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

Strategic matters
Cooperation with organizations and multilateral environmental agreements
INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the CITES Secretariat reported to the Parties on the launch, in November 2010, of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), an alliance established between the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank and the World Customs Organization (WCO) to bring coordinated support to national wildlife law enforcement agencies and to the subregional and regional networks that, on a daily basis, act in defence of natural resources.

3. In Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16) on Compliance and enforcement, the Conference of the Parties welcomes the establishment of ICCWC, and:

   DIRECTS the Secretariat to pursue closer international liaison between the Convention’s institutions, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks and national enforcement agencies, and to work in close cooperation with ICPO-INTERPOL, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization as ICCWC partner organizations.

4. The Resolution also instructs the Secretariat to:

   a) cooperate with ICCWC partner organizations, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks, and competent national authorities to:

      i) prepare and distribute appropriate training material; and

      ii) facilitate the exchange of technical information between the authorities in charge of border controls.

5. Additional to the provisions in Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16), a number of Decisions and recommendations adopted at CoP16 and at the 65th and 66th meetings of the CITES Standing Committee (SC65, Geneva, July 2014; SC66, Geneva, January 2016) direct the Secretariat to work closely with ICCWC partner organizations during their implementation.

6. There is strong recognition among CITES Parties of the need for increased international collaboration and coordination to combat illicit trafficking in wildlife, and of the important role of ICCWC. This is reflected in several global and regional declarations and statements, as well as by the governing bodies of ICCWC partner organizations. The Secretariat has prepared a document containing examples of such

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1 http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php
declarations and statements made since the launch of ICCWC, which is attached as Annex 3 to the present document. Most recently, the UN General Assembly, on 30 July 2015, adopted a dedicated resolution (69/314) on Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, which, in its preambular paragraph and in operative paragraph 3, includes the following recognition of ICCWC:

Recognizing the important work of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, a collaborative effort of the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, by, inter alia, providing technical assistance to Member States,

[...]  
3. Urges Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade as well as strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard.

7. The purpose of the present document is to update Parties on key activities that have been conducted collectively under the auspices of ICCWC since CoP16. Detailed accounts of these activities can be found in documents SC65 Doc. 16.4\(^2\) and SC66 Doc. 16.5\(^3\).

Activities conducted collectively under the auspices of ICCWC

8. ICCWC has continued to develop and deliver activities and tools for national enforcement agencies to combat wildlife crime more effectively. The dedicated portal on ICCWC,\(^4\) available in English, French and Spanish on the CITES website, is constantly updated and provides information on the Consortium's activities as well as tools and services available through its partner organizations. This includes, among others, a brochure on ICCWC, details on ICCWC and its Global Network, up-to-date information on activities such as the implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, and an interactive map highlighting key ICCWC activities delivered to date.

9. The work conducted under the auspices of ICCWC is grounded on a Letter of Understanding\(^5\) signed by the heads of the partner agencies, and guided by the ICCWC Strategic Mission 2014-2016\(^6\), launched at SC65, and by the ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020\(^7\), launched at SC66.\(^8\) The ICCWC Strategic Mission 2014-2016 identified five focus areas in which ICCWC is uniquely-placed to make a contribution to effectively combat the illegal trafficking in wildlife, based on the diverse and extensive technical expertise, regional networks and on-ground experience of the five ICCWC partner organizations.

10. Building on the Strategic Mission, ICCWC developed the ICCWC Strategic Programme for 2016-2020, which outlines the types of activities to be pursued by ICCWC up to 2020. The Strategic Programme comprises a set of concrete priorities and activities to substantially reduce poaching and trafficking in wildlife and forest products, and was developed taking into account the shifting global landscape and activities underway by different organizations to combat illicit trafficking in wildlife. It includes 21 activities and 57 related sub-activities that have been identified and grouped, based on a detailed review and analysis of activities conducted to date. Implementation of activities of the ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020 will be subject to availability of external funding through donor support. In this context, the Secretariat has prepared draft decision 17.A, paragraph c), for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, as presented in Annex 1 to the present document.

\(3\) https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/E-SC66-16-05.pdf  
\(4\) https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwcp.php  
\(5\) https://cites.org/sites/default/files/iiccwcmou_0.pdf  
\(6\) https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwciiccwc_Strategic_Mission-WEB.pdf  
\(7\) https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwciiccwc_Strategic_Programme_2016-2020_final.pdf  
\(8\) https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/wildlife_crime_consortium_launches_enforcement_indicators_2012016
11. All activities delivered through ICCWC are in line with the ICCWC Strategic Mission 2014-2016 and the ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020, as well as the strategic plans and work programmes of ICCWC partner organizations. The paragraphs below summarize the key actions and activities delivered by ICCWC for each of its focus areas.

