

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

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

Transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II of the *Vicugna vicugna* (vicuña) population of the *Reserva de Producción de Fauna Chimborazo* (Chimborazo Fauna Reserve), in Ecuador, in accordance with the criteria of Annex 2a, criterion B, as it does not meet the criteria in Annex 1, and the precautionary measures specified in paragraph A.2.b) of Annex 4 of Resolution Conf. 9.24.

**Annotation**

Transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II of the vicuña population of Ecuador, for the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in wool sheared from live vicuñas and in cloth and items made thereof, including luxury handicrafts and knitted articles. The reverse side of the cloth must bear the logotype adopted by the range States of the species, which are signatories to the *Convenio para la Conservación y Manejo de la Vicuña*, and the selvages the words 'VICUÑA ECUADOR'. Other products must bear a label including the logotype and the designation 'VICUÑA ECUADOR-ARTESANÍA'.

B. Proponent

Republic of Ecuador.\*

C. Supporting statement

1. Taxonomy

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1.1 Class:               | Mammalia                                      |
| 1.2 Order:               | Artiodactyla                                  |
| 1.3 Family:              | Camelidae                                     |
| 1.4 Genus:               | <i>Vicugna</i> (Lesson 1842)                  |
| species:                 | <i>Vicugna vicugna</i> (Molina, 1782)         |
| subspecies:              | <i>Vicugna vicugna mensalis</i> (Thomas 1917) |
| 1.5 Scientific synonyms: | no  |
| 1.6 Common names:        | English: Vicuña                               |
|                          | French: Vigogne                               |
|                          | Spanish: Vicuña                               |
|                          | Aimará: Wari o Huari,                         |

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\* 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.

German: Vikunja, kichwa: vicuña.

1.7 Code numbers: CITES A.119.004.002.002

## 2. Overview

The vicuña is the smallest of the camelids that live in the Andes and was included in Appendix I in 1975 as it was at risk of extinction. In response, the range States (Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru) signed the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña (Lima, 1979).

The successful recovery of some vicuña populations enabled the CITES member States to support the transfer of the species to Appendix II (in Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile and Peru) and to authorize the partial resumption of trade in its wool. This trade has generated valuable income for local communities and at the same time has become an effective measure against poaching.<sup>1</sup>

In Ecuador, the repopulation of the *Vicugna vicugna mensalis* was started in 1988 with 200 specimens from Chile and Peru and then in 1993 with 100 specimens from the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Based on the following indicators, the process has been successful:

- Positive population growth following 24 years of conservation and management;
- The absence of poaching of the species and its predators;
- The recovery of habitat (moorland and mountain ecosystems); and
- The training and organization of communities regarding vicuñas to support local and sustainable development.

Article 1 of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña stipulates that the conservation of the species provides an economic production alternative for the benefit of the Andean population, which in Ecuador are communities descended from the following indigenous peoples: Puruhá (Chimborazo Province), Chibuleo, Pulahuín (Tungurahua Province) and Tomavelas (Bolívar and Tungurahua Provinces).

The transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II of the entire vicuña population of Ecuador will lead to the gaining of economic benefits derived from trade in the fibre and products manufactured from it in order to ensure its effective integration into the local and community development process within the area of influence of the protected areas through the sustainable management of the vicuña and national and international guidelines to ensure its conservation.

## 3. Species characteristics

### 3.1 Distribution

The vicuña is found in the plains in the high Andes in an area measuring 250,000 km<sup>2</sup>, from the extreme north-east of Argentina, an area in the south and west of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the extreme north-east of Chile, the centre-east of Peru and the Andean region of Ecuador in the mountain and high Andes ecosystems from 3,000 to 5,000 metres above sea level.

In Ecuador, the State initiative to reintroduce South American camelids began in 1984, following recommendations of the study entitled “Survey of llama habitats in Ecuador”, which proposed a habitat similar to the high Andean mountains for the management of South American camelids. Following this study, the Department of Parks and Wildlife undertook two projects: “Reintroduction of the vicuña” and “Boosting South-American camelids in Ecuador.” (Baptista, 2009; Hofstede, 2001; White, 2001; FAO, 2005; MAE, 2006).

