

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



Twenty-first meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 20-25 May 2005

Regional reports

AFRICA

1. This report has been prepared by Dr. Richard Bagine, one of the Regional representative for Africa. Items under this report: General information, Follow up on the discussions of the AC20/CoP 13: (Significant trade, periodic review of the Appendices, proposals for amendment of the Appendices, implementation of inclusion of selected species in the Appendices, technical workshops, research, capacity building, enforcement, meetings, others)
2. General Information
  - a) Regional representation
    - i) Regional representatives  
Dr. Richard Bagine (Kenya) and Edson Chidziya (Zimbabwe)
    - ii) Regional Alternate members  
Mr. Khaled Zahzah (Tunisia) and Dr. Mostafa Ahmed Mahmoud (Egypt)
  - b) Parties in the region: 52
    - i) Parties contacted for country reports: 28 (with email addresses)
    - ii) Parties responding to communication (of April 19 2004): 2; and providing input during the twenty-first meeting of the Animals Committee (20-25 May 2005): 1
3. Key species and species programs
  - a) Review of significant trade
  - b) Review of Appendices
  - c) Implementation of species programs
4. Regional priorities to strengthen the scientific basis of the implementation of CITES (ie priority species and taxa; research projects being carried out, research needs, population management priorities, emerging issues, species listing needs.
5. Priority species & review of agencies
  - a) African Lion - (*Panthera leo*)

Kenya has initiated the process of collating information generally on the large carnivores but with a special focus on the African Lion through a national Large Carnivores Conservation and Management Working Group. Under this initiative, Kenya will be establishing guidelines and recommendations in predator research and management and develop policy options for carnivore conservation and management. The aim is to collate information on the national population of the Lions that will be shared in the regional workshops to be organized in the second half of the year.

Regional workshop to discuss Lion Conservation was recommended at CoP13. Two workshops are planned this year, the one for Eastern and Southern Africa is scheduled to take place in Zimbabwe. While the western and central Africa will take place in Cameroon during the third quarter of the year.

The United Republic of Tanzania has started a survey on Lion-human conflicts for the entire country. This is in line with preparations for workshops agreed in Bangkok on lion conservation and management by range states.

b) African Elephant - (*Loxodonta Africana*) and the implementation of MIKE Program

MIKE program:

Implementation of the MIKE program is in progress in Kenya. A total aerial count in the Tsavo ecosystem, which is one of the MIKE sites in the country was conducted in January- February 2005 and recorded 10,397 elephants up from 9,128 recorded in 2002.

Poaching continues to be a threat to the elephant population in Kenya. Ninety one (91) elephants were poached in 2004. Since the beginning of this year, 20 elephants are recorded to have been poached. Kenya continues to curb elephant poaching by increasing patrols, capacity building, law enforcement etc but requires concerted effort from other sectors.

The United Republic of Tanzania has continued to implement MIKE as appropriate. MIKE sites officers submit reports to National MIKE officer for compilation of a national report and enter data in computer

Similar implementation of MIKE continues in the southern Africa sub-regional group.

South Africa donated funds to the MIKE project to assist other countries in the implementation thereof. MIKE implementation in South Africa is progressing and reports are submitted on a regular basis. A coordinating meeting aimed at sub-regional elephant management within the SADC region is scheduled to take place in Zimbabwe during the week of 25 May 2005.

In the implementation of ETIS, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe have continued to submit (through the CITES secretariat) details of elephant products seizures made within their borders.

Elephant Management:

Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique are working on a common elephant management strategy of the shared elephant population in the Zambezi Heartlands. This strategy will among other things promote joint surveys using standardized methodology etc. The African Wildlife Foundation through the Zambezi Heartlands Programme is providing the financial support. It is anticipated that the objectives of this strategy will fit into the regional elephant policy.