Focus Area 1: Strengthening cooperation and coordination in combating wildlife and forest crime

12. In close cooperation with ICCWC partners, the Secretariat convened the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force in Nairobi, Kenya, on 28 and 29 October 2013⁹. The meeting brought together experts and representatives from 21 countries affected by rhinoceros poaching and the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn. Task Force participants developed concrete strategies and actions to combat the poaching of rhinoceros and the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn¹⁰ and were informed about the tools and services made available to the law enforcement community through ICCWC partner organizations, such as secure real-time communication systems, international criminal databases and technical operational support.

13. In consultation with rhinoceros range States, ICCWC identified the need for training on rhinoceros horn DNA sampling for law enforcement officials. In response to this need, the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, the University of Pretoria’s Veterinary Genetics Laboratory and ICCWC co-hosted a rhinoceros DNA sampling workshop¹¹ at the Southern African Wildlife College near Hoedspruit, South Africa, on 5 and 6 November 2013. The workshop, which included field training in Kruger National Park, was attended by law enforcement officers from each of the 11 African rhinoceros range States, as well as from China, Thailand and Viet Nam, and South African National Parks.

14. To further enhance international cooperation to combat rhinoceros poaching and the associated illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, the CITES Secretariat, in collaboration with ICCWC, hosted a Ministerial-level and a Senior Officials meeting¹² in February 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland, at which a number of recommendations on well-targeted short and medium-term actions to further enhance international cooperation were adopted¹³. Based on a recommendation arising from the Senior Officials meeting, a Rhinoceros CENComm¹⁴ closed user group was developed by the WCO, and is maintained by the CITES Secretariat.

15. On 19 and 20 May 2014, the WCO, on behalf of ICCWC, coordinated an ICCWC Workshop to Combat the Smuggling of Timber from Madagascar to Asia in Seoul, South Korea. Throughout 2015, INTERPOL, in cooperation with ICCWC, led the organization of a number of operations and projects to combat the illegal trafficking in wildlife, which included Operations INFRATERRA¹⁵, PAWS¹⁶, and URSA¹⁷. ICCWC also supported activities of Project Connexus, a global INTERPOL project that includes a series of simultaneous, multi-agency, multi-focus and multi-regional activities to promote investigative follow-up to identify and disrupt international criminal networks¹⁸.

16. At the time of writing (April 2016), a number of additional ICCWC activities and projects are ongoing or being supported by ICCWC, such as an additional phase of Operation INFRATERRA in Asia and Latin America, and an operation to coordinate efforts in combating the illegal trade in shahtoosh shawls and vicuna wool. In addition, ICCWC is supporting an Initiative on Environmental Security and Firearms, led by INTERPOL, designed to encourage close cooperation between police and wildlife agencies across the Eastern African region, by promoting and supporting the creation of a national and regional platform for collecting, storing, analysing and comparing ballistic and firearms data retrieved from wildlife crime scenes.

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¹² [https://cites.org/eng/2015_rhino_ministerial](https://cites.org/eng/2015_rhino_ministerial)
¹⁴ CENcomm is a tool that facilitates the exchange and use of data in a timely, reliable and secure manner with direct access available 24 hours a day. For more information, see [http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/enforcement-and-compliance/instruments-and-tools/cen-suite/cencomm.aspx](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/enforcement-and-compliance/instruments-and-tools/cen-suite/cencomm.aspx)
¹⁵ [https://cites.org/eng/interpoperation](https://cites.org/eng/interpoperation)
¹⁶ [https://cites.org/eng/node/16926](https://cites.org/eng/node/16926)
¹⁷ Operation URSA was a regional operation in Asia to support countries in the development of an intelligence-led enforcement operation targeting illegal trafficking in wildlife and the criminal networks involved.
Such data can link crimes and criminals, both nationally and internationally, and help law enforcement authorities find connections between different wildlife crimes that might otherwise have gone undetected.

17. Building on the outcomes of the first global meeting of wildlife enforcement networks, ICCWC has continued to support activities to improve enforcement cooperation across sectors and regions:

a) The CITES Secretariat prepared and keeps updated a directory of wildlife enforcement network focal points and has facilitated the participation of a number of network representatives and law enforcement bodies at regional meetings and workshops with the aim to improve cross-sector and cross-regional enforcement cooperation. The Secretariat has also continued to support networks, alongside other ICCWC partner agencies, and attended a number of regional network meetings since CoP16.

b) ICCWC, in close collaboration with the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), held a two-day training workshop for wildlife law enforcement officials from 21 countries from Africa and Asia in Nairobi, Kenya, on 30 and 31 October 2013. The workshop preceded the operational phase of Operation COBRA II and strengthened the skills of officers participating in the operation in a broad range of innovative and specialized investigation techniques, including tools and services available to them through ICCWC partner organizations. ICCWC also provided financial support for, and participated in, an operational planning meeting for Operation COBRA II, held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 1 November 2013.

c) INTERPOL played a leading role in coordinating ICCWC’s financial, operational and technical support to Operation COBRA II and III and the WCO facilitated the use of its CENComm secure and encrypted communication tool by creating a secure closed user group for enforcement authorities involved in the operations. In addition, UNODC, on behalf of ICCWC, led the organization of a post-operational review and training workshop for African countries involved in Operation COBRA III.

