

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

Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Lausanne (Switzerland), 9 to 20 October 1989

Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

Trade in Leopard Skins

REVIEW OF RESOLUTION CONF. 6.9

This document has been prepared and is submitted by the Secretariat.

INTRODUCTION

1. The establishment of export quotas for leopard skins was decided for the first time at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Resolution Conf. 4.13, Gaborone, 1983).
2. The system was continued through the adoption of Resolution Conf. 5.13 (Buenos Aires, 1985) and Resolution Conf. 6.9 (Ottawa, 1987),
3. In Ottawa, a survey on the status of the leopard (Panthera pardus) in sub-Saharan Africa, made by Dr. Rowan Martin and Mr. Tom de Meulenaer in the framework of a CITES project, was presented (document Doc. 6.26). It was considered as a very useful document, but the Parties decided that it should be further analysed before a definite decision be made on the issue.
4. Resolution Conf. 6.9, which was very similar to the former Resolutions on the same subject and recommended that the whole Resolution be reviewed at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, was therefore adopted.
5. After the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, several members of the IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group presented criticisms of the survey, but it was generally recognized that the leopard is not endangered in sub-Saharan Africa.
6. The submission of a proposal for the transfer of the leopard (or the sub-Saharan population) from Appendix I to Appendix II was expected for consideration at the seventh meeting. No such proposal has been submitted, possibly because most African countries do not desire, as stated in the preamble of Resolution Conf. 6.9, that the commercial market for leopard skins be reopened, and because they are satisfied by the current quota system.

CONSIDERATION OF A REVISED RESOLUTION

7. From the onset of the system, the Secretariat has not been made aware of significant abuses of it and has not been informed of any important shipment of leopard skins from the countries having a quota or others. The only exception was a permit issued by Botswana for ten skins (see document Doc. 7.27).
8. As the system is working satisfactorily, it is the feeling of the Secretariat that a permanent resolution could be adopted as long as the leopard remains in Appendix I, without having to present it at each meeting of the Parties.
9. Therefore, the Secretariat is submitting for consideration of the Conference of the Parties a draft resolution (Annex 2). To facilitate the discussion, Resolution Conf. 6.9 is also attached to this document (Annex 1).
10. The draft resolution is very similar to Resolution Conf. 6.9. It includes the following amendments, one of them being presented with two alternatives:
 - a) in paragraph b), the owner should be authorized to import two skins if this is authorized by the legislation of the exporting country;
 - b) paragraph f) is new, two possibilities are offered; and
 - c) paragraph g) is deleted.
11. As the Secretariat did not receive any request for new quotas or changes to the quotas included in Resolution Conf. 6.9, the draft resolution retains the same quotas as in that Resolution.

RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Trade in Leopard Skins

RECALLING that with the exception of the rare cases of exemptions granted under Article VII of the Convention, trade in Appendix I species is prohibited;

RECALLING that the leopard Panthera pardus is listed in Appendix I;

RECOGNIZING that in some sub-Saharan countries the population of the leopard is not endangered;

RECOGNIZING also that the killing of specimens of leopard may be sanctioned by countries of export in defense of life and property and to enhance the survival of the species;

RECOGNIZING further that these countries of export may trade in such dead specimens in accordance with Resolution Conf. 2.11, adopted at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties (San José, 1979), and may grant export permits in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article III of the Convention;

RECALLING that paragraph 3(c) of Article III of the Convention provides that import permits shall only be granted when a Management Authority of the state of import is satisfied that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes, and that paragraph 2(a) of Article III of the Convention provides that export permits shall only be granted when a Scientific Authority of the state of export has advised that such export will not be detrimental to the survival of that species;

RECOGNIZING the desire of the Parties that the commercial market for leopard skins should not be re-opened;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RECOMMENDS

- a) that in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of leopard, in accordance with paragraph 3(a) of Article III of the Convention, the Scientific Authority of the state of import approve permits if it is satisfied that the skin being considered is from one of the following states which may not export more of the said skins in any one calendar year than the number shown under "quota" opposite the name of the state:

<u>State</u>	<u>Quota</u>
Botswana	80
Central African Republic	40
Ethiopia	500
Kenya	80
Malawi	20

