



CITES SC66 NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT
Parties of 'secondary concern' and 'importance to watch'

Prepared for the 67th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee

Party: **ANGOLA**

Reporting period: **October, 2015** – **April, 2016**

Luanda, April, 2016

PART A: Synopsis of NIAP implementation

The 16th Conference of the Parties to CITES held in Bangkok in 2013 decided to classify Angola Among the countries "of importance to watch" in connection with illicit trafficking in ivory, in particular as a result of indications que the country had Become part of a transit route for ivory and because the lack of information on this trade, as well as of its significant domestic market. In addition, the CITES report Indicated que the number of travelers from Luanda were apparently arriving at international airports carrying ivory items.

To respond to the Standing Committee at its 65th session requested Angola to develop a National Ivory Action Plan including activities measuring the level of poaching, smuggling of seized ivory, sanctions, convictions and indicators that can measure the impact of the application of NIAP in Angola.

Various departments of the Government and the Angolan State in charge of the management of wild flora and fauna participated in the implementation of NIAP, including the Ministry of Environment through the National Biodiversity Directorate and the National Institute of Biodiversity and Conservation Areas, the Ministry of Agriculture through the Forest Development Institute, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Ministry of Internal Affairs through the Criminal Investigation Service - SIC and Police Guard Frontier, Ministry of National Defense through the National Armed Forces, Ministry of Finance through the Tax Management Administration and other state services, such as the Foreign Intelligence Service and the Intelligence of State Security – SINSE and local communities.

Three main objectives were set to be achieved in Angola NIAP: make efforts to combat illegal ivory trade and trafficking in elephant products throughout the country; Demonstrate the commitment of Angola internationally to combat poaching and trafficking of wild animals and their products and apply the recommendations of CITES, adopted at the meeting 65 (Geneva, July 2014).

These objectives have not been entirely met due to several constraints including: the lack of updated legislation and its dissemination, problems in law enforcement: the lack of cooperation between institutions; the lack of trained and capable technician and framed in environmental management agencies. One of the great challenges of the Angolan government in the management of biodiversity is the control of poaching and ivory trafficking: a major challenge is the lack financiering lack of material, instruments of labor and wages during the implementation of NIAP in Angola.

60% of the implemented activities were held in Luanda and the remaining 40% were developed in different provinces of Angola with this the provinces of Kuando Kubango, Cabinda and Huila.

Progress to date

The NIAP of Angola was prepared and finalized in March 2015 and includes 33 activities that are mostly activities linked to passing laws, preparation of Memorandum of Understanding, harmonization of legislation and exchange of experiences with other SADC countries and the World.

Of the 33 planned activities only 09 activities were observed, that because of the national financial constraints on the one hand, on the other, the weakness control structures in Angola (infrastructure, human resources, equipment's, etc.) in border post, airport and ports in flora and fauna products, comes from a situation inherited from armed conflict period which are currently in gradual recovery and that in months of approval of the NIAP not expect much progress. The poverty is the big challenge on the NIAP implementation.

Future outlook

The mainstay of effective implementation of NIAP is to be inserted in the Angola government conservation policy and be seen as a national strategy document to combat ivory trafficking and not merely a plan to combat ivory trafficking coordinated by the management agency biodiversity.

Unless the commission on environmental crime and the environmental crime unit were created we still to observe a fragility on control on the poaching products and ivory traffic in all country

Another major challenge for the effective implementation of NIAP is a commitment that must have every government agency that participates in the implementation of NIAP to take it as a document of its sectoral strategy and not seen as contributing to environmental policy. The inclusion of the defense agency on the implementation of the NIAP is crucial for the stop of poaching and traffic.

In addition the NIAP needs to be implemented within the possibility and existing capacity in Angola, on the technical, financial, equipment, etc.

Therefore we request international assistance in the training of Angolan technicians in the management and control of natural resources to better helping the regional and international community. The economic crises still to be a big obstacle to achieve this assistance.

