

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventy-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee
Lyon (France), 7 - 11 March 2022

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

ASIAN BIG CATS (FELIDAE SPP.):
REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*, paragraph 2 a), the Conference of the Parties instructs the Secretariat to:
 - a) *report to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties on the status of Asian big cats in the wild, their conservation, and trade controls in place in Parties, using information provided by the range States on measures taken to comply with this Resolution and related relevant Decisions and any relevant additional information provided by relevant countries;*
3. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.100 to 18.109 on *Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 17.226 on *Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*, which remains in effect. At its 14th meeting (CoP14, The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.69 on *Captive-bred and ranched specimens*, which also remains in effect. These Decisions are presented in Annex 1 to the present document.
4. Due to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC73, online, May 2021) had a reduced agenda which did not include illegal trade in Asian big cats. The Secretariat did however provide an update to the Standing Committee in November 2020 on the implementation of the aforementioned Decisions and Resolution through information document [SC2020 Inf. 12](#).
5. As noted in document SC2020 Inf. 12, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/039](#) of 29 April 2020, calling on Parties to report to the Secretariat on their implementation of Decisions 17.226, paragraphs a) and b), 18.100 to 18.106 and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18). Responses were received from the following Parties: Austria, Cambodia, Czech Republic, India, Netherlands, Pakistan, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. These responses are compiled in Annex 2 to the present document, in the language and format as received. The Secretariat thanks these Parties for their reports.
6. The Secretariat, in response to Notification to the Parties [No. 2020/039](#), also received reports from two non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Environment Investigation Agency and Voice 4 Lions, that suggested continued illegal international trade in parts and derivatives of tigers and leopards. The Secretariat thanks these NGOs for their information and encourages all NGOs and other stakeholders to bring any information of suspected illegal trade in specimens of Asian big cats to the attention of relevant enforcement authorities as soon as it becomes available.

7. Matters concerning Asian big cats are also addressed in documents SC74 Doc. 69 on the *CITES Big Cat Task Force (Felidae spp)* and SC74 Doc. 74 on *African Lions (Panthera leo)*.
8. The Secretariat briefly summarizes some of the key aspects contained in the reporting received from Parties in paragraphs 9 to 37 below:

Conservation status of Asian big cats

Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)

9. **Cambodia:** Due to a lack of scientific research, Cambodia is not able to confirm the status of wild Asian big cat species in the country. However, in its report, the Party refers to a study on leopard and notes that the review of data from camera traps and other wildlife surveys conducted during the past 20 years suggests that the leopard now occurs in only 8.0% of its historical range in Cambodia. Leopards had recently been detected in four protected areas in Cambodia. In Mondulkiri Protected Forest, the largest protected area in the country with the highest biodiversity, leopard density is reported to have declined about 70%, with an estimated 3.6 leopard/100 km² in 2009, and an estimated 1.0 leopard/100 km² in 2014.
10. **Pakistan** reported on the conservation status of leopards (*Panthera pardus*) and snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*) that occur in the wild within its territory. The population estimate for leopards is between 150 to 250, and for snow leopards, it is between 200 to 420. Both species are Critically Endangered in Pakistan. In line with the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP), a Pakistan Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (PSLEP) has been launched and is being implemented over a five-year period (2018 to 2023).
11. **Thailand** reported on successful measures taken to strengthen protections for its tiger population, for example through increased use of the SMART patrol system and the establishment of new conservation sites. In Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, Uthai Thani province, the tiger population is reported to have increased by 66% since 2010, from 41 to approximately 60-65. The size of the total wild tiger population in Thailand is estimated to be between 150 to 200.
12. **Viet Nam:** According to a survey conducted in 2012, Viet Nam's tiger population significantly declined, and the number of tigers in the wild was estimated to be less than 20 individuals. There is a lack of comprehensive field surveys for tiger and other Appendix I big cat species in Viet Nam. In 2014, Viet Nam approved a national programme for tiger conservation for the period of 2014 to 2022, focusing on establishing and building priority areas to recover its tiger population, their prey and habitat. No information on the results of this programme was included in the report.

Management practices and controls concerning facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity

Implementation of Decision 17.226

13. **Austria** reported that keeping Asian big cats in captivity is restricted to approved zoos and registered scientific institutions which are regularly checked by the competent authority.
14. **Cambodia** reported that it has two facilities that are keeping tigers in captivity: four tigers are kept in a government institution under the management of the Forestry Administration and two tigers are kept in a private facility. Cambodia has not yet developed national management practices and controls that regulate the keeping of Asian big cats in captivity.
15. In its report, the **Czech Republic** referred to information it provided in information documents [SC70 Inf. 24](#) and [SC 70 Inf. 23](#) submitted to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018). According to the report, 177 live tigers in captivity are registered in the Czech Republic and there was a decline in the annual number of newly registered captive tigers (33 in 2018 and 16 in 2019).
16. **India:** In its territory, Asian big cats in captivity are only held in zoological parks established under the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972. Animal welfare and housekeeping standards of zoos are regularly monitored and evaluated by the Central Zoo Authority under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
17. **The Netherlands:** Possession of live big cats is prohibited in the Netherlands, and only registered zoos and special rescue centers can get permission to keep them. A European Union (EU)-certificate is required to transfer a specimen of an Appendix-I species to a different location within the country or within the EU. The

zoos are bound by the Dutch zoo legislation, which states that an animal may only be transferred to another zoo if it will be housed in similar facilities and taken care of in a similar way. Housing facilities are regularly inspected by governmental authorities, and most zoos that keep Asian big cats in captivity in the Netherlands are members of European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), which only exchanges animals within its breeding programmes.

18. **Pakistan:** Pakistan implements CITES through the Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Act of 2012 and the Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Rules of 2018. The Act makes provision for imprisonment of a minimum period of one year and a maximum period of two years, or for a fine of between PKR 500,000 (approximately USD 3,000) and PKR 1 million (approximately USD 6,000). In its report, Pakistan also included a comprehensive document on [Guidelines for the Acquisition and Management of Felids \(Cat Species\) in Captivity](#). These guidelines were approved by the Pakistan Ministry of Environment in June 2011 and provide details regarding acquisition and management of felids in captivity, including the disposal of Asian big cats that die in captivity to prevent parts and derivatives from entering illegal trade. Provincial wildlife departments ensure that management practices are in place at both government and privately owned zoos/facilities that keep big cats in captivity.
19. **Slovakia:** Slovakia's national CITES legislation was amended on 1 January 2019 and includes provisions to prevent specimens from Asian big cats that die in captivity from entering illegal trade. Under the supervision of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC), dead specimens of Asian big cats must be handed over to a licensed person for destruction or to a licensed taxidermist. Administrative obligations are in place for holding live animals, such as a requirement to keep records on a separate species card. The holder is obliged to notify the CITES Management Authority about each change of data in the species card. The aim of this provision is to have information on keeping, breeding, handling and trading of Asian big cats in Slovakia. In 2018, Slovakia conducted an inventory of facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity, during which regional inspectorates carried out inspections at a total of ten facilities, including one circus from the Czech Republic. Administrative offences were established in two instances, but no violation of CITES legislation in relation to big cat species was reported. Regarding processing applications for trade in Felidae species within the EU, Slovakia reported that it applies a strict approach in permitting procedures.
20. **Spain:** There are 27 facilities in the country that keep Asian big cats in captivity for non-commercial purposes, and some of these facilities are included in European conservation programmes. Control measures are reported to be in place, including concerning identification and marking of each specimen, as well as records of animals that are born or die in captivity. Physical inspections are carried out to verify compliance with CITES legislation.
21. **Thailand:** There are a total of 23 public zoos with less than 49 tigers and nine public zoos with more than 49 tigers in the country. Further, two out of the 10 facilities identified as of concern in document [SC70 Doc. 51](#) had closed and one was planning to close. In 2020, a total of 718 tigers were in possession of eight captive facilities that were identified as facilities of concern. According to Thailand's Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act B.E 2535 (1992), breeding tigers for commercial purposes is prohibited. The Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act, B.E 2562 (2019), which came into effect in November 2019, has additional standards for establishing and running public zoos that must be met. Thailand is adopting measures to manage and regulate the number of tigers in public zoos. Males and females must be separated to prevent unregulated reproductions and measures for zoos are in place to regulate the number of newborn cubs.
22. **Viet Nam:** There are a total of 20 tiger and big cat facilities in the country keeping 360 individuals and 36 seized tigers are held in a rescue centre by the Hanoi Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Management practices are in place for facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity, and the Viet Nam CITES Management Authority and other relevant agencies regularly conduct monitoring visits. Local authorities are directed to inspect tiger and big cat facilities at least twice a year. Most big cat facilities are reported to be privately owned and to be controlled by the local forest protection department. All tiger facilities are checked periodically by the provincial forest protection department, and the Viet Nam CITES Management Authority collaborates with these authorities to strictly control the origin of tigers at such facilities. Further, eight facilities have been granted Management codes or certificates for non-commercial purposes in accordance with Decree No. 06/2019/ND-CP. All tigers at these facilities are reported to originate from sources such as imports and specimens exchanged among zoos. In 2012, in collaboration with the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, its CITES Management Authority collected and analysed DNA samples from all tiger facilities in Viet Nam.

