

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

Thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Bangkok (Thailand), 2-14 October 2004

First session: 4 October 2004: 09h05-11h50

Chairman: H. Dublin

Secretariat: T. De Meulenaer
D. Morgan
S. Nash

UNEP: M. Collins

Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell
J. Gray
A. St. John
A. Stattersfield

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Regular and special reports

19. Appendix-I species subject to export quotas

19.1 Leopard: export quota for Namibia

The delegation of Namibia introduced the proposal in document CoP13 Doc. 19.1. The delegations of Botswana, the Central African Republic, China, Egypt, Guinea, Japan, the Netherlands on behalf of the 25 Member States of the European Community, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and the observer from IWMC-World Conservation Trust supported the proposal, variously praising Namibia's management of leopards and citing sustainable use and community benefits as reasons for their support.

The delegations of India and Kenya opposed the proposal, the former invoking the precautionary principle, the latter questioning the impact of illegal trade on leopard populations and Namibia's capacity for managing the increased quota. The observer from Fund for Animals also opposed the proposal.

The proposal was accepted.

19.2 Leopard: export quota for South Africa

The delegation of South Africa introduced the proposal in document CoP13 Doc. 19.2. The proposal was supported by the delegations of Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Eritrea, Guinea, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, the Netherlands on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, Nigeria, Qatar, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and the observer from TRAFFIC. The delegation of the United States, supported by the delegation of Cameroon, expressed their hope that South Africa would collaborate with Namibia in protecting southern African leopard populations. The delegation of Cameroon also urged South Africa to undertake a

more complete population census. The observer from TRAFFIC, referring to past illegal trade, urged South Africa to improve its internal trade monitoring system. The proposal was opposed by the delegation of India and the observers from Born Free Foundation and Fund for Animals. They expressed concern over the illegal hunting of and trade in leopards in the region, and also did not believe that the proposed increased quota was sustainable. The proposal was then accepted.

19.3 Black rhinoceros: export quota for Namibia

The delegation of Namibia introduced the proposal in document CoP13 Doc. 19.3 and the draft resolution contained in the Annex to document CoP13 Doc. 19.3/19.4 Addendum. The delegations of Argentina, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Cuba, Guinea, Indonesia, Japan, Qatar, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe supported the proposal, variously citing its sound scientific basis, the effective management and monitoring systems already in place, the involvement of stakeholders and the benefits to local communities. The delegation of Nigeria emphasized the need for effective monitoring.

The delegations of Chad and Nepal had reservations about the proposal, believing that poaching and illegal trade still posed major problems. The latter recommended the establishment of a stringent monitoring system before an export quota was allowed. While believing the Namibian proposal had merit, the delegations of the Central African Republic and Pakistan thought it was premature and should be delayed by 10 years. The delegations of India and Kenya echoed this, drawing attention to the classification of the species as a whole as 'Critically Endangered' in the IUCN Red List. They were supported by the observers from Born Free Foundation and Save Foundation of Australia.

The Secretariat suggested that a better way of accommodating the provisions set out in the Annex to document CoP13 Doc. 19.3/19.4 Addendum would be to insert them as an annex in the existing Resolution Conf. 9.21 rather than to adopt a separate new resolution.

The delegation of the Netherlands, on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, stated they could support the proposal and draft resolution as long as they specified that only adult males could be exported and that all trophies were marked. In response, the delegation of Namibia proposed the addition of adult male in the first operative paragraph between 'of' and 'black' and of that all parts to be exported should be individually marked with reference to the country of origin, species, quota number and year of export to the end of the second operative paragraph of the draft resolution.

After some further discussion, the draft resolution in the Annex to document CoP13 Doc. 19.3/19.4 Addendum, as amended and applying to Namibia, was accepted.

The session closed at 11h50.