The vicuña was repopulated in the Sierra Central of the Andes, specifically in the communal moorlands of San José de Tipi (2,000 ha) in Chimborazo Province, and an area of the National

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<sup>1</sup> From the document on the history of the Convention for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña: <http://www.conveniovicuña.org/>.

System of Protected Areas (SNAP) of Ecuador: the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve (58,560 ha), which spans Chimborazo, Bolívar and Tungurahua Provinces.

### 3.2 Habitat

The vicuña mainly lives in moorland and mountain ecosystems, in areas with open vegetation made up of genera of grasses: *Festuca*, *Stipa*, *Calamagrostis* and *Poa*.

### 3.3 Biological characteristics<sup>2</sup>

The vicuña is the smallest species in the Camelidae family. The females have an average height of 86.5 cm and the males of 90.43 cm. The average weight is 33 kg and 36 kg, respectively. The neck is slim and proportionally longer than in other camelid species. It has longer back legs than front, which results in a curved silhouette with slightly higher hind quarters (Galaz, 2005; Lichtenstein *et al.*, 2002; Bonavia, 1996).

The subspecies *Vicugna vicugna mensalis* has a cinnamon coloured body, which blends in the moorland and scrublands and, in the majority of cases, a white chest. Depending on age and sex, the belly is also white. It has pads on its feet which prevents ground compaction. One of the characteristics of this animal is its extremely fine fibre, which measures approximately 12-12.5 microns in diameter.

### 3.4 Morphological characteristics

The species is not sexually dimorphic. The females reach sexual maturity after one year and can give birth at the age of two. The gestation period is 11 months and in Ecuador the breeding season has two high points: between April and May and the months of August and September.<sup>3</sup>

Miller (1924) found that the incisors of the vicuña had exceptional morphological characteristics among ungulates, i.e. they do not form roots. They are elongated, with enamel covering only the labial surface and present physiological and aetiological adaptations, such as continuous growth of the incisors and an upper lip shaped to enable the vicuña to choose and cut leaves without affecting the plants. This means that it has a low grazing impact. Its metabolism enables it to eat coarse grasses.

### 3.5 Role of the species in its ecosystem

The vicuña is an herbivore with special biological and morphological characteristics for its diet, waste and mobility, which has enabled the regeneration, management and conservation of the mountain and moorland ecosystem in the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve, and the improvement of rough pastures in arid areas.

## 4. Status and trends

### 4.1 Habitat trends

The areas where the vicuña is found in Ecuador have three types of vegetation: high mountain scrubland, congeliturbate vegetation and edapho-xerophilous vegetation. According to Albán (2009), the species that the vicuña prefers in its diet are: *Festuca dolichophylla* and *Gentiana sedofilia*.

According to Howe and Drake (2012), the relationship between habitat and vicuña population trends was based on the on the comparison of the foraging habitats of the vicuña and the time allocation of both sexes observed between two distinct habitats within the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve – high moorlands (territorial) and wetlands (communal). The males in the territorial and communal areas spend relatively more time showing alert behaviour compared with females. However, time spent exhibiting alert and foraging behaviours did not differ in the territorial and communal feeding areas.

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<sup>2</sup> National Action Plan of Ecuador for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña.

<sup>3</sup> According to the park rangers at the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve: S. Cayambe and O. Tixi.

The habitat of the vicuña in the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve has recovered as its diet is based mainly on *Stipa ichu* and because the species moves in the dry periods from moorland to wetland (90 % of plant biomass) areas, which ensures the feeding of the species and the regeneration of the ecosystems.