Kenya has started working on its national Elephant management strategy and will work closely with its neighbours on cross-border issues. Joint elephant survey has been conducted in Mkomazi game reserve in United Republic of Tanzania and Tsavo west national park in Kenya.

c) Rhino conservation and management

Poaching for Rhino horn remains a threat to the Kenya population of Rhinos. There have been incidences of Rhino poaching in the Tsavo East National Park this year. Kenya is employing all possible ways to deal with increasing poaching incidences in its protected areas.

A training workshop on detection of rhino horn and derivatives was conducted in Kenya this year and resource persons from TRAFFIC International and wildlife law enforcement official from KwaZulu Natal, South Africa participated.

During CoP13, Namibia got approval to trophy hunt 5 black rhinos (*Dicero bicornis bicornis*) annually, as document in Res. Conf. 13.5. This quota is aiming at facilitating the population growth by keeping the sex ratio skewed to more reproducing females. Therefore only adult males that satisfy one or more of the criteria as outlined in the Namibian proposal to CoP13 will be hunted.

South Africa allocated the hunting quota of five black rhinos (*Diceros bicornis minor*) based on the criteria included in its proposal to CoP 13.

Zambia has requested the SADC rhino management programme to consider translocating additional animals to increase the breeding unit in North Luangwa National Park from 5 to 20. The SADC rhino management programme is currently working on Zambia's request to move rhinos from Zimbabwe and South Africa to Zambia.

Zambia has also finalised the formulation of a rhino conservation plan with the financial support of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The conservation plan is a legal framework intended to support the reintroduction programmes and promote effective management of the species.

d) Leopard - (*Panthera pardus*) quota adopted at CoP 13

CoP13 granted Namibia permission to increase its annual hunting quota of leopards from 100 to 250. The recently approved quota is being implemented.

South Africa identified the need for a Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) for leopard after the adoption of the South African proposal to the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of Parties (CoP13) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to increase the annual quota for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use from 75 to 150.

The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) is responsible for the allocation of the leopard quota to the various provinces and the department would like to make an informed decision regarding the allocation of the additional quota to ensure the sustainable use and the long-term viability of the species.

DEAT requested the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) to do a PHVA for leopard in South Africa to assist the country in allocating the additional quota adopted at CoP 13. The previous quota of 75 was allocated but the country wanted to ensure that the additional 75 is allocated in an appropriate manner to the various areas in the country where leopards occur.

The PHVA for Leopards includes:

- i) Collating all available information on local Leopard populations, threats, trends, habitat and distribution;
- ii) Determining which management and conservation options are the most feasible;
- iii) Model these against future scenarios to produce guidelines as to where conservation efforts and actions should be directed; and
- iv) Engaging the broadest stakeholder forum possible in taking appropriate conservation and management decisions.

The main objective is to develop a strategic recovery/conservation plan for a specific species, in this instance Leopard, and its habitat. A workshop was held in April 2005 during which data on the population status and trends, distribution, genetics, health status, biology, threats and ecology of the species were assembled and integrated with estimates of human-based threats such as utilization patterns. A computer-based model (Vortex) is used to test different management scenarios and to forecast the current and future risk of population decline and/or extinction.

The department is still awaiting the outcome of the PHVA.

e) Reptiles

Illegal Trade in reptiles in Kenya remains an issue. In addition to the three species of reptiles proposed for listing in Appendix II at CoP 13 the other species now after in trade and/or known to be collected from Kenya illegally include the Kenya montane viper (*Montatheris hindii*), green mamba (*Dendroaspis angusticeps*), black mamba (*Dendroaspis polylepis*), Jameson's mamba (*Dendroaspis jamesoni*), forest cobra (*Naja melanoleuca*), Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*), egg-eating snakes (*Dasypeltis* sp.), Von Hoehnel's chameleon (*Chamaeleo hoehnelii*), flap-necked chameleon (*Chamaeleo dilepis*) and Montane side-striped chameleon (*Chamaeleo ellioti*), *Gatropholis prasina* Green keel-scaled lizard, All Girdled lizards *Cordylus* spp. and many others.

