under investigation. The Secretariat encourages Viet Nam to remain vigilant in its law enforcement efforts, including the early detection of potential offenders and the application of appropriate penalties to act as effective deterrents.
49. The report from Viet Nam indicates that all confiscated specimens are in safe storage for scientific, educational and training purposes, in compliance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Disposal of confiscated and accumulated specimens*. The Secretariat encourages Viet Nam to ensure that all confiscated rhinoceros horn stocks are also secured, marked and registered in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15). As reported in paragraph 12 of the present document, Viet Nam participated in the rhinoceros DNA sampling workshop and is encouraged to collect samples from the confiscated rhinoceros horns for forensic analysis, in accordance with the provisions of Decision 16.84, paragraph d).
50. It is evident that Viet Nam has managed to set in motion a political momentum to combat illegal wildlife trade, which has significantly contributed to tangible progress in its efforts to implement measures to combat illegal rhinoceros horn trade more effectively. A variety of important activities and measures have been undertaken and implemented, or are being implemented, and Viet Nam is commended for these efforts and encouraged to maintain vigilance to ensure the implementation of enforcement activities.

Zimbabwe

51. The report received from Zimbabwe is attached to the present document, in the language received, as Annex 2. The Secretariat deleted the names of accused persons that were included in Table 5 of the report as it would not be appropriate to make these details available publicly. It is encouraging to note a significant decline in rhinoceros poaching in Zimbabwe, with a total of 52 rhinoceroses being poached in 2010, 38 in 2011, 22 in 2012, and 16 in 2013 (6 black and 10 white). It is further reported that 15 rhinoceros horns were recovered, and that 18 cases of rhinoceros poaching resulted in the arrest of 18 Zimbabwean and four Zambian nationals in the country. Nine of these cases are at various stages of investigation and some are still pending in courts around the country. In cases where convictions were secured, the offenders received jail terms ranging from 8 to 18 years in prison.
52. It is also reported that the Parks and Wild Life Act [Chapter 20:14] was amended by the repeal of section 128 and the substitution of a new section that makes provision for a "Special penalty for certain offences". This new section provides, *inter alia*, for imprisonment for a period not less than nine years upon first conviction, and not less than 11 years upon a second or subsequent conviction for the unlawful killing or hunting of rhinoceros, or the unlawful possession of, or trading in any rhinoceros trophy. Furthermore, persons convicted of rhinoceros poaching are ordered to pay compensation. The compensation value for rhinoceros poaching, as gazetted in Statutory Instrument 56 of 2012, is USD 120,000 per animal. However, case no. 15 in Table 5 of the Zimbabwe report suggests that mandatory prison sentences might not be routinely followed by the courts.

Implementation of Decision 16.89, paragraph e)

53. In accordance with the provisions of Decision 16.89, paragraph e), the Secretariat conducted a mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 18 to 22 November 2013. From the findings of the mission it was evident that national authorities face a number of challenges in implementing CITES. Implementation challenges relate not only to enforcement matters, but also to compliance issues, such as issuance of permits, the monitoring of significant levels of trade, regulation of the activities of captive breeding facilities and the making of Non-detriment Findings. Further information will be provided under agenda item 23 - Application of Article XIII.

Other matters

54. From 2 to 3 October 2013, the First Asian Rhino Range States Meeting was held in Bandar Lampung, Indonesia²⁰, during which the Governments of Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal adopted the Bandar Lampung Declaration²¹. This Declaration commits all signatories to implement a series of actions as a matter of priority, and to collaborate with each other and the international community to ensure that the populations of all three Asian rhinoceros species will grow by at least three per cent annually by 2020. The Declaration outlines a number of important issues, including the key points of the Sumatran Rhino Emergency Plan, to be implemented between 2013 and 2015.
55. In relation to the implementation of the provisions of Decision 16.84, paragraphs a) and b), Parties have carried out a number of positive activities in support of increased international cooperation and appropriate follow-up investigations. On 6 August 2013, Customs authorities in Hong Kong, China, intercepted 2229.7 kg of ivory, 13 rhinoceros horns (37.22 kg) and five pieces of leopard skin inside a container shipped from Nigeria to Hong Kong. On 9 August 2013, authorities in Hong Kong, China, brought this seizure to the attention of counterparts in Nigeria and the Secretariat. The information provided by Hong Kong, China, included information that made it possible for follow-up investigations to take place. In addition, Singapore informed the Secretariat about the seizure of eight pieces of rhinoceros horns weighing 21.5 kg from a Vietnamese national who was in transit through Singapore in January 2014. The report indicated that the offender bought the horns in Mozambique and that they were destined for Viet Nam. The Secretariat encouraged Singapore to engage with Mozambique, South Africa and Viet Nam about the seizure, and has subsequently been copied into relevant correspondence between Singapore and South Africa. The Secretariat is encouraged by the activities undertaken by Hong Kong, China, and Singapore, but believes that paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 16.84 are currently only being implemented effectively by a limited number of Parties.
56. The strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force encourage Parties to draw increasingly upon the comprehensive INTERPOL global databases on names of individuals, fingerprints, DNA, firearms, identification and travel documents, and in particular INTERPOL Notices²² to combat transnational organized crime syndicates involved in rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn trade. In this regard, the Secretariat was encouraged by the news that, in December 2013, INTERPOL issued a Red Notice for Rajkumar Praja, wanted for rhinoceros poaching and illegal trade in rhinoceros horns, at the request of Nepal²³. INTERPOL under the auspices of ICCWC, also currently leads on the implementation of a project on wildlife fugitive investigation. This project is aimed at prioritizing the investigation of fugitives who have committed wildlife crimes as a core aspect of addressing such crime, developing the investigation skills of law enforcement authorities to enable effective investigation, identification, location and arrest of wildlife fugitives and encouraging international exchange of information about them, their whereabouts and any other information that could assist in investigations.
57. The Secretariat takes this opportunity to congratulate Nepal on its continued successful fight against poaching. Nepal celebrated 365 days of zero poaching on 3 March 2014, which was celebrated for the first time as World Wildlife Day. In 2011, the country also celebrated a zero poaching year, and in 2012 it lost just one rhinoceros to poaching.