Enforcement measures and activities to address Illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens

Implementation of Decisions 18.100, 18.101 and 18.105

23. Regarding the implementation of Decisions 18.100, 18.101 and 18.105, several Parties provided information on measures and activities implemented to address illegal trade in specimens of Asian big cats.
24. **Czech Republic:** In 2019, two live specimens of white tigers were seized and confiscated because the specimens were not marked with microchips. In the same year, a tiger skeleton (without a skull), and a separate tiger skull were confiscated and a stuffed tiger body, without proof of legal origin, was seized.
25. **Cambodia:** Cambodia established a specialized joint wildlife crime unit including multi-agency personnel from the forestry Administration, Military Police General Department and the Fisheries Administration. The unit regularly cooperates with the Cambodian customs agency.
26. **India:** India had established a dedicated Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) to deal with wildlife crime and a National Repository of Camera Trap Photographs of Tiger (NRCTPT) to ascertain the origin of seized tiger skins. To target illegal trade in Asian big cats, India has strengthened law enforcement cooperation with neighbouring Parties (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China and Myanmar, Nepal and, the Russian Federation). Regarding the implementation of Decision 18.105, India initiated a process to undertake leopard population estimations and formalized protocols in leopard conservation genetics.
27. **Pakistan:** Staff from Provincial and Territorial Wildlife Departments enforce provincial wildlife laws to address poaching and illegal trade in wildlife, including for Asian big cats. At entry and exit points, Pakistan customs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change and Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Departments, ensure the implementation of CITES. Pakistan submitted a request to the Secretariat in accordance with [Notification to the Parties No. 2018/014](#) of 30 January 2018, regarding the field pocket *Guide for law enforcement agencies to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens*. The CITES Management Authority subsequently received 140 hard copies of this guide which were distributed among the relevant law enforcement agencies. Pakistan is a member of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) for enforcement collaboration at regional level.
28. **Viet Nam:** During the period 2018-2019, 37 seizures relating to illegal trafficking, transportation and storage of specimens of tigers and other cat species (*Caracal caracal*, *Catopuma temminckii*, *Prionailurus bengalensis*) were made in the country, and 19 of these cases involved tiger specimens. Most of the seizures were made by the police. Illegal trade in tiger specimens mainly occurred in provinces bordering the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), such as Nghe An, and in the north east of Viet Nam such as in Ha Noi, and Quang Ninh. Most of the seized tiger specimens were frozen tiger bodies, and tiger skins were also seized. Vietnamese authorities collaborated with non-governmental organizations and international conservation organizations to carry out inspections and surveillance campaigns at wildlife trade hotspots, and, as a result, several main targets involved in the illegal tiger trade were arrested and prosecuted. Viet Nam further reported on training and capacity-building activities concerning CITES implementation and identification of wildlife species frequently found in illegal trade. This included capacity-building for approximately 1,000 provincial forest protection, customs and environment police, border guards and other authorities. Regarding cooperation with neighbouring countries, Viet Nam highlighted activities such as annual dialogues with the Lao People's Democratic Republic on wildlife trade controls in border provinces and bilateral meetings with China on strengthening cooperation in CITES implementation. Viet Nam is a member of the Working Group on CITES and wildlife enforcement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and information is regularly exchanged with ASEAN countries.
29. **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:** The country had contributed financial and technical assistance through funding to the [International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime](#) (ICWC) and the [Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund](#), which could enable range States to comply with the implementation of the Decisions on illegal trade in Asian big cats and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18). In 2020, a project led by Fauna and Flora International, entitled "*Enabling and promoting communities to tackle illegal wildlife trade (including tiger) in Southern Myanmar*" was awarded in the UK Challenge Fund Round 6. The project will support six local communities in southern Tanintharyi on the Myanmar-Thailand border to become active in addressing threats posed by poaching and illegal trade to tiger and other key species. The project will support the development of sustainable livelihoods and improved resource management.

30. The **United States of America** reported Asian big cat specimen seizure data for the period December 2016 to June 2020. During that period, a total of 127 shipments containing specimens of tiger (*Panthera tigris*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*) were seized. Most of the seized specimens originated from Asia, and shipments were primarily transported by passengers or sent through packages shipped via international mail. These shipments consisted of medical products (i.e. medicinal balls, pills) and other products including claws, teeth, bones, small skin pieces and paws.

Implementation of Decision 18.103

31. Regarding Decision 18.103, only **Viet Nam** reported that it submitted images of tiger skins seized in 2017 and 2018 to the CITES Management Authority of India.

Implementation of Decision 18.104

32. The **Czech Republic** reported that the genetic research project [Project TigrisID](#), financed by its Ministry of Interior with the aim to develop *inter alia* reliable DNA diagnostic tools for processed medicinal products will continue until the end of 2022. Several EU member States provided tiger DNA samples from various sources (zoos, private breeders and seized specimens) for use in the TigrisID project. A progress report of the TigrisID project is attached to the Czech Republic's response to Notification 2020/039 in Annex 2 to the present document. According to that progress report, up to 7 February 2020, DNA was isolated from 424 individual tigers. The procedures applied to identify tiger (*Panthera tigris*) in heavily temperature-damaged samples, so far had not produced positive results. The Czech Republic may wish to provide an oral update to Parties at the present meeting on the status of project TigrisID, and the need for further samples to be shared with the Czech Republic in accordance with Decision 18.104.
33. **India**: India is finalizing a set of primers to be used as minimum standard for ascertaining tiger samples in cases of wildlife crime.
34. **Slovakia**: In 2019, samples taken from 65 live tigers and two samples from dead specimens were shared with the Czech Environmental Inspectorate for the purposes of the genetic research project TigrisID.

Reduction of demand for illegal tiger and other Asian big cat specimens

Implementation of Decision 18.106

35. **India** reported that awareness raising activities, which *inter alia* include aspects of wildlife crime, are addressed under the ongoing Project Tiger.
36. **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**: In 2020, a project led by TRAFFIC entitled "*Social marketing to reduce demand for tiger products in Viet Nam*" was awarded in the UK-funded Challenge Fund Round 6. This project will build on the behavioural insights and recent successes related to reducing demand for rhinoceros horn to implement a culturally relevant and carefully targeted social marketing campaign aiming to stop consumption of tiger products by main user groups.
37. **Viet Nam**: In 2019, the Management Authority of Viet Nam worked with non-governmental organizations on research initiatives, including a tiger specimens consumer survey. No information on the survey results were however included in the report from Viet Nam.

Implementation of Decisions 18.102 and 18.108

38. Due to COVID-19 measures limiting meetings and travel, the Secretariat was not able to conduct the missions anticipated by Decision 18.108, paragraph a), in 2020 and 2021. The Secretariat secured limited funding to undertake some of these missions, but regrettably due to the time that lapsed and donor requirements, this funding is now no longer available. The Secretariat therefore still needs to secure the external funding required to be able to undertake these missions and encourages Parties that may be able to provide funding to support this work. The Secretariat will endeavour to undertake the missions as soon as resources and current restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic permit.
39. The Secretariat notes that, in their responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2020/039, the Czech Republic, Thailand, the United States of America and Viet Nam indicated that they are ready to welcome a mission from the Secretariat as anticipated by Decision 18.108, paragraph a).

Conclusion

40. Although reporting was received from only a limited number of Parties, the reporting demonstrates that some Parties have good measures and practices in place that could be drawn upon as best practices for other Parties, where such measures and practices do not yet exist. Regarding management practices and controls concerning facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity for example, several Parties indicated that they conduct regular monitoring and inspections concerning such facilities and have strict measures and controls in place.
41. It is encouraging to note the activities that have been undertaken to tackle illegal trade in tigers and other big cat specimens. For example, media and NGO reports¹ indicate that the police in Viet Nam seized 24 live tigers from illegal breeding facilities in August 2021, and that Viet Nam customs seized nearly 90 kg of bones from tiger, leopard and lion in December 2021. In addition, Thailand reported that two of the facilities identified as of concern in document [SC70 Doc. 51](#) have been closed, and that a further closure is foreseen. Although these examples of activities undertaken are encouraging, much more needs to be done. Continued seizures of Asian big cat specimens, including specimens that originated from captive breeding facilities, and the potential impact of this illegal trade on Asian big cat populations remains of concern. This highlights that further strengthened efforts are needed and that it is essential that Parties further scale up their efforts to address illegal trade in Asian big cats. Range, transit and destination States affected by illegal trade in Asian big cats should actively pursue the full implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*. Parties are encouraged to strengthen the exchange of information by bringing significant seizures of illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens to the attention of authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination, where appropriate and as applicable, without delay. This should include providing all available associated information on the seizure to enable follow-up investigations to take place.
42. Implementation of some Decisions remains limited or *ad hoc*, such as Decision 18.103. Parties that make seizures of tiger skins in their territories are therefore reminded of Decision 18.103 and of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) paragraph 1 I). Tiger range States, which have photographic identification databases for tigers, and the capacity to identify tigers from photographs of tiger skins, are listed in paragraph 14 in document [SC70 Doc. 42.1](#).
43. The Secretariat also takes this opportunity to remind Parties that the field pocket *Guide for law enforcement agencies to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens* is available electronically in the CITES Virtual College, and that hard copies also remain available. Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens are invited to submit a request for hard copies to the Secretariat as outlined in [Notification to the Parties 2018/014](#) of 30 January 2018. The field pocket Guide is available in English and Chinese and intended for distribution among customs and police authorities, and any other national authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement.

Recommendations

44. The Secretariat invites the Standing Committee to:
 - a) encourage Parties to – where not yet done – implement regular monitoring and inspections of facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity, by taking into consideration Decision 17.226 and implementing measures that will enable accurate record keeping for all tigers kept in captivity;
 - b) encourage Parties in whose territories captive breeding facilities identified as of concern in document SC70 Doc. 51 exist, to pay particular attention to the activities of these facilities in their implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species* and Decision 17.226, and to take swift and decisive action concerning any unauthorized or illegal activities that may be detected;
 - c) encourage all Parties that have made seizures of tiger skins within their territories to implement Decision 18.103; and

¹ https://congan.com.vn/an-ninh-kinh-te/gan-90kg-xuong-ho-bao-va-nhieu-san-pham-dong-thuc-vat-nguy-trang_124998.html: [WWF commends Nghe An provincial authorities for tiger seizures in Viet Nam | WWF \(panda.org\)](#)

- d) encourage Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens to remind their national authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement about the field pocket *Guide for law enforcement agencies to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens*, available electronically in the CITES Virtual College, and to request hard copies from the Secretariat, where needed, to be made available to relevant authorities.

Decisions on Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) and Captive-bred and ranched specimens

Directed to Parties

- 18.100** Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, in particular Parties identified in document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take into consideration the information in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, and pursue enforcement efforts to address this illegal trade, including through the initiation of joint investigations and operations aimed at halting the members of organized crime networks across the entire illegal trade chain.
- 18.101** Parties, in whose territory tourist markets exist that are contributing to illegal cross border trade involving Asian big cat specimens, are encouraged to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with their neighbouring Parties to target such illegal trade.
- 18.102** Parties in whose territories there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity referred to in Decision 18.108, paragraph a) are invited to welcome a mission from the Secretariat, to visit these facilities.
- 18.103** All Parties that have made seizures of tiger skins since the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are encouraged to share images in accordance with Resolution Conf 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species, paragraph 1 l) by 31 December 2019 and all Parties are encouraged to share images of any skins seized hereafter within 90 days of such seizure.
- 18.104** Parties are encouraged, in accordance with their national regulations, to share samples of tiger specimens from living animals, seized animals or products that could contain tiger DNA with the Czech Republic national focal point for use in the genetic research project TigrisID which is focusing on the development of novel techniques to facilitate tackling illegal trade in tiger specimens.
- 18.105** Parties, in particular those mentioned in section 3.1.5 of Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take serious consideration of the concerns regarding illegal trade in leopard parts and derivatives as outlined in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1 and take measures to address these.
- 18.106** Consumer States of specimens from tiger and other Asian big cat species, are urged to take action to end demand for illegal tiger and other big cat parts and derivatives by working with relevant specialists such as consumer behaviour change, social marketing and communication experts to conduct targeted behaviour change initiatives ensuring initiatives are underpinned by sound evidence, are properly baselined, and have strong monitoring and evaluation built in, including appropriate metrics to assess efficacy; and adopting and implementing appropriate legislative and regulatory measures, to deter consumers from purchasing any illegal big cat products.
- 18.107** Parties are invited to report to the Secretariat on implementation of Decisions 18.100 to 18.106 in time for the Secretariat to report to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties as per requirements in paragraph 2 a) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18).
- 18.108** ***Directed to the Secretariat***

The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, undertake a mission to those Parties identified in document SC70 Doc. 51 and in whose territories there are facilities which may be of concern keeping Asian big cats in captivity, with the purpose of gaining a better understanding of the operations and activities undertaken by these facilities; and
- b) report to the Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings on implementation of Decisions 18.107 to 18.108, paragraph a), and progress with regard to the missions concerned and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

18.109 Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings shall review the report and recommendations of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of Decisions 18.100 to 18.108 and determine whether any further time-bound, country specific measures are needed to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, of Decision 14.69 and of paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18).