The illegal trade in the Mount Kenya bush Viper, Kenya horned viper and the chameleon spp is of great concern to Kenya. In her continued effort to have the trade in these species controlled, Kenya will be submitting to the Secretariat a proposal for Appendix III listing of the two species of the Viper snakes as recommended at the CoP 13. Kenya will also be seeking the indulgence of the Nomenclature Committee in the consideration of the recognition of the *Chamaeleo excubitor* as a substantive species different from the *Bryopodion fischeri* and be listed in the CITES schedules as such to assist in control of the illegal trade in the species.

The Namibian population of Crocodile was downlisted from App. I to II during CoP13 and national export quota of not more than 25 trophies a year has been set.

In Zambia, a policy for the two species of crocodile, Nile crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) and African Slender Snouted Crocodile (*Crocodylus cataphractus*) has been finalised. This will provide a legal framework for improved management of the two species.

In Madagascar the Chameleons Manual will be finished soon for implementation.

f) Other CITES-listed species

The Scientific Authority in Madagascar gave advices on exportation of CITES listed Animals for the year 2004. The scientific Authority fixed the quota for CITES listed or non-listed Animals for 2005, and participated in the formulation of national legislation. Some proposals relating to species threatened by trade eg. (*Mantella aurantiata*, *Mantella cowani*) have been submitted to potential NGOs for finding. Preparation and presentation of *Pyxis planicauda* to Annex I and *Uroplatus* (11 species) to Annex II for CoP13 at Bangkok were carried out.

g) Others remarks

On the review of the significant trade, Madagascar is working on the implementation of the CITES action plan:

- The Scientific Authority are legally in place, and in functioning.
- The national CITES office is now in operation. The office assists in collecting information about CITES and links the Management and Scientific Authorities with other stakeholders.
- Madagascar has initiated a project on database on line on CITES species, which will involve scientific specialists for each species.

The Tunisian government has proclaimed a number of new national tasks in the North and South of the country. The newly-established parks aim at conserving the scimitar-horned oryx and Addax.

## 6. Enforcement

### a) Seized and confiscated Chimpanzees in Kenya

Six (6) Chimpanzees (*Pan spp.*) were confiscated at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in February. The consignment of the specimens was in a KQ flight enroute to Cairo, Egypt. One (1) Chimp died at the time while the other 5 were taken to a rescue center, Sweetwater Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Investigations involving Kenyan Authorities and Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF) are on to establish the origin and destination of the specimens. DNA samples (hair, blood and faecal material) have been extracted to establish the origin of the specimens.

Confiscated together with the Chimpanzees were two White nosed Monkeys (*Cercopithecus spp.*). These were taken to the Animal Orphanage at the Kenya Wildlife Service.

### b) Gorillas confiscated by Malaysia

A technical committee has been established by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism to investigate the possibility of the return of the four Gorillas confiscated by Malaysia in 2004 to Cameroon. Representatives from various government and non-government organizations are represented on the committee to address this complex issue and they will investigate among others the origin of the animals, the readiness of the Cameroon authorities for the welfare of the animals, the sustainable funding of the programme in Cameroon and the legal implications.

### c) Establishment of a rescue centre for confiscated live specimens

In Zambia efforts to acquire Land within Lusaka for the establishment of a rescue centre for confiscated live specimens have reached an advanced stage. An agreement has been reached with the department of forestry to acquire two adjacent forest reserves for this purpose. Boundary demarcation has begun. The department of veterinary medicine at the University of Zambia will provide input to the preparation of operational guidelines once the facility has been fenced and rescue centre established.

### d) African elephant Ivory

With the efforts of Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF) and law enforcement agencies in Kenya, several seizures of Ivory have been made in the country. Details of these seizures have been reported through the ETIS forms.

South Africa, Zambia, Namibia, Zimbabwe have also submitted details of all elephant products seizures through the ETIS programme (2004).

### e) Fines on illegal trade

The Tunisian government has collated all the conservation legislation which has been issued in the conservation of CITES-listed species and which is relevant to protected areas. On the same line, fines imposed for illegal trade have been more than doubled in recent years. Others governmental organizations have been selected for implementation of legislation and CITES enforcement.