18. UNODC, on behalf of ICCWC, was at the time of writing working closely with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to develop a regional meeting in the Caribbean to discuss the potential establishment of a Caribbean Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN).

19. To promote the sharing of information on best practices and lessons learned about the establishment and functioning of WENs, to further strengthen networks and to enhance cooperation and coordination among them, the Secretariat, on behalf of ICCWC, will convene the second global meeting of wildlife enforcement networks during CoP17, on 28-29 September 2016.

Focus Area 2: Facilitating analysis of national responses to wildlife and forest crime

20. Under the auspices of ICCWC, INTERPOL and the World Bank partnered in a project to support the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to build its law enforcement capacity. INTERPOL engaged consultants to conduct a mission to the country to review its law-enforcement capacity needs, and worked alongside the World Bank team developing the USD 12 million Protected Areas and Wildlife (PAWS) project approved by the World Bank and Global Environment Facility for Lao People’s Democratic Republic. The work completed by ICCWC secured the inclusion of over USD 3 million for wildlife and forestry law-enforcement capacity building as part of the PAWS project.

21. In Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16) on Compliance and enforcement, under Regarding compliance, control and cooperation, the Conference of the Parties recommends that all Parties “if appropriate, make use of the ICCWC Wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit”.

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20 https://cites.org/eng/resources/enforcement_focal_points
21 For further details, see https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/65/E-SC65-16-04.pdf
22. The ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, launched at the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC62, Geneva, 2012), provides government officials, Customs, police and other relevant enforcement agencies with a framework to conduct a comprehensive analysis of their response to wildlife and forest crime and identify their technical assistance needs. UNODC is leading the implementation of the Toolkit, which, at the time of writing, has been completed in Bangladesh, Botswana, Gabon, Mexico, Nepal, Peru and Viet Nam, and is in the process of being rolled-out in Angola, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guyana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Togo and the United Republic of Tanzania.

23. The Secretariat continues to welcome formal requests for ICCWC support to implement the Toolkit from Parties and encourages Parties to consult the ICCWC toolkit fact sheet and the implementation step by step guide available on the ICCWC website for more details. It should be noted, however, that there has not been sufficient funding to date to respond to all of the requests received and that a number of requests are currently on hold until funds have been obtained. The Secretariat and its ICCWC partners continue to seek additional financial support to enable ICCWC to implement the Toolkit in all countries that have requested it.

24. When the Toolkit has been implemented in a particular country, a detailed Toolkit Implementation action plan is developed by UNODC. This action plan, containing recommendations on how the Party that implemented the Toolkit could strengthen its responses to wildlife and forest crime, is then formally presented to the government of the country concerned for consideration. In countries where Toolkit implementation has been completed, ICCWC is, upon request and based on availability of resources, supporting national governments to implement the recommendations of the Toolkit and has aligned its Strategic Programme to key recommendations identified by the ICCWC Toolkit. An example of support provided to Parties is the support to Bangladesh by the CITES Secretariat, in cooperation with INTERPOL and the WCO, for the delivery of a one-day workshop on the fundamentals of CITES followed, by a two-day train-the-trainer workshop on CITES and special investigative techniques for front-line officers (October 2015, Dhaka, Bangladesh). This activity was in line with the findings and recommendations of the ICCWC Toolkit and was coordinated by the Forest Department of Bangladesh in collaboration with ICCWC.

25. At SC66, ICCWC launched the ‘ICCWC indicator framework for wildlife and forest crime’. This is a framework of indicators for national-level use by Parties to measure and monitor the effectiveness of their own law-enforcement responses to wildlife and forest crime. The ICCWC indicator framework has been designed to be completed as a self-assessment by national enforcement authorities. It consists of 50 performance measures that cover the major components of a law-enforcement response to wildlife and forest crime. The ICCWC indicator framework is intended to provide a standardized approach to measure the effectiveness of national law enforcement responses to combat illegal trafficking in wildlife. It will also enable a Party to monitor performance over time to identify any changes in the effectiveness of its law-enforcement responses. It should be noted that the indicator framework is not intended to be used to compare or ‘rank’ the effectiveness of efforts in different countries, but to serve as a tool that any individual country could use to measure and respond to its own areas of relative strengths and weaknesses. The Secretariat believes that the ICCWC indicator framework will provide a valuable tool to assist Parties to better measure and monitor the effectiveness of their law enforcement responses to the illegal trafficking in wildlife. At the time of writing, the ICCWC indicator framework was available in English, and in the process of being translated into French and Spanish.