17.226 Directed to Parties with Asian big cat captive facilities

All Parties in whose territory there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity are requested to:

- a) review national management practices and controls that are in place for such facilities, to ensure that these management practices and controls are adequate to prevent Asian big cat specimens from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities;
- b) ensure strict application of all management practices and controls implemented to regulate the activities of facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity, including with regard to the disposal of specimens from Asian big cats that die in captivity; and
- c) report to the Secretariat on progress with regard to the implementation of this Decision.

14.69 Directed to Parties, especially Appendix-I Asian big cat range States

Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.

Parties responses to Notification 2020/039 on
Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) of 29 April 2020

Austria

Dear CITES Secretariat, Dear Colleagues,
(cc EU Commission)

Regarding Notification No. 2020/039 concerning Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) and Decision 17.226 and 18.104 in particular we like to provide the following information:

According to the Austrian Federal Act on the Protection of Animals (Animal Protection Act), the keeping of specimen of the subfamily Pantherinae, including Asian big cats, is restricted to approved Zoos and registered scientific institutions in accordance with the Animal Protection Act. The Ordinance of the Federal Minister for Health and Women Affairs on minimum requirements for zoos (Zoo Ordinance) further clarifies that only "Category A" Zoos (these have the strictest requirements) are allowed to keep specimen of the subfamily Pantherinae. The relevant Zoos and scientific institutions are regularly checked by the competent authorities.

In a relevant case Austria has provided samples to the TigrisID research project.



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
Kingdom of Cambodia
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ
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Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
សមត្ថកិច្ចគ្រប់គ្រងសេវាកម្មសត្វ
CITES Management Authority of Cambodia

No: 055/20 CMAC

Phnom Penh 17 June 2020.....

Ms. Ivonne Higuero

Secretary-General
CITES Secretariat, International Environment House,
Chemin des Anémones, CH-1219 Châtelaine,
Geneva, Switzerland

Subject: Asian Big Cats (*Felidae spp.*)

Dear Ms. Ivonne,

In reference to the CITES Secretariat Notification to the Parties No. 2020/039, dated on 29 April 2020, the CITES Management Authority of Cambodia herewith submits its response to the concerning associated with Asian Big Cats (*Felidae spp.*) that required under the Decision 17.226 and the Decisions 18.100 to 18.109 agreed by the Conference of Parties.

For the implementation of paragraph a, b and c of the Decision 17.226, we would like to inform that Cambodia has only two facilities that are keeping tigers in captivity, which including Phnom Tamao Zoo and Wildlife Rescue Centre and Phnom Penh Safari. Currently, there are 4 tigers being kept in Phnom Tamao Zoo and Wildlife Rescue Centre, a government institution under management of the Forestry Administration. Other 2 tigers are being kept in Phnom Penh Safari, a private operation. However, Cambodia hasn't yet developed a national management practice and controls that regulate the activities of facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity.

Response to the implementation of the Decisions 18.100 to 18.106, Cambodia has established a joint wildlife crime unit from the government enforcement multi-agencies which includes the Forestry Administration, Military-Police General Department and the Fisheries Administration. This unit is under the support of the Wildlife Alliance and is known as Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team (WRRT). The WRRT has a national remit to suppress wildlife crime and works daily to arrest wildlife offenders, seize wildlife contraband and file cases to the court. As required, the operations of this specialized unit are also regularly cooperating with Cambodia Customs agency. Since 2001, the WRRT has seized over 70,000 live animals, 30 tons of bush meat, over 30 tons of body parts (for use in traditional Chinese medicine) and arrested close to 4,000 illegal wildlife traders. Currently, the WRRT are continuing intensively on investigating and combating illegal wildlife trades including Asian Big Cat and their parts and derivatives. As an example, the result of a 2014 raid, this specialized unit has seized 3 leopard skins (1 fake), 19 clouded leopard skins and 2 Asian golden cat skins from an illegal wildlife trader. For the implementation of Decisions 18.103 and 18.104, Cambodia have never had any records on the seizures of tiger skins since the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; therefore, we won't be able to provide or share any samples of tiger specimens.

Upon the implementation of Resolution Conf.12.5 (Rev.CoP18) that requested the Asian big cats range States to report the information regarding the status of the Asian big cats in the wild within their territories. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries issued an official Ministerial Declaration No.020 (Prakas No.020.MAFF, dated on 25 January 2007) that classified all the terrestrial wildlife in Cambodia into three main groups, which included: "Nearly Extinction Species", "Rare Species" and "Common Species". In Cambodia, there are 8 animal cat species in the Felidae Family and which are classified Ministerial Declaration with the detail information as follows:

No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	CITES Appendix	Cambodia Classification (Prakas No.020.MAFF)
1	Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	I	"Nearly Extinction"
2	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	I	"Rare"
3	Clouded Leopard	<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	I	"Nearly Extinction"
4	Marbled Cat	<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>	I	"Rare"
5	Asian Golden Cat	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	I	"Rare"
6	Fishing Cat	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	II	"Common"
7	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>	II	"Rare"
8	Leopard Cat	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	I, II	"Common"

Cambodia is still lacking the scientific research to confirm on the current status of those 8 animal cat species in the wild. There was only a recent study conducted to determine the current distribution of Leopard, and estimate its population in Cambodia through the reviewing data from camera traps and other wildlife surveys conducted during the past 20 years. According to this study, Leopard now occurs only in 8.0% of its historical range in Cambodia. Leopard was recently detected in 4 Protected Areas in Cambodia, and in which in Mondulkiri Protected Forest, the largest Protected Area in the country with the highest biodiversity, the Leopard density declined about 70% from 2009 (3.6 leopard/100 km²) to 2014 (1.0 leopard/100 km²).

**Reply of the Czech Republic to CITES notification No. 2020/039
Implementation of CITES decisions on Illegal Trade in Asian big cats**

Czech Republic

June 2020

(Compiled by the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic)

In reference to the CITES Secretariat notification No. 2020/039, please find below a response of the Czech Republic concerning the implementation of the relevant resolution and decisions on Illegal trade in Asian big cats (*Felidae spp.*)

1. Decision 17.226 and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev CoP18) Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix I Asian big cat species

Since revealing a significant case of illegal killing of tigers and trade in tigers, tiger parts and derivatives in 2018 ([SC 70 Inf. 24](#)), a number of measures to prevent and combat illegal trade in tiger specimens have been implemented in the Czech Republic ([SC 70 Inf. 23](#)). These include among others:

- As a precautionary measure the Czech Republic has suspended issuing CITES permits for (re-)export of live captive bred tigers from the Czech Republic (the given declaration of the Minister of the Environment came into force on 29th July 2018 - International Tiger Day) to third countries (outside of the EU) for commercial purposes. Only export of tigers from the Czech Republic for breeding in zoos in third countries can be permitted.
- Furthermore, the conditions for issuing EU certificates allowing trade in captive bred tigers within the EU have been strengthened in the Czech Republic. The issuing regional Management Authorities have been recommended by the Ministry of the Environment to issue such certificates only as transaction specific documents and only for purposes of breeding, research and education in zoos.
- Checks of all existing facilities in the Czech Republic breeding tigers in captivity have been conducted by the Czech Environmental Inspectorate, samples (hair, excrements) from tigers for archivation and for possible future identification through DNA analysis have been taken.
- The Project TigrisID financed by the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic to develop inter alia reliable DNA diagnostic tools for processed medicinals launched in 2018 and will continue till the end of 2022 (a progress report of the project attached for the information).

- Methodic guidance for proper control of tiger carcasses and their disposal has been released for competent veterinarian authorities in order to avoid misuse of carcasses for further illegal trade in tiger parts and other products. Death of tigers and other big cat species have to be also announced by the owners to the competent CITES Management Authorities according to the CITES national legislation, documents about proper disposal of the carcasses is required.

Currently, there have been registered 177 live specimens of tigers in the Czech Republic. Although it is premature to evaluate quite recently implemented stricter national measures, it has been recorded a decline in number of newly registered tigers in the Czech Republic (33 live specimens in the year 2018 in comparison to 16 specimens in the year 2019) and a decrease in number of cancelled registrations due to export or mortality of the specimens.

Enforcement matters:

The checks of breeders of tigers are conducted regularly and samples for DNA analysis are also continuously taken from new offspring of tigers born or imported to the Czech Republic.

In 2019 the Czech Environmental Inspectorate seized and confiscated 2 live specimens of white tigers (*Panthera tigris*) due to the fact that the specimens (legally acquired) were not marked by microchips as it is prescribed by our CITES national legislation and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations. Given specimens have been consequently moved to the facility of [Malkia Park](#) (Slovakia) specialized in breeding and rescue of big cat species.

A tiger skeleton (without a skull) and a separate tiger skull was confiscated on 2nd October 2019. Another case with the stuffed tiger body without proving of legal origin of the specimen seized in 2019 has not been finished yet.

Legislative measures:

Amendments of veterinarian legislation - Act No. 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against abuse, strengthening the conditions of keeping and breeding tigers (and also other big cat species) by private breeders was adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic in 2019 and is currently waiting for its adoption by the Parliament of the Czech Republic. The proposed strengthened conditions include for example prohibitions of production of tigers and other big cat species by private breeders and also prohibited import of tigers and other big cat species from abroad for keeping by private breeders or trade.

