

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

Committee II

Pangolins (*Manis spp.*)

DRAFT RESOLUTION AND DECISIONS ON PANGOLINS (*MANIS SPP.*)

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, on the basis of document CoP17 Doc. 64, as agreed the ninth session of Committee II (see document CoP17 Com. II Rec. 9).

DRAFT RESOLUTION

CONSERVATION OF AND TRADE IN PANGOLINS

CONCERNED that all eight species of pangolins, family Manidae, are considered critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable, by the combined effects of habitat degradation, overexploitation and illegal trade;

RECALLING that the Conference of the Parties decided, in 1994, to include all species of pangolins, Manidae spp., in Appendix II, and to amend this listing in 2000 with the annotation, “a zero annual export quota has been established for *Manis crassicaudata*, *M. culionensis*, *M. javanica* and *M. pentadactyla* for specimens removed from the wild and traded for primarily commercial purposes”;

MINDFUL that the trade in specimens, parts and derivatives of Manidae of wild origin has been the subject of the Review of Significant Trade, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13);

CONCERNED that these measures have not prevented declines of pangolin populations, and that the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting included all pangolins in Appendix I;

COMMENDING the efforts made by some range, transit and consumer States and other Parties to address the illegal and unsustainable trade in pangolins and their parts and derivatives;

ENCOURAGING all stakeholders to take note of the recommendations of the final report of the First Pangolin Range States Meeting, held from 24 to 26 June 2015 in Da Nang, Viet Nam;

EMPHASIZING that pangolin populations in the wild are difficult to research, manage and monitor, and that more comprehensive data on the population size and conservation status of pangolin species are urgently needed;

RECOGNIZING also that pangolin populations are vulnerable to over-exploitation because of their low reproduction rates and ease of capture;

RECOGNIZING further that, the illegal trade in pangolin specimens and parts and derivatives has increased significantly to meet international demand;

RECALLING also that, in Resolution Conf. 10.7 (Rev. CoP15) on the *Disposal of confiscated live specimens of species included in the Appendices*, the Conference of the Parties urges Management Authorities, in consultation with Scientific Authorities and other bodies concerned, to develop action plans to deal with seized and confiscated live specimens, and RECALLING the importance for Parties to develop such plans for pangolins;

RECALLING that, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 10.16 (Rev.) on *Specimens of animal species bred in captivity*, pangolin breeding facilities should be able to demonstrate the legal origin of any founder stock and ability to successfully breed pangolins to at least the F2 generation in a controlled environment;

RECALLING further that, in Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) on *Traditional medicines*, the Conference of the Parties recommends that Parties work closely with groups of traditional-medicine practitioners and consumers in developing public education and awareness programmes to work towards the elimination of illegal use of endangered species, and developing awareness of the need to avoid over-exploitation;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

URGES all Parties to:

- a) adopt and implement comprehensive national legislation or, where applicable, review existing legislation, that makes provision for deterrent penalties to address illegal trade in specimens of native and non-native pangolin species;
- b) ensure strict enforcement controls to address illegal trade in pangolin specimens;
- c) further strengthen national interagency cooperation and international cooperation and to enhance collective efforts as range, transit and destination States, to coordinate activities, exchange of information on trade routes and patterns and law enforcement responses to combat illegal trade in pangolin specimens;
- d) carry out capacity-building activities with a particular focus on:
 - i) methods and techniques to detect and identify illegally traded pangolins, including specimens from alleged captive-breeding operations;
 - ii) best practice protocols for safe handling, care and rehabilitation, and release back into the wild of live confiscated pangolins; and
 - iii) promoting the understanding of legal provisions concerning trade in and use of pangolins; and
- e) promote the development of techniques, including the application of forensic science, for identifying parts and derivatives of pangolins in trade;

URGES Parties in whose territory there are pangolin breeding facilities to ensure that such facilities have in place effective management practices and controls to prevent parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade, including through the registration of breeding facilities, and regular monitoring and control;

ENCOURAGES Parties on whose territories stocks of parts and derivatives of pangolins exist, to ensure that adequate control measures are in place to secure these stocks, and to ensure strict application of these measures;

STRONGLY ENCOURAGES consumer, transit and range States to raise awareness among the law enforcement community including the judiciary, local communities, including hunters, relevant business sectors such as courier companies, and consumers about the conservation status of pangolins and the threats posed to their survival by illegal trade;

ENCOURAGES range States to work with local communities to develop non-consumptive livelihood programmes and educational programmes and material to assist local communities in sustainably managing pangolin populations;

ENCOURAGES consumer States to conduct research on the uses of pangolin specimens, and on consumers and their motivations for consumption of pangolin parts and derivatives, such as scales, meat, leather and other cultural uses, to implement measures to reduce the demand for illegal pangolin specimens on the basis of the results of such research, and to initiate targeted communication campaigns;

URGES range States to work with appropriate bodies to develop and implement *in situ* pangolin management and conservation programmes, which include population assessments, the making of non-detriment findings for trade in the species, monitoring, and management and conservation measures; and

CALLS UPON all governments, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations to support the efforts of range, transit and consumer States concerned with the illegal trade in pangolin specimens, including parts and derivatives, in tackling this trade, including through the provision of capacity-building interventions, technical assistance, operational support, funding support, educational interventions, and law enforcement support and cooperation, as may be needed.

DRAFT DECISIONS

Directed to the Secretariat

17.A The Secretariat shall:

- a) liaise with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) partner agencies and regional enforcement networks, such as the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), and other relevant enforcement networks to convey the concerns expressed in Resolution Conf. 17.XX about the illegal trade in pangolin specimens, including parts and derivatives, and to request them to take these into account when developing work programmes;
- b) subject to external funding, prepare in cooperation with relevant organizations, and in consultation with range and implicated States, at least two months before the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee, a report on:
 - i) the national and global conservation status of African and Asian pangolin species;
 - ii) available information about levels of legal and illegal trade;
 - iii) relevant information on enforcement actions taken, including seizures, forensic analysis of seized specimens, arrests, prosecutions and judgments relating to illegal trade in pangolins as well as disposal of seized specimens;
 - iv) stock-piles of specimens and derivatives of pangolins and stockpile management including existing registration systems;
 - v) inventories of current captive pangolin populations, including breeding data and mortality rates, in zoos, rehabilitation centres and other captive facilities and new developments on captive-breeding activities; and
 - vi) new developments regarding specific demand management, education and awareness-raising measures concerning pangolins.

17.B The Secretariat shall distribute the report in draft to range and implicated States for any comments. The final report shall be made available to the Standing Committee at its 69th meeting. On the basis of the report and the comments received from the range and implicated States, the Secretariat shall formulate recommendations for consideration at the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee, as well as draft decisions for consideration by the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.