



**1st Meeting of Range States for the Joint CMS – CITES
African Carnivore Initiative (ACI1)**



Bonn, Germany, 5 – 8 November 2018

CMS-CITES/ACI1/ Inf.16

**IMPLEMENTATION OF CITES DECISIONS 17.114 TO 17.117 ON QUOTAS FOR LEOPARD
HUNTING TROPHIES**

(As at 2 November 2018/Prepared by the CITES Secretariat)

Summary:

This document contains a summary of the status of implementation of CITES Decisions 17.114 to 17.117 on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies*.

The document aims to guide discussions on leopards at the 1st Meeting of Range States for the Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative, which should inform future work on leopards to be conducted under the auspices of CITES, and more broadly the role of the African Carnivore Initiative in leopard conservation in Africa.

1. This document has been prepared by the CITES Secretariat.
2. At the 17th meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), Decisions 17.114 to 17.117 on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies* (shown in Annex 1) were adopted with the aim to review the quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under CITES Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use* (shown in Annex 3) and to consider whether these quotas were still set at levels that were non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.
3. Parties with such quotas - twelve in total¹ - were requested to share with the CITES Animals Committee the outcomes of their reviews, and the basis for the determination that the quota was not detrimental. The Animals Committee was instructed to review the information received and, if necessary, make any recommendations to the range States and to the CITES Standing Committee. The Standing Committee, based on any such recommendations, should form its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 18th meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP18, Colombo, May 2019).
4. The Animals Committee discussed the implementation of Decision 17.114 at its 29th and 30th meetings (AC29, Geneva, 2017; AC30, Geneva, 2018), based on documents [AC29 Doc. 16](#) and [AC30 Doc.15](#). At AC30, substantive information on quotas for leopard hunting trophies was submitted by nine Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), by other Parties, and by non-governmental organizations. This material was reviewed by the Animals Committee, and recommendations were formulated [see document [AC30 Com. 10 \(Rev. by Sec.\)](#)].
5. The Animals Committee informed the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, 2018) about its recommendations as follows:

The Animals Committee:

- a) Commends all Parties having submitted information on the review of their respective leopard hunting quotas under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16);
- b) Notes the various ways in which those Parties have implemented monitoring and adaptive management systems to ensure that the offtake of leopards is sustainable and does not pose a threat to the survival of the species;
- c) Encourages that these systems and methodologies be shared among leopard range States in order that lessons learned and success stories can be multiplied and put to use in all range states concerned;
- d) Invites the Secretariat to liaise with the countries that have not sent in the reviews for the consideration of the Animals Committee and urge them to submit information as requested in Decision 17.114 in time for consideration by the Standing Committee by 2 August 2018;
- e) Recommends that upcoming meetings dealing with the conservation of leopards, among other species, provide an opportunity for discussion and lessons learned on monitoring of populations of leopards (for instance, the meeting of the CMS/CITES African Carnivores Initiative, and, if held, the upcoming meeting in Africa on non-detriment findings for sport-hunted trophies); and

¹ Botswana, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

- f) Requests the Standing Committee to consider establishing a process to review and if necessary revise, quotas for Appendix I species which have been established by the Conference of the Parties in accordance with Resolution Conf. 9.21 (Rev. CoP13) on *Interpretation and application of quotas for species included in Appendix I*, such as those for leopards in Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16).

Concerning Parties which have quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use*, the Animals Committee informed the Standing Committee that:

- g) Kenya and Malawi wish for their quotas to be removed from Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16);
- h) No review has been received from Botswana, Ethiopia or the Central African Republic, as a consequence of which it was not able to determine if the quotas for leopards for these three range States, as mentioned in Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), are set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and
- i) It considers that the quotas for leopards for Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda and Zimbabwe, as mentioned in Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), are set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