2. Decision 18.102

On 27th July 2019, the Czech Republic received the letter of from Ms. Ivonne Higuero, the CITES Secretariat – General with the request for information about the facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity identified as of possible concern that tigers kept in these facilities may be misused for illegal trade tiger parts and derivatives. Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic in its reply of 31st October 2019 submitted the requested information about the facilities concerned. Because of the fact that there is still ongoing trial case and further investigation with the breeder operating the facilities concerned, it has been recommended to consider the postponement of the possible mission of the CITES Secretariat to the Czech Republic to visit such facilities until the trial case and investigation are completely finished.

3. Decision 18.104

Until now the Czech Republic has received samples of tiger specimens containing tiger DNA for genetic research Tigris ID from various sources (zoos, private breeders, seized specimens) from several countries of the European union (e.g. Slovakia, France, Germany etc.), no samples have been shared by the third countries (outside of the EU) yet.

4. Decision 18.105

Relevant measures described above in the section 1 as applied for Asian big cat species, incl. *Panthera pardus*.

The Security Research for the Needs of the State 2016–2021 scheme

Project name: Applied research on the genetics of selected species of animals protected under the international convention of CITES

Investigator: Forezní DNA servis, s.r.o., Managing Director: RNDr. Daniel Vaněk, Ph.D.

Expert point of reference: Czech Environmental Inspectorate (CEI)

Project duration: 4 years; opening: 01–2018

The goal of the project is to achieve the following outcomes:

- Develop an analytical kit for the species-specific determination of the tiger in an unknown sample
- Develop an analytical kit for individual identification of tigers, hyacinth macaws and palm cockatoos, as well as an RT-PCR quantification kit
- Develop a reference database of DNA profiles of tigers, hyacinth macaws and palm cockatoos
- Develop population studies for tigers, hyacinth macaws and palm cockatoos
- Produce a comprehensive report

The progress as per February 7th, 2020

At the beginning of 2020, the research is in the stage of testing *Panthera tigris* specific DNA quantification system, 2 multiplexes for individual identification of *Panthera tigris*, specie identification of *Panthera tigris* in processed artifacts of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)s. According to information available to CEI, the investigator is now in the process of agreeing co-operation with other laboratories (including the U.S.) in order to run beta-testing for the quantification and individual identification of tigers. No significant success has been achieved so far in identifying *Panthera tigris* in heavily temperature damaged samples of material (long-term broths / bouillon cubes) where the procedures applied so far have not produced positive results. Therefore the research activities also focused on proteomic analysis. The research segment concerning the genetics of macaws and cockatoos is currently focussed on the testing of suitable loci for new multiplexes and generation of population studies

Collecting samples for the purpose of the project

Work involving sampling records and output protocols from the analyses (including statistical evaluation) was started in June 2018. The **Primary sample collection record** can cover the following:

- (I) By whom the collection was made (CEI officer / project Investigator / 3rd party – e.g. zoos/holders);
- (II) Primary Identification of the sample / collection kit;
- (III) Chip no.;
- (IV) Animal owner name;
- (V) Animal name (if known); and
- (VI) Whether or not a photo-documentation of the sample has been carried out.

Collection kits vary depending on the type of the primary sample (hair/feathers, blood, saliva, tissue, excrements). For the sake of sample stabilisation, testing was initiated of preparations suitable for stabilising samples of biological material at normal temperature.

As per February 7th, 2020, DNA as isolated from the following number of individuals:

- Palm cockatoo + other Cacatuidae: 27
- Hyacinth macaw + other Psittacidae: 104
- Tiger: 424

For related carnivore species, reference DNA is available from the following felines: *Panthera leo*, *Puma concolor*, *Panthera onca*, *Panthera pardus* and *Felis catus* (isolated and quantified DNA).

For the related species of birds, reference DNA is available from the following species: *Ara militaris*, *Ara ambiguus*, *Primolius couloni*, *Guarouba guarouba*, *Ara rubrogenys*, *Ara macao*, *Amazona aratrix*, *Amazona leucocephala* (isolated and quantified DNA).

The collection of reference materials of other related species is currently underway in co-operation with CEI and Czech zoos.

Testing, method development and setting up a database of DNA profiles

- Testing and validation of methods and procedures to identify a species in an unknown sample

Primers are continuously tested on forensic samples of tigers (excrements, hair, bone (native/processed), tissue, tanned/untanned skin and blood). This activity includes testing for the PCR robustness and tolerance to common inhibitors as well as bioinformatics analysis of the resulting sequences. Primers for species identification are continuously tested on biological materials sampled from other animals. In 2019, experiments were initiated to identify the dependence of DNA degradation on the skin tanning procedure. We have found a strong correlation between the chemicals used for the skin processing (especially the formic acid) and DNA degradation and crosslinking.

- Developing a database user shell

The database software for the comparison of animal DNA profiles was finished by the end of 2019, the validation phase at the CEI should be accomplished within few months. The database user interface allows logging, recording activities of authorized users, data backup, comparing database profiles against each other, exporting individual records, exporting the number of records, and so on. In addition to making direct comparison of profiles, a request was made for the function to be established of searching for candidate profiles that correspond to the parent-child relationship.

The instrumentation newly acquired as long-term tangible assets (the SeqStudio sequencer and the QuantStudio 5 RT-PCR system) was validated and is now fully used to address the individual aims of the project. This year, the equipment above will be subject to scheduled inspections carried out as part of the warranty period.

Overall commentary:

The timetable is continuously being met; considering the stage of the project, intermediate targets are being achieved as required.

India

**Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Wildlife Division**

**6th Floor, Vayu Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi-110003**

File No: 4-1/2021-WL (Part 1)
Dated: 31 March 2021

CITES Secretariat
International Environment House
11 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva
Switzerland

Sub: Asian Big Cats

Sir/Madam,

Please find annexed to this letter a brief update on India's implementation of Decision 17.226, and Decisions 18.100 to 18.106 on Asian big cats.

Annex

S. No.	Decision	Matter	India Remarks
1	17.226	<p>Directed to Parties with Asian big cat captive facilities</p> <p>All Parties in whose territory there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity are requested to:</p> <p>a) review national management practices and controls that are in place for such facilities, to ensure that these management practices and controls are adequate to prevent Asian big cat specimens from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities;</p> <p>b) ensure strict application of all management practices and controls implemented to regulate the activities of facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity, including with regard to the disposal of specimens from Asian big cats that die in captivity; and</p> <p>c) report to the Secretariat on progress with regard to the implementation of this Decision.</p>	<p>Asian big cats in captivity in India are only in zoological parks.</p> <p>These zoological parks (Zoos) have been established under enabling provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. These Zoos are regularly monitored & evaluated by the Central Zoo Authority, Govt. of India, MoEF&CC for animal welfare and housekeeping standards.</p> <p>There are no facilities of the nature of "tiger farms" in India.</p>
2	18.100	<p>Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, in particular Parties identified in document CoP18 Doc. 71.11, are encouraged to take into consideration the information in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, and pursue enforcement efforts to address this illegal trade, including through the initiation of joint investigations and operations aimed at halting the members of organized crime networks across the entire illegal trade chain.</p>	<p>Illegal trade in Asian big cats is dealt with as per the relevant provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Further, India has established a dedicated Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) to deal with the menace of wildlife crime. In addition, India has established a National Repository of Camera Trap Photographs of Tiger (NRCTPT) to ascertain the origin of seized tiger skin specimens.</p>
3	18.101	<p>Parties, in whose territory tourist markets exist that are contributing to illegal cross border trade involving Asian big cat specimens, are encouraged to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with their neighbouring Parties to target such illegal trade.</p>	<p>India has a formal understanding with China, Bangladesh and Myanmar and bilateral engagements with Nepal, Bhutan and Russia wherein information related to wildlife crime are shared for establishing linkages in illegal trade.</p>
4	18.102	<p>Parties in whose territories there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity referred to in Decision 18.108, paragraph a)</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

		are invited to welcome a mission from the Secretariat, to visit these facilities.	
5	18.103	All Parties that have made seizures of tiger skins since the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are encouraged to share images in accordance with Resolution Conf 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species, paragraph 1 l) by 31 st December 2019 and all Parties are encouraged to share images of any skins seized hereafter within 90 days of such seizure.	India has established a National Repository of Camera Trap Photographs of Tiger (NRCTPT) which is fed with camera trap images of tiger captured during the quadrennial All India Tiger Estimation exercise conducted in 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 besides the annual Phase-IV exercise conducted in tiger source areas. Information from this database is shared as and when required between States in India as well as with neighbouring countries.
6	18.104	Parties are encouraged, in accordance with their national regulations, to share samples of tiger specimens from living animals, seized animals or products that could contain tiger DNA with the Czech Republic national focal point for use in the genetic research project Tigris ID which is focusing on the development of novel techniques to facilitate tackling illegal trade in tiger specimens.	Conservation genetics forms an important part in tiger estimation in low density areas as well as in determining genetic constitution of India's tigers in different landscapes. Further, India is finalizing a set of primers which shall be used as the minimum standard for ascertaining tiger samples in cases of wildlife crime.
7	18.105	Parties, in particular those mentioned in section 3.1.5 of Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc.71.12, are encouraged to take serious consideration of the concerns regarding illegal trade in leopard parts and derivatives as outlined in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc.71.1 and take measures to address these.	India has initiated population estimation of leopards in tiger landscapes to ascertain the trend in leopard numbers which shall also shed light on impact of illegal trade on the species. Apart from this, protocols in leopard conservation genetics have also been formalized.
8	18.106	Consumer States of specimens from tiger and other Asian big cat species, are urged to take action to end demand for illegal tiger and other big cat parts and derivatives by working with relevant specialists such as consumer behaviour change, social marketing and communication experts to conduct targeted behaviour change initiatives ensuring initiatives are underpinned by sound evidence, are properly baselined, and have strong monitoring and evaluation built in, including appropriate metrics to assess efficacy; and adopting and implementing appropriate legislative and regulatory measures, to deter consumers from purchasing any illegal big cat products.	Awareness generation activities which <i>inter alia</i> include aspects of wildlife crime are being assisted under the ongoing scheme of Project Tiger.

The Netherlands

17.226

In the Netherlands it is prohibited to possess live big cat species. Only registered zoos and special rescue centers can get a permit to keep big cats. If you want to transfer an Appendix I species to a different location within the NL/EU, you need an EU-certificate. EU-certificates are issued only if the animal is legally acquired. The zoos are bound to the Dutch zoo legislation, which states that you may only transfer an animal to another zoo, if it will be housed in similar facilities and taken care of in a similar way. Housing facilities are inspected by the government regularly. Most zoos that keep Asian big cats are members of EAZA and only exchange these animals within the breeding programme.