#### 4.2 Population size

Using the direct counting method and calculating the total number of animals per area (Torres, 1987; Ojasti, 2000), the *Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador* was carried out over a period of 22 days and using the categories developed by Nassar (2008). The results were as follows:

Table 2. Total vicuña population in Ecuador - 2012

SITE	PROVINCE	AREA	FAMILY GROUP			SUBTOTAL FAMILY GROUP	HERDS	SOLITARY ANIMALS	TOTAL
			MALE	FEMALE	ADOLESCENT				
1	Tungurahua	Mechahuasca – Razurku	231	1001	163	1395	399	18	1812
2	Chimborazo	Razurku - Templo Machay	289	1159	198	1646	373	15	2034
3	Chimborazo and Bolívar	Templo Machay -Arenal – El Sinche – Mechahuasca	119	475	89	683	105	7	795
4	Chimborazo	San José de Tipín	28	103	25	156	26	1	183
Subtotals			667	2738	475	3880	903	41	4824
<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>									

Source: *Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE*

Table 2 shows that Site No. 2, in the Razurku-Templo Machay area within the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve has the greatest population distribution of vicuñas in Ecuador (2,034 vicuñas), followed by Site No. 1, Mechahuasca-Razurku area with 1,812 vicuñas, Site No. 3, the Templo Machay-Arenal-El Sinche-Mechahuasca area, with 795, and lastly, the communal moorlands of San José de Tipín, with 183 vicuñas. This means the current vicuña population in Ecuador stands at 4,824. The vicuña population of the San José de Tipín community is located outside the protected area. This community is in the currently receiving training in the management and care of the species.

#### 4.3 Population structure

The vicuña population in Ecuador can be divided into three groups: family groups, herds and solitary animals, with the following distribution:

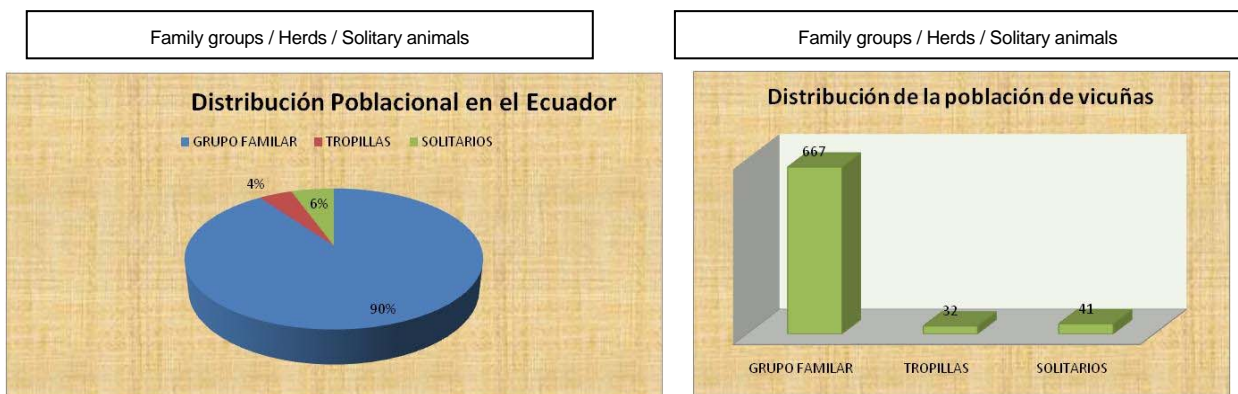
Table 3. Population distribution by group

<b>FAMILY GROUPS</b>	<b>HERDS</b>	<b>SOLITARY ANIMALS</b>
667	32	41

Source: Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE

This shows that 90 % of vicuñas can be found in family groups, compared with 4 % in herds and 6 % solitary.

Graph 1: Population distribution of vicuñas in Ecuador / Population distribution of vicuñas



Source: Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE

#### 4.4 Population trends

Using historical data from population studies in Ecuador carried out by the Ministry of Environment since 2000, and the latest population study (July 2012), the population growth of vicuñas has been defined.

