

SC67 Doc. 13

Annex 12

(English only / únicamente en inglés / seulement en anglais)



CITES SC67 NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

**Prepared for the 67th meeting of the CITES Standing
Committee**

Party : Egypt

Reporting Period: September, 2015 – June, 2016

A. Synopsis of NIAP implementation :

There are twenty two actions in the Egypt's NIAP in CITES MA of Egypt Assessment as it was written in accordance with CITES secretariat template, fourteen actions were rated as "substantially achieved", three as "on track" for achievement, three as "limited progress", and one as "pending completion of another action".

Egypt has created a comprehensive action plan covering various activities, a clear progress with implementations has been achieved it is shown in the following:

- Summary of wildlife legislations and laws as well as the penalties are depicted and illustrated in brochures, leaflets, stickers and posters for the sake of dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders. They have been disseminated to all courts all over Egypt (27 Governorates) and other stakeholders.
- Judiciaries and stakeholders have gotten a wide knowledge and became fully aware of the national and international legislations where their inquiries have dramatically increased.
- Enforcement capacity is supported by an inter-agency environmental police, customs and wildlife officers under the supervision of M. A. of CITES.

- There also appear to be one challenge related to the strengthen of a regional cooperation and exchange information as a tool to curb the ivory trade, in fact it is hard to achieve it now days because of the upraising situations of the spring revolutions in both Egypt and the neighboring countries.

Information used for the evaluation:

Records of wildlife department as well as CITES Management authority (M A).

The progress ratings are summarized in table B with the detailed evaluation shown in table C.

The future outlook :

1. Destroy of confiscated raw ivory stockpiles after the ministerial consent & approval.
2. Proceed with our plan on track goals, with limited progress and pending completion of another action so as to get them achieved.
3. Redouble our efforts to address wildlife trafficking and continuing the same policy of surveillance of Ivory to curb its illicit trade.
4. Implement that strategy and collaborate where appropriate with the stakeholders and NGOs to ensure success in combating wildlife trafficking and protect our natural resources for future generations.

B. Summary evaluation of actions:

PROGRESS RATING					
Substantially achieved	On track	Limited progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced	Unclear
<p>A1.3 Disseminate to all courts all over Egypt (27 Governorates) and other stakeholders</p>		<p>A.3 Communicate and discuss the neighboring countries for potential harmonization of wildlife legislations.</p>	<p>A.2 law # 9 for the year 1999 which is applied in 2011 , magnified the working on strengthening of wildlife penalty to ensure all major wildlife crime violations are treated as serious crimes and its penalties act as effective deterrents,(despite the environmental penalties either fine or imprison or both.</p>		
<p>B.1.1 Capacity building programs to increase the level of awareness for illegal trade of wildlife and seriousness of wildlife crimes by organizing workshops and training courses for wildlife officers , environment police ,Prosecutors , Judiciary and other stakeholders who are responsible for implementation of CITES.</p>					

<p>B.1.2 Practical session to the trainees with the demonstration of wildlife specimens including the Ivory and means of identifications.</p> <p>B.1.3 Dissemination of Educational materials such as CDs, Posters, Brochures, stickers and leaflets.</p> <p>B.2 Prepare summary of wildlife articles & penalties in law #9 for 2009 for dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders and notify the Judiciary and other stakeholders to take prompt actions.</p>					
<p>C.1 Carry out a technical review of the intelligence and investigation procedures in place in order to identify areas of weakness and potential interventions to increase the effectiveness and implement recommendations (Monitoring of Ivory markets , carving shops , touristic areas)</p> <p>C.2. Increase the number of shops inspection units periodically with special emphasis on touristic areas and triple patrol missions compared to the current situation.</p> <p>C. 3 Appointment of a focal point in the general Department of Wildlife for</p>	<p>C. 4 develop a framework for the development of Egypt's forensic medicine, in case of seizure of ivory more than 500 kg. a sample of that ivory will be sent to the forensic medicine for DNA& isotope analysis, consequently a result will be sent to any of cites reference laboratory for evaluation.</p>				