Mozambique	60
United Republic of Tanzania	250
Zambia	300
Zimbabwe	500

- b) that in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of Panthera pardus (including hunting trophies), in terms of paragraph 3(c) of Article III of the Convention, the Management Authority of the state of import may be satisfied that the said skins are not to be used for primarily commercial purposes if:
- i) a skin is acquired by the owner in the country of export and is being imported as a personal item that will not be sold in the country of import; and
 - ii) the owner imports no more than one skin in any calendar year;
- c) that the Management Authority of a state of import only permit the import of a leopard skin in accordance with this Resolution if the skin has a self-locking tag attached which indicates the state of export, the number of the specimen in relation to the annual quota and the calendar year to which the quota applies - for example ZW 6/500 1988 indicating that Zimbabwe is the state of export and that the specimen is the sixth specimen exported by Zimbabwe out of its quota of 500 for 1988;
- d) that in the case of whole or nearly whole leopard skins traded according to the terms of this Resolution, the words "has been granted" in paragraph 2(d) of Article III of the Convention be deemed to have been satisfied upon the written assurance of the Management Authority of the state of import that an import permit will be granted;
- e) that each state that exports leopard skins in terms of this Resolution report the number of skins so exported annually to the Secretariat and that the Secretariat submit a report to each biennial meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- f) that the states authorized to export leopard skins in terms of this Resolution and their quotas be subject to review by meetings of the Conference of the Parties taking into account, inter alia, existing stocks, and that the quotas may only be increased with the consent of the Conference of the Parties; and
- g) that the whole Resolution be reviewed at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties so as to allow sufficient time for Parties to assess the merits of this Resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Trade in Leopard Skins

RECALLING that with the exception of the rare cases of exemptions granted under Article VII of the Convention, trade in Appendix I species is prohibited;

RECALLING that the leopard Panthera pardus is listed in Appendix I;

RECOGNIZING that in some sub-Saharan countries the population of the leopard is not endangered;

RECOGNIZING also that the killing of specimens of leopard may be sanctioned by countries of export in defense of life and property and to enhance the survival of the species;

RECOGNIZING further that these countries of export may trade in such dead specimens in accordance with Resolution Conf. 2.11, adopted at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties (San José, 1979), and may grant export permits in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article III of the Convention;

RECALLING that paragraph 3(c) of Article III of the Convention provides that import permits shall only be granted when a Management Authority of the state of import is satisfied that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes, and that paragraph 2(a) of Article III of the Convention provides that export permits shall only be granted when a Scientific Authority of the state of export has advised that such export will not be detrimental to the survival of that species;

RECOGNIZING the desire of the Parties that the commercial market for leopard skins should not be reopened;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RECOMMENDS

- a) that in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of leopard, in accordance with paragraph 3(a) of Article III of the Convention, the Scientific Authority of the state of import approve permits if it is satisfied that the skins being considered are from one of the following states which may not export more of the said skins in any one calendar year than the number shown under "quota" opposite the name of the state:

<u>State</u>	<u>Quota</u>
Botswana	80
Central African Republic	40
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Zambia	300
Zimbabwe	500

- b) that in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of Panthera pardus (including hunting trophies), in terms of paragraph 3(c) of Article III of the Convention, the Management Authority of the state of import may be satisfied that the said skins are not to be used for primarily commercial purposes if:
- i) the skins are acquired by the owner in the country of export and are being imported as personal items that will not be sold in the country of import; and
 - ii) the owner imports no more than two skins in any calendar year if this is authorized by the legislation of the country of export;
- c) that the Management Authority of a state of import permit the import of leopard skins in accordance with this Resolution only if the skins have a self-locking tag attached which indicates the state of export, the number of the specimen in relation to the annual quota and the calendar year to which the quota applies - for example ZW 6/500 1989 indicating that Zimbabwe is the state of export and that the specimen is the sixth specimen exported by Zimbabwe out of its quota of 500 for 1989;
- d) that in the case of whole or nearly whole leopard skins traded according to the terms of this Resolution, the words "has been granted" in paragraph 2(d) of Article III of the Convention be deemed to have been satisfied upon the written assurance of the Management Authority of the state of import that an import permit will be granted;
- e) that each state that exports leopard skins in terms of this Resolution report the number of skins so exported annually to the Secretariat and that the Secretariat submit a report to each biennial meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- f) that the system adopted in this Resolution be continued indefinitely, with any increase in a quota or any new quota (i.e., for a state not previously having one) requiring the consent of the Conference of the Parties.

OR

- f) that the system adopted in this Resolution be continued indefinitely, with each state wishing to have an annual quota informing the Secretariat accordingly, which will notify the Parties of all such quotas and any subsequent changes made by the states concerned.