

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

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

Second session: 4 October 2004: 14h05-16h45

Chairman: H. Dublin

Secretariat: T. De Meulenaer  
S. Nash

UNEP: M. Collins

Rapporteurs: J. Caldwell  
J. Gray  
T. Inskipp  
A. St. John

## Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

### Regular and special reports

#### 19. Appendix-I species subject to export quotas

##### 19.4 Black rhinoceros: export quota for South Africa

The delegation of South Africa introduced the proposal in document CoP13 Doc. 19.4 and revised the requested annual quota from 10 animals to 5 animals. They also amended the criteria under which hunting would be allowed to exclude sick or injured animals. The delegations of Botswana, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Iceland, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe supported the proposal, citing South Africa's sound rhinoceros management and benefits to local communities. The delegation of Qatar noted that they could support the proposal for post-reproductive males.

The delegation of the Netherlands, on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, stated they could only support the proposal if the previously agreed amendments to the draft resolution in the annex to document CoP13 19.3/19.4 Addendum applying to Namibia were also to apply to South Africa. The delegation of South Africa agreed to this.

The delegation of India opposed the proposal, expressing concern that the species was categorized as 'Critically Endangered' in the IUCN Red List. The delegation of Mali, supported by the delegation of the Central African Republic, also opposed the proposal, urging South Africa instead to use the surplus animals to repopulate former range States for the species. The delegation of Nepal noted that their concerns regarding this proposal were the same as those they had for the Namibian black rhinoceros proposal. The observers from Born Free Foundation, Save Foundation of Australia, and WWF, on behalf of her organization and TRAFFIC, also opposed the proposal.

Following some additional discussion, the proposal as amended and the draft resolution in the Annex to document CoP13 Doc. 19.3/19.4 Addendum, as amended and applying to South Africa, were accepted.

## 21. Transport of live specimens

The Secretariat referred the meeting to document CoP13 Doc. 21. The Chairman of the Animals Committee endorsed the document and the Chairman of the Transport Working Group of that Committee announced the establishment of a discussion group for several organizations to consider the transport of live specimens. The delegations of the Gambia, Jamaica, Malawi, Malaysia, the Netherlands on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, Qatar, the Russian Federation and Senegal supported the draft decisions in the document. The delegation of Israel suggested amending the first draft decision so that it related to domestic, as well as international, transport. This was opposed by the delegations of Suriname and the United Republic of Tanzania, and the delegation of Israel withdrew the suggestion.

The delegation of Nigeria expressed concern about development of recommendations to supplement the IATA Live Animals Regulations without a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IATA. The observer from the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums regretted the lack of an MoU and emphasized their willingness to continue working closely with the Transport Working Group.

The delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo noted that the refusal by some airlines to carry live animals had led to the use of circuitous trade routes and potentially increased mortality.

The delegation of Jamaica suggested inserting preparation before 'proper' in the first draft decision. The draft decisions including this amendment were accepted.

### **Species trade and conservation issues**

## 30. Conservation of and trade in rhinoceroses

The Secretariat introduced document CoP13 Doc. 30 (Rev. 1) and drew attention to the country reports on rhinoceros status contained in documents CoP13 Inf. 13.21, Inf. 13.22, Inf. 13.23 and Inf. 13.27. They considered that the reporting requirements were an administrative burden and recommended repeal of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev.) or amendment of it by deletion of the paragraph starting with STRONGLY URGES and the second one starting with DIRECTS. The delegation of the Netherlands, on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, supported by the delegations of India, the United States of America and Viet Nam, agreed with the deletion of these paragraphs. The delegation of Namibia, supported by the delegations of Botswana, South Africa and Swaziland, also supported deletion of the reporting requirements, noting that very similar information was collected by the IUCN/SSC African Elephant and Rhinoceros Specialist Group. The delegation of Italy noted that a Southern African Development Community document on regional strategies was due for publication soon and that Italy hoped to provide additional funds for rhinoceros conservation in the near future. The delegation of Malaysia strongly supported repeal of the Resolution, whereas the delegations of Mexico and Nepal, and the observer from Fund for Animals, favoured its retention. The observer from IUCN - The World Conservation Union confirmed that their specialists would be willing to share information, but warned that some confidential data would not be available. The Chairman requested the Secretariat and IUCN - The World Conservation Union to collaborate in preparing a draft decision about reporting requirements and the document was then accepted with deletion of the two paragraphs following the Secretariat's recommendation.

The session closed at 16h45.