

**2nd Meeting of Range States of the
Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI2)**

Entebbe, Uganda, 1 – 4 May 2023

CITES-CMS/ACI2/Inf.5

**CMS DECISIONS RELEVANT TO THE JOINT CITES-CMS AFRICAN CARNIVORES
INITIATIVE AND ITS FOUR SPECIES**

CMS Decisions 13.86 – 13.87 on the Joint CITES-CMS- African Carnivores Initiative

Decision 13.86

Directed to: Secretariat

The Secretariat shall: a) work with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to include the African Carnivores Initiative in the proposals for the new CMS-CITES joint work programme for the period 2021-2025, to be developed; b) in close cooperation with the Secretariat of CITES and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), develop a draft Joint Programme of Work (POW) for the African Carnivores Initiative, taking into account the decisions adopted by the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP13) on the African Wild Dog, Cheetah, Leopard and Lion, the outcomes of CITES COP18, as well as the recommendations emanating from the First Meeting of Range States to the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI1) and taking into consideration all threats to African carnivores that threaten their survival; c) submit the draft POW to the CMS Standing Committee for approval; and d) report on the implementation of this Decision to CMS COP14.

Decision 13.87

Directed to: Standing Committee

The Standing Committee is requested to review and approve the draft Programme of Work submitted by the Secretariat.

**CMS Decisions 13.88 – 13.91 on the Conservation and Management of the African Lion
(*Panthera leo*)**

Decision 13.88

Directed to: Secretariat

The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding and in collaboration with African Lion Range States and the Secretariat of CITES as well as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and, taking into consideration, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa: a) support the implementation of activities in joint African Lion conservation plans and strategies that relate to the implementation of CMS, with a focus on matters relating to habitat conservation and land-use, creation of corridors, prey depletion, human-Lion conflict including poisoning, education and awareness raising and community

involvement and, as needed, the review of such plans and strategies; b) support the development of an inventory of all African Lion populations across its range, and of relevant databases; c) encourage international cooperation on the conservation and management of African Lions, with particular focus on cross-border African Lion populations and within the context of the establishment of transfrontier conservation areas; d) jointly with CITES undertake a comparative study on African Lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as Lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade; e) support capacity-building in African Lion conservation and management; f) provide or develop advice for African Lion Range States on financing the effective implementation of CMS decisions on African Lion; g) maintain a joint CMS-CITES web portal on African Lions, that also allows for the posting and sharing of information, voluntary guidance on the conservation and management of African Lion; and h) report on progress relating to the implementation of paragraphs (a) to (g) and 13.89 to the Conference of the Parties at its 14th meeting.

Decision 13.89

Directed to: Scientific Council

The Scientific Council shall review the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa, and formulate recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the African Lion Range States, IUCN and others, as needed;

Decision 13.90

Directed to: Others

African Lion Range States are encouraged to collaborate in implementing the measures contained in Decisions 13.88 paragraphs (a) - (g).

Decision 13.91

Directed to: Parties, IGOs & NGOs, Others

All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities are encouraged to support the African Lion Range States and the Secretariat: a) in their efforts to conserve and restore this iconic species across the continent, taking into consideration the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa; and b) in implementing Decision 13.88.

CMS Decisions 13.92 – 13.95 on the Conservation and Management of the Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*)

Decision 13.92

Directed to: Secretariat

The Secretariat shall: a) subject to external funding and in collaboration with Range States, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant partners: i. support the implementation, and regular revision of existing joint Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation plans and strategies, both regional and national; Encourage the countries who do not have an action plan, to draw up such action plans, and support the implementation of these plans. ii. develop and implement strategies to reinforce international cooperation on the management of Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs that address all threats to their survival, including illegal take and ensure, including effective information exchange between Range States, transit and destination countries, and discuss with the Secretariat of the Convention on International trade in Endangered SPecies of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to include this in the Programme of Work of the African Carnivores Initiative and the terms of reference of the CITES Big Cats Task

Force; iii. support capacity-building and skill transfer as relevant to Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation and management, with an emphasis on developing the capacity of the local wildlife and enforcement authorities in this regard; iv. support the development of relevant databases, which include information on populations across their range, sightings, livestock depredation, killing and illegal trade, within Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States, transit and destination countries, taking due consideration of existing inventories collated by the relevant IUCN/Specialist Groups and the Zoological Society of London/Wildlife Conservation Society, and other organizations; v. promote fundraising to support the effective implementation of conservation and management plans and strategies for Cheetah and African Wild Dogs; b) encourage those Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States, transit and destination countries that are not yet Parties to the Convention to become Parties to the Convention; c) Report to the CMS Standing Committee, as required.

Decision 13.93

Directed to: Parties

Parties are requested to: a) collaborate in implementing the Decisions contained in Decision 13.92, paragraphs (a) (i) - (v); b) develop and implement within communities, evidence-based strategies that reduce livestock depredation by Cheetah and African Wild Dog; c) develop and implement within communities, evidence-based strategies that reduce disease transmission to African Wild Dogs; d) promote wildlife-based income generation mechanisms that benefit both people and wildlife; e) develop policies that assist the development of sustainable wildlife-based enterprises; f) ensure that legislation that protects Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs is in place and effectively enforced and that penalties for transgression are sufficiently high to act as a deterrent; g) enforce protection within protected areas and maintain buffer zones and connectivity outside, in order to secure the large landscapes necessary for Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation; h) ensure that all large-scale infrastructure development, including fencing and roadbuilding, allows Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs to pass through safely; i) consider land zoning options to maintain and restore important areas for Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation outside protected areas; j) investigate opportunities to ensure that Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation are integrated into relevant educational curricula at national and subnational levels, including schools, universities and professional training colleges and other public outreach efforts; k) collaborate and exchange best conservation practices regarding the preservation and restoration of African Wild Dog and Cheetah populations, and cooperate with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other interested organizations in taking actions at the national and regional level, in particular with regard to: habitat conservation; the establishment of ecological corridors to address habitat fragmentation; the management of infectious diseases; the restoration of prey-base; human-wildlife conflicts; and trade, including trade in captive bred specimens; l) assist the Secretariat to present a summary report to the Standing Committee as required.

Decision 13.94

Directed to: Scientific Council

The Scientific Council should, after consultation with the respective Range States affected, make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties concerning possible amendments to the list of Cheetah populations presently excluded from CMS Appendix I to reflect the current conservation status and inform a Decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 14th meeting.

Decision 13.95

Directed to: Parties, IGOs & NGOs, Others

Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support the Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States and as appropriate, transit and destination countries

and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore these species across their range; and in implementing the Decisions contained in Decision 13.92, paragraph (a) (i) - (v) and Decision 13.93 paragraphs (b) – (k).

CMS Decisions 13.96 – 13.97 on the Conservation and Management of the Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) in Africa

Decision 13.96

Directed to: Secretariat

The Secretariat shall: a) share the Roadmap for the Conservation of Leopards in Africa contained in UNEP/CMS/COP13 Doc.26.3.1/Annex 4 with the Scientific Council; b) consider the Roadmap in the development of the Joint Programme of Work for the African Carnivores Initiative; c) report on progress relating to the implementation of this Decision and Decision 13.97 to the Conference of the Parties at its 14th meeting.

Decision 13.97

Directed to: Scientific Council

The Scientific Council shall review the Roadmap for the Conservation of Leopards in Africa contained in UNEP/CMS/COP13 Doc.26.3.1/Annex 4, and formulate recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the Range States, IUCN and others, as needed.