

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

Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Santiago (Chile), 3-15 November 2002

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Regular and special reports

EXPORTS OF VICUÑA WOOL AND CLOTH

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. According to paragraph b) of Resolution Conf. 11.6, adopted at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Gigiri, 2000), any State member of the *Convenio para la Conservación y Manejo de la Vicuña*, 'Convenio de la Vicuña', that exports vicuña cloth should "inform the Secretariat on an annual basis about the quantity of products exported, the number of animals sheared and the local populations to which they belong". The same paragraph recommends that the Secretariat submit a report on this subject at each regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
3. The Management Authorities of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru have provided the Secretariat with the following information pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.6

Argentina

4. The Management Authority of Argentina has informed the Secretariat that, in the period January 2000 to mid-2002, a total of 315.3 kg of fibre (vicuña wool) was exported, derived from semi-captive populations. Specifically, 485 animals were sheared in April 2000 from seven authorized operations, 377 in April 2001 from 13 authorized operations, and 512 in April 2002 from nine authorized operations. Further information about the status of Argentina's vicuña population and its management is provided in document CoP12 Prop. 12.

Bolivia

5. The Management Authority of Bolivia has informed the Secretariat that no wool was exported in the period 1998-1999 because of limited stocks. Bolivia has 195.48 kg wool in stock, derived from the shearing of 712 animals out of a captive population of 871. Further information about the status of Bolivia's vicuña population and its management is provided in document CoP12 Prop. 13.

Chile

6. The Management Authority of Chile has informed the Secretariat that no exports of items containing vicuña wool took place in the period January 2000 to July 2002. Chile has 95.80 kg in stock derived from the shearing of 408 animals from three authorized operations. Further information about the status of Chile's vicuña population and its management is provided in document CoP12 Prop. 14.

Ecuador

7. The Management Authority of Ecuador has informed the Secretariat that no export of vicuña wool took place in the period January 2000 to mid 2002.

Peru

8. The Management Authority of Peru has informed the Secretariat that in the period January 2000 to July 2002, the company INCALCAPA TPX S.A. exported to Japan and Canada a total of 105.35 kg of vicuña cloth. The Peruvian Management Authority has also reported that in the period 1995-2001, a total of 8,047.5 kg of fibre (vicuña wool) and 1,909.8 kg of garments were exported.
9. The annotation ° 606 to Appendices I and II states among other things that Peru had an extant stock of 3,249 kg of wool. In this connection, the Peruvian Management Authority reported that a total of 1,940 kg of fibre has been exported. These exports took place between 1995 and 1996. Since 1997 no exports from that stock have occurred. A total of 1,309 kg of fibre remains to be exported.

Other issues

10. The Republic of Ecuador, as *pro tempore* Secretariat of the Convenio de la Vicuña, invited the CITES Secretariat to attend the 20th meeting of the 'Comisión Técnico-administradora' (Argentina, December 2000). The CITES Secretariat attended the meeting with a view to strengthening the synergies between the two conventions and promoting implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.6.
11. The signatory States to the Convenio de la Vicuña, namely Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador, (Peru was absent), presented their national reports concerning the management of the species and the status of their national populations. They welcomed the participation of the CITES Secretariat and expressed their thanks for its assistance in the development of a methodology to assess the national legislation adopted by the signatory States to implement the resolutions of the Convenio de la Vicuña.
12. The Commission took formal note of the proposal elaborated by Bolivia to transfer their national populations that are still in Appendix I to Appendix II. The Commission asked Bolivia to submit at its 21st meeting a report containing the requirements stated in Resolutions No. 167 and No. 170 adopted by the Convenio de la Vicuña in 1996, concerning their national populations of vicuña, as well as a management plan for the species.
13. The Commission also took note of the intention of Argentina to elaborate a proposal to be considered at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, to transfer from Appendix I to II the vicuña population of the province of Catamarca.
14. The Republic of Bolivia replaced Ecuador as *pro tempore* Secretariat and communicated to the CITES Secretariat the results of the 21st meeting of the 'Comisión técnico-administradora del Convenio de la Vicuña' (Bolivia, March 2002). In that meeting, the Governments of Argentina, Bolivia and Chile presented their proposals in accordance with the requirements of Resolution 170/96 of the Convenio de la Vicuña and the commission decided to support these proposals. The commission further directed the *pro tempore* Secretariat to inform the CITES Secretariat of that decision.
15. The Government of the United States of America informed the Secretariat that, on 30 May 2002, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published in the Federal Register a rule reclassifying the vicuña in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru from Endangered to Threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA), with an accompanying special rule that will allow importation into the United States of legal vicuña fibre and fibre products from vicuña populations listed as Threatened under the ESA and in Appendix II of CITES.

16. The United States has brought to the attention of the Secretariat a question concerning the labels approved at CoP10 for trade in luxury handicrafts and knitted items. It emerged that the labels 'VICUÑA-[COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]' (Prop. 10.30) and 'VICUÑA-[COUNTRY OF ORIGIN]-ARTESANIA (Prop. 10.31) were approved by consensus at CoP10 but only the first one was incorporated in annotation °606. Accordingly, the Secretariat will proceed to correct annotation °606 in order to incorporate the second label and will transmit to the Parties this change with the revised version of Appendices I and II of the Convention, incorporating the amendments adopted at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.