

Convention on Migratory Species

**1st Meeting of Range States for the Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative (ACI)
5-8 November 2018, Bonn, Germany**



The Future of the African Carnivore Initiative (ACI)



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- a) The African Carnivore Initiative's operational content consists of the consolidation of existing CITES and CMS Decisions on African lions, leopards, cheetahs and wild dog, and of Resolutions that directly or indirectly affect these species.

Should in future the African Carnivore Initiative's activities continue to consist of decisions and resolutions on African lions, leopards, cheetahs and wild dog that CITES and CMS Parties may agree to?



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Advantages:

- Continuation of working format used by CITES. Likely to be more easily accepted by CITES COP.

Disadvantages:

- Decisions are intended to be implemented during one COP cycle. Although they can be renewed, long-term planning might be compromised.
- Resolutions are intended to state general principles and provide broad, long-term guidance. They might not provide a sufficient level of detail or provide the needed flexibility to be updated.
- Keeping a good overview of what is needed and what has been accomplished might be more complicated, as activities are spread across several different documents.



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- b) Should CITES and CMS develop a work programme for the African Carnivore Initiative? If so, should it be based on CMS and CITES resolutions and decisions, or could activities also be guided by other instruments or action plans?



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Advantage to use other instruments inform the ACI (e.g. through the Programme of Work?)?

- Other instruments and action plans (e.g. IUCN Regional Strategies) may provide additional important content

Can this be done legally?

- Yes, under both options
 - By either referencing or integrating other instruments into the PoW which is then adopted by CMS/CITES COP decisions
 - Or by referencing/integrating other instruments directly in each respective COP decision



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- c) Should CITES and CMS take longer-term engagements in the conservation of and trade in the four species of African carnivores, and if so, what role should the African Carnivore Initiative play therein?



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Advantages of longer-term engagement of CMS/CITES

- Threats and solutions may require longer-term engagement at the international level
- Long-term resource mobilization easier with CMS/CITES long-term engagement

Role of the ACI therein?

- ACI can be the anchor for linking CMS and CITES so that they move forward together
- ACI can become a “trademark” or label for the activities which increases visibility
- Better visibility improves resource mobilization



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- d) The African Carnivore Initiative was jointly initiated by the CMS and CITES Secretariats. In case the Initiative has a longer-term future, how could its functions and activities be planned, and what governance structure should the African Carnivore Initiative have?



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- ACI is currently based on the CMS-CITES Joint Work Programme which will expire in 2020.
- In order to ensure the longer-term sustainability of the ACI, the following elements could be envisaged:
 - CMS and CITES Resolution that states objectives and principles of the ACI with annexed Programme of Work that is renewed every other COP
 - Establishment of a Joint Coordinator position at Convention Secretariats
 - Establishment of Regional Coordinators similar to IUCN Cheetah and Wild Dog Network
 - Establishment of a fund



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e) How can the implementation of African Carnivore Initiative activities best be monitored and evaluated?



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- Monitoring through national and regional coordinators
- Regular reporting on implementation by all actors that are part of the ACI
- Regular Range State meetings to peer-review implementation
- Establishment of clear success criteria



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f) What role could the African Carnivore Initiative play in generating or channelling funding concerning the four target species?



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Fundraising for the African Carnivore Initiative as such, and Secretariat allocates funds according to priorities in the decisions, resolutions and/or PoW

- advantage: simple, no additional bureaucracy

Fundraising for individual implementation projects of decisions / resolutions and /or the PoW (“earmarked”)

- advantage or disadvantage: less popular projects may not be funded

Fundraising through a fund

- disadvantage: costly, bureaucratic



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Thank you for your attention