

Report of the Panel of Experts on the African elephant on its review of
the proposals of the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia
to transfer their populations of African elephant from Appendix I to Appendix II

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PANEL

1. The task of the Panel of Experts was to review, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.9, the proposals of the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia to transfer their populations of African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) from Appendix I to II subject to certain conditions. The Conference of the Parties requires the Panel to take into account, in particular:
 - a) in evaluating the status and management of an elephant population:
 - i) the viability and sustainability of the population, and potential risks;
 - ii) the affected range State's demonstrated ability to monitor the subject population; and
 - iii) the effectiveness of current anti-poaching measures;
 - b) in evaluating the affected range State's ability to control trade in ivory from African elephants:
 - i) whether total levels of offtake from both legal and illegal killing are sustainable;
 - ii) whether control of ivory stocks is adequate to prevent the mixing of legal and illegal ivory;
 - iii) whether law enforcement is effective; and
 - iv) whether enforcement and controls are sufficient to ensure that no significant amounts of ivory taken or traded illegally from other countries are traded within or through the territory of the affected range State; and
 - c) when appropriate:
 - i) the trade in parts and derivatives from the African elephant other than ivory and the controls on such trade in the proponent State; and
 - ii) the controls on ivory trade in specified importing countries.
2. Resolution Conf. 10.9 also requires the Panel of Experts to evaluate whether acceptance of the proposal under review is likely to have a positive or negative impact on the conservation status of the elephant population and its environment in the affected range State.

COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL

3. The Standing Committee agreed on the membership of the Panel of Experts by postal procedures in January 2010. The Secretariat then convened the Panel, comprising the following members:
 - Jonathan Barzdo, Chief, Management Authority and Conference Support, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland (Chairman of the Panel);
 - Karl Karugaba, Intelligence Officer, Lusaka Agreement Task Force, Nairobi, Kenya
 - Simon Milledge, consultant, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania;
 - Russell Taylor, consultant, Harare, Zimbabwe.

- Each of the proponent States appointed a person to facilitate the work of the Panel and to act as an adviser, as follows:

United Republic of Tanzania:

- O. F. Mbangwa, Assistant Director - Wildlife Utilization, Wildlife Division, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

As Mr Mbangwa was not available during most of the visit of the Panel, they were assisted mostly by Ms Lowaeli Damalu, GO/Ops & MIKE, Wildlife Division, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

Zambia

- Francesca Chisangano, Head of CITES Management Authority, Zambia Wildlife Authority.

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE PANEL'S ACTIVITIES

- On their appointment to the Panel, all members reviewed the proposals to transfer the Tanzanian and Zambian populations of *Loxodonta africana* from Appendix I to II (subject to certain conditions) [CoP15 Prop. 4 (Rev. 1) and CoP15 Prop. 5 respectively] and the report of the previous Panel of Experts that reviewed a proposal to transfer the elephant population of Zambia from Appendix I to Appendix II, document CoP12 Doc. 66 Annex 4, presented at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Santiago, 2002).
- The Panel carried out a fact-finding mission to the United Republic of Tanzania from 24 to 30 January 2010 and to Zambia from 31 January to 5 February 2010. Although this was not within the deadline established in Resolution Conf. 10.9, it was the earliest time at which the Panel could conduct its work after being appointed.
- In both countries, the Panel met a range of officials from national, provincial and local authorities as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations (including conservation, hunting and tourism organizations) and the private sector (hoteliers and tour operators). In the United Republic of Tanzania, one member of the Panel visited the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment, in Zanzibar. In Zambia, the Panel also interviewed representatives of the Community Resource Board of the Chiawa Game Management Area adjacent to the Lower Zambezi National Park.
- Also in both countries, the Panel visited the government's main ivory strongroom, as well as strongrooms in other locations, in order to review the security measures, the procedures for recording the movement of ivory within the country and the record keeping. It conducted physical checks of the ivory to ensure that the associated paper and electronic records could be found, and checks of the records to ensure that the associated tusks and ivory pieces could be found. In the United Republic of Tanzania, the Panel visited the ivory strongrooms at Dar es Salaam (Wildlife Division headquarters), Arusha (TANAPA), Ngorongoro (Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority), Tarangire National Park and Kisarawe local government authority district wildlife office. In Zambia, it visited the strongrooms in Chilanga (Zambia Wildlife Authority headquarters) and Chirundu (Zambia Wildlife Authority office of the Lower Zambezi).
- The Panel invited the following persons and organizations to provide any relevant information that they might have that the Panel should take into account, in addition to those who were interviewed directly:
Environmental Investigation Agency
Friedkin Conservation Fund
Esmond Bradley Martin
Selous Rhino Trust
South Luangwa Conservation Society
Species Survival Network
Tanzania Natural Resources Forum
TRAFFIC (notably the managers of the ETIS database).
- TRAFFIC provided a summary of its information available regarding seizures of ivory involving the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. EIA provided a useful summary of the results of its own investigations into illegal ivory trade. Some of the others in the list above also provided information in various forms. All the information received was taken into account in preparing this report.

11. Annex 6a) of the present document contains the report of the Panel regarding the proposal of the United Republic of Tanzania.
12. Annex 6b) of the present document contains the report of the Panel regarding the proposal of Zambia