PART B: Summary evaluation of actions (assigned progress ratings)

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
A: Legislation	<p>A2. Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and Forest Act</p> <p>A6: Exchanges of experience within SADC in the implementation of laws covering crimes against the environment</p>	<p>A5. Preparation of the Joint Decree, sponsored by MINAMB, MINF, MINIT, MINCO and MINADER on import and export duties covering animals and plants.</p>	<p>A1 Publication of the new Criminal Code applying penalties for crimes against the environment, incluA2: Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and Conservation Areas Act.</p> <p>A2. Adoption by the National Assembly of the Conservation Areas Act</p> <p>A3: Adoption of the Act on Careers and Remuneration of Forest Rangers and Ecoguards</p>	<p>A4. Harmonization of the environment related legal qualifications with the new criminal code</p>
B: Charges and sentencing	<p>B4: Publicity about sentences imposed for poaching and trafficking in ivory and products</p>		<p>B1. Establishment of prosecutors specializing in crimes against wildlife and</p>	<p>B7. Trainer training in identification of crimes related to</p>

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
	made from it		<p>the environment</p> <p>B2. Preparation of the action plan for increasing awareness of the Criminal Code and the legislation on the environment</p> <p>B3. Implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic toolkit</p> <p>B5: Establishment of a Database on sentences resulting from crimes against the environment</p> <p>B6. Elaboration of the report on seizure of elephant products on ETIS database</p>	ivory trafficking

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
C: Intelligence and investigatory services		<p>C4: Consultation with the Ministry of Finance on funding available to investigate environmental crimes under the new Criminal Code</p> <p>C7: Determining what stocks of ivory exist at national level and making recommendations to improve management of them</p>	<p>C2: Evaluation of implementation and updating of the protocol agreed among MINAMB, MINAGRI, MININT (Customs) and MINDEN on poaching and trafficking in wild animals and by-products of them.</p>	<p>C1: Preparation of an action plan on a way to involve the intelligence services at different levels in the fight against environmental crimes (particularly poaching and trafficking in ivory) in cooperation with the offices of the national intelligence services and other institutions involved in combating money laundering</p> <p>C3: Training on enforcement of the law and conduct of criminal investigations into trafficking in wild animals in cooperation with UNODC, Regional</p>

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
				<p>INTERPOL, etc.</p> <p>C5: Exchanges of experience with the SADC countries on criminal investigations by the intelligence services into environmental crimes.</p> <p>C6: Strengthening of cooperation with South Africa and Namibia in DNA-based identification of ivory.</p>
D: National and international cooperation in combating wildlife crime.	D1: Creation of the National Commission for the Implementation of the NIAP, comprising focal points of the various Ministries involved in the implementation of the Plan.		D3: Cooperation with the SADC Secretariat in the sharing of information on ivory trafficking and the use of the intelligence services in combating environmental crime.	

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
	D2: Presentation of the NIAP to public and private institutions and to NGOs with the aim of facilitating their participation and the implementation.		D4: Discuss issues relating to ivory trafficking within the Bilateral Commission on Defense and Security involving neighboring countries, so as to improve cross-border cooperation in combating ivory trafficking.	
E: Operationalization of the strengthening of enforcement measures	E1: Develop and implement the action plan for strengthening of surveillance in priority conservation areas for elephants (National Parks of Maiombe, Luiana, Mavinga, Bicular) and in the Dembos regions in Bengo Province. E5: Enhancement of monitoring and raising awareness of passengers at Luanda International	E2: Establishment of a National Network of Communication of Rangers. E3: Establishment of MoUs between the Maiombe national parks and equivalent locations in the DRC and the Congo in the north, and between those of Mavinga and		

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
	Airport concerning the removal of ivory-based craft objects.	<p>Luengue - Luiana and those of Namibia, Botswana and Zambia in the south, covering poaching and ivory trafficking.</p> <p>E4: Draw up and implement a joint action plan for enforcement in order to eliminate the sale of ivory-based craft objects in national markets.</p> <p>E6: Strengthening of the capacity for monitoring removals of ivory at the ports, border posts and international train stations.</p>		
F: Communication and awareness-raising	F1: Cooperation with NGOs, TV and Radio in the dissemination of environmental laws and convictions made on		F2: Workshop with tourism operators, market operators, municipal administrators and	

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING			
	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	ON TRACK	CHALLENGING	UNCLEAR
	<p>environmental crimes.</p> <p>F3: Preparation of awareness-raising materials covering the prohibitions on trade, possession, export and import of ivory, for use at airports, ports, stations, Angolan embassies, etc.</p>		<p>hotels, to disseminate information on the penalties for traffickers or purchasers of ivory.</p>	