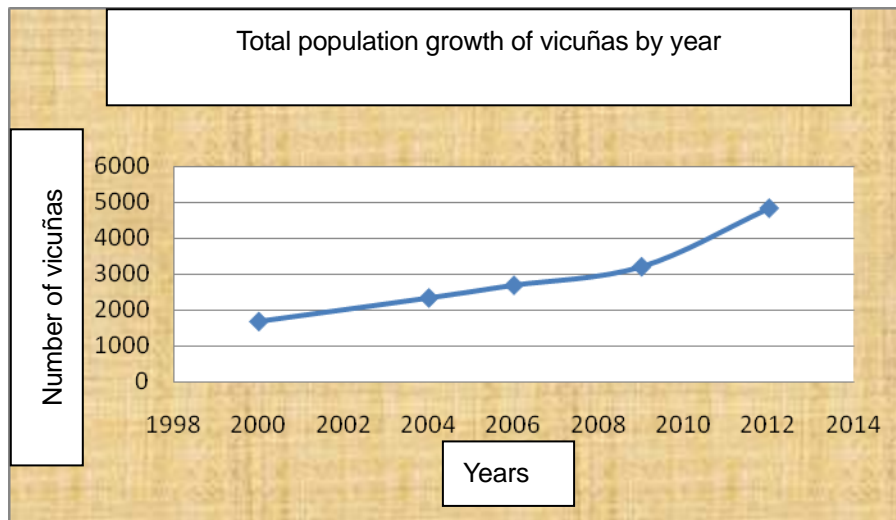
Table 2. Vicuña population growth per year

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>No. of vicuñas</b>	1,676	2,331	2,683	3,197	4,824

Source: Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE

Using the data in the Table above, the population growth rate of the vicuña in Ecuador can be calculated: from 2000 to 2004, it was 39.08 %; from 2004 to 2006, it was 15.10 %; from 2006 to 2009, it was 19.16 %; and from 2009 to 2012, it was 50.89 %. This shows in a positive manner the adaptability of the vicuña following 24 years of reintroduction of the species in the Andean region of Ecuador. Below is a graph showing the positive population growth of the vicuña:

Graph 3. Population growth of the vicuña in Ecuador



Source: *Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE*

#### 4.5 Geographic trends

The vicuña repopulation project in Ecuador established two quarantine sites for species management and development: Mechahuasca and El Sinche (Reserve). After two years, the populations were freed and are now found in four areas:

– **Wet moorland area** within the protected area:

From Mechahuasca to Razurko (from 4,119 to 5,485 metres above sea level) in Tungurahua Province. In this area there is abundant and varied vegetation, as well as significant areas of wetlands that provide a vital habitat for the establishment of the vicuña.

From Razurko to Templo Machay (from 3,964 to 4,846 metres above sea level) in Tungurahua and Chimborazo Provinces, the geography is hillier and more isolated. The greatest population of vicuña in the Reserve is found here.

– **Dry moorland area** within the protected area:

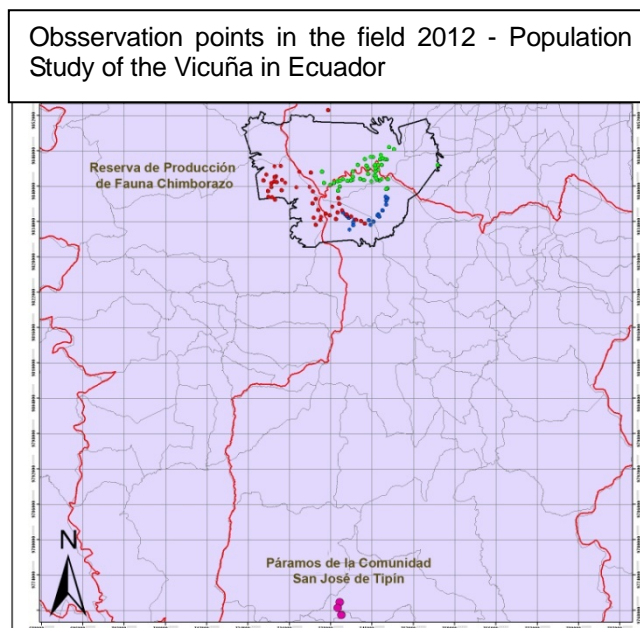
In El Sinche, Chanchiví, Natahua, Pachancho, Rumpiata (from 4,251 to 4,860 metres above sea level) in Chimborazo and Bolívar Provinces, the dry moorlands are characterized by short, sporadic vegetation and a number of wetland areas.

