

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Colombo (Sri Lanka), 23 May – 3 June 2019

Species specific matters

HELMETED HORNBILL (*RHINOPLAX VIGIL*)

1. This document has been prepared by the Standing Committee.*
2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted [Resolution Conf. 17.11](#) on *Conservation of and trade in helmeted hornbill*, as well as the following Decisions on *Helmeted hornbill* (*Rhinoplax vigil*):

Directed to Parties

17.264 *Range States and transit and consumer Parties should provide information to the Secretariat, about their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11 on Conservation of and trade in helmeted hornbill and collaborate with the Secretariat in its implementation of Decision 17.265.*

Directed to the Secretariat

17.265 *Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall:*

- a) *consult the range States of the helmeted hornbill concerning their measures to conserve and protect this species, including relevant conservation actions, legal and regulatory measures, outreach and education activities, cross-border cooperation and actions to combat poaching and illegal trade;*
- b) *assist Parties to develop and implement measures, including legislative and enforcement measures and regional and sub-regional initiatives, to halt or reduce, and ultimately, eliminate illegal trade in helmeted hornbills;*
- c) *work closely with partners of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) to support the implementation of this Decision; and*
- d) *report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.266 *The Standing Committee shall review the implementation of Decision 17.265 on the basis of the Secretariat's reports and report at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of this Decision, with any recommendations for further action.*

* *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.*

Implementation of Decisions 17.264 and 17.265

3. Concerning **Decision 17.264**, the Secretariat informed the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, October 2018) that the Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill, called for in Resolution Conf. 17.11, had been finalized. The document, which presents a comprehensive ten-year Conservation Plan and Action Strategy, calling *inter alia* for a high level of international collaboration, was submitted by Malaysia and presented in the Annex to document [SC70 Doc. 57](#) in the language as received.
4. In compliance with **Decision 17.265, paragraph a)**, the Secretariat consulted present and former range States of *Rhinoplax vigil* (Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand) through letters sent in June 2017. It requested information concerning the measures that they were taking (or considering to take) to conserve and protect the helmeted hornbill, including relevant conservation actions, legal and regulatory measures, outreach and education activities, cross-border cooperation and actions to combat poaching and illegal trade.
5. The Secretariat received replies from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand [four range States of *Rhinoplax vigil* and a former range State (Singapore)]. The responses, in the language and format as received, were reported to the Standing Committee at its 69th meeting (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), and were compiled and summarised in the Annex to document [SC69 Doc. 61 \(Rev. 1\)](#).
6. Concerning **Decision 17.265, paragraph b)**, the Secretariat reported in document SC69 Doc. 61 (Rev. 1) to have consulted range States (see paragraph 5), inviting them to indicate if assistance was required to develop and implement measures to halt or reduce and, ultimately, eliminate illegal trade in helmeted hornbills. The Secretariat stated to be ready to provide support in this regard within available resources and subject to external funding. Indonesia responded that, in the context of the implementation of the Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for Helmeted Hornbill, external support was needed, particularly from the CITES Secretariat, to provide facilitation to stakeholders at coordination meetings, and capacity building activities related to helmeted hornbill and wildlife trade issues in general. Myanmar indicated that support was needed to conduct helmeted hornbill population studies, awareness raising activities, and hunting and trade surveys, and to support cross-border collaboration. Since no external funding was available to the Secretariat, it was not possible to provide assistance to these range States, as reflected in document [SC70 Doc. 57](#).
7. Concerning **Decision 17.265, paragraph c)**, the Secretariat reported at SC69 on its intention to bring the information that was provided by the range States in the context of Decision 17.265, paragraph a), as well as the *Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill* and other relevant information, to the attention of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) partner agencies for consideration in the planning and executing of their work programmes. This would contribute to the implementation of Decision 17.265 [particularly its paragraph b)], and to the objectives and actions of the *Action Plan*. The *Action Plan* only became available shortly before SC70, and the Secretariat reported at the meeting that it was compiling relevant information for sharing with the ICCWC partner agencies.

Implementation of Decision 17.266

8. Considering the information presented above, the efforts called for in Resolution Conf. 17.11, and the fact that the *Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill* had only recently been finalized, the Secretariat advised the Standing Committee in its report for SC70 that it would be pertinent for relevant Parties to continue targeted efforts to address the conservation of, and trade in, helmeted hornbill (see document [SC70 Doc. 57](#)).
9. At SC70, the Standing Committee agreed to submit the draft decisions on *Conservation of, and trade in, Helmeted hornbill* (*Rhinoplax vigil*) shown in Annex 1 to the present document for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18).

Recommendations

10. The Standing Committee recommends that the Conference of the Parties:
 - a) adopt the draft decisions on *Conservation of, and trade in, helmeted hornbill* (*Rhinoplax vigil*) in Annex 1 to the present document; and
 - b) consequently, agree to delete Decisions 17.264, 17.265 and 17.266 (indicated in paragraph 2 above).

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decisions presented in Annex 1, with the following amendment: to substitute the term 'deploying' in draft Decision 18.BB, paragraph b), by the terms 'planning and executing'. The Secretariat also agrees with the deletion of Decisions 17.264, 17.265 and 17.266.
- B. The Secretariat has included in Annex 2 a budget estimation for the implementation of draft Decision 18.BB.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON CONSERVATION OF, AND TRADE IN,
HELMETED HORNBILL (RHINOPLAX VIGIL)

The Secretariat's proposed changes to the draft decisions are shown in track changes. Deleted text is crossed out and new text is underlined.

Directed to Parties

18.AA Parties, especially range and consumer States, should provide information to the Secretariat on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11 on *Conservation of, and trade in, helmeted hornbill*, including any challenges encountered.

Directed to the Secretariat

18.BB Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat shall:

- a) assist relevant Parties, upon request, in their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11, especially regarding the implementation of the *Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill*, and challenges communicated under Decision 18.AA; and
- b) liaise as appropriate with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) and other relevant networks and organisations to convey Resolution Conf. 17.11, draw attention to the *Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill*, and invite them to consider these in deploying planning and executing their activities.

18.CC The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the information provided by Parties in accordance with Decision 18.AA, and on the implementation of Decision 18.BB, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.DD The Standing Committee shall review the implementation of Decisions 18.AA and 18.BB on the basis of the Secretariat's reporting, and, as appropriate, report to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT 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:

Decision	Activity	Cost implications (USD)	Source of external funding
18.BB	a) assist relevant Parties, upon request, in their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11, especially regarding the implementation of the <i>Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill</i> , and challenges communicated under Decision 18.AA; and b) liaise as appropriate with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) and other relevant networks and organisations to convey Resolution Conf. 17.11, draw attention to the <i>Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill</i> , and invite them to consider these in deploying their activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USD 20,000 per Party requesting support • USD 50,000 to 70,000 in case a regional workshop is envisaged to assist Parties in their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11 and/or of the <i>Action Plan</i> referred to in it 	Not identified