

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Animals Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 28 April – 3 May 2014

Regional matters

Regional reports

AFRICA

1. General information

This report has been prepared by Samuel Kasiki, (Kenya) and Hillary Madzikanda (Zimbabwe) as the Africa region Representatives to the Animals Committee¹.

Communication via email was sent on 12 February 2014 to all Parties represented requesting for information by 25 February, on national activities relevant for reporting to the Committee

Liberia, South Africa, Malawi, Sudan, Madagascar, Ivory Coast, Botswana, Namibia, Cameroun, Togo and Kenya submitted inputs to this report. However, Cameroun's inputs were mainly on flora and this has been captured in the region's report to the Plants Committee. The regional representatives have therefore used the information received and that which the representatives were aware of from the rest of the Parties to formulate this regional report.

There was change of the focal person at the CITES SA of Liberia, the University of Liberia beginning January 2013. William J.W Draper, Assistant Professor of Forestry at the University is the current focal person replacing Moses Gorpudolo who passed on in 2012.

2. Communication with other Parties in the sub- region and region since AC26 and PC 20 in March 2012

South Africa: South Africa initiated preparations for the hosting of the 17th CoP to CITES in 2016

The National CITES Management Authority is in regular contact with other CITES Management Authorities in the sub-region and region with regard to CITES issues such as the import and re-export of hunting trophies and other CITES issues of concern in the region.

As Chair for the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee, South Africa maintained regular communication with African elephant range States through their representatives to the Steering Committee and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on matters of elephant conservation and management

Kenya: The CITES Scientific Authorities for Kenya assisted the regional representatives in communicating with regional members about submission to the representatives , reports on relevant national activities implemented to be incorporated in the regional report. Further, in the reporting period, Kenya communicated with African Elephant range States in the Eastern Africa sub region on funding of elephant projects from the African

¹ *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.*

elephant Fund following decisions of the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee and UNEP as the administrator of the Fund.

Sudan : The CITES scientific authority in Sudan is the Technical Department in Wildlife Administration together with Wildlife Research Centre and universities specially University of Khartoum and University of Sudan . Important non- governmental organizations assisting with scientific matters on wildlife in Sudan include Sudan Wildlife Society and Sudanese Environmental Society

Togo: In order to carry out an effective fight against illegal trafficking of wildlife specimens included in the Appendices of the Convention , Togo is working with CITES authorities in partner countries in general and those of the West African sub-region in particular.

3. Follow up on selected agenda items (recommendations) of previous AC meetings /PC meetings

CITES activities in the country in respect to:

a) Review of Significant Trade

Panthera leo(Lion): Kenya, Namibia and South Africa commented on the report for the Periodic Review of the Lion, *Panthera leo* giving inputs to Kenya and Namibia to finalize *the* Lion periodic review report for submission to this Animals Committee meeting

Sudan: No review of significant trade in any live animal was carried last year. Sudan is planning to update wildlife Conservation Act 1986, a process that would be preceded by an amendment to Constitution. With the cessation of Republic of South Sudan, some animal species whose distribution is in the south no longer belong to Sudan but Republic of South Sudan and the law would be amended to reflect that .

The important wild animals species traded in the year 2013 included, Dorcas gazelle, Vervet monkey, Serval cat, Fennec fox, Striped hyena, Sand fox, Patas monkey.

The live birds exported from Sudan included Peacock, Marabou stork, African Grey Parrots, Rock Pigeons, Speckled Pigeons, Lanner falcon, Lovebirds, Wild Pigeon and Eurasian Crane.

The live reptiles exported from Sudan included African spurred tortoises, Sudanese dab lizard, Ocellata lizard.

Togo: *Chamaeleo gracilis*, *Kinixys homeana* and *Psittacus erithacus* of Togo are on the list of species covered by the Review of Significant Trade . The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources, in collaboration with breeding facilities for the respective species, licensed wildlife export dealers, and with scientific support from the University of Lomé , began collecting information sought on these three (03) species. This process is ongoing and its results will be published in due course .

