CITES NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared for the 69th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee

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Party: [ANGOLA]

Reporting period: [September 2016] – [Jun 2017]

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 travellers from Luanda were apparently arriving at international airports carrying ivory items.

To respond to the Standing Committee at its 69th 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 Defence 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.

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 labour 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.

Progress to date

The NIAP of Angola was prepared and finalized in Jun 2017 and includes 17 activities that are mostly activities linked to passing laws, environmental awareness and education, preparation of Memorandum of Understanding, harmonization of legislation and exchange of experiences with other SADC countries and the World.

These 17 activities were planned, but more than 10 activities were not in the planning of the NIAP 2015. What we did was to introduce all the activities that contributed to the improvement of the Angolan scenario in terms of the fight of poaching and traffic of ivory.

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.

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.

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.

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

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	**Substantially achieved**	**On track**	**Partial progress**	**Pending completion of another action**	**Not commenced**
1. Legislation and regulations	1.2: Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and forests Act. 1.6: Exchanges of experience within SADC in the implementation of laws covering crimes against the environment.			1.1 Publication of the new Criminal Code applying penalties for crimes against the environment, including ivory trafficking 1.3: Adoption of the Act on Careers and Remuneration of Forest Rangers and Ecoguards. 1.7 Development of legislation on implementation of CITES in Angola.	1.4: Harmonization of the environment-related legal qualifications with the new Criminal Code 1.5: Preparation of the Joint Decree, sponsored by MINAMB, MINF, MINIT, MINCO and MINADER on import and export duties covering animals and plants.	
2. National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration	2.1: Operationalization of the Interministerial Commission to combat environmental crimes and the Unit for Combating Environmental Crimes in September 2016 which includes the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Interior, Transport and Fisheries. 2.2: Establishment of the Ivory Seizure Task Force composed of specialists from the Criminal Investigation Services (SIC), Customs and the Ministry of the Environment. 2.3 Technical group for the ivory inventory composed by SIC, MINAMB.					

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	**Substantially achieved**	**On track**	**Partial progress**	**Pending completion of another action**	**Not commenced**
3. International and regional enforcement collaboration	3.1: Cooperation in the formation of Ranger of National Parks with South Africa, Portugal through Wildlife College. and 3.2: Cooperation with Stop Ivory on the inventory of ivory.					
4. Outreach, public awareness and education	4.1 Awareness-raising and environmental education lectures in the counties of Malanje and Cangandala, in Malanje, in Virei Namibe, Buco-Zau, Cabinda and the county of Huambo, Huambo. Wweekly program on TPA channel "Life on Planet" on environmental protection and in special poaching and ivory trade. 4.2 Weekly environmental radio LAC program "Onda natural". 4.3 Commemoration of environmental dates with radio and television lectures at national and local level (22 May and 5 June).					
5. Reporting	5.1: Report of Ivory Inventory in Angola 2016 - 2017. 5.2: Report on poaching in Angola from the Environmental Crimes Unit.					

PART C: Detailed evaluation of actions

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
PILLAR 1: Legislation and regulations			
1.1 Publication of the new Criminal Code applying penalties for crimes against the environment, including ivory trafficking.	**3 convicted criminals**	**Progress, pending**	• 3 felons were convicted. One for furtive elephant hunt in the Cuando Cubango Province and two for ivory traffic seized at Luanda International Airport. • This process has been difficult because we do not have a specific law on environmental crimes, which is expected to be approved in this year.
1.2: Adoption by the National Assembly of the Wild Life and forests Act.	**Law published in the Diary of the Republic**	**achieved**	Publication in the Diary of the Republic the Law Wild Life and forests Act.
1.3: Adoption of the Act on Careers and Remuneration of Forest Rangers and Ecoguards.	**Preliminary draft law approved by the National Assembly**	**partial progress**	• It was approved by the Minister's Council and forwarded to the National Assembly in 2015. • It is expected that this law will be approved after the approval of the Angolan Criminal Code, perhaps in the next year of 2018.
1.4: Harmonization of the environment-related legal qualifications with the new Criminal Code.	**None**	**Pending completion of another action**	The new Angolan Criminal Code is expected to be approved to bring about an harmonization with the environmental laws.
1.5: Preparation of the Joint Decree, sponsored by MINAMB, MINF, MINIT, MINCO and MINADER on import and export duties covering animals and plants.	**None**	**Pending completion of another action**	It is also expected the approval of the new Angolan Criminal Code to effect this memorandum between the institutions for an effective import and export of products of wild flora and fauna.
1.6: Exchanges of experience within SADC in the implementation of laws covering crimes against the environment.	**3 Exchange of experiences**	**archived**	Angolan staff participated in a workshop in South Africa, Mozambique and Namibia to analyze the implementation of NIAP in their respective countries.
1.7 Development of legislation on implementation of CITES in Angola.	**Draft elaborated**	**Partial progress**	• For the implementation of CITES in Angola, it was recommended at the session of its approval the elaboration of a domestic law that governs the convention in Angola. • Its draft has been drawn up and at this moment there have been already five inter-institutional consultations for this purpose.

