

3rd Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC3)

Bonn, Germany, 29 May – 1 June 2018

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RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST OF CHEETAH POPULATIONS PRESENTLY EXCLUDED FROM CMS APPENDIX I TO REFLECT CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

The Scientific Council is requested to review the exclusion of cheetah populations of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe from Appendix I of CMS and recommend to the Standing Committee possible amendments to the listing.

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Background

1. CMS Decision 12.64 on the *Conservation and Management of Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus) and African Wild Dog (Lycaon pictus)* and directed to the Scientific Council provides:

The Scientific Council should make recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 48th or 49th meetings based on the reports submitted in accordance with Decision 12.62 and 12.63, including recommendations concerning possible amendments to the list of cheetah populations presently excluded from CMS Appendix I to reflect current conservation status and inform a Decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting.

2. The Cheetah was listed on Appendix I of CMS in 2009, excluding the populations of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe. While Botswana and Namibia are not Parties to CMS, Zimbabwe joined CMS in 2012. As its Cheetah population was not included in Appendix I, no reservation was submitted by Zimbabwe upon its accession to CMS.
3. In accordance with the mandate of COP12, the Scientific Council should review the exclusion of cheetah populations of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe from Appendix I to reflect the current conservation status, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee. To execute this task, the Scientific Council might wish to establish an intersessional working group, working by electronic means.

Recommended Actions

4. The Scientific Council is recommended to consider establishing an intersessional working group with the mandate to review the exclusion of cheetah populations of Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe from Appendix I of CMS and recommend to the Standing Committee at its 49th meeting possible amendments to the listing to reflect the current conservation status and to inform a decision at COP13.