<p>forensic wildlife crimes investigations techniques after getting a required training and working in cooperation with the environment Police.</p> <p>C.5.1 Carry out an audit of Egypt's current systems for storage.</p> <p>C.5.2 Implement the audit recommendations (marking and the security system)</p> <p>C.5.3 Present a report on the Confiscated Ivory to the CITES Secretariat and the Interpol</p>					
	<p>D.2 Provide ports, harbours and land borders with extra contraband detection materials and trained personnel.</p>	<p>D.3 Establishment of a frame network for neighboring countries for wildlife crime collaboration mechanism</p>			
<p>E.4 Increase the number of ivory shops ,hotels inspection and touristic resorts particularly during the touristic seasons through patrolling with close surveillance to enforce the law continuously ,punishing the violated ones ,it will be reach to three times more.</p>	<p>E.1 Deploy an extra wildlife law enforcement staff at key/major entry and exit border points.</p>	<p>E.3 Strengthen regional cooperation and exchange information as a tool to curb ivory trade</p>			
<p>F.1 Specific training courses on Ivory and Elephants importance were held on</p>					

October , 2015 in the Conservation Education Canter – Giza Zoo.

F.2
Participants from different agencies, who responsible for adoption of CITES regulations at outlets and inlets of Egypt , were invited and attended the workshop and training course.
- 5-8 participants from each agency were invited to these training courses.

--	--	--	--	--	--

Part C : Detailed evaluation of actions:

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category A : Legislations		
<p>A1.3 Dissemination of brochures discussing CITES treaty as well as national legislations concerned it to all courts all over Egypt (27 Governorates) and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reprints of comprehensive scientific brochures discussing CITES treaty as well as national legislations concerned it , leaflets and illustrated posters were prepared in both Arabic and English languages have been disseminated to judiciaries and law makers as well as stakeholders and relevant agencies in all of the Egyptian governorates (27 governorates) .
<p>A.2 Strengthening wildlife penalties to ensure all major wildlife crime violations are treated as serious crimes and its penalties act as effective deterrents, (despite the environmental law #9 for the year 2009 amended from law #4 for the year 1999 , which is applied in 2011, magnified the penalties “ either fine or imprison or both “</p>	<p>Pending completion of another action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Egyptian M.A. of CITES is trying best to convince the lawmakers of the Ministry of Agriculture to amend that article of the law and magnify that penalties. • The amendment will support a new ministerial regulation which will prevent the illicit trade of ivory .
<p>A.3 Communicate and discuss the neighbouring countries for potential harmonization of wildlife legislations.</p>	<p>Limited progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen linkage between Egypt and neighboring countries is very important to address wildlife crimes among others. • Egypt MA has started communication with neighboring countries to launch electronic network under the title ARABIAN- WEN where the first preparatory meeting was held on June 2009 under supervision of CITES secretariat however, it was not possible to continue for certain sensitive situations as a result of the spring revolutions. • The suggested ARABIAN-WEN has been discussed in the preparatory meeting of the Arabian countries for COP 17 that held in Jordon in May , 2016 . The members recommended to swiftly achieve it.

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category B : prosecution		
<p>B.1.1 Capacity building programs to increase the level of awareness for illegal trade of wildlife and seriousness of wildlife crimes by organizing workshops and training courses for wildlife officers , environment police ,Prosecutors , Judiciary and other stakeholders who are responsible for implementation of CITES.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beside the nine training courses that have been done and started in 2010 Which included custom officers from borders, environmental police officers , wildlife officers and prosecutors, with 40-50 participants at each class have been trained and got scientific materials to identify ivory and other wildlife specimens. • A specific training courses on Ivory and Elephants importance was held in October 2015 which concentrated mainly on whom first face the trafficking problems (customs and the environmental police officers). • 5-8 participants from each agency are invited and attended these training courses.
<p>B.1.2 Practical session to the trainees with the demonstration of wildlife specimens including the Ivory and means of identifications.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A training workshop course for customs officers from international airport and environmental police officers were achieved in October 2015 for identify ivory and other wildlife specimens.
<p>B.1.3 Dissemination of educational materials such as CDs , Posters , Brochures , stickers , posters and leaflets.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • different groups (which include both wildlife governmental staff members, CITES officers and members of NGOs) have already gone to different governorates and disseminate the educational materials to stakeholders and have held many wildlife scientific campaigns.
<p>B.2 Prepare summary of wildlife articles & penalties in law #9 for 2009 for dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders and notify the Judiciary and other stakeholders to take prompt actions.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As an integral action to ensure that wildlife legislations are enacted on a prompt way, Notifications were delivered to stakeholders including judiciaries , law makers and environment police urging to run all confiscations procedure and decision making in a more rapid way.