18.100-18.106 as applicable:

There are no tourist markets in the Netherlands involving Asian big cats.

The Netherlands has not confiscated any tiger products in 2019. The only product of an Asian big cat that was confiscated in 2019, were traditional medicines with an ingredient of *Panthera pardus*. These were confiscated at Amsterdam airport and came from a tourist travelling from Hong Kong to the Netherlands.

Pakistan: Report on the implementation of CITES Decisions on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species (CITES Notification No.2020/039 dated 29 April 2020).

A. Introduction

In Pakistan following two species of Asian big cats are found in wild:

- i. Common leopard (*Panthera pardus*)
- ii. Snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*)

i. Common leopard (*Panthera pardus*)

Distribution and Status: In Pakistan common leopard is confined to Himalayan forest regions up to limit of the tree-line or the lower altitude valleys in the more arid mountainous regions further north. It is mainly found in the mountain forests of Punjab, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, lower Gilgit and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. It is also found in the highlands of Baluchistan and Sindh. The common leopard is "Critically Endangered" in Pakistan. Except a few thick forest patches and protected areas, where a reasonable degree of protection has helped the species to grow in numbers, it is dwindling in other parts of its distribution range. The total population of this beautiful cat in Pakistan may be in between 150-250.

Threats: The main threats to this species include:

- o Habitat degradation, disturbance in the form of forest cutting, livestock grazing and fodder collection due to which their natural habitat is shrinking day by day.
- o Growing livestock population can create forage competition with wild ungulates, resulting in overgrazing and decline or local extinction in natural prey of common leopard.
- o Human-animal conflict; killing of common leopard by locals as retaliatory killing due to its predation on their livestock.
- o Lack of awareness among the local community.

ii. Snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*)

Distribution and Status: In Pakistan Snow leopard is found in northern mountainous systems; Hindu Kush, Pamirs, Karakorams, and Himalayas. An estimate of 200-420 snow leopards, exist across Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. A national-level assessment deemed the species "Critically Endangered" within the country (Sheikh and Malour, 2004).

Threats: The main threats to this species are more or less similar to those of common leopard, which include:

- o Habitat loss and degradation
- o Livestock-based livelihood, impacting natural prey base
- o Human-animal conflict and retaliation killing
- o Weak institutional Capacity
- o Lack of awareness
- o Climate Change

Conservation activities for Big Cats in Pakistan: For conservation of snow leopard, Pakistan along-with other range states of snow leopard is a part of Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP). In line with GSLEP priorities an exclusive project titled Pakistan Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (PSLEP) has been launched in Pakistan. It is a US\$4.64 million Landscape Based Conservation Project funded by Global Environment Facility (GEF) through United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Pakistan. The project is being implemented over a five-year period (2018-2023). It follows UNDP's NGO execution modality and the Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) is implementing the project under the supervision of the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC).

In general, Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Departments undertake various activities for conservation and protection of big cats. In these efforts, there is active collaboration and supports from NGOs; Snow Leopard Foundation Pakistan, WWF Pakistan, Wildlife Conservation Society, Himalayan Wildlife Foundation and IUCN. Conservation activities include:

- **Legal Protection:** Both big cats in Pakistan (Common leopard and Snow leopard) are "Protected" under respective provincial wildlife legislations and their hunting, killing and capturing has been completely banned. Any violation is punishable with imprisonment or a fine or with both.
- **Establishment of Protected Areas:** For conservation and preservation of the species a system of protected areas has been established in the country. In Pakistan total protected area comprise of more than 12% of the total area.
- **Watch and Ward:** Provincial wildlife authorities ensure strict enforcement through watch and ward in and around the protected areas.
- **Community-based Trophy Hunting Programme:** Trophy hunting of wild ungulates (Markhor, Urial, Ibex and Blue Sheep) is being successfully implemented in Pakistan and is world recognized. The local communities get 80% shares of the revenue generated, which is used for their socio-economic uplift, in return the communities protect wildlife with a sense of ownership. This programme has great potential in changing public attitude toward wildlife.
- **Predator Proof Corrals:** To reduce livestock depredation by big cats predator proof corrals are being constructed in big cats habitat areas.
- **Livestock Vaccination:** To control transmission of disease from

livestock to wildlife and vice versa livestock vaccination is carried out in big cat habitats.

- **Livestock Insurance Scheme:** To address community grievances from big cat's depredations livestock insurance scheme has been launched in some areas. Scope of these schemes is to be extended in other areas.
- **Research and Monitoring:** To enhance understanding of the big cat species many research activities have been undertaken on various aspects that include; population status and distribution, habitat mapping, ecology, food habits, ranging movements, as well as to properly document human-leopard conflicts in its range.
- **Improving habitat:** Activities to protect and restore habitat of the big cats include; protecting forests, stabilizing landslides and providing alternative energy to local communities to reduce pressure on forest for fuelwood.
- **Awareness Raising:** Awareness raising activities are undertaken to increase acceptance of big cats by highlighting their importance and role in ecosystem. Local communities, students and other stakeholders are involved in these campaigns.

B. Implementation of Decisions (Decision 17.226 and Decisions 18.100 to 18.109) on Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

For effective enforcement of CITES provisions in Pakistan an exclusive legislation at federal level, The Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Act, 2012 was enacted and Rules under it titled, The Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Rules, 2018 have been notified. Any violation (illegal trade of CITES-listed species), is punishable under the said Act; with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one year or more than two years or with fine which shall not be less than 0.500 million Pak. Rupees or more than 1.000 million Pak. Rupees. Moreover, there is a comprehensive document titled; "Guidelines for the Acquisition and Management of *Felids* (Cat Species) in Captivity" which provides detailed guidelines regarding acquisition and management of felids in captivity (Copies of the documents enclosed for reference).

In Pakistan there are two types of captive big cats;

- within government zoos/facilities
- within private zoos/facilities

In government facilities parts of any felid expired in captivity are disposed off properly to prevent illegal trade. Some parts like pelt and bones are donated to public sector museums for research and education purpose; however record of such parts is maintained by the provincial wildlife departments and verified from time to time.

In private facilities felids are kept in accordance with the approved "Guidelines for the Acquisition and Management of *Felids* (Cat Species) in Captivity" which has provision of proper disposal of expired big cats and Provincial wildlife departments ensure implementation.

Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Departments staff carryout strict enforcement of provincial wildlife laws through watch and ward to control poaching and trade of wildlife species including big cats. At entry and exit points of the country, Pakistan Customs in collaboration with Ministry of Climate Change and Provincial/Territorial Wildlife Departments ensure strict implementation of CITES. Moreover with reference to CITES Notification No. 2018/014 dated 30 January 2018, CITES Management authority of Pakistan received 140 copies of "**A guide for law enforcement agencies to combat illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens**" which were accordingly distributed among the relevant law enforcement agencies.

For collaboration at regional level, Pakistan is member of following forums which are working on conservation of big cats:

- South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN).
- Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).

Reference: Sheikh KM, Molur S. 2004. Status and red list of Pakistan's mammals based on the Pakistan mammal conservation assessment & management plan workshop. Karachi City: IUCN, 312.

Link to: [Guidelines for the acquisition and management of felids \(cat species\) in captivity](#)

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PART II

Statutory Notifications (S. R. O.)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 27th December, 2018

S.R.O. 1639(I)/2018.— In exercise of the powers conferred by section 28 of the Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Act, 2012 (XIV of 2012), the Federal Government is pleased to make the following rules, namely:—

1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) These rules may be called the Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Rules, 2018.

(2) These rules shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.**—(1) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(3451)

Price : Rs. 10.00

[8050(2018)/Ex. Gaz.]

- (a) "Act" means the Pakistan Trade Control of Wild Fauna and Flora Act 2012 (XIV of 2012);
- (b) "certificate" or "permit" or "licence" means the official document used to authorize import, export, re-export, or introduction from the land, sea or air of specimens of species or their parts and derivatives listed in Appendices I, II or III of the Convention and covered by any other law;
- (c) "enforcement authority" means provincial wildlife departments or any other department duly authorized by the Federal Government for application of the Act and these rules;
- (d) "readily recognizable part or derivative" means any specimen which appears from an accompanying document, packaging, mark, label, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or from any other circumstances, to be a part or derivative of a wild animal or plant;
- (e) "rescue or rehabilitation centre" means a center designated by the Federal or a Provincial Government as the case may be, to look after the welfare of living specimen, particularly those that have been confiscated;
- (f) "specimen" any animal or plant, whether whole or a part, alive or dead and any readily recognizable part or derivative thereof specified in any Appendix of the Convention in relation to the species; and
- (g) "trade" means export, re-export, import and introduction from the sea.

(2) All other terms and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall have the same meanings as are assigned to them in Act, and the United Nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 1973.

3. **Management Authority.**—(1) For the purposes of this Act the Management Authority shall be as follows, namely:

S.No.	Organization	Designation
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Federal Minister of the Division concerned.	Chairman
2	Secretary, of the Division concerned.	Vice-Chairman
3	Inspector General Forests.	Member-cum-Secretary

4	Secretary, Forest, Wildlife and Fisheries Department, Government of Punjab.	<i>Member</i>
5	Secretary, Forest and Wildlife Department, Government of Sindh.	<i>Member</i>
6	Secretary, Environment Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.	<i>Member</i>
7	Secretary, Forests and Wildlife Department, Government of Balochistan.	<i>Member</i>
8	Secretary, Forests, Wildlife and Fisheries Department, Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.	<i>Member</i>
9	Secretary, Forest, Wildlife and Environment Department, Government of Gilgit-Baltistan.	<i>Member</i>
10	Chairman, Capital Development Authority.	<i>Member</i>
11	A representative not below the rank of regional head from International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources-Pakistan (IUCN -Pakistan).	<i>Member</i>
12	A representative not below the rank of Director of World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-Pakistan).	<i>Member</i>
13	A prominent Non-Official member of civil society from each province or territory nominated by the Division concerned on the recommendation of the province or territory concerned.	<i>Member</i>

(2) The Management Authority shall meet at least once a year unless earlier required.

(3) The Division concerned on the recommendation of Management Authority shall designate an office to provide secretariat support including inter-agency coordination.

