

MIKE ETIS Subgroup — Chair's intervention for SC65.

The MIKE ETIS Subgroup met every day between Monday and Thursday of this week on the sidelines of SC65 and considered various aspects of MIKE and ETIS implementation.

The subgroup welcomed the new project for Minimizing the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species (or MIKES) and thanks the European Union for its support.

The Subgroup endorsed the draft benchmarks to assess law enforcement capacity as part of the MIKES project, and supported their piloting and fine tuning.

The subgroup also endorsed the process proposed by the Secretariat to identify partners and select focal capacity building sites under MIKES.

The subgroup noted the Secretariat's efforts to raise funds for the MIKE programme in Asia, and noted the need for the donor community to further support such efforts. At the same time, the subgroup urges Asian range States to report data to the MIKE programme.

The subgroup also noted progress on ETIS implementation and its funding needs. The subgroup requested TRAFFIC to propose a data access and release policy for ETIS, and to submit it to the Subgroup for consideration intersessionally.

Finally, Mr Chairman, the Subgroup adopted revised terms of reference for the MIKE and ETIS Technical advisory group and, subject to a small amendment on the membership of co-opted members by the Chairs of the IUCN elephant specialist groups, requested the Secretariat to issue a notification to the Parties on this matter.

Thank you Mr Chairman.