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category C : intelligence & investigations :		
C.1 Carry out a technical review of the intelligence and investigation procedures in place in order to identify areas of weakness and potential interventions to increase the effectiveness and implement recommendations (Monitoring of Ivory markets , carving shops , touristic areas)	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ivory markets, retailers , carving shops and the touristic areas have been monitored and checked continuously by Squads of wildlife and environment police officers. • Monitor and control the ivory traders with close surveillance of the Squads revealed little violations were detected.
C.2. Increase the number of shops inspection units periodically with special emphasis on touristic areas and triple patrol missions compared to the current situation.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many inspection campaigns have been done aiming to check the wildlife markets for both alive and trophy of CITES specimen. Many confiscations for different Egyptian CITES species either alive or mummified were found however, still ivory confiscations took place only in borders either land or airports. • Establishment a hotline and advertise this on border areas for the general public to report illicit ivory trade , other wildlife crimes and corruption tendencies among staff will be useful.
C. 3 Appointment of a focal point in the general Department of Wildlife for forensic wildlife crimes investigations techniques after getting a required training and working in cooperation with the environment Police.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A focal point was assigned for forensic wildlife crimes scientific techniques from the Egyptian wildlife dept. PH D biochemistry, occupation: chief specialist wildlife office Cairo international airport.

<p>C.4 Develop a framework for the development of Egypt's forensic Medicine , in case of seizure of Ivory more than 500 Kg., a sample of that ivory will be sent to the forensic medicine for DNA & Isotope analysis , consequently a result will be sent to any of CITES Reference laboratory for evaluation.</p>	<p>On track</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife dept. is carrying out due arrangements for training should be for assigned focal point to be followed with cooperation plan with environment police specialists. • Samples will be collected from a large –scale ivory seizures and make samples available to either CITES reference laboratories or Cairo University Laboratories for analysis.
<p>C.5.1 Carry out an audit of Egypt's current systems for storage.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System assigned to deal with confiscated specimens following facility, confiscated ivory is kept in agriculture museum(ministry of agriculture entitled with sufficient data including weight , number from either raw or worked , smuggler data and confiscated report. • All confiscated specimens are kept in safe suitable place. • An audition team was appointed from both management authority and Egyptian wildlife to audit Egypt storage of ivory and collective table was made expressing the amount of both raw and worked ivory confiscated by Egypt CITES officers as a foundation for ivory data base, however audition team mission has finished their assigned task successfully
<p>C.5.2 Implement the audit recommendations (marking and the security system) of confiscated ivory.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A secured storage room was specified for storing ivory by museum authorities governing the process of storing the confiscated ivory stock piles
<p>C.5.3 Present a report on the Confiscated Ivory to the CITES Secretariat and the Interpol.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting notes the information about seizure of ivory will send to the cites secretariat and the Interpol on time upon their request. • Good progress has been made with sharing of information till this report