PART C: Detailed evaluation of actions

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
CATEGORY A: Legislation		
A1 Publication of the new Criminal Code applying penalties for crimes against the environment, incluA2: Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and Conservation Areas Act.	CHALLENGING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It is expected that the new legislative from October 2015 –to August 2016 to be approved the new penal code of Angola.</i> • <i>This activity is a major challenge because of the expectation of the new penal code and their involvement in the review of all other Angolan legal instruments and participation of the national institutions.</i>
A2. Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and Conservation Areas Act	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED CHALLENGING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Act of wildlife and forest was approved in April 2016.</i> • <i>We still pushing for the approval of the conservation areas Act this year.</i>
A3: Adoption of the Act on Careers and Remuneration of Forest Rangers and Ecoguards	CHALLENGING	<i>This activity was not adopted because of financial constraints of the annual budget for the rangers.</i>
A4. Harmonization of the environment	UNCLEAR	<i>Planned as soon as criminal code is approved. Planned in NIAP in 2016.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
related legal qualifications with the new criminal code		
A5. Preparation of the Joint Decree, sponsored by MINAMB, MINF, MINIT, MINCO and MINADER on import and export duties covering animals and plants.	ON TRACK	<i>The Joint Decree was prepared and submitted to the Council of Ministers.</i>
A6: Exchanges of experience within SADC in the implementation of laws covering crimes against the environment	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Through the defense committees and security between Angola and the DRC, Zambia and Namibia, held in the first half of 2015, it was possible to exchange experiences in law enforcement about the patrol, flora and fauna trafficking as well as information dealer and their routes.</i> • <i>From 26-28 August 2015, held in Johannesburg a SADC conference on approval of the SADC strategy on poaching and ivory trafficking.</i> • <i>Was held from 2-4 September 2015, the Regional Conference of Prosecutors of Africa countries on poaching and its adverse effects on the African continent - effective measures for accountability of offenders.</i> • <i>In March 2016 Angola hosted a meeting on criminal investigation service where South Africa, Namibia and Mozambique presented theirs experience</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
CATEGORY B: Charges and sentencing		
B1. Establishment of prosecutors specializing in crimes against wildlife and the environment	CHALLENGING	The National capacity building was not taken yet. It is still planned to be done on the second semester of 2016 or at the beginning of 2017.
B2. Preparation of the action plan for increasing awareness of the Criminal Code and the legislation on the environment	CHALLENGING	The elaboration and the implementation of this activity depends on the approval of the criminal code.
B3. Implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic toolkit	CHALLENGING	The ICCWC will capacitate the Angolan technicians in May 2016.
B4: Publicity about sentences imposed for trafficking in ivory and products made from it	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	Was publicity in the TV, radio and Newspaper the seizure of a poaching man in Iona and Quiçama National Parks, and from Kuando Kubango Province of the three trafficking people.
B5: Establishment of a Database on sentences resulting from	CHALLENGING	Are in creating the first courts and with them the creation of real-time database, the biggest difficulty is the budget since Angola has about 170 municipalities and each must have at least one court.