Periodic Review of the Appendices

Kenya: In response to CITES Notification No.2014/007 with reference to Decision 16.72 individuals undertaking cheetah researcher work in the country were requested to provide information to the consultants engaged by Secretariat to undertake the cheetah study. The Africa region representative from Kenya would be making expert observations on the report from the consultants during this meeting when the report comes up for discussion.

b) CITES projects

African Elephant Conservation: Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania, Malawi, Ethiopia, Gabon, and Nigeria received funding from the African Elephant Fund in 2012 and 2013 to implement elephant conservation projects under priority activities identified in the African Elephant Action Plan adopted by the African elephant range States in 2010

Kenya: With funding from the CITES African Elephant Fund, a total aerial census of elephants in the Tsavo- Mkomazi ecosystem was conducted in February 2014 to establish the elephant population in the ecosystem. This census was jointly conducted by scientists from the Wildlife authorities in Kenya and United Republic of Tanzania

South Africa: Non-detriment findings were conducted for the hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) and white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) in accordance with the CITES checklist and have been published for public comment.

A genetic study for the Cape parrot has provided strong support for the recognition of the Cape parrot as a separate species, *Poicephalus robustus*. "Mid-project progress report to the South African National Biodiversity Institute: PhD project: Systematics and Phylogeography of the Cape Parrot (*Poicephalus robustus*)" W.G. Coetzer, C.T. Downs, M.R. Perrin and S. Willows-Munro, School of Life Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Togo: The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources has initiated a project called " *IPM against poaching of endangered species and the illegal ivory trade.*" Funding is being sought for the implementation of the project

c) Registration of operations breeding/Artificial propagation Appendix-I animal/plant species for commercial purposes

Malawi: undertook to promote best practices for ranching and keeping wild animals in captivity by closing down and revoking the license to ranch, one crocodile facility and rehoming the animals. The closure of the farm was done with the support of the Lilongwe Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (LSPCA) and the Department of Animal Health and Livestock. There are plans to develop a protocol for crocodile ranching to improve on the existing regulations.

The Wildlife Authority is being supported by Lilongwe Wildlife Trust in dealing in rescue and rehabilitation of animals. A draft protocol on care of animals in captivity (for baby elephants only) was developed during the reporting period).

Sudan: In 2013, an ostrich farm was established in Khartoum, the purpose is to produce meat and leather. The parent stock was imported from Saudi Arabia composed of 320 individuals of various ages and about 150 fertile eggs of ostrich.

Two tortoise farms established from collection centre began to breed tortoises and have exported to Thailand in particular subspecies *Sulcata*

South Africa: No breeding operation was registered during this reporting period but there are some in preparation for CITES Appendix I birds species. South Africa has scheduled a specific training session to ensure compliance with registration requirements.

d) Plans for celebrations of the first World Wildlife Day on 3 March 2014 on creation of awareness on status of CITES listed species in the country

South Africa: WWD was celebrated on 3 March 2014 in Kruger National Park with communities and school children in attendance. The focus was conservation of rhino and anti-poaching.

Kenya: Kenya celebrated World Wildlife Day at the Nairobi National Park, which was the first park in the country designated for wildlife conservation in 1946. As WWD Pre-activities, Kenya mounted a roadshow creating awareness about the day and showcased through stuffed animals and potted plants of endangered species, the country's wildlife diversity and sensitized the public on levels of endangerment of those species. An exhibition to showcase the wildlife diversity and conservation efforts of a good number of conservation stakeholders was set up for public awareness during the WWD. Photo images of the celebrations were shared with the CITES Secretariat for posting on the website.

Sudan: Sudan used to celebrate the wildlife day since the year 2012 on the 5th of March every year, coinciding with Khartoum Declaration Day issued by the president of the Republic calling for the conservation of wildlife and its habitats and the wise utilization. The celebration programme covers.:

- i. T.V. debates on wildlife conservation
- ii. wildlife articles in newspapers
- iii. surveys of water birds on the Nile and its tributaries

- iv. public lectures on radio
- iv. awareness programmes at schools and universities

5. Promotion of CITES in the country

a) Capacity building activities, awareness campaigns

South Africa: A Species ID Tool has been developed to assist customs officials, law enforcement officers, border police and environmental management inspectors with the identification of South African CITES-listed species. A specially designed application will enable the use of the tool on tablets.