(4) The Management Authority shall perform all the requisite duties under the Act and which includes the following, namely:—

- (a) to consider issuing of licence or permit or certificate throughout Pakistan relating to import, export, re-export and certificate of origin of any species listed in any Appendix of the Convention and the local legislation or policy, and to attach any condition to any permit or certificate that it may deem necessary;

- (b) to seek and act on the advice of Scientific Authority to exercise its functions relating to implementation of the Act and the rules made thereunder;
- (c) to communicate with the CITES Secretariat and the Management and Enforcement Authorities of other Parties to the Convention on scientific, administrative, enforcement and other issues related to implementation of the Convention;
- (d) to maintain records of international trade in specimens, as per the provisions of section 22 of the Act, and prepare an annual report concerning trade, and timely submit this report to the Convention Secretariat;
- (e) to prepare a biennial report on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to enforce the Convention, and timely submit this report to the CITES Secretariat;
- (f) to coordinate national implementation and enforcement of the Convention and these rules and to cooperate with relevant Federal and Provincial authorities and other stakeholders in this regard;
- (g) to consult with the Scientific Authority on the issuance and acceptance of Convention documents, the nature and level of trade in species listed in the Convention, the setting and management of quotas, the registration of traders and production operations, the establishment of Rescue or Rehabilitation Centers and the preparation of proposals to amend the Convention Appendices;
- (h) to represent Pakistan at national and international meetings related to Convention and any related matters;
- (i) to develop and provide awareness-raising, capacity-building, training, education material and information related to the Convention;
- (j) to advise on designation of one or more rescue or rehabilitation centre for seized and confiscated living specimens;
- (k) to provide capacity building opportunities and any other facility or resources to any confiscating authorities including return of the confiscated consignment from other country, and safe-keeping and release into wild of the live specimen;

- (l) in consultation with Scientific Authority and Convention secretariat, provide necessary advice or instructions including resources for safe disposal of confiscated consignment of dead specimen or derivatives;
- (m) to provide technical advice to the court of law and to the enforcement authority in any matter under the Act and these rules;
- (n) to coordinate requirements and allocation of annual export quota allotted to provinces and other territories; and
- (o) to perform any other function which the Federal Government may authorize to carry out the objectives of the Act.

4. **Scientific Authority.**—(1) A Scientific Authority may be constituted in each Province and region of Pakistan with Provincial Forest and Wildlife Department as its focal point. The Scientific Authority may include the following on the basis of requisite scientific information, namely:—

- (i) Department of Zoology of relevant universities in the Province or region;
- (ii) Department of Botany of relevant universities in the Province or region;
- (iii) fisheries departments, Inland and Marine;
- (iv) independent Wildlife and Forestry experts or researchers; and
- (v) any other relevant agency or individual.

(2) The Scientific Authority shall render advice after consultation with relevant scientific experts or agencies to the Management Authority as required by the Convention.

5. **Export.**—(1) The export of any specimen of species included in any Appendix of Convention and non-listed species shall require the prior grant and presentation of a valid export permit or certificate of origin issued by the Management Authority in accordance with the provisions of section 5 of the Act, after obtaining a no objection certificate (NOC) issued by the respective Provincial Wildlife Department.

(2) Any person desirous of trading in specimens shall present permit, certificate for clearance only at the designated Customs ports of entry and exit, as

specified in Annexure-I through which Convention listed and non-listed species can be imported, exported or re-exported only.

6. **Import.**—(1) The import into Pakistan of any specimen of species included in any Appendix of Convention shall require the prior presentation of an import permit or NOC issued by the Management Authority and either export permit or re-export permit or certificate of origin issued by the country of export.

(2) The import permit for import into Pakistan of any specimen of species included in Appendix-I of the Convention and NOC for Appendix-II or III of the Convention, into Pakistan, shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Act. To mitigate spread of any contagious disease, the Management Authority may take such actions as deemed appropriate, subject to the advice of Scientific Authority.

7. **Re-export.**—The re-export from Pakistan, of any specimen of species included in any Appendix of the Convention, shall require the prior grant and presentation of a valid re-export permit issued by the Management Authority in accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the Act.

8. **Introduction from the Sea.**—The introduction from the sea of any specimen of species included in any Appendix of Convention shall require prior permission and presentation of a permit or certificate issued in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of the Act.

9. **Permit, no objection certificate and certificate.**—(1) The permit, certificate and NOC granted under the Act and these Rules shall be issued by CITES Management Authority with the deposit of prescribed fees.

10. **Registration.**—(1) Any firm or person who wishes to trade specimens of any species listed in Appendices of Convention and non-listed species internationally shall have prior registration with the Management Authority on recommendation of Provincial or relevant authorities and with the deposit of prescribed fees.

11. **Enforcement.**—(1) The Management Authority shall monitor the enforcement by an enforcement authority authorized under the Act.

(2) For registration of a case at least two officials of the concerned Provincial Wildlife Department in the case of fauna, and at least one official from concerned Provincial Forestry Department in case of flora shall be nominated to act as the authorized persons to register a case under the Act.

(3) The Federal and Provincial Governments may make provisions in their annual non-development budget to facilitate implementation of this Act, and prosecution of the case registered under the Act.

ANNEX-I

[see rule 6]

List of Land Ports, Airports and Harbors designated for Import, Export and Re-Export**1. Land Ports**

- (a) All International land or dry ports of Pakistan.
- (b) Pak-China Border Post, Khunjerab Pass;
- (c) Pak-Afghan Border Post, Khyber Pass;
- (d) Pak-Afghan Border Post, Chaman;
- (e) Pak-India Border Post, Wagah Post;
- (f) Pak-India Border Post, Khokhrapar Post;
- (g) Pak-Iran Border Post, Taftan Post; and
- (h) Pak-Iran Border Post, Mand Post.

2. Airports and Harbors

- (a) all International Airports of Pakistan; and
- (b) all International Seaports of Pakistan.

[File No. 18-3/96-CC.]

EHSAN-UL-HAQ,
Deputy Secretary (Admin-II).



Directorate for Nature, Biodiversity and Landscape Protection

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Your ref.
Notification No.
2020/039

Our ref.
8199/2020-6.2
25484/2020

Contact person/☎
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Bratislava
3rd June 2020

Subject:

Notification No. 2020/039 on Asian Big Cats – reply of Slovakia

In relation to the Notification No. 2020/039 from 29th April 2020, published by the CITES Secretariat, we are sending following information to relevant decisions and resolution:

1. Decision 17.226 and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species

a) legislation

As a result of review of the Slovak national CITES legislation, on 1st January 2019 amendment of the Act No 15/200515 Coll. on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein and on the amendment to certain acts came into force. Regarding Asian big cats, aim of the amendment was to prevent Asian big cat specimens (*Panthera tigris*, *Panthera pardus*, *Neofelis nebulosa*, *Uncia uncia* and *Panthera leo*) that die in captivity (and their parts) from entering illegal trade.

Regarding holding live animals, we have in place administrative obligations as record keeping on a separate species card (prescribed form in the Decree No 110/2005 Coll.). The holder is obliged to notify the CITES Management Authority (CITES MA) on every change of data in the species card by delivering a copy of the part of the species card containing the change within 15/30 days from the registration of the change. Aim of this provision is to have information on keeping, breeding, handling and trading on above mentioned specimens in Slovakia.

On disposal of dead specimens and their parts, on 1st January 2019 we introduced duty to the holder of died specimens of the above mentioned species to refer to the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC) on the date of hand over of a dead specimen to a licensed person for destroying the specimen or a licensed taxidermist. The hand over is than realised under supervision of the SNC that performs the physical identification of the specimen and its unique marking. The SNC shall execute a record of hand-over and send its copy to the CITES MA within 30 days from the date of its execution. The holder of dead specimen shall be obliged to provide cooperation in identifying the specimen. In case that the holder decided for processing the specimen by the taxidermist, after processing he is obliged to keep records of the treatment of the dead specimen and notify to CITES MA every change of data in the record of treatment of the dead specimen (prescribed form in the Decree No 110/2005 Coll.) by delivering a copy of a part of the record with the change designated within ten business days from the date of recording the change.

In case that the dead specimen is tiger, SNC takes also samples of hairs of such died tigers. One sample taken from the dead specimen is collected for the purposes of the TIGRIS ID project in Czech Republic and one sample is stored for our national purposes in National ZOO Bojnice. More detailed information on our contribution to this project is referred under the Decision 18.106.

In last years, number of facilities focused on direct contact with big cat species is growing. As this is more welfare problem, we suggested changes in the veterinarian legislation to avoid the direct contact with the animal (excepting persons regularly caring for the specimen). Amendment of the veterinarian legislation came into force on 1st March 2020.

b) controls

In 2018 Slovak Environmental Inspectorate (SEI) collected from several information resources (CITES Authorities, veterinarian authorities) data about subjects who might keep/keep *Felidae* species in Slovakia. Based on this data, regional inspectorates carried out inspections of together 10 facilities (including one circus from the Czech Republic). Administrative offences were detected in two cases. Inspection in case of one facility is still ongoing (preliminary, no violation of CITES legislation detected in relation to big cat species).

During inspections focused on *Felidae* species (2017 – 2019) were taken samples (hairs) from 65 live tigers for the purposes of the TIGRIS ID project in Czech Republic.

c) other management practices

In case of processing applications for intra EU (domestic) trade, we apply strict approach in permitting procedures. In general, we are extremely careful in case of proceedings and applications concerning relevant *Felidae* species, and in the event of any sign of doubt, we order DNA tests. Using this method is however in some cases complicated due to the frequent crossbreeding. In case of intra EU trade, we apply also restriction of the exemption to one transaction. The goal is to keep track of the movement of the specimen in case of changing the holder.

2. Decision 18.104

Based on good cooperation between SEI and Czech Environmental Inspectorate, in 2019 SEI shared samples taken from 65 live tigers holding in Slovakia and 2 samples from died specimens for the purposes of the genetic research project TIGRIS ID. SEI plans to contribute with the samples also in the future, especially from died specimens.

3. Decision 18.105

As you can see in point 1, we have applied the same measures also for the species *Panthera pardus*.

Notificación 2020/039

España cuenta con diferentes instalaciones (centros zoológicos) en los cuales se encuentran los especímenes indicados en la tabla número 1.

Algunos de ellos son instituciones o refugios que no crían grandes felinos asiáticos con fines comerciales y están incluidos en programas de conservación [Europeos](#).

Estos ejemplares, de los cuales se conoce su origen, han sido identificados y marcados. Asimismo, cada centro informa de nacimientos y muertes. De hecho, cuando se produce un nuevo nacimiento se realiza una inspección física para verificarlo.

En cuanto a la aplicación de las Decisiones 18.100 a 18.106, España no es objeto de comercio ilícito de este tipo de especies. No obstante, en los centros que a continuación se mencionan, se producen inspecciones periódicas para corroborar que se cumple con la normativa CITES.