– **Sandy area** within the protected area:

Characterized by dry and very permeable land, with xerophytic vegetation. This is the driest area. It is characterized by rocky outcrops, fluvio-glacial deposits and, in certain areas, sand dunes.

– In the community of **San José de Tipín** there are wet moorlands that range from 3,693 to 3,777 metres above sea level.

Graph 4. Current geographical distribution of vicuñas in Ecuador



Source: Population Study of the Vicuña in Ecuador 2012, MAE

## 5. Threats

In Ecuador there are no records of poaching of vicuñas, with accidents on the roads that connect the provinces being the main threat. From January 2012 to present, 12 deaths have been recorded as a result of such accidents (MAE, 2012). Preventive measures have been taken to address this threat.

## 6. Utilization and trade

### 6.1 National utilization

In Ecuador, the current population referred to in Appendix I is only used as a natural resource for community tourism, which is carried out in the protected area of the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve and consists of direct observation of vicuña populations that are close to tourist sites. In addition, at the national level, the vicuña has been used as part of training for communities in the management and conservation of the community moorlands, which protects the habitat of the species.

With regard to the vicuña populations that are contained in Appendix II, the Member States of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña have approved the use of vicuña fibre that come from live vicuña that are captured, sheared and released, using efficient and regulated systems in each of the Member States.

### 6.2 Legal trade <sup>4</sup>

The opening of legal international trade with the obligatory use of an official trade mark (**VICUÑA**- (Country of origin) – **ARTESANÍA**) for the fibre, material and clothing made with vicuña fibre for all Member States of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña clearly has the possibility to create other benefits for the Andean communities in Ecuador.

Under the domestic regulations in force regarding vicuñas in Ecuador (*Reglamento para el Manejo y Conservación de la Vicuña del Ecuador - Decreto Ejecutivo 2093, Registro Oficial No 430 el 28 de Septiembre del 2004*), attached to the proposal (Annex to document CoP16 Inf. 45), trade in wool and derived products will be conducted jointly and in a single event by the beneficiary associations and companies under the supervision of the Ministry of the Environment. In addition, under Article 24, in order to ensure favourable conditions for the sale of wool and derived products, the member countries of the Vicuña Convention will be requested to provide information on the procedures used to organize public tenders, auction sales or any other system chosen, including reference prices and conditions of sale.

<sup>4</sup> History of the Convention for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña.

Countries currently exporting wool have adopted various trading mechanisms, such as: 1) public tenders at each harvest event, where buyers are selected on the basis of best prices or a stable trading partnership; and 2) medium-term trade agreements. The country will have to conduct an analysis and select the most beneficial mechanism. This will be done by hiring the services of a specialized consultant on this matter in the framework of the *Proyecto para la protección de los Recursos Naturales de la Provincia de Chimborazo* (PROMAREN, Project for the protection of the Natural Resources of Chimborazo Province), with the financial support of FAO.

It should be noted that the communities that take part in the process have experience in the management, processing and sale of wool of domestic camelids (Llamas and Alpacas) and will be the beneficiaries of the harvest of the wool of the vicuñas under their custody.

### 6.3 Parts and derivatives in trade<sup>5</sup>

The products exported by the Member States of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña (Chile, Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Peru) are as follows: in the Plurinational State of Bolivia: carded fleece, pre-carded fleece, fibre, and scarves. In Peru: pre-carded fleece, washed fleece, unwashed fleece, threads, clothes, and functional handicrafts. In Chile: wool fibre and thick fibre from the shanks<sup>6</sup>. In Argentina: carded fleece, carded fibres from the shanks, carded fibres from the shanks/belly.

The countries in which the products are marketed are: Germany, Italy, Australia, the United States of America, China, Scotland, England, and Argentina. This is done using Certificates of Enrolment in the Single Register of Wild South American Camelids (internal – all products) and with CITES export permits (external – fibre only).

### 6.4 Illegal trade

Efforts in the communities in Member States of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña which are in the range area for the species have been positive as poaching (using firearms) has been falling in some countries and has been controlled and, in other cases, such as Ecuador, is non-existent.