6. Taking into account these recommendations, the Standing Committee, at SC70:

- Agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) so as to remove quotas for Kenya and Malawi from this resolution;
- Noted the evaluation of the Animals Committee concerning the quotas for Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda and Zimbabwe in this Resolution;
- Agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the renewal of Decisions 17.114 to 17.117 for Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia, allowing the Animals Committee to evaluate the information and make appropriate recommendations after the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- Invited the Secretariat to propose to the Conference of the Parties draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.21 (Rev. CoP13) concerning approaches to review quotas for Appendix-I species, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Animals Committee in paragraph 5 f) of document SC70 Doc. 55 and opportunities to provide assistance to range States.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The First Meeting of Range States for the Joint CMS–CITES African Carnivore Initiative provides an opportunity to further discuss and agree on ways to strengthen the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) for trade in leopards, and to share lessons learnt on the monitoring of this species' populations, as was also recommended by the Animals Committee. In this regard, the participants are reminded of a position statement by the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group on leopard quotas and non-detriment findings that was made available as an information document at SC70 (see document [SC70 Inf. 35](#)).
8. The participants may wish to consider the draft renewed Decisions 17.114 to 17.117 on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies* that are to be presented at CITES CoP18. Proposed text for these Decisions

is shown in Annex 2 (and original text in Annex 1). The Decisions should allow the Animals Committee to evaluate information received and make appropriate recommendations following CoP18. Furthermore, the draft decisions propose to encourage the exchange of relevant information regarding the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies among range States, and to establish guidance that can assist Parties in making such NDFs.

ANNEX 1**CITES Decisions on Quotas for leopard hunting trophies adopted at CITES CoP17
(Johannesburg, 2016)*****Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16)***

17.114 *Parties, which have quotas, established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use are requested to review these quotas, and consider whether these quotas are still set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, and to share the outcomes of the review and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental, with the Animals Committee at its 30th meeting.*

Directed to the Animals Committee

17.115 *The Animals Committee shall consider the information submitted by the relevant range States under Decision 17.114 and any other relevant information, and, if necessary, make any recommendations to the range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.*

Directed to the Secretariat

17.116 *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, support the reviews to be undertaken by range States, referred to in Decision 17.114, upon request by a range State.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.117 *The Standing Committee should consider any recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 17.115, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

ANNEX 2

Draft decisions on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies* for consideration at CITES CoP18 (Colombo, 2018)

[Based on the renewal of Decisions 17.114 to 17.117;
deletions appear in ~~strikeout~~; new text is underlined]

Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16*)

- 18.a** Parties, which have, quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16*) on *Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use, and which did not yet provide relevant information to the Animals Committee*, are requested to review these quotas and consider whether these quotas are still set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, and to share the outcomes of the review and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental, with the Animals Committee at its 30th1st meeting.
- 18.b** All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16*) are encouraged to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.

Directed to the Animals Committee

- 18.c** The Animals Committee shall consider the information submitted by the relevant range States under Decision 18.a and any other relevant information, and, if necessary, make any recommendations to these range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.
- 18.d** The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.g and make recommendations to the Secretariat and to leopard range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.e** The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, support the reviews to be undertaken by range States referred to in Decision 18.a, upon request by a range State.
- 18.f** The Secretariat shall, subject to available resources, encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16*) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.
- 18.g** The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding and in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, compile information and develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16*), share the guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, and make agreed guidance available on the CITES website.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.h** The Standing Committee shall consider any recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 18.c, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 18th9th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

*In case the revisions to Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) that are being proposed by the Standing Committee are adopted at CoP18, the correct reference to the Resolution in these draft decisions should be "Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP18)".

Conf. 10.14

(Rev. CoP16)*

Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 8.10 (Rev.), adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting (Kyoto, 1992) and amended at its ninth meeting (Fort Lauderdale, 1994);

RECALLING that, with the exception of the rare cases of exemptions granted under Article VII of the Convention, commercial trade in Appendix-I species is prohibited;

RECALLING that the leopard (*Panthera pardus*) is listed in Appendix I;

RECOGNIZING that in some sub-Saharan countries the population of the leopard is not endangered;

RECOGNIZING also that the killing of leopards may be sanctioned by countries of export in defence of life and property and to enhance the survival of the species;

RECOGNIZING further that these countries of export may authorize trade in such dead specimens in accordance with Resolution Conf. 2.11 (Rev.), adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting (San José, 1979) and amended at its ninth meeting, and may grant export permits in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article III of the Convention;

RECALLING that paragraph 3 (c) of Article III provides that an import permit shall be granted only when a Management Authority of the State of import is satisfied that the specimen is not to be used for primarily commercial purposes, and that paragraph 2 (a) of Article III provides that an export permit shall be granted only when a Scientific Authority of the State of export has advised that the export will not be detrimental to the survival of the species;

RECOGNIZING the importance of monitoring the utilization of quotas granted by this Resolution;