Alicante

- AAP [Primadomus](#)
- SIRER/SAFARI AITANA
- Río Safari Elche
- [Terranatura](#)

Barcelona

- Zoo de Barcelona

Bilbao

- Parque de la Naturaleza de Cabárceno
- Zoológico de Santillana
- [Karpin](#) Fauna
- Senda Viva

Cádiz

- Zoológico de Jerez
- Zoológico de Castellar

Gijón

- NZ El Bosque

Las Palmas

- Centro de Rescate [Canaryfauna](#) S.L. (Parque de cocodrilos)
- Rancho Texas Park

Málaga

- [Qasys](#) Park

Madrid

- Zoo de Madrid
- Safari Madrid
- Fauna y Acción

Murcia

- JACAS FALCONS SL
- Zoo Terra Natura

Palma de Mallorca

- Safari Zoo
- Fundación Natura Parc

Sevilla

- Zoo de Córdoba
- Zoo de Guillena (Sevilla)

Tenerife

- Loro Parque
- Jungle Park

Vigo

- Zoo de Vigo

Tabla nº 1.- Especímenes de especies de grandes felinos asiáticos presentes en núcleos zoológicos en España.

	Alicante	Barcelona	Bilbao	Cádiz	Gijón	Las Palmas	Málaga	Madrid	Murcia	Palma de Mallorca	Sevilla	Tenerife	Vigo
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	26	X	20	4	1	5	X	18	X	6	4	2	2
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	1	X	4	2	X	X	X	3	2	X	1	1	1
<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	4	X	2	1	X	X	X	3	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Panthera leo</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	6	3	X	X	X
<i>Panthera pardus saxicolor</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	2	1	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Panthera pardus kotiya</i>	X	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i>	X	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	2	X	X	X	X

**Thailand Report on the Implementation of Decisions 17.226 and
Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev.CoP18)
Asian big cat (Felidae spp.)**

Background

According to Notification to the parties no. 2020/039 dated 29 April 2020, to facilitate the preparation of the Secretariat's report to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee, and the work of the Committee,

- a) Parties in whose territory there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity are requested to report on their implementation of Decision 17.226;
- b) Parties are invited to, as applicable, submit information on their implementation of Decision 18.100 to 18.106; and
- c) Parties are invited to submit information on their implementation of Resolution Conf.12.5 (Rev. CoP18). Asian big cat range States are encouraged to include in their report information regarding the status of Asian big cats in the wild within their territories..

Measures put in place to ensure the application of Decision 17.226

Currently there are a total of 23 public zoos with less than 49 tigers in their possession and 9 public zoos with more than 49 tigers in their possession in Thailand. There are 10 facilities in Thailand that were identified as being concern. The names of those 10 facilities with number of tiger kept in their facilities are shown in the table below.

Table1 Current status of Asian big cat in captive facilities of concern in Thailand

No.	Name of Facility	Reason	Number of tiger in possession		Remark
			2019	2020	
1	Safari World, Bangkok	a)	221	224	
2	Star Tiger Zoo, Chaiyaphum	b)	7	5	
3	Sriracha Tiger Zoo, Chonburi	a) and b)	272	288	
4	The Million Years Stone Park and Pattaya Crocodile Farm, Chonburi	b)	55	69	
5	Tiger Temple, Kanchanaburi	a) and b)	-	-	Closed down
6	Safari Park open Zoo Camp, Kanchanaburi	b)	28	23	
7	Mukdahan Tiger Zoo and Farm, Mukdahan	b)	50	49	
8	Mali-Salika Zoo, Nakhon Nayok	a)	-	-	Closed down
9	Phuket Tiger Kingdom, Phuket	a)	44	13	will close down soon
10	Huahin Zoo and Animal Park, Prachuap Khiri Khan	b)	35	47	
		Total	712	718	

Data as of June 2020

In general, Thailand does not have any intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale for trade in their parts and derivatives. According to Thailand's Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act B.E.2535 (1992), breeding tiger for commercial purpose is prohibited. The newly published Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act, B.E.2562 (2019), which came into effect in November 2019, continues the prohibition of breeding tiger for commercial purpose and additionally has standards for establishing and running public zoos that must be met. If it is later found that the license holder fails to meet the standard of zoo management or if the interior of zoo is found to be risk to the public or animal well-being then the minister has the authority send the letter to the license holder to fix the problems.

Thailand has adopted an effective measure in managing and regulating tigers in our public zoos. The 9 public zoos with more than 49 tigers in their possession are most being large zoos or open zoos that have sufficient area spaces to accommodate large cage areas or open spaces for free-roaming for the purposes of conservation, education, and tourism. Some zoos operate their business by being a place of edutainment which incorporate both entertainment and education into its model by giving knowledge on the caretaking and research of tigers to the general public to imprint both knowledge and experience of tigers. These zoos also generally cooperate with educational or research institutes that are related to various researches of tiger. There must be measures taken to regulate the population of tiger. This is to be done by separating the cages of male and female specimens to prevent unregulated reproductions as well as measures for zoos for birth control to regulate the number of newborn cubs each year.(operation under the notification of the Ministry to Natural Resource and Environment B.E. 29 January 2558 (2015) on "Term of caretaking protected species B.E. 2558(2015)" Moreover, permission to breed must be received from the officials on a yearly basis on how many newborns are allowed and for what purposes will the newborns fulfill.

Management practices and controls to prevent illegal trade in tiger parts and derivatives

Thailand implements the following management practices and controls to prevent parts and derivatives from tigers from entering illegal trade from or through the facility:

1) Establish a registry for safe keeping evidential documentations of captive tigers and updating it to the latest iteration according to the information collected from captive tigers which includes gender of tiger, identification number (microchip), and photograph of tiger stripe patterns from all 6 sides.

2) In the event of a change in tiger population by either birth or death, the changes in population must be notified to the DNP immediately within 24 hours through the hot line 1 3 6 2 for further official inspection. The official notification on increase or decrease in population must be submitted to DNP within 60 days.

2.1) The newborn tigers are subjected to identification marking (microchip) within 90 days. The photos of six-side stripe pattern and their DNA samples are also to be collected.

2.2) The newly deceased tigers are to be kept for inspection by the officials. Veterinarians are to conduct necropsy for cause of death, to inspect tigers' identification mark, and to extract a sample for DNA test. The remains of the tigers are not allowed to be moved outside the vicinity of the public zoological gardens until it is inspected by officials.

3) Managing the specimens or parts of captive Asian big cats.

3.1) In the case of safekeeping of the specimen, the request of safekeeping must be submitted to the official for approval. State of intention of safekeeping and detail of the specimen or part to be kept such as the skin, bones, teeth, furs, claws, or etc. must be specified. All specimens or parts to be kept must apply the identification mark.

3.2) The preservation of biopsy, skeleton, organs, or skins of the diseased or dead specimen for research must be properly registered by species, sex, date, and identification number (microchip) on the preservation utilities and have its record registered in the laboratory. The samples will be kept in a sealed room, locked by keys, and where all withdrawals and deposits are recorded every time.

3.3) In the case of disposal, the disposal methods will be through incineration, the presence of official is mandatory for every disposal.

4) Terms and conditions in transferring and transporting specimens between zoos:

Tiger is protected species according to the Wild Animal Reservation and Protection Act. The possession is only allowed for the public zoo for educational purpose. The transfer of tiger between zoos must perform the following measures:

4.1) The list of tiger with detail of individual, identification mark, and documents on the acquisition of the specimen that's being transferred must be provided and submitted to the DNP for approval before transferring and transporting. The security measures must be applied and prioritized for safety of the specimen and general public. A veterinarian must be on-duty to take responsibility over the caretaking of the specimen. The exchange or transfer of wildlife species ownership between public zoological gardens must be for the purpose of displaying the specimen in the zoo vicinity in accordance with the natural business of the public zoological garden(s), without intention of advertised selling.

4.2) both public zoological gardens who send and receive the transferred tigers must notify the change in number of tiger individual in their possession to the related official authority for further inspection.

5) in order to monitor and control the captive management of facilities, the collaborative operation team comprises of DNP and police officers has been appointed, and conduct an inspection at the facilities at least once a month. If a violation of the law or duty was found then law enforcement will be strictly enforced.

Thailand can reassure the Secretariat that we do not have any intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale for trade in their parts and derivatives. We welcome a mission by the Secretariat.

Implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) (Information regarding the status of Asian big cats in the wild in Thailand)

Thailand is one of the Tiger's country of origin with a successful conservation of the specimens in nature. At present it is estimated that the tiger population size is collectively around 150 – 200 in the 31 protected forest areas. Thailand has systematically placed implementations for the care of tigers such as the supervision of tiger habitats through the increased installation of the SMART patrol system in hunting areas of tigers, which have resulted in the increase in size of the tiger territory into adjacent forest areas. There have also been evidence of tiger in a newly formed conservation site which haven't contained tigers for a very long time such as the Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary and the Erawan National Park in Kanchanaburi Province. In addition, efforts to revive the tiger population in Thailand have also received the approval of Hollywood star "Leonardo DiCaprio" who thanked the Thai government for revitalizing and protecting Thailand's tiger population, as seen in Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary in Uthai Thani province where the tiger population have increased from 41 to 60-65 (a 66% increase in population) since 2010. This effectively shows that Thailand have been successful in wild tiger conservation, with Thailand hoping to increase the tiger population size by 50% in 2022 in accordance to the Thailand Tiger Action Plan while giving emphasis to the areas of the Western Forest Complex and the Dong Phrayayen–Khao Yai Forest Complex.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UK response to CITES notification 2020/039 concerning Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)

As requested by the CITES Secretariat in CITES notification 2020/039 concerning trade in Asian big cats, we are pleased to provide the information below on the UK's implementation of Decision 17.226, Decisions 18.100 to 18.106 and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18).

Decision 17.226 Directed to Parties with Asian big cat captive facilities

The UK is not a range state for Asian big cats, however there are Asian big cats in captivity in the UK. The UK submitted a response to Notification No. 2018/002 concerning Asian big cat captive facilities in 2018. We have no further updates to report with regard to implementation of this Decision.

Decisions 18.100 to 18.106 and Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18)

The UK government is committed to tackling illegal trade of wildlife products, including tigers and other Asian big cats, and has contributed financial and technical assistance to enable range states to comply with the implementation of these Decisions and Resolution.

The UK is providing up to £4 million funding (since 2016) to the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to support the delivery of its strategic programme, which delivers a wide range of key activities globally, including:

- o Strengthening of regional cooperation and law enforcement;
- o Regional threat assessments;
- o Training on specialised investigation techniques – anti money laundering, controlled deliveries, online investigations;
- o Training on anti-corruption;
- o Support to prosecutorial network – promoting prosecutorial/judicial networking;
- o The ICWC toolkit – implementation of the toolkit, the toolkit recommendations and the indicator framework.