30 https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/prog/iccwc/Toolkit_Fact_Sheet_ENG.pdf
32 https://cites.org/eng/news/targeted_training_for_Bangladesh_law_enforcementAuthorities_on_CITES_and_special_investigative_techniques_to_combat_wildlife_and_forest_crime
26. Through its global network\textsuperscript{34} of regional and country offices, ICCWC has continued to provide specialized training for wildlife law enforcement officers, including specialized training in support of operations and in the organization of a number of activities.

27. Decision 16.40, paragraph a), on \textit{Enforcement matters} calls for Wildlife Incident Support Teams (WISTs), composed of enforcement staff or relevant experts, to be dispatched at the request of countries affected by significant poaching of CITES specimens, or that have made large-scale seizures of such specimens, to assist, guide and to facilitate appropriate follow-up actions in affected countries in the immediate aftermath of an incident.\textsuperscript{35} To date, WISTs have been deployed by ICCWC, upon request, to Sri Lanka\textsuperscript{36} (March 2013) and the United Arab Emirates (January 2015) to assist national authorities to collect samples from large-scale ivory seizures for forensic analysis, and to Madagascar (March 2015), to provide analysis and support for the government’s efforts to deal with illegal logging and trafficking in rosewood and other precious timber species. ICCWC also supported a complementary Customs mission to Madagascar.

28. As reported at SC66, in support of the implementation of Decision 16.78, paragraph c), on \textit{Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens (Elephantidae spp.)}, the WCO convened a controlled delivery workshop as part of a broad international law-enforcement project and operation targeting the illicit trafficking of wildlife in Africa. In addition, at the time of writing, the WCO was coordinating a mentorship programme between Customs officers from key countries affected by illicit wildlife trafficking, and through its programme of exchange of personnel among Customs Administrations. These activities were delivered as part of the multi-donor WCO Project INAMA,\textsuperscript{37} which is aiming to enhance Customs capacity regarding CITES enforcement. In addition, INTERPOL is coordinating a complementary project on controlled deliveries under Project WAYLAY to support law enforcement authorities to track and investigate illegal consignments of elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn using controlled deliveries.

29. Following the successful development of the \textit{ICCWC guidelines for forensic methods and procedures of ivory sampling and analysis}\textsuperscript{38}, launched in November 2014, ICCWC also launched a complementary training video on ivory sampling. At the time of writing, UNODC was on behalf of ICCWC leading the development of a protocol for DNA sampling, which will further complement the ivory guidelines.

30. Also at the time of writing, UNODC was finalizing, on behalf of ICCWC, a ‘\textit{Best Practice Guide for Forensic Timber Identification}’. The guide aims to facilitate the employment of forensic science to combat illicit trafficking in timber. It covers the whole chain of custody, providing information on best practices and procedures from the crime scene to the court room, in order to ensure that forensic data are credible and admissible in court. A detailed overview of this work can be found in document SC66 Inf. 18,\textsuperscript{39} which was prepared for SC66.

31. In support of ICCWC’s portfolio of activities on wildlife forensics, the Consortium has established an ICCWC Wildlife Forensics Advisory Group, composed of six independent experts, selected based on their expertise and regional knowledge, that will provide expert advice and opinion to ICCWC on activities on wildlife forensics which has been identified as a priority area in ICCWC’s Strategic Programme 2016-2020.

32. In support of the implementation of Decision 16.78, paragraph d), on \textit{Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens (Elephantidae spp.)}, the World Bank is leading, in cooperation with ICCWC, the development of learning materials on anti-money laundering for a programme with a specific focus on wildlife crime, which can be used for training investigators, prosecutors, judges, and other relevant stakeholders involved in the investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime cases.

Focus Area 4: Increasing awareness and support for measures to combat wildlife and forest crime

33. The CITES Ministerial Dialogue and Senior Officials Meeting for key States concerned with the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn encouraged increased political support to combat poaching and illegal trafficking in

\textsuperscript{34} \url{https://cites.org/eng/prog/icccw.php}
\textsuperscript{35} \url{http://www.cites.org/eng/dec/valid16/192}
\textsuperscript{36} \url{https://cites.org/eng/news/sunday/2013/20130725_iccw_wist_Srilanka.php}
\textsuperscript{37} \url{http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/capacity-building/activities-and-programmes/cooperation-programmes/the-wco-inama-project.aspx}
\textsuperscript{38} \url{https://cites.org/eng/ICCWC_guidelines}
\textsuperscript{39} \url{https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/66/Inf/E-SC66-Inf-18.pdf}
rhinoceros horn, through the adoption of the *Geneva Statement on Combating Rhinoceros-related Crimes*[^40].