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
crimes against the environment		
B6: Preparation of periodic reports for the ETIS database on seizures of elephant products	ON TRACK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report on the Ivory stock was prepared. <p>Started the inventory of ivory from 23 May</p>
B7. Trainer training in identification of crimes related to ivory trafficking	UNCLEAR	This activity is depending on the signing of MOU between Angola and South Africa or Namibia.
CATEGORY C: Intelligence and investigatory services		
C1: Preparation of an action plan on a way to involve the intelligence services at different levels in the fight against environmental crimes (particularly poaching and trafficking in ivory) in cooperation with the offices of the national intelligence services and other institutions involved in combating money laundering	UNCLEAR	<i>A draft has been prepared on the Action Plan on how to use intelligence against poaching and ivory trafficking in Angola, the document was submitted to the office of the Minister of the Environment. This draft must be reviewed and approved by all forces of defense and security of Angola, which makes it a big Challenge consensus.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
C2: Evaluation of implementation and updating of the protocol agreed among MINAMB, MINAGRI, MININT (Customs) and MINDEN on poaching and trafficking in wild animals and by-products of them	CHALLENGING	<i>Unless the protocol was not signed yet but the technical committee are working normally and they meet once a month.</i>
C3: Training on enforcement of the law and conduct of criminal investigations into trafficking in wild animals in cooperation with UNODC, Regional INTERPOL, etc.	UNCLEAR	<i>This activity depends on the approval of the Penal code.</i>
C4: Consultation with the Ministry of Finance on funding available to investigate	ON TRACK	<i>There is not money allocated for this activity in 2016.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
environmental crimes under the new Criminal Code		
C5: Exchanges of experience with the SADC countries on criminal investigations by the intelligence services into environmental crimes	UNCLEAR	<i>For this activity we still wait for the implementation of SADC strategy on poaching and traffic of ivory and Rhino horn.</i>
C6: Strengthening of cooperation with South Africa and Namibia in DNA-based identification of ivory	UNCLEAR	<i>The contacts were made and we still waiting for the partner feedback</i>
C7: Determining what stocks of ivory exist at national level and making recommendations to improve management of them	ON TRACK	<p><i>The first inventory was conducted from 23 to 26 in Luanda, that resulted in 369.02 kg of ivory and 1223 pieces of ivory.</i></p> <p><i>And on 3th June was conducted one more inventory in Kuando Kubango province that resulted in 144,9 ivory all unworked ivory, from that there was persecuted 9 Traffickers and 3 are taking sentences for 3 years in Kuando Kubango tribunal.</i></p>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
<i>CATEGORY D National and international cooperation in combatting wildlife crime</i>		
D1: Creation of the National Commission for the Implementation of the NIAP, comprising focal points of the various Ministries involved in the implementation of the Plan	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<i>On 29 of September 2015 was created the national commission for the management of environmental crimes, which includes the Ministries of environment, agriculture, tourism, polices, finance and external exchanges.</i>
D2: Presentation of the NIAP to public and private institutions and to NGOs with the aim of facilitating their participation and the implementation	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<i>Approval of the NIAP</i>
D3: Cooperation with the SADC Secretariat in the sharing of information on ivory trafficking and the use of the intelligence services in combating	CHALLENGING	<i>Not done.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
environmental crime		
D4: Discuss issues relating to ivory trafficking within the Bilateral Commission on Defense and Security involving neighboring countries, so as to improve cross-border cooperation in combating ivory trafficking	CHALLENGING	<i>Not done because the activity depends on the Bilateral commission agenda.</i>
CATEGORY E: Operationalization of the strengthening of enforcement measures		
E1: Develop and implement the action plan for strengthening of surveillance in priority conservation areas for elephants (National Parks of Maiombe, Luiana, Mavinga, Bicuar) and in the Dembos regions in Bengo Province	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<i>The Action plan is being prepared, FROM 6TH June with support of STOP IVORY. But was built the National School of environmental agents training (Ranger) named 31 de Janeiro in Cuando Cubango Province, and 25 rangers were trained in Iona National Park arising from local communities living in that park.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
E2: Establishment of a National Network of Communication of Rangers	ON TRACK	<i>The system is on operation in the National parks like Iona, Cangandala, Bicuar and Quiçama.</i>
E3: Establishment of MoUs between the Maiombe national parks and equivalent locations in the DRC and the Congo in the north, and between those of Mavinga and Luengue - Luiana and those of Namibia, Botswana and Zambia in the south, covering poaching and ivory trafficking	ON TRACK	<i>The MoU of Maiombe initiative and KAZA was drafted and approved. We are waiting for the signing on the October 2016</i>
E4: Draw up and implement a joint action plan for enforcement in order to eliminate the sale of ivory-based craft objects in national markets	ON TRACK	<i>The criminal committee on fauna and flora elaborated the joint action plan for the enforcement in order to eliminate the sale of ivory in the national black market. The objective is to expect the closure of the all national ivory black markets this month by the environmental crime unit.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
E5: Enhancement of monitoring and raising awareness of passengers at Luanda International Airport concerning the removal of ivory-based craft objects	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<i>The materials of awareness raising were produced and implemented</i>
E6: Strengthening of the capacity for monitoring removals of ivory at the ports, border posts and international train stations.	ON TRACK	<i>The technicians were trained and we are waiting for the personal equipment's.</i>
CATEGORY F: Communication and awareness-raising		
F1: Cooperation with NGOs, TV and Radio in the dissemination of environmental laws and convictions made on environmental crimes	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is expected after adoption of the legal instruments there is a good spread as there is a healthy relationship with every organ of dissemination of information. • It will be involved the Maiombe association (that congregates the Angolan environmental NGOs), to disseminate and involve the communities in activities against poaching. • The dissemination of the information continues in all countries.
F2: Workshop with tourism operators, market operators, municipal	CHALLENGING	The major meetings were held in Luanda province. We expect to realize other meetings this year in Cuando Cubango and Cabinda.

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
administrators and hotels, to disseminate information on the penalties for traffickers or purchasers of ivory		
F3: Preparation of awareness-raising materials covering the prohibitions on trade, possession, export and import of ivory, for use at airports, ports, stations, Angolan embassies, etc.	SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED	<i>The materials of awareness raising were produced and divulgated. 2015 was published a Act on prohibitions on trade, possession, export and import of ivory in all country.</i>

Part E: Annex (supporting information) (OPTIONAL)

CATEGORY A:

- *Angolan Act of wildlife and forest.*
- *SADC Strategy of anti-pooching.*