### 6.5 Actual or potential trade impacts<sup>7</sup>

Using as an estimate the marketing data of other countries, it is possible to project how much Ecuador could earn by marketing vicuña products. The calculation is based on the known vicuña population in 2009, a total of 3197 animals, using the following values: 66 % are captured (2110) of which 42 % are sheered (886), with an average yield of 215 grams per vicuña, obtaining a total of 186 kg. Reference values have been developed using the marketing registries for 2011 for Peru (USD 139.35/kg), the Plurinational State of Bolivia (USD 350.95/kg) and Chile (USD 385/kg), giving a projected annual profit of from USD 19,779.43 to USD 65,455.87.

Based on the successful experience of Member States of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, it is possible for Ecuador to begin a marketing process. This is why the sale price should be analysed using actual and potential experiences.

## 7. Legal instruments

### 7.1 National

Decree No. 2093 contains the Regulations for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña in Ecuador, which was also published in Official Register No. 430 of 28 September 2004. These regulations are the legal framework that governs the use of vicuña products once CITES authorization has been obtained, as it will have a direct benefit on rural communities which have vicuña within their community geographical jurisdiction.

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<sup>5</sup> Reports from the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Argentina presented at the 29th Ordinary Meeting of the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña, 2012.

<sup>6</sup> The wool or fibre from the legs.

<sup>7</sup> According to the National Action Plan on the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña in Ecuador.



The Constitution of Ecuador, which was promulgated in 2008, recognizes the right of the people to live in a healthy and balanced environment that guarantees sustainability and wellbeing, or *sumak kawsay*, and declares the preservation of environment and ecosystem and biodiversity conservation as in the interests of the public (Article 13).

The vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*) population of Ecuador is currently contained in Appendix I of CITES and therefore is a species that is banned from being exported for commercial reasons. In order to permit trade in vicuña fibre, the species needs to be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II. As a requirement to implement this transfer, the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, in its Resolution 292/06 of 24 November 2006, urged Ecuador to develop its Vicuña Management Plan for presentation at the next meeting of the Convention.

Executive Decree No. 2093, published in Official Register No. 430 of 28 September 2004, contains the Regulations for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña in Ecuador, the objective of which is to “regulate the conservation and sustainable use of the species in accordance with the laws, regulations and rules on the issue”.

In March 2011, the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña in Ecuador was approved and published in Official Register No. 434, in which it was stated that implementation of the Action Plan was the responsibility of the National Directorate for Biodiversity, in conjunction with the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña focal point and the authorities of Chimborazo province via the Administration of Chimborazo Fauna Reserve.

## 7.2 International

The Republic of Ecuador ratified the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species through Supreme Decree No. 77, published in Official Register No. 739 of 7 February 1975.

Through Executive Decree No. 794, published in Official Register No. 226 of 21 April 1982, Ecuador also ratified the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña in which, among other things, conservation of the vicuña is recognized as providing an economic production alternative for the benefit of the Andean population and Member States are committed to its gradual use under strict State control.

The decisions taken by the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña at its Ordinary, Extraordinary and Technical meetings from 1994 to the present day has enabled the development of new options for the strategic management and sustainable use of the species, such as:

- Ensure the preservation of the species in the face of the threat of illegal trade, through the opening up of legal international trade with the obligatory use of official trade marks on the fabrics and clothing made from vicuña fibre (“VICUÑANDES” to **VICUÑA**” and the addition of the complementary mark “**VICUÑA**-(Country of origin)-**Artesanía**”).
- Diversify the use of products made with vicuña fibre on the international market through by extending it to include knitted products and ornamental handicrafts.
- Leave the decision regarding the development of options regarding management under captivity or in the wild to the signatory States.
- Develop strategic objectives to implement the Convention Action Plan.

## 8. Species management

### 8.1 Management measures

In accordance with the guidelines in the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña in Ecuador, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Environments and the Provincial Government of Chimborazo for the implementation of the Project for the Protection of Natural Resources in Chimborazo Province (PROMAREN), which is funded by FAO and will last for five years from 2012. The aim of the project is to ensure the protection of moorland ecosystems and river basins and support conservation management of the vicuña in the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve.