34. To increase awareness and support for measures to combat wildlife and forest crime, ICCWC organized side events alongside events such as meetings of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), and the 13th United Nations Crime Commission[^41] as well as SC65[^42] and SC66[^43]. These side events highlighted the importance of combating wildlife crime and the need to treat wildlife crime as a serious transnational organized crime, informed Parties of key ICCWC activities, and highlighted new tools and services available through ICCWC.

35. In addition, ICCWC partners collectively and individually supported and participated in a variety of high-level events to raise awareness of the illegal trafficking in wildlife. These included events such as: a high-level discussion at the United Nations Headquarters on Poaching and Illicit Wildlife Trafficking (New York, September 2014)[^44]; the Second UN World Wildlife Day (March 2015), themed ‘It’s time to get serious about wildlife crime’[^45]; the African Elephant Summit and the Kasane Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade (Kasane, March 2015)[^46], the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum on Combating Wildlife Trafficking (Kota Kinabalu, March 2015)[^47]; the International Conference on Illegal Exploitation and Illicit Trade in Wild Flora and Fauna in Africa (Brazzaville, April 2015)[^48]; the XIV World Forestry Congress (Durban, September 2015)[^49]; a high-level event on Illegal Wildlife Trafficking at the Central Park Zoo (New York, September 2015)[^50], a Conference on Wildlife Crime and International Security (Wilton Park, October 2015)[^51]; the 6th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention Against Corruption (St. Petersburg, October 2015)[^52]; the International conference on wildlife crime (The Hague, March 2013)[^53]; the third UN World Wildlife Day (March 2016) themed ‘wildlife is in your hands’[^54], the Consultative meeting on the implementation of the African strategy on combating illegal exploitation and illegal trade in wild fauna and flora in Africa (Addis Ababa, March 2016); and the 6th Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN, Egypt, April 2016).

36. On UN World Wildlife Day, 3 March 2016, ICCWC launched a Public Service Announcement (PSA) on combating transnational organized wildlife crime[^55]. The PSA was launched in New York, and showcased at a number of high level events around the world. It was also highlighted on the United Nations website. The PSA is available in English, Spanish and French, and is being translated into a number of other languages, including Arabic, Laotian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Thai and Vietnamese.

[^41]: https://cites.org/eng/iccwc_crime_congress_2015
[^42]: https://cites.org/eng/cites_sg_un_crime_congress_2015
[^43]: https://cites.org/eng/CITES-SG_certificate_commendation_10072014
[^44]: https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/wildlife_crime_consortium_launches_enforcement_indicators_13012016
[^46]: https://cites.org/eng/asean_member_states_discuss_enhancing_regional_cooperation_to_combat_poaching_and_illegal_trade_in_wildlife
[^47]: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5xeOzliWNl&feature=youtu.be
[^49]: https://cites.org/eng/iccwc_crime_congress_2015
Focus Area 5: Improving use of knowledge and innovation to inform contemporary approaches to wildlife and forest crime

37. At the time of writing, the UNODC Studies and Threat Analysis Section (STAS) was finalising the first World Wildlife Crime Report, to be launched in May 2016 at the 25th session of the CCPCJ. This report represents the first global wildlife crime assessment conducted by UNODC, with the support of ICCWC. It will take stock of the present nature and level of wildlife crime at the global level, and will be rooted in the best data and case studies available, and backed by in-depth analysis. It includes a quantitative market assessment and a series of in-depth case studies of illicit trafficking, drawing upon data from the global seizure database called World WISE, developed by UNODC, containing over 164,000 seizures from 120 countries, primarily submitted by CITES Parties and from the WCO’s Customs Enforcement Network (CEN) database, and seizures reported through regional bodies and networks. The Secretariat would like to thank Parties that provided data for the study in response to Notification 2014/050, and encourages Parties to draw upon this first product of its kind developed by ICCWC, to further inform their decisions on measures to be implemented to fight wildlife crime. The Secretariat has prepared draft decision 17.A, paragraph b), for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, as presented in Annex 1 to the present document.

38. As reported at SC66, the CITES Secretariat has worked closely with the WCO to integrate the CITES Enforcement Authorities Forum (EAF) with WCO’s ENVIRONET. The Secretariat encourages Parties to make use of this important platform in support of their efforts to combat illicit trafficking in wildlife.

Operation and coordination of ICCWC

39. A growing number of activities are being delivered under the auspices of ICCWC each year, and the ICCWC Support Officer post at the Secretariat has been key to the coordination and implementation of the multiple activities conducted by the Consortium. The Secretariat would like to thank Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the funding made available, which enabled the Secretariat to maintain this position. As of March 2015, this is now an externally funded one-year fixed-term post, that can be extended on the basis of availability of funds. At a minimum, the Secretariat requires continued financial support to maintain the position of the ICCWC Support Officer, to continue its coordinating role within ICCWC, and support the multiple activities being delivered through the Consortium. In this context, the Secretariat has prepared draft decision 17.A, paragraph d), for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, as presented in Annex 1 to the present document.