CONCERNED that Parties have not always submitted special reports on numbers of skins exported annually, in accordance with recommendation e) of Resolution Conf. 8.10 (Rev.) and similar recommendations of former Resolutions on the same subject, in time for the Secretariat to prepare reports for the Conference of the Parties;

RECOGNIZING the desire of the Parties that the commercial market for leopard skins should not be reopened;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. RECOMMENDS that:

- a) in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of leopard (including hunting trophies), in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) of Article III, the Scientific Authority of the State of import approve permits if it is satisfied that the skins being considered are from one of the following States, which should not authorize the harvest for export of more of the said skins during any one calendar year (1 January to 31 December) than the number shown under 'Quota' opposite the name of the State, understanding that the skins may be exported in the year of harvest or in a subsequent year (for example, a country with a quota of 250 leopard skins for 2010 may authorize export of 50 leopard skins taken in 2010 during 2010, 150 of the leopard skins taken in 2010 may be exported during 2011, and 50 of the leopard skins taken in 2010 may be exported in 2012):

State	Quota
Botswana	130
Central African Republic	40
Ethiopia	500
Kenya	80
Malawi	50

* Amended at the 12th, 13th, 14th and 16th meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

State	Quota
Mozambique	120
Namibia	250
South Africa	150
Uganda	28
United Republic of Tanzania	500
Zambia	300
Zimbabwe	500

- b) in reviewing applications for permits to import whole skins or nearly whole skins of leopard, in accordance with paragraph 3 (c) of Article III, the Management Authority of the State of import be satisfied that the said skins are not to be used for primarily commercial purposes if:
- i) the skins are acquired by the owner in the country of export and are being imported as personal items that will not be sold in the country of import; and
 - ii) the owner imports no more than two skins in any calendar year and their export is authorized by the legislation of the country of origin;
- c) the Management Authority of the State of import permit the import of leopard skins in accordance with this Resolution only if:
- i) each skin has a self-locking, non-reusable tag attached which indicates, at a minimum, the State of origin, the number of the specimen in relation to the annual quota and the calendar year in which the animal was taken in the wild – for example ZW 6/500 2010 indicating that Zimbabwe is the State of origin and that the specimen was taken in the wild in Zimbabwe in 2010 and received tag number 6 out of Zimbabwe’s quota of 500 for 2010:
 - ii) if the same information as is on the tag is recorded on the export document in block 9 or block 5 of the standard CITES permit form (and no information is required in block 11a); and
 - iii) the tag has, as a minimum, the following characteristics: a tamper-resistant, self-locking mechanism, heat resistance, inertia to chemical and mechanical processing, and alphanumeric information, which may include bar-coding, applied by permanent stamping;
- d) Parties make every effort to ensure that skins are re-exported with the original tags intact;
- e) if the original tags are lost, damaged, or removed from skins during processing, the country of re-export should tag such skins prior to re-export, with a 're-export tag' meeting all the requirements of paragraph c) above, except that the country of origin and year of harvest will not be required; and further, that the same information as is on both the original tag and the replacement tag should be given on the re-export certificate, together with details of the original permit under which the skin was imported;
- f) Parties accept CITES documents for trade in leopard skins only if they contain the information referred to in paragraph c) or e), as appropriate, and if the skins are tagged in accordance with the provisions of the present Resolution;
- g) Parties, with the advice of the Secretariat if appropriate, implement a management and tracking system for tags used in trade; and
- h) Management Authorities ensure that tags not affixed to skins in the year specified on the tag are destroyed;
- i) in the case of whole or nearly whole leopard skins traded according to the terms of this Resolution, the words “has been granted” in paragraph 2 (d) of Article III be deemed to have been satisfied upon the written assurance of the Management Authority of the State of import that an import permit will be granted; and

- j) the system adopted in this Resolution be continued, with any increase in a quota or any new quota (i.e. for a State not previously having one) requiring the consent of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 9.21 (Rev. CoP13), adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting and amended at the its 13th meeting (Bangkok, 2004);
- 2. DIRECTS the Secretariat to report deficiencies of the system or specific instances of concern to the Standing Committee and the relevant Parties, as appropriate; and
- 3. REPEALS Resolution Conf. 8.10 (Rev.) (Kyoto, 1992, as amended at Fort Lauderdale, 1994) – *Quotas for Leopard Hunting Trophies and Skins for Personal Use.*