The number of CITES permits have increased in the last few years as the demand for wildlife products has increased. This was partially due to the presence of a French manufacturer for watch bracelets made of crocodile and monitor skins. Also the number of confiscations of illegally-traded parrots has been documented in the last year.

## 7. Promoting CITES in the region

In Kenya, several seminars were conducted for Judges and magistrates in wildlife crime prone areas to sensitize them on law enforcement on wildlife crimes. More seminars across the country are being planned.

The Egyptian staff for both the Management and Scientific Authorities participated in a 7-day regional CITES training workshop held in Kuwait in March 2005. The workshop, attended by the staff of CITES Management Authority of Kuwait and other Kuwaiti governmental organizations mandated with CITES

implementation, was organized by the Kuwaiti public authority for environmental protection and sponsored by IFAW. The objectives of the training workshop were to introduce the Kuwaiti staff to the procedures of implementing CITES regulations and focusing on issues related to permits issuance and validation, fraud and specimens identification. The Danish CITES and customs law officers took a major role in training the Kuwaiti staff.

Madagascar participated in a workshop on scientific and legal capacity building for CITES Authorities in the west Indian ocean sub-region which was held in December 2004.

The United Republic of Tanzania participated in Lusaka agreement task force meeting held in Nairobi. This is a sub-regional collaboration to strengthen measures to control illegal trade in wildlife.

## 8. Capacity building

The faculty of veterinary medicine in the Suez Canal University Egypt, has established both under- and postgraduate curricula in wildlife management and disease control. The faculty works in its full capacity to train veterinarians in aspects related to wildlife conservation. Similar courses started to be introduced in other veterinary faculties within the country.

The Tunisian Management Authority of CITES has delivered a CD for CITES implementation to the customs and veterinary quarantine officers. This was a part of its training program for CITES implementing officers.

## 9. National Legislation

The Egyptian CITES Management Authority has issued a national legislation, which prohibits the importation of falcons into the country. The objective of the legislation is to protect the Egyptian wildlife species, in particular houbara and gazelles, from being hunted by falcons brought into the country by falconers.

The current law on wildlife conservation and management, Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Act 1989 in Kenya is under review through a parliamentary process. The Bill resulting from the review was due for assent by the President in December 2004 however; it has been referred back to Parliament for further review. When finalized and assented to, the new act will provide for the domestication of CITES. The new act will provide for listing of species under CITES for protection.

In Madagascar, the development of national legislation on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora and its application has been completed and will be presented to the National Assembly in 2005. Other issues concerning classification of fauna and hunting season has been updated.

In South Africa the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) came into effect on 1 September 2004 with the exception of a few Chapters, including the Chapter providing for the protection of and trade in threatened or protected species, which came into effect on 1 April 2005. The regulations in terms of this Act have not been finalized and it is projected that these will come into effect in October 2005.

CITES listed species will be listed as protected species in terms of the above mentioned Act.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, process of enacting the new Wildlife Act is in progress. The draft Act has been passed in the Cabinet Secretariat and Inter-ministerial Technical Committee as required. Then submitted to Attorney General Chambers for drafting a bill for submission to the Parliament. In addition to the wildlife Act CITES implementation regulation have been drafted and submitted to the Attorney General Chambers for finalisation.

Zambia is in its preparatory phase to domesticate the Convention. When the process of Stakeholder Consultation has been completed, the necessary subsidiary legislation will be put in place.

## 10. Communication with other parties

### East African Sub regional cooperation

At CoP 13, and during the Africa regional meeting, there was an emphasis for improved communication and representation among Parties on issues of CITES. Parties in the East African sub region

recommended that species issues of common interest to the sub-region could be addressed through the East African Corporation (EAC). Within the Corporation is an Environment and Wildlife Committee through which these issues can be discussed. However, issues of the species in the region should also be fully addressed through the AC meetings.

The Tunisia Management Authority of CITES has delivered a CD for CITES implementation to the customs and veterinary quarantine.