

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



Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Amendment of the Appendices

REVIEW OF THE APPENDICES: FELIDAE

1. This document has been submitted by the Animals Committee*.
2. At its 15th meeting (CoP15, Doha, March 2010), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15) concerning the periodic review of Felidae as follows:

Directed to the Animals Committee

The Animals Committee shall, immediately following the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, include the Felidae in its Review of the Appendices. This review shall initially focus on the listing of the Lynx species complex, which includes species that are listed because of similarity of appearance, such as Lynx rufus. In addition to evaluating the listings of these species against the criteria for inclusion of species in Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), the Animals Committee shall assess the management and enforcement measures available to achieve effective control of trade in these species so as to resolve the continued need for look-alike listings. This assessment should also include a review of trade information to determine whether these species are actually confused in trade or whether the look-alike problem is merely hypothetical. The Animals Committee shall provide a report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress of the review of all Felidae and particularly on their review of Lynx spp. and look-alike issues.

3. At its 25th meeting (AC25, Geneva, July 2011), the Animals Committee discussed the document submitted by the United States of America at the request of the Chair of the Animals Committee (document AC25 Doc. 15.2.1), which provided recommendations on a way forward for concluding the periodic review of Felidae, which has been ongoing since the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, October 2004).
4. The Animals Committee agreed that the periodic review of *Prionailurus* spp. was a high priority, and invited India to consider including this review in the Non Detriment Findings Workshop that this country would hold by the end of 2011. The Committee acknowledged that Kenya and Namibia had offered to lead the review of *Panthera leo* as a high priority, and that Canada and the United States had offered to conduct the review for the two North American *Puma concolor* subspecies included in Appendix I (*P. concolor cougar* and *P. concolor coryi*). The Animals Committee supported the United States' recommendation to maintain certain Felidae species as lower priority species for periodic reviews (see Annex 1 to document AC25 Doc. 15.1).
5. At AC25, the Animals Committee asked that the CITES Secretariat, in consultation with the Chairman of the Animals Committee, draft a Notification to the Parties on the periodic review of Felidae species as

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

agreed by the Committee at its 23rd meeting in 2008, and inviting Parties to conduct the remaining reviews. The Notification, No. 2011/038, was issued on 21 September 2011.

6. Also at AC25, the Animals Committee considered the recommendations submitted by Mexico as a result of completing the periodic review of *Panthera onca* (see document AC25 Doc. 15.2.3), as well as the recommendations submitted by the United States as a result of completing the review of *Lynx* species (see document AC25 Doc. 15.2.2). The Animals Committee agreed with the recommendations to retain *Panthera onca* and *Lynx pardinus* in Appendix I, and to retain *Lynx rufus*, *Lynx canadensis* and *Lynx lynx* in Appendix II.
7. At its 26th meeting (AC26, Geneva and Dublin, March 2012), the Animals Committee addressed the fact that Parties had not responded to Notification No. 2011/038, which had invited Parties to complete the outstanding reviews of Felidae species. The Committee considered options for either dealing with these remaining species. It agreed to terminate its periodic review of *Catopuma badia*, *Felis* spp., *Leopardus* spp., *Prionailurus* spp., *Profelis aurata* and *Puma yagouaroundi*.
8. The Committee encouraged Kenya and Namibia to continue leading the review of *Panthera leo* and to submit the outcome and recommendations as soon as possible to the Committee for its consideration, including by postal procedure. The Committee asked the CITES Secretariat to contact those range States that had not yet responded to the request for information to encourage them to reply.

Recommendation

9. To conclude, the Animals Committee recognized that significant progress had been achieved in implementing Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15), and that the periodic review of Felidae was nearing completion. Since the reviews for *Panthera leo* and *Puma concolor couguar* and *P. concolor coryi* are ongoing, the Animals Committee recommends to extend the period of validity of Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15) until the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat concurs with the Animals Committee that significant progress has been achieved in implementing Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15). The review of *Lynx* species, which was the initial focus of Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15), has now been completed and, with regard to the other Felidae, reviews of the last three taxa to be considered are ongoing but have not yet been completed.
- B. As recommended in paragraph 9 of the present document, it seems appropriate to extend the decision to allow the completion by the Animals Committee of its review of the remaining Felidae species. It might however be clearer to amend the current text of Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15) to remove the references to tasks that have been completed. In this regard, the following amendment could be considered (text to be deleted is ~~crossed-out~~; proposed new text is underlined):

Directed to the Animals Committee

The Animals Committee shall, ~~immediately following the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, include the Felidae in~~ complete its Review of the Appendices for the Felidae. This review shall initially focus on the listing of the ~~Lynx species complex, which includes species that are listed because of similarity of appearance, such as Lynx rufus.~~ In addition to evaluating the listings of these species against the criteria for inclusion of species in Appendices I and II contained in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), the Animals Committee shall assess the management and enforcement measures available to achieve effective control of trade in these species so as to resolve the continued need for look-alike listings. This assessment should also include a review of trade information to determine whether these species are actually confused in trade or whether the look-alike problem is merely hypothetical. The Animals Committee shall provide a report at the 16⁷th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress of the review of all Felidae ~~and particularly on their review of Lynx spp. and look-alike issues.~~