A basic CITES training course was held for provincial CITES Management Authorities from 11 to 14 March 2014. The CITES Management Authorities of Angola and Mozambique were also been invited to the training.

Malawi: With funding from the African Elephant Fund, a sensitization workshop for 31 law enforcement officers from Wildlife, Police and Judiciary around Kasungu National Park was held. Wildlife frontline staff in Kasungu National Park were kitted with security equipment for enhanced security patrols

Liberia: in 2012, Liberia redesignated the University of Liberia the CITES Scientific Authority for the country and appointed Mr. Moses Gorpudolo (now deceased and replaced by William Draper) the focal person. A CITES sponsored workshop for Customs and Airport authority officials was held in 2012 to create awareness on how to enforce rules and regulations on endangered species

Madagascar held a workshop on Non Detriment Findings studies on 5-9 August 2013 in Antananarivo bringing together over 50 flora and fauna taxa experts. The workshop was followed by fieldwork for both groups to test field methodologies of undertaking NDF studies. The Scientific Authority of Madagascar provides annual training to the Border police and Customs officers on identification of most traded wild fauna and flora of Madagascar for enhanced border controls

Kenya: several trainings on endangered species specimen voucher collection and processing under the Barcode of Wildlife Project were conducted for selected staff in the Scientific Authorities. This would enhance capacity for identification of CITES listed species for enhanced law enforcement work and control of illegal trade in such species. Over 200 species both CITES and Non –CITES listed have been prioritized under this project.

Togo: The National Alliance Consumer Environment (ANCE), an NGO working on wildlife conservation in the country has received technical support from the Wildlife Management Authority to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders involved in the control of hunting of specimens of fauna listed in CITES Appendices. In addition, the Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources organized a caravan road show, which has traveled throughout the territory helping in raising awareness on the environment and about the protection and preservation of specimens of wild fauna and flora in the country and the legislation and rules governing their utilization

b) The scientific community in the country and CITES agenda

Kenya has joined through joint participation of the two Scientific Authorities, Kenya Wildlife Service and the National Museums of Kenya, other 5 partners in implementation of DNA Barcode of Wildlife Project supported by the Google Impact Award through Consortium for the Barcode of Life (CBOL). The project aims at promoting development and application of DNA barcoding as a global standard for identifying species and as an approach to investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime. Other partner countries in the region are **Nigeria** and **South Africa**.

Liberia: a regional workshop titled: Strengthening Capacity for Monitoring and Regulation of International Trade of African Grey Parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*) and Timney Parrot (*Psittacus timneh*) organized in conjunction with Birdlife International and CITES was held in September 2013 in Monrovia to develop African Grey Parrot regional Management Plan for range States of **Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Cameroun, Democratic Republic of Congo** and **Liberia**

c) Collaboration with other MEAs

South Africa: The International Expert Workshop on the Conceptual Framework for IPBES took place from 25 - 26 August 2013, in Cape Town. The workshop was convened by the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and co-hosted by the Governments of South Africa, the United Kingdom and with additional support from the Government of Japan. The objective of this workshop was to share amongst the experts and the stakeholders the work on the conceptual framework of IPBES and to provide inputs to the development of a draft conceptual framework for the Platform, that effectively addresses the objectives, functions and relevant operating principles of the Platform and the relationship among them, drawing on a range of sources and activities including the inputs received from the workshop and the work on the knowledge systems.

Sudan: Migratory birds' network was inaugurated in Sudan in cooperation with Wetlands International in December 2013. The network is composed of NGOs, universities, research centers and wildlife conservation administration.

Collaboration of States in wildlife law enforcement: The Horn of Africa Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (HA WEN) was established in Ethiopia in 2012 composing of eight countries from East Africa and the Horn of Africa.

Madagascar: The Scientific Authority supported the CBD focal point in the development of the fifth national report to CBD and also contributed to all discussions on implementation of the APA to Madagascar.

Kenya : The CITES Authorities worked with the focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity in reviewing the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) and development of the National reporting for 2013.

