

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



Sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 11-15 January 2016

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade control and traceability

QUOTAS FOR LEOPARD HUNTING TROPHIES AND SKINS FOR PERSONAL USE

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.76 and 16.77 on *Reporting on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use*. These Decisions read as follows:

Directed to Parties

16.76 *Parties shall, by the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee, submit a report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the system as set out in paragraphs c) to j) of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), including details of any problems with the processing of CITES documents, the management and tracking system in general, and the system in place to replace lost or damaged tags.*

Directed to Secretariat

16.77 *The Secretariat shall, at the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee, and subject to the availability of funds:*

- a) *provide a summary report to the Standing Committee based on the reports supplied by the Parties concerned in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16); and*
 - b) *on the basis of experience gained with the operation of the tagging system set out in paragraphs c) to j) of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee regarding the feasibility and appropriateness of extending the system for use with other CITES-listed species.*
3. On 30 July 2015, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties No. 2015/042 on *Information to be submitted for the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee*. In paragraph i) of the Notification, Parties were invited to provide, by 30 September 2015, the information requested in Decision 16.76.
 4. As of writing, responses to the above-mentioned Notification had been received from Slovakia, South Africa and the United States of America. None of these Parties reported any problems with implementation of the system as set out in paragraphs c) to j) of Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16).
 5. Slovakia advised that a copy of the import permit is issued to the import applicant, for submission to the Management Authority of the country of export, in order to obtain an export permit. The original of the import permit is issued only after presentation of the corresponding export permit. The import of leopard skins is permitted only if they are tagged in accordance with paragraph c) of the above Resolution. If there are any discrepancies, Slovakia consults with the Management Authority of the country of export and/or

the Secretariat. At import control, customs officers check whether the information on the tag is consistent with information on the export document. Slovakia has not re-exported any leopard skins since 2010.

6. South Africa advised that a system is in place to replace lost or damaged tags. Where skins are imported from neighboring countries for taxidermy purposes, damaged tags are only replaced after consultation with the CITES Management Authority in the country of origin. The CITES Management Authority of South Africa (Department of Environmental Affairs) has implemented the following additional measures, on the recommendation of the CITES Scientific Authority of South Africa:

- No females may be hunted (restriction implemented in 2015); and
- Hunting reports containing details relating to the hunt, including information relating to body measurements, have to be submitted to the issuing authority immediately after the hunt.

South Africa also advised that it has initiated the development of national guidelines for the allocation, management and monitoring of leopard trophy quotas, in order to promote a more uniform approach across the nine provinces in the country.

7. In connection with Decision 16.77, the Secretariat finds that it may be feasible and appropriate for Parties to consider extending the system found in Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) to other CITES-listed species, recognizing that such experiences are not always directly transferable to other species and locations. Further, it would seem that the consideration of such an extension, however, should take into account and be coherent with decisions taken by the Standing Committee on the broader issue of traceability addressed in document SC66 Doc. 34.1.

Recommendation

8. The Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee consider this matter together with document SC66 Doc. 34.1 on traceability.