## 8.2 Population monitoring

Direct protection by the State is the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, through coordination between the Department of Natural Heritage, the National Directorate for Biodiversity, the authorities of Chimborazo Province, the Administration of the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve and local communities in the protected area.

## 8.3 Control measures

### 8.3.1 International

The Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, which was signed by the species range States in 1979, provides a legal and technical instrument for decision-making on the sustainable use of the vicuña, across the entire range area, ensuring the conservation of all of the vicuña populations on the planet. Strategies for the use and commercialization of wool are developed in the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, which is appended to the proposal (see Chapter 3).

### 8.3.2 Domestic

*Monitoring and control programme:* There is a monitoring and control programme in place for the protected area which, until May 2011, was weak with regard to the area and number of hectares being patrolled as there were only 7 rangers and an area chief. This year, a State of Emergency was declared for protected areas in Ecuador which made it possible to fulfil the staffing requirements needed to strengthen control and monitoring activities in the protected areas. At the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve, staffing levels increased to 16 rangers, one technical expert and one area chief.

*Environmental Education Programme:* The Programme was established in September 2011 and aimed at schoolchildren in the 3rd to 5th grades in community schools within the protected area and the area of influence. They are working on a base of 147. The second phase is planned in line with the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, and materials on the vicuña and new population data are being prepared for its implementation from November 2012.

*Community training and management participation mechanisms:* The training was carried out in November 2011, with the aim of increasing local capacities with regard to CITES, the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, the vicuña, its habitat and behaviour, etc. among the neighbouring communities in the protected area located in Bolívar, and Tungurahua Provinces as an introduction for the Population Study in 2012. In August 2012, meetings were held to formalize the establishment of the Reserve Management Committee in accordance with that stipulated in articles 165 to 174 of Book IV of the Unified Text on Secondary Environmental Legislation in order to develop a local support group to help extend the scope of the National Action Plan for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña, as well as fulfil the conservation objectives linked to local community development. Strategies for the use and commercialization of wool are developed in the National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña, which is appended to the proposal (see Chapter 3).

## 8.4 Captive breeding and artificial propagation

In Ecuador, the vicuña is involved in the conservation of communal moorlands of San José de Tipín (200 ha) in Chimborazo Province; and an area in the National System of Protected Areas (SNAP) in Ecuador: the Chimborazo Fauna Reserve (58,560 ha), which covers areas of Chimborazo, Bolívar and Tungurahua Provinces in order to protect the species' habitat.

## 9. Consultations

Ecuador participated in the twenty-ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Technical and Administrative Committee of the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña from 1 to 2 August 2012, in accordance with Resolution 328/2011, which covers all range States of the *Vicugna vicugna*, i.e. Peru, Chile, Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Ecuador. At the meeting, in Resolution 341/2012, the

Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña resolved to: “Express its agreement with that stated by Ecuador with regard to its request to transfer its vicuña population from Appendix I to Appendix II of CITES.”, which is consistent with Resolution 170/96 of that Convention.

## RESOLUTION No. 341/2012

### CONSIDERING

*That that Technical and Administrative Committee of the twenty-ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Convention for the Management and Conservation of the Vicuña, has taken note of the intention of Ecuador to request the Sixteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to transfer the vicuña population within its territory from Appendix I to Appendix II of CITES, consistent with Resolution No. 170/96 of the Convention.*

### THE COMMITTEE

### RESOLVES

*To express its agreement with that stated by Ecuador with regard to its request to transfer its vicuña population from Appendix I to Appendix II of CITES.*

[signed]

#### 11. Additional remarks

The legal feasibility of the use of the vicuña in Ecuador after 24 years of conservation and management is a crucial point for the protection of the species as the vicuña populations are on community-owned lands and it is necessary to support local development through sustainable management. A video on the situation of the vicuña is attached.

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- *Convenio para el Manejo y la Conservación de la Vicuña*: [www.conveniovicuña.org](http://www.conveniovicuña.org)
- Some texts from publications suggested by members of the South American Camelid Specialist Group (GECS) of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (<http://data.iucn.org/themes/ssc/sqs/gecs>).