40. The World Bank has also identified funds to support a full time ICCWC coordinator at the World Bank as of March 2016, as part of their activities to combat wildlife crime. The Secretariat believes that similar posts within each of the ICCWC partner agencies would significantly enhance the capacity of the Consortium to achieve its goals.

41. INTERPOL has recruited two dedicated ICCWC support staff with the generous funding of the European Union through a project managed by INTERPOL on behalf of ICCWC. However, the project is scheduled to end in June 2016, and no additional funds have at the time of writing been secured to continue support for these positions at INTERPOL. Other ICCWC partners have also been unable to secure funds for an ICCWC Support Officer.

Final remarks

42. The threats posed by serious wildlife crime can only be effectively addressed through increased collaboration and collective efforts across range, transit and destination States, and across the entire enforcement chain. The establishment of ICCWC in 2010 was in recognition of this need.

43. ICCWC has now come of age and is delivering much needed front-line support to States. Since its establishment, the Consortium has delivered a broad range of activities to build law-enforcement capacity and to improve geographic and cross-sector cooperation to combat wildlife crime. This is exemplified by the development of the ICCWC Strategic Programme for 2016-2020. More detailed reporting on the work of ICCWC is also provided in numerous other documents prepared for the present meeting, as it relates to the different agenda items to be discussed.

57 For full details please see document SC66 Doc. 32.1 on enforcement matters and Notification to the Parties No. 2015/039 (June 2015): Integration of the CITES Enforcement Authorities Forum with WCO’s ENVIRONET.
44. The Secretariat would like to thank the European Union, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the World Bank Development Grant Facility for the generous funding provided to ICCWC to date, which is highly appreciated by the Consortium.

45. The number of activities that are being conducted under the auspices of ICCWC to build long-term capacity amongst authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement, by providing them with the tools, services and technical support they need to combat it, is continuously increasing. Globally there is also a growing expectation of support to be provided by ICCWC. The Consortium can only deliver on its Strategic Programme and live up to growing expectations with adequate financial support from the donor community for ICCWC activities and for the necessary support staff to implement them.

46. The Secretariat takes this opportunity to remind Parties of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP16) on Compliance and enforcement, under Regarding additional actions to promote enforcement, in which the Conference of the Parties:

   URGES the Parties and the donor community to provide financial support to ICCWC, to ensure that the Consortium can achieve its goals of bringing coordinated support to national wildlife law enforcement agencies and to subregional and regional networks, and of delivering capacity-building activities.

Recommendations

47. The Conference of the Parties is invited to:

   a) note this document and its Annexes;

   b) adopt the draft decisions in Annex 1 to the present document.
DRAFT DECISIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT CoP17

INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME

Directed to the Parties

17.A Parties are encouraged to:

a) make full use of the ‘ICCWC indicator framework for wildlife and forest crime’ to measure and monitor the effectiveness of their own law-enforcement responses to wildlife and forest crime;

b) draw upon the World Wildlife Crime Report developed by UNODC under the auspices of ICCWC, rooted in the best data and case studies available, and backed by in-depth analysis, to inform their decision making and in support of the development appropriate law enforcement responses to wildlife crime;

c) provide funding support to ICCWC for the implementation of its Strategic Programme 2016-2020, to ensure that it continues to take a leading role in providing coordinated global support to the law-enforcement community; and

d) provide continued external financial support to the Secretariat, to maintain the position of the ICCWC Support Officer.
TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

Draft decision 17.A, paragraph c) and d)

A. Implementation of draft decision 17.A, paragraph c), would be subject to the provision of external funds. Budgetary implications would vary based on the specific activity to be implemented from the ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020. The work would be supported by the ICCWC Support Officer based at the Secretariat.

B. The position of the ICCWC Support Officer, based at the Secretariat, will have budgetary implications. The Secretariat estimates that external funding of approximately 150,000.00 USD will be required to support this fixed-term position on an annual basis, as noted in the Secretariat’s proposed budget scenarios for 2017 to 2019 that can be found in the Annexes of CoP17 Doc. 7.4. At the time of writing, the Secretariat has sufficient funds to support this position until 5 March 2017.
### GOVERNING BODIES OF ICCWC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

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**Recognizing the important work of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime**, a collaborative effort of the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, by, inter alia, providing technical assistance to Member States,

3. **Urges Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife**, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade as well as strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, **acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard**;

**Welcoming also the creation of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime**, which includes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the World Bank, as an important collaborative effort to strengthen enforcement,

3. **Urges parties to effectively implement their obligations under** Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as well as other relevant multilateral agreements, **acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime** includes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Convention secretariat, the International Criminal Police Organization, the World Customs Organization and the World Bank, and other relevant international organizations **can provide valuable assistance in that regard**;