Final remarks

58. Rhinoceros poaching and the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn continues to pose a significant threat to rhinoceros populations. It remains a global problem, with organized criminal groups operating in range, transit and destination States.
59. The reports received from countries, as discussed above, outline past and ongoing implementation of a wide variety of measures and activities, and reflect good progress in efforts made to deal with rhinoceros poaching. However, it is crucial that that the Decisions on rhinoceroses adopted at CoP16, as well as the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force, are effectively implemented by all Parties.

²⁰ http://www.cites.org/eng/news/sg/2013/20131007_asia_rhino.php

²¹ http://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/news/sg/2013/bandar_lampung_declaration.pdf

²² <http://www.interpol.int/INTERPOL-expertise/Notices>

²³ <http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2013/PR147>

Recommendations

60. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee:

- a) encourage all Parties to remain vigilant in their implementation of the Decisions on Rhinoceroses (*Rhinocerotidae* spp.) adopted at CoP16, as well as the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force;
- b) invite the Czech Republic, South Africa and Viet Nam each to submit a comprehensive report to the Secretariat, by 31 March 2015, on measures taken, including measures to improve bilateral and trilateral co-operation to ensure that rhinoceros trophy hunting is not exploited by crime groups and is not used to launder rhinoceros horns into illegal trade, and to prevent the illegal re-export of rhinoceros horns from the Czech Republic to Viet Nam;
- c) invite India to submit a comprehensive report on its implementation of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15) to the Secretariat, by 31 March 2015, for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 66th meeting (SC66);
- d) invite Mozambique to:
 - i) prepare a detailed action plan with time frames and milestones, capturing the measures that are still being or expected to be implemented, as contained in the report submitted by Mozambique and described in the present document, and any other activities and measures to be implemented to combat illegal killing of rhinoceros and illegal rhinoceros horn trade; and
 - ii) provide a comprehensive report on progress with the implementation of the action plan described in i) above, to the Secretariat by 31 March 2015, including information on arrests, seizures, prosecutions and penalties for offenders involved in rhinoceros poaching and illegal rhinoceros horn possession and trade, for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 66th meeting;
- e) invite South Africa and Mozambique to report on progress in the implementation of the deliverables agreed between their Ministers at their June 2013 meeting, and on any progress made in the implementation of the activities agreed at the 4th JPCDS meeting, as it relate to rhinoceros poaching and the illegal rhinoceros horn trade, as described in paragraphs 37 to 39 of the present document;
- f) invite Viet Nam to provide a comprehensive report to the Secretariat by 31 March 2015, for consideration by the Standing Committee at SC66, on:
 - i) arrests, seizures, prosecutions and penalties for illegal rhinoceros horn possession and trade offences imposed in the period between SC65 and SC66, as well as on the outcome of investigations and the application of appropriate penalties in relation to the seizures reported in the report submitted by Viet Nam and presented in Annex 1;
 - ii) any measures implemented to ensure that all confiscated rhinoceros horn stocks are secured, marked and registered in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP15);
 - iii) any activities conducted to bring seizures to the attention of authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination in accordance with the provisions of Decision 16.84, paragraphs a) and b); and
 - iv) any collection of samples from confiscated rhinoceros horns for forensic analysis, in accordance with the provisions of Decision 16.84, paragraph d);
- g) request the Secretariat and the Working Group on Rhinoceroses to evaluate the reports submitted in compliance with recommendations b) to f) above and report their findings and recommendations at SC66;
- h) urge all Parties that have not provided the Secretariat with the contact details of their national focal points on matters related to the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, as described in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the present document, to do so by 15 August 2014;

- i) request the Secretariat to invite Parties to provide information on their implementation of the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force, and to and report on its evaluation of the information received at SC66; and
- j) request the Secretariat to report at SC66 on actions taken to facilitate the implementation of paragraphs 4 a) to c) of the strategies and proposed actions developed by the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force.