

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



Seventy-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee
Lyon (France), 7 - 11 March 2022

NIGERIA NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROCESS

1. This document has been submitted by Nigeria in relation to agenda item 28.4 on the National Ivory Action Plans Process.*
2. Nigeria is grateful for the support of the Secretariat, Parties and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations in assisting Nigeria to address the challenges of illegal wildlife trade related to Nigeria. Some of these activities are reported in SC74 Doc. 35.3 Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa: Report by Nigeria, Benin and Niger and SC74 Doc. 35.2 Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa: Report of the Secretariat.
3. Nigeria acknowledges the concerns of the Secretariat raised in SC74 Doc. 28.4 National ivory action plans process: Report of the Secretariat that to date, it has not submitted a report on progress with NIAP implementation as required by Guidelines to the National Ivory Action Plan Process contained in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on Trade in elephant specimens. Nigeria expresses its apologies to the Standing Committee, and Parties of CITES for the omission to submit a progress report.
4. Nigeria notes the concerns raised in SC74 Doc. 28.4 National Ivory Action Plans Process: Report of the Secretariat and recommendation by the Secretariat for the Standing Committee to issue a notification to recommend Parties to suspend commercial trade in all CITES-listed species from Nigeria, in accordance with Step 4, paragraph f), of the Guidelines to the NIAP process and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on CITES compliance procedures.
5. Nigeria assures the Committee of its intentions to implement the Convention and previous recommendations. We respectfully request that any compliance measures, including a recommendation to suspend trade, be postponed for a period of exactly 60 days following the end of SC74, recalling the Secretariat's recommendations in Doc. 28.4 that Parties may provide updates on progress within 60 days of the closure of SC74. By this time, Nigeria will ensure the submission of a NIAP progress report in accordance with the guidelines, and in consultation with the Secretariat and expert stakeholders.
6. Nigeria welcomes the Secretariat's request that Parties may provide oral updates at SC74, but would prefer to submit a written update as per paragraph 5 above, in order to provide the Committee and relevant stakeholders with ample time to consider and assess progress made by Nigeria under the NIAP process.
7. Nigeria reiterates its request for support under the Compliance Assistance Programme to assist the implementation of the NIAP and other measures to ensure CITES compliance. As reported by the Secretariat in SC74 Doc. 29 Compliance Assistance Programme: Report of the Secretariat, Nigeria has provided a list of assistance needs, and communicated with the Secretariat on these needs. During the 60 days following

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author*

the end of SC74, Nigeria will respond to the Secretariat on the proposed list of activities that could be funded under the CAP.