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
PILLAR 2: National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration			
2.1: Operationalization of the Interministerial Commission to combat environmental crimes and the Unit for Combating Environmental Crimes in September 2016 which includes the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Interior, Transport and Fisheries.	**Creation of ministerial and technical working groups with more than 15 meetings**	**Achieved**	• The interministerial commission is coordinated by the Minister of the Environment, which includes ten ministries including national police, agriculture and transport. • The commission normally operates with the operationalization of the activities of the Environmental Crimes Unit, even though it is not an organ spread throughout the national territory is the cause of all the ivory seized in the Angolan borders and the international airport 4 de Fevereiro in Luanda.
2.2: Establishment of the ivory seizure task force composed of specialists from the Criminal Investigation Service (SIC), Customs and the Ministry of the Environment.	**Workgroup created**	**Achieved**	The working group created acts when called in the seizure of products related to traffic or hunting of flora and fauna in national territory or of national or regional origin.
2.3 Technical group of ivory inventory composed of SIC and MINAMB.	**Workgroup created**	**Achieved**	This group carries out the inventory of ivory seized in Angola. Has already made more than 5 inventories throughout the national territory.
PILLAR 3: International and regional enforcement collaboration			
3.1: Cooperation in the training of Rangers of National Parks with South Africa and Portugal through Wildlife College	**Formed 138 rangers**	**Achieved**	Through this agreement, the first group of first 100 rangers and the second 38 rangers have been trained and are already working.
PILLAR 4: Outreach, public awareness and education			
4.1 Awareness-raising and environmental education lectures in the counties of Cangandala, in Malanje, in Virei Namibe, Buco-Zau, Cabinda and Huambo in Huambo.	**Over 7,000 people lectured on environmental protection**	**Achieved**	Through several actions of MINAMB and environmental ONGs on poaching, community-led sanitation, water protection as well as biodiversity protection, more than 7,000 people were trained on environmental protection, including combating poaching and ivory trade.
4,2 Weekly program on TPA channel "Life on Planet" on environmental protection and in special poaching and ivory trade.	**Weekly program**	**Achieved**	It was created by MINAMB, in partnership with the public agency of the State TPA, an environmental propaganda program to disseminate information on environmental protection including poaching and trafficking of flora and fauna products.
4.3 Weekly environmental radio LAC "Onda natural" program	**Weekly Program on Environment**	**Achieved**	This program talks about the protection and conservation of the environment, especially of biodiversity, the fight against poaching and traffic of ivory every Friday.

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
4. 4: Commemoration of environmental dates with radio and television lectures at national and local level (22 May and 5 June).	**It is estimated that more than 2 million people were lectured.**	**Achieved**	On the national (31 January) and international (22 May and 5 June) environmental commemorative days a major campaign was launched to combat ivory and poaching in the country with a focus on border control and surveillance.
E PILLAR 5: Reporting			
5.1: Report of Ivory Inventory in Angola 2016.	**Report elaborated**	**Achieved**	The report on the inventory of ivory in Angola in 2016 and 2017 was drawn up with a total of 1,244,000 kg of unworked and worked ivory.
5.2: Report on the quantities of ivory seized in Angola from the MINAMB Environmental Crimes Unit.	**Report elaborated**	**Achieved**	A report was prepared on the poaching and trafficking of ivory in Angola by the Environmental Crimes Unit.

Part D: Annex (supporting information) (OPTIONAL)

PILLAR 1: Legislation and regulations

Law 6/17 of 24 January on the Base Law on Forests and Wild Animals

PILLAR 2: National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration

- Contract signed with Wildlife college on the training of fiscal authorities.
- Contract signed with 50 degree on ranger training.