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category D: NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME		
<p>D.1 Implement training courses and workshops for customs , quarantine veterinarians and ports authorities with regards for detection of wildlife contraband and implementation of CITES in cooperation with the international organizations for conservation of wildlife.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As in action B.1.1 Nine inter agency awareness workshops involving customs , quarantine vet. and port authorities have been hold since 2010 the workshops have been done across number of regions and have been conducted by cites authority and sponsored by IFAW organization. • A specific training courses on Ivory and Elephants importance was held in October 2015 which concentrated mainly on whom first face the trafficking problems (customs and the environmental police officers). • Samples of confiscated specimens where used in a special session for identification of most probable smuggled CITES samples including all forms of smuggled ivory on a special way besides disseminating all above mentioned leaflets including wildlife legislations and international treaties to all participants
<p>D.2 Provide ports, harbors and land borders with extra contraband detection materials and trained personnel.</p>	<p>On track</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs officers from international air port or border main check points were trained and provided identification material(X-ray device and scanners) for both ivory and others wildlife specimens. • It is to be noted that x-ray is the main tool for detection in Egyptian borders all the time, however round table of discussion is about launching including representatives from customs and borders security sectors aiming to evaluate the available tools and questioning the advanced ones availability and how to provide and train on?. • CITES management authority is working with airport authorities to distribute wildlife management regulations and warning leaflets to the passengers as a form of raising awareness for travellers.

<p>D.3 Establishment of a frame network for neighboring countries for wildlife crime collaboration mechanism.</p>	<p>Limited progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No cross- border measures completed for Egypt and neighbouring countries.• It is clear how the milestone follow the establishment of the work plane for neighbouring countries due to certain sensitive situations. Communication with Sudan as a crucial ivory smuggling entry point is supposed to take place through MA of Egypt.
---	--------------------------------	--

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category E: law enforcement operations		
E.1 Deploy an extra wildlife law enforcement staff at key/major entry and exit border points.	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity reported action d.1 indicates that staff has been deployed at key border points. (number is not fixed : fluctuating for certain sensitive matters). • Some activity has been reported, and many confiscations were reported on borders between Egypt and Sudan. Strict measures are applied to borders between Egypt and Libya for the sensitive conditions.
E.2 Strengthen collaboration with other law enforcement agencies including Customs, Police , Ministry of environment and the National Army to fight illegal ivory trade and other wildlife related crimes, this will be achieved through the monthly meeting of the Management Authority of CITES (include members of law enforcement agencies which mentioned before) and also through phone calls and world wide website whenever require.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management authority of CITES include members of law enforcement agencies from customs, environmental police, ministry of environmentetc to fight illicit ivory trade and other wildlife crimes this accomplished through monthly meeting which launched in 2008. • Inter- agency environmental police especially for wildlife crime in cooperation with border national army were established to monitor and surveillance the borders.
E.3 Strengthen regional cooperation and exchange information as a tool to curb ivory trade	Limited progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen cooperation between Egyptian Wildlife Service, the environmental police and the Interpol. • Establishment of a frame network for changing information has been launched in 2009 as an Arabian -WEN by CITES Secretariat but unfortunately, it has not continued due to the effect of the Arabian spring revolutions.

--	--	--

<p>E.4 Triple the number of controls of Ivory shops, hotels inspections and touristic resorts particularly during the touristic seasons through patrolling with close surveillance to enforce the law continuously and punishing the violators.</p>	<p>Substantially achieved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to increase efficiency in controlling ivory trade to be in strict compliance with the law enforcement for its prevention and suppression to be more effective through increasing the numbers of shops inspection units , setting up an information service and advice center (s). So the Egyptian Wildlife Service and environmental police have organized an extra missions to inspect ivory shops, touristic resorts and antique markets.
--	--------------------------------------	---

ACTION	Evaluation	Summary of progress (and comments)
Category D: national & international cooperation to combat wildlife crime		
F.1 Produce and distribute an extra printed publications such as leaflets, brochures , posters , stickers in Multilanguage for local people and tourists.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plenty of national & international printed publications such as leaflets, brochures, illustrated posters and stickers in Multilanguage (English, Chinese, Arabic) were distributed via campaigns.
F.2 Publicize on the official website of wildlife a “warning” for both local people and tourists that. According to the Egyptian legislations it is forbidden to sell or purchase the ivory and ivory products and bring them out of Egypt.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning brochures depicting and illustrating the Egyptian legislations concerned wildlife species with special emphasis to ivory. • On the other hand , that brochures and legislations are loaded to be publicized on Egyptian wildlife website aiming to draw attention of both local people and tourists toward the importance of wildlife particularly the ivory and the violations of whom break the law.