

Guidance for NDFs for Lions under CITES

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Background

CITES COP19 (2022) Decision

19.205 Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, as appropriate, taking into consideration the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the *Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa* in information document CoP18 Inf. 10:

- c) support capacity-building in African lion conservation and management including where appropriate, in the making of non-detriment findings by range States according to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.9 on Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II;



Background

Activities:

IUCN will undertake the following activities:

- A1. Conduct a review of available documents and scientific literature on the making on non-detriment findings for African lion and draft an outline of the NDF guidance document and a detailed process for the consultation of range States taking into consideration Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings and Resolution Conf. 17.9 on Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II;
- A2. Consult with range States at the second range State meeting of the CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI) on the outline and approach of the NDF guidance document;
- A3. Prepare draft NDF guidance and consult range States based on agreed process;
- A4. Taking into account the feedback received from African lion range States and experts, draft a written guidance document on the making of non-detriment findings for African lions.

→ **Deadline 30 June 2023 → considered at NDF Workshop in December 2023**



Background

Deliverables:

- a) Deliverable 1: A report that contain a preliminary list of available documents and scientific articles reviewed to draft the NDF guidance, the draft outline of the NDF guidance document and the detailed process for the consultation of African lion range States.
- b) Deliverable 2: Report that includes the draft guidance document on the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) for trade in specimens of African lions and a summary of the consultation process with African lion range States that includes key aspects raised by range States and addressed in the draft guidance produced.

Commissioned: IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group and Endangered Wildlife Trust



Procedure

Product (Report):

1. Annotated bibliography of relevant publications and reports useful for making of NDFs for Lion
2. Guidance on NDF reports for Lion based on (1) available NDFs for Lions, (2) similar/comparable guidelines for other species, and (3) recommendations/information from Lion Range States institutions

Consultation process:

- Consultation Lion Range States CITES Scientific Authorities: ACI Meeting, CITES Notification to Parties
- Discussion/consideration at NDF Workshop in December 2023
- Revision according to Range States input/comments received at NDF Workshop (to be defined)



Procedure

Consultation Lion Range States:

- Lion NDFs are not public, so ...
 - no overview on what is done and how it is done, and
 - very few case studies available
- Inquiry to Range States CITES Scientific Authorities about Lion NDFs (→ Notification CITES Secretariat)
 - Questionnaire on NDFs on lions to capture experience of Range Countries



Survey Range Countries – preliminary questions

2. Arrangement questions: Which of the following arrangement would suit you/your institution: (to be set up that participants can select one option)
 - 2.1. We are not able to share any information on NDF assessments for Lions
 - 2.2. We are ready to answer the questions asked hereafter in an online interview
 - 2.3. We are willing to answer all questions asked hereafter in this questionnaire
 - 2.4. We are providing the following information as strictly confidential and only used for generic analyses
 - 2.5. We are providing the following information and statements, which can be referred to as “personal communication”|



Survey Range Countries – preliminary questions

3. NDF assessments for Lions:

- 3.1. Who is responsible for the NDF assessment for Lions in your country?
- 3.2. Which institutions (agencies, consultants, etc.) are involved in the NDF assessment?
- 3.3. For what kinds of exports do you perform NDFs for lions (yes/no for each option):
 - Live lions from the wild / from captivity
 - Hunting trophies
 - Lion parts from the wild / from captivity
 - Scientific samples
 - Others (please specify)
- 3.4. Which of the following categories of information is considered / included in your NDF assessments
[insert drop down from IUCN general guideline]
- 3.5. Are NDF assessments for Lions reviewed, by whom?
- 3.6. How many NDF assessments have you performed/commissioned / what year was the latest NDF Report for lions / what is the frequency of updating an NDF assessment?



Survey Range Countries – preliminary questions

4. NDF reporting:

4.1. How do you disseminate/share NDF Reports?

- Publicly available (e.g. on a website)
- Available on demand to whom?
- Shared with import countries
- Shared with stakeholders/interested institutions
- Shared with other/neighbouring Lion Range States
- Not shared

4.2. Would you be willing to share an example of an NDF Report from your country (please send PDF copy)? This can be for Lions or a general template. *[drafting note: add upload option here]*



Survey Range Countries – preliminary questions

5. Guidelines/supporting documents:

- 5.1. What law / policy / guiding materials do you use for the NDF assessments in general or for Lions specifically? (Please share any existing guidelines for making NDFs for lions)
- 5.2. Does your country have a Lion management/conservation plan on which quota setting and / or NDF assessments are based? (→ name of document, provide PDF or download information)
- 5.3. Do you perform Lion monitoring/survey to inform the NDF assessment? Are monitoring reports for Lions available? If yes, how/where?



Survey Range Countries – preliminary questions

6. Challenges and recommendations:

- 6.1. In your experience, what are the main challenges for NDF assessments for Lions?
- 6.2. What additional information (e.g. re lions), capacity or guidance would you need to improve the NDF assessment for Lions?
- 6.3. Do you have any suggestions for changing/improving the NDF assessment/protocols with regard to Lions?



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 - Questionnaire on NDFs on lions to capture experience of Range Countries
 - **Notification from CITES Secretariat in E, F**
- **Please share any comments on the questionnaire and/or approach with the CITES Secretariat or with the IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group. Further consultation will take place as the time frame allows it.**

Thank you!

