

Enforcement and compliance

Application of Article XIII in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (SC69 Doc. 29.2.1)

- Support the recommendation to conduct an inventory of tiger farms in Laos as a matter of urgency, noting that a donor has made funds available for this purpose. This should not be delayed any further; tigers and their parts are still entering domestic and international trade.
- Call upon China and Vietnam to confirm if permits were issued for the import of tigers from Laos.
- Remind Laos, China and Vietnam that as per Decision 14.69, tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives, including domestic trade.
- Urge Laos to prohibit by SC70 all legal domestic trade in ivory from wild or captive African and Asian elephants, and shut down ivory stores and processing factories.
- Adopt compliance measures at this meeting and review implementation at SC70.
- Support the recommendation for the suspension of commercial trade in specimens of Siamese Rosewood *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* from Laos. The trade suspension should include finished products such as carvings and furniture in line with the CITES Appendix II listing amendment adopted at CoP17.
- Support the recommendation that the designated CITES Management and Scientific Authorities in Laos are clarified.

Compliance Report (SC69 Doc. 29.1)

- Support the recommendations by the Secretariat regarding non-compliance by China and Nigeria (paragraph 50).
- Direct the Secretariat to assess the responses provided by China and Nigeria, and, in cooperation with ICCWC members, conduct a thorough investigation into the export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Nigeria to China, and report the results to SC70.

Annual illegal trade reports (SC69 Doc. 28.3)

- Recommend that the Guidelines in Annex 1 be amended so that the annual illegal trade reports are made publicly available on the CITES website excluding any nominal information.
- Note that the annual illegal trade report enables Parties to analyse the extent of illegal trade in CITES species.

Tigers and other Asian Big Cats

Asian Big Cats in Captivity (SC69 Doc. 33)

- Direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification requesting information relevant to Decision 17.229 (review of Asian Big Cats in captivity, illegal trade and identification of steps to combat this).
- Request that Decision 17.229 be implemented urgently, using information already available on countries of concern (for example in SC65 Doc. 38 Annex 1) so that SC70 can make specific recommendations.
- Note that domestic and international trade in captive tigers and their parts has been identified as a significant problem between Laos, Vietnam and China (SC69 Doc 29.2.1).

Tiger Skins (SC69 Doc. 44.1)

- Note that India has already established a photographic database using free online software.
- Calls upon the SC to urge not just tiger range States to provide information on photographic databases, but also those Parties where there has been commercial trade in the skins of captive bred tigers.
- Invite India to provide technical advice and support on establishing a centralized database.

Asian Big Cats: Report of the Secretariat (SC69 Doc. 54)

- Urge all Parties to provide financial assistance so that the review of implementation of Res. Conf. 12.5 (Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species) may be continued in time for SC70 to make specific recommendations.
- Note the urgency of this review as demand for big cat parts and derivatives in Asia is not just driving poaching and trafficking of Asia's big cats, but also Jaguar and African Lion.
- Urge Parties and other stakeholders to use World Wildlife Day 2018, to call for an end to all commercial trade and demand in all big cat species.

Elephants

National Ivory Action Plans (NIAPs) (SC69 Doc. 29.3, and A1 – A15)

- Request that all Parties of concern, ensure that their NIAPs meet the criteria set out in 'Step-2' of the NIAP Guidelines (Annex 3 of Res. Conf.10.10 (Rev. CoP16)), and strengthen NIAP implementation.
- Identify Japan and Singapore as Parties of primary concern required to develop and implement NIAPs.
- Re-categorise Laos, Mozambique, Nigeria, Thailand, Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of Congo as Parties of Primary Concern.
- Direct the Secretariat to consult independent experts, including relevant ICCWC members and NGOs, in identifying Parties of concern and assessing progress made under the NIAP process.

Elephant conservation, illegal killing and ivory trade (SC69 Doc. 51.1 and Annex)

- Welcomes the reduction in PIKE (Proportion of Illegally Killed Elephants) levels at some sites in Africa, note, however, that PIKE levels are still too high to be sustainable, particularly for populations in West and Central Africa.
- Direct the Secretariat to issue a Notification identifying the Parties that have made large-scale ivory seizures, and requesting these countries to report to SC70 on whether they have conducted forensic-analysis of all such seizures.
- Note concern about Burundi's ivory stockpile entering illegal trade as documented in Uganda, South Sudan and Laos. Recommend a suspension of trade with Burundi and request a report from Burundi by February 28, 2018 on the state of its ivory stockpile in accordance with Res. Conf. 10.10, para 6(e). Encourage Burundi to destroy its stockpile as a matter of urgency.

Implementing aspects of Resolution Conf. 10.10 on the closure of domestic ivory markets (SC69 Doc. 51.2)

- Support the recommendations in this document and call for Parties to close domestic ivory markets urgently.

Totoaba

Totoaba (SC69 Doc. 65.01; SC69 Doc. 65.02)

- Note that, while the August trilateral meeting of Mexico, China and US agreed a series of actions to be implemented immediately, no action appears to have been taken since, despite the extreme urgency of the situation in the Upper Gulf of California.
- Note that illegal Totoaba fishing and trade from Mexico to China, via the US and other transit countries, continues, yet enforcement efforts have not yielded one single conviction in the last year.
- Direct all range, transit and consumer States to significantly and immediately increase intelligence-led enforcement efforts that will lead to seizures, arrests, prosecutions and the dismantling of criminal networks responsible for the illegal Totoaba trade.
- Urge Mexico to increase enforcement at sea; strengthen the permanent ban on gillnet fishing by eliminating loopholes for curvina and mackerel fishing, that provide a cover for illegal totoaba fishing, and ban the possession, sale and manufacture of gillnets and extend the duration of the night fishing ban to cover all hours of darkness.

Timber

Report of Madagascar: Malagasy ebonies (*Diospyros* spp.) and palisanders and rosewoods (*Dalbergia* spp.) (SC69 Doc 49.1, 49.1A4)

- Note that there is no evidence of meaningful progress by Madagascar in implementing its Action Plan, in particular requirements regarding stockpile security, enforcement measures against illegal trade, and conviction of illegal timber barons.
- Uphold the embargo on *Dalbergia* and *Diospyros* spp. exports until CoP18.
- Reject the business plan for stockpile disposal (SC69 Doc.49.1) and recommend a prohibition of the sale of domestic stockpiles until the Action Plan has been fully implemented.
- Recommend a prohibition of the sale of seized Malagasy timber located outside of Madagascar and repatriation of proceeds to Madagascar of the seized shipments held in transit countries.
- Direct the Secretariat to support transit countries who are in possession of seized *Dalbergia* and *Diospyros* spp. from Madagascar, including Sri Lanka and Singapore, to develop a plan to dispose of the seized stocks that will ensure the transparent and controlled management of potential proceeds, with the full participation of independent third parties and civil society.

Other timber issues

- Note that there is a limited understanding of which countries have functioning scientific authorities, inventories for CITES-listed tree species or functioning Non-detriment Finding (NDF) systems or practices.
- Note that, following the *Dalbergia* genus listing at CoP17, many countries may now be trading other *Dalbergia* species in violation of the Convention.
- Recommend robust pre-emptive action by CITES to prevent unsustainable trade of listed rosewood species in violation of the Convention.