9. **Calls upon all countries to actively engage in and/or support on-the-ground-based activities on the part of International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime** members to strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of local enforcers and improve national and international cooperation;

10. **Requests** the Executive Director of the **United Nations Environment Programme**:

   (c) **To work closely with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime**, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Secretary-General’s Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, notably **with regard to** core areas of United Nations Environment Programme expertise, such as environmental aspects of the rule of law, judicial training and information exchange about judicial decisions and practices;

11. **Committed** to the implementation of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Action Plan for Combating Cross-Border Environmental Offences, adopted in February 2008 by the WCO Enforcement Committee, and **to partnerships such as** the multilateral effort within the **International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime**.
Crime (ICCWC) and bilateral engagement within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding with TRAFFIC;

Emphasizing the importance of effective cooperation and coordination among international organizations to combat illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora, and welcoming the establishment of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and noting the Green Customs Initiative as examples of such partnerships,

9. Encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with other members of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, to continue its efforts to provide technical assistance and training to combat illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora, as well as to develop tools, such as the wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

10. Requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with other members of the International Consortium, to support Member States in the implementation of the toolkit to analyse the capacity of national wildlife and forest law enforcement authorities and the judiciary in investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating cases of wildlife and forest offences, with the aim of developing technical assistance and capacity-building activities and enhancing the capacity of Member States to address transnational organized wildlife and forest crimes;

11. Commends the efforts of the International Consortium and its members, namely the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization;

12. Notes the launch of the toolkit by the International Consortium, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to disseminate that instrument to Member States, and invites Member States to consider applying and utilizing the toolkit;

WELCOMING the establishment of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC);

AWARE of the important role of ICCWC in bringing coordinated support to the national wildlife law enforcement agencies and to the subregional and regional networks that, on a daily basis, act in defence of natural resources;

RECOGNIZING that the ICCWC Wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit can assist Parties in conducting a comprehensive analysis of possible means and measures to protect and monitor wildlife and forest products, and in identifying technical assistance needs;

RECOMMENDS that: a) all Parties: iv) if appropriate, make use of the ICCWC Wildlife and forest crime analytic toolkit;

DIRECTS the Secretariat to pursue closer international liaison between the Convention’s institutions, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks and national enforcement agencies, and to work in close cooperation with ICPO-INTERPOL, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization as ICCWC partner organizations;

URGES the Parties and the donor community to provide financial support to ICCWC, to ensure that the Consortium can achieve its goals of bringing coordinated support to national wildlife law enforcement agencies and to subregional and regional networks, and of delivering capacity-building activities;

INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to: a) cooperate with ICCWC partner organizations, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks, and competent national authorities to: i) prepare and distribute
Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on International
Trade in Endangered Species of
Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16)
on Conservation of and trade in tigers and
other Appendix-I Asian big cat species,
March 2013

Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on International
Trade in Endangered Species of
Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
Resolution Conf. 13.4 (Rev. CoP16)
on Conservation of and trade in great apes,
March 2013

WELCOMING the establishment of the International Consortium on Combating
Wildlife Crime (ICCWC);

WELCOMING the establishment of the International Consortium on Combating
Wildlife Crime (ICCWC);

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL
ECOSOC Resolution 2011/36 on
Crime prevention and criminal justice
responses against illicit trafficking in
endangered species of wild fauna and flora,
July 2011

GLOBAL DECLARATIONS AND STATEMENTS

Brazzaville Declaration on illegal
Exploitation and Illicit Trade in
Wild Flora and Fauna
International Conference on Illegal
Exploitation and Illicit Trade in Wild Flora
and Fauna in Africa, April 2015

Kasane Statement on the illegal
wildlife trade
Kasane conference on the illegal wildlife
trade, March 2015

Recognizing the efforts made at the bilateral, regional and international
levels and the work of the International Consortium on Combating
Wildlife Crime, a collaboration among the secretariat of the Convention on
International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International
Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and
Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, as well as the work of
the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of
the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development, in combating illicit trafficking in endangered
species of wild fauna and flora,

Taking note of the availability of the analytical toolkit provided by the
International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) to
national governments, developed with the aim of assisting countries by enhancing the
national capacity of the institutions involved in combatting the illegal trade in wild flora
and fauna

6. Strengthen the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
(ICCWC) to ensure that ICCWC takes a leading role in providing
coordinated global support to the law enforcement community,
including enhancing enforcement capacities at national, regional and
international levels. Working with other organisations as appropriate, ICCWC
should promote increased sharing of best practice and lessons learned,
facilitate the exchange of information and intelligence, and foster
cooperation, including, among others, through regional wildlife
enforcement networks.