Cameroon: Consultations with other MEAs mainly with the focal point of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) were held. The focal point of the CITES Management Authority and the CITES Scientific Authorities for Fauna and Flora were involved in drafting the CBD National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP). Priority Actions for monitoring CITES transactions have been included in the national NBSAP. These consultations were held in accordance with the guidelines under the MOU signed between the secretariats of the two conventions, on biodiversity management and mobilization of financial resources for monitoring of species listed in the CITES Appendices .

The focal point of the CITES Scientific Authority for flora of Cameroon and the CBD would develop a common project for the monitoring of trade in CITES listed species at the National level.

The focal points of CITES also participated in the drafting of the 2013 National Report to the CBD.

d) Cooperation with stakeholders and NGOs

South Africa: South Africa continues to collaborate and cooperate with stakeholders and NGOs in the fight against poaching. Workshops were held with NGOs in July 2013 and October 2013. These engagements are aimed at creating a comprehensive database of projects dealing with rhino anti-poaching, fundraising and conservation issues. Through this process priority areas that require additional assistance and gaps that must be addressed can be identified; opportunities to collaborate can be explored and projects could be consolidated to maximise impact. There's also a need to develop criteria to assist in determining whether NGOs or individuals involved in rhino related activities are making a positive contribution towards the fight against rhino poaching and the conservation of the species.

Kenya: Kenya has created a platform for stakeholders among them the NGOs, IGOs and Community Conservancies under the umbrella body, Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) to develop and implement wildlife conservation agenda in the country. Among the NGOs and IGOs are International Fund for Animals Welfare (IFAW), East African Wildlife Society, IUCN, African Wildlife Foundation, African Conservation Centre, etc.

Madagascar: the SA cooperates with all organizations working for the conservation of flora and fauna of Madagascar. These organizations among them the WWF –Indian Ocean, Conservation International etc have funded studies to prepare scientific information needed when considering for the inclusion of species

in the CITES Appendices during CoP16, and also supported some of the expenses of the delegation of Madagascar to CoP16.

Togo: The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources, in order to strengthen its fight against illicit trafficking of specimens of wild fauna, cooperates with other institutions through the establishment of the Interdepartmental Committee, whose representation include among others, the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

e) Emerging issues

Sudan is reviewing her conservation policy of wildlife after the cessation of the South Sudan into Republic of South Sudan. Sudan is planning to remove from its legal instruments, some animal species which no longer exist in Sudan after the cessation of South Sudan Republic. Similarly, there is plan for reclassification of protected areas. The review of Wildlife policy also aims at redefining the term wildlife to include invertebrate's fish and wild plants and their habitats to include sharks and marine tortoises

The country led by the CITES MA is undertaking reconstruction of electricity power lines to be friendly with migratory prey birds. This is in cooperation with Bulgarian birds society, Electricity Corporation, wildlife administration and the Government of Sudan.

An invitation was given to Sudan to rejoin the former council of Central African countries hosted by Sudan in the period of 1984-1994. Sudan welcomed the invitation based on the assumption that the countries abide with their commitments and responsibilities. The heads of States, ministers called for concerted management of cross boarder natural resources conservation and management. They also called for strong regional cooperation; they supported the announcement (The Paris Declaration) made by France and other supporters to its fight against trafficking of wildlife trophies.

Malawi: Reviewed the National Parks and Wildlife Act especially on penalties section to enhance fight against wildlife crime. The draft legislation was submitted to the Chief Justice for scrutiny, review and legal advice. Alongside the review of the National Parks Act is also the national CITES legislation currently in draft form.

Liberia is in the process of enacting its 2006 Wildlife Law for implementation and enhanced conservation and management of its fauna and flora

Togo: Enhanced collaboration of the Ministry of Environment and Forest resources with other agencies involved in controlling the smuggling of specimens of fauna and flora has recorded several cases of ivory seizures in Togo. The latest ivory seizures of ca.4000Kg destined to Vietnam on 23 and 28 January 2014 at the Port of Lomé were as a result of this collaboration.

Kenya: the enactment of a new Wildlife legislation; the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2013 in December 2013 with provisions for high penalties for wildlife crime has enhanced the fight against wildlife crime in the country. The legislation provides for listing of national wildlife species and their levels of endangerment and protection.

f. Others

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