7. Support the strengthening and, if necessary, the establishment of
regional wildlife enforcement networks, by working to secure political will and
resources to develop and enable them to become fully operational, and by ICCWC taking a leading role in promoting cooperation across the network of regional wildlife enforcement networks.

11. Effective international cooperation demands the active participation of partners that support Governments in different sectors, in particular: the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; INTERPOL; The World Customs Organization; The World Bank; and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (which together comprise the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime); the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the UN Convention against Corruption; the United Nations Environment Programme; The United Nations Development Programme; the African Development Bank; The Asian Development Bank; The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks. We recognise the efforts made and urge all these entities, and all States who participate in them, to make the eradication of the illegal wildlife trade a priority.

XIV. Establish and maintain national cross-agency mechanisms to develop, resource and implement coordinated national and local action plans and strategies, and oversee the implementation of actions against wildlife crime; to strengthen enforcement systems for a stronger preventive and reactive response to wildlife crime by, inter alia, using the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit.

REGIONAL DECLARATIONS AND STATEMENTS

**London Declaration** on the illegal wildlife trade

London conference on the illegal wildlife trade, February 2014

3. **WELCOME** the recommendations to further enhance international cooperation and coordinate law enforcement responses, including through mechanisms provided by CITES and other International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) partners, as identified by the Senior Officials Meeting held in Geneva on 11-12 February 2015;

5. **CALL UPON** ICCWC to continue to support the efforts of key States concerned with the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn and to provide international coordination, capacity building and operational support;

**Geneva Statement** on combating rhinoceros-related crimes,

CITES Ministerial Dialogue and Senior Officials Meeting for key States concerned with the illegal trade in rhinoceros horn, February 2015

12) **REQUEST** that our international partners, such as INTERPOL, the United Nations, ICCWC, Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), World Customs Organization, CITES, and others harmonize and coordinate their initiatives and continued support to these above stated and other efforts to combat wildlife/environmental crime;

**Arusha Declaration** on regional conservation and combating wildlife/environmental crime

Regional Summit to Stop Wildlife Crime and Advance Wildlife Conservation, Tanzania, November 2014

4. To enhance COLLABORATION: Actively engage with neighboring TRCs in transboundary landscape management. Actively improve international intelligence sharing, through existing channels, leading to enforcement operations including those in hot spots of illegal tiger trade. Actively promote multi-agency and multi-country collaborations through organizations such as SAWEN and ASEAN WEN. **Make use of the valuable ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit**, which was successfully piloted in two TRCs.

**Dhaka Recommendations** on Advancing Implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Program

2nd Stocktaking Conference to Review Implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Program (GTRP), Bangladesh, Sept 2014

Urgent Measure 6: **Strengthen cooperation** among law enforcement agencies in range, transit, and consumer states, including through participation in activities of the CITES Ivory Enforcement Task Force, and, through the use of controlled deliveries, whenever possible, and other appropriate law enforcement techniques; with support from the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Trade

**African Elephant Summit on the illegal ivory trade**

**Urgent Measures** adopted to halt the illegal ivory trade, Gaborone, Botswana,

Prepared by the CITES Secretariat, April 2016
CoP17 Doc. 14.2 – p. 15
The **Marrakech declaration**: a 10-point action plan to combat illicit wildlife trafficking

African Development Bank (AfDB) Annual Meeting, May 2013

Today in Marrakech, we are **launching a new coordinated response** to combat illicit wildlife trafficking. This initiative **builds on and complements other actions taken through initiatives such as the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) and regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs).** It provides an Africa-wide platform to support new as well as existing initiatives.

An overview of all ICCWC activities conducted to date can be found in the different ICCWC documents and reports that have been produced to date:

1. CITES [SC66 Doc. 16.5](#); Strategic matters, Cooperation with other organizations, the
   a. Update on activities of the ICCWC since SC65
2. CITES [SC65 Doc. 16.4](#); Strategic matters, Cooperation with other organizations, International
   a. Updated the SC on implementation of ICCWC activities since CoP16 and highlighted
   some of the important projects of ICCWC partner organizations delivered under their
   individual programmes.
3. ICCWC Annual Report 2013, July 2014
4. CITES [CoP16 Doc. 15 (Rev. 1)](#); Strategic matters, International Consortium On Combating
   Wildlife Crime, March 2013
   a. Reported to CITES CoP on ICCWC and progress since its launch
5. CITES [SC62 Doc. 14.7](#); Strategic matters, Cooperation with other organizations, the
   International Consortium On Combating Wildlife Crime; July 2012
   a. Updated the SC on implementation of ICCWC activities since SC61.
6. CITES [SC61 Doc. 30](#); Compliance and Enforcement matters; August 2011
   a. Reported to the CITES SC on the launch of ICCWC, the Letter of Understanding
      establishing ICCWC (Annex I), and an information note about ICCWC (Annex II).

Further details can be found on the [ICCWC web portal](#).