The UK government (Defra) also manages the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, which is a competitive grants scheme with the objective of tackling illegal wildlife trade and, in doing so, contributing to sustainable development in developing countries. Projects funded under the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund address one, or more, of the following themes:

- Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT
- Strengthening law enforcement
- Ensuring effective legal frameworks
- Reducing demand for IWT products.

Over £26 million has been committed to 85 projects since the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund was established in 2013. Ten projects were awarded in the latest Challenge Fund Round 6 in 2020, including two that will address threats to tigers:

- **IWT085: Social marketing to reduce demand for tiger products in Vietnam**
 - o £400,200 awarded to a project led by TRAFFIC International.
 - o Priority species: tigers, lions and leopards.
 - o Summary: Vietnamese demand for tiger products threatens the future of the species. TRAFFIC's 2017 consumer survey found that 6% of Vietnam's urban population self-reported using tiger products; 64% of them would recommend these to others. Drivers of consumption include gifting, medicine, and good luck. This project will build on these behavioural insights and recent successes to reduce rhino horn consumption to

implement a culturally relevant and carefully targeted social marketing campaign, aiming to stop consumption of tiger products of main user groups.

- **IWT081: *Enabling and promoting communities to tackle IWT (including tiger) in Southern Myanmar***
 - £380,725 awarded to a project led by Fauna and Flora International (FFI).
 - Priority species: Asian elephant, Sunda pangolin and tiger.
 - Summary: Southern Tanintharyi, on the Myanmar-Thailand border, is one of Myanmar's last strongholds for globally threatened species including tiger, Asian elephant and Sunda pangolin. All are threatened by poaching and illegal trade, primarily across the border into Thailand. In response, FFI will support six local communities at key trade routes to become active in addressing these threats, in exchange for support with development of sustainable livelihoods and improved resource management. This will be complemented with improved law enforcement.

Details of all projects awarded in Challenge Fund Round 6 are available on the Defra website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/illegal-wildlife-trade-challenge-fund-list-of-existing-projects>.

UK CITES Management Authority
June 2020

United States of America

Notification to the Parties No. 2020/039 on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*

U.S. seizure data (December 2016-present) – provided by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement

During the period of December 2016 to the present, the Office of Law Enforcement has seized a total of 127 shipments containing Asian big cats (*Panthera tigris*, *Panthera pardus*). The majority of the seized imports were from Asia.

- Shipments primarily transported by passengers and packages shipped via international mail.
- Shipments consisted of medicinal products (i.e., medicinal balls, pills)
 - o 67 of the 127 shipments contained ~~medicinals~~ totaling over 10,000 pills, patches, medicine balls
 - o 4 of the 127 contained a total of 2,758 grams of ~~medicinals~~
 - o 1 shipment contained an eye pathology specimen
 - o 1 shipment contained an unspecified specimen
- Other products imported included claws, teeth, bones, small skin pieces, and paws
 - o 35 of the 127 shipments contained a total of 39 claws
 - o 11 shipments contained a total of 13 teeth
 - o 2 shipments contained skin pieces
 - o 2 shipments contained paws
 - o 2 shipments contained bones only
 - o 1 shipment contained a trophy specimen
 - o 1 shipment contained a garment

IMAGES PROVIDED BY FWS/OLE FIELD OFFICES:

Medicinals



Claws



Tiger skin piece



Paw



Fetal Specimen





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**Report on
Situation of conservation and trade of tiger and Appendix I Asian big cats species**

Pursuant to Resolution 12.5 on Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species.

Pursuant to the Notification No. 2020/039 of the CITES Secretariat on Asian big cats.

Vietnam CITES Management Authority submits report on the conservation of tigers and Asian big cats in Appendix I CITES as follows:

I. LEGAL REGULATIONS

The Asia tiger and big cats in Appendix I are strictly prohibited to trade for commercial purposes according to Viet Nam regulations.

All big cat species such as *Panthera tigris corbetti*, *Neofelis nebulosa*, *Panthera pardus* and *Catopuma temminckii* are in Group IB in accordance with Vietnam laws, list of endangered, precious and rare forest plants and animals in accordance with the Government's regulations (Decree No. 06/2019 / ND-CP). They are strictly prohibited to exploit and use for commercial purposes. The above species are also on the list of endangered precious and rare species prioritized for protection. All violations of the law on the protection of tigers and big cats in Appendix IB as well as Appendix I of CITES are strictly punished accordance with Article 244 of the Criminal Code 2015 (amended 2017) with maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a maximum fine up to VND 15 billion.

Tigers are under national conservation accordance with the Prime Minister's Decision No. 539/QĐ-TTg of April 16, 2014, approving the Tiger Conservation Program for the period of 2014-2022.

II. STATUS OF TIGER IN THE WILD

According to a survey conducted in 2012, the tiger's current distribution area belongs to six protected areas, named as Muong Nhe Nature Reserve, Pu Mat National Park, Vu Quang National Park, Song Thanh Nature Reserve, Chu Mom Ray National Park, and Yok Don National Park. Tiger population has been strongly reduced, the number of individuals is estimated under 20 individuals in few small groups and under strong pressure of hunting and habitat loss.

Viet Nam do not have updated database of tiger and big cat species because there are lack of comprehensive field survey for tiger and appendix I big cats species recently.

The Government promulgated Decision No. 539/QĐ-TTg of April 16, 2014 on approving the national program for tiger conservation in the period of 2014-2022, focusing on establishing and building priority areas to recover tiger population, their prey and their habitat.

III. MANAGEMENT OF TIGERS AND BIG CATS FACILITIES IN VIETNAM

1. Currently, Vietnam has a total of 20 tigers and big cats facilities with 360 individuals, including 14 facilities belonging to zoos, display facilities and rescue centers (*Panthera pardus*, *Panthera onca*) for non-commercial purposes (conservation education and display). Vietnam law does not allow to captive the tiger and big cats for commercial purposes.

Particularly, the Soc Son Wildlife Rescue Center that under Hanoi Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, rescues and receives specializedly wildlife animals. Currently, the Center has caring for 36 tigers those seized from by enforcement agencies and then transferring to this Center.

2. Enclosure condition

The majority of big cat facilities are privately owned (accounting for 84% of all big cat facilities in the country). Therefore, the increase and decrease of individuals are concerned and strictly controlled by local forest protection department. All tiger's facilities are managed and checked periodically by the provincial forest protection department (shown on individual checking note and tracking book).

Vietnam CITES Management Authority has collaborated with the authorities to strictly control the origin of tigers at these facilities. 8 facilities have been granted Management codes or certificates for non-commercial purposes in accordance with Decree No. 06/2019/ND-CP. All tiger specimens at these facilities have original sources such as (i) import and (ii) exchange specimens among zoos by regulations.



Tiger in My Quynh facility

However, housing enclosure conditions in some facilities are limited due to the narrow area, and constructed many years ago. Some facilities do not keep a safe distance for people and animals. CITES MA are reviewing to consult competent authorities solutions to manage facilities that do not meet enclosure conditions.

In order to enhance safety management, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is developing a general technical requirements for cages for dangerous animals, including tiger.

CITES MA and other relevant agencies regularly conduct monitoring visit and directing local authority to strengthen management of tiger and big cat facilities (at least twice a year)

3. Marking specimens

Vietnam CITES MA in collaboration with the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources collected and analyzed DNA samples of all tiger facilities in Vietnam in 2012. However, the activities of marking specimens, the management and monitoring of tigers and wildlife have been carried out by the Provincial Forest Protection Department (be responsible for supervision and monitoring). For Felidae, especially big tigers, attaching a microchip for marking management is not highly effective. It is highly costly to test as the result of anesthesia. Some facilities have applied the number of method for captive, and reproduced, and microchip management for imported specimen.

III. ENFORCE WILDLIFE PROTECTION LAW RELATED TO TIGER AND BIG CATS

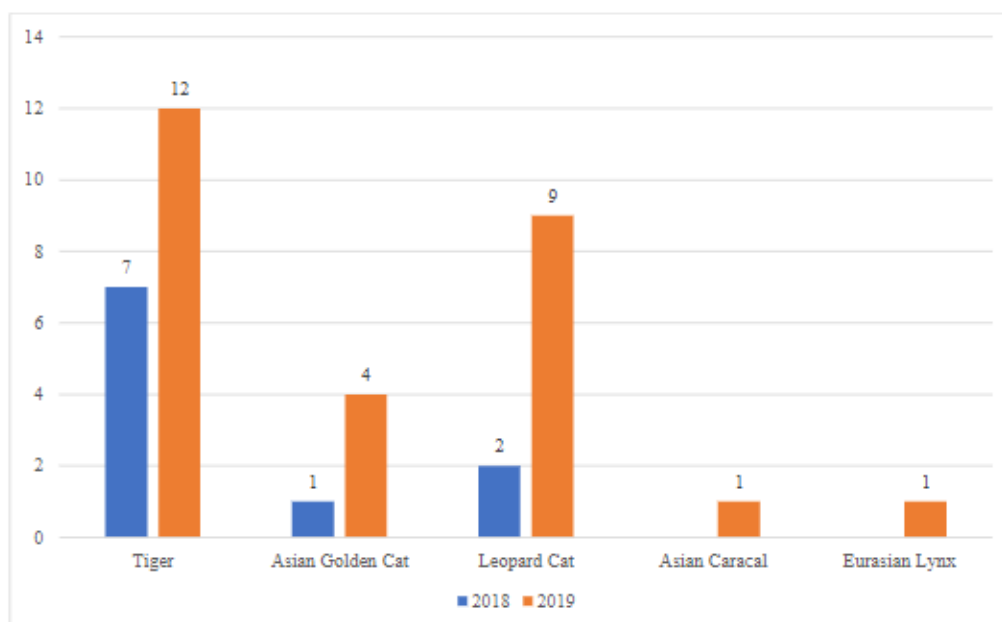
1. Interdisciplinary coordination in trade control

Vietnam authorities investigated and arrested 31 cases of illegal trafficking, transportation and storage of tiger specimens and big cats (Appendix 1) in the period of 2018-2019. Of which, there were 15 cases of illegal trading, transporting and illegal keeping of tiger specimens (accounting for 48.38% of the total number of arrests). In particular, trading and transportation activities often occur in provinces bordering Laos such as Nghe An. Besides, trading and transporting tiger specimens were also discovered in Hanoi. Most of illegal tiger specimen seized by enforcement agencies were frozen tiger (individual), some skins, such as 07 tiger specimen seized by Hanoi police, the species on the way from Nghe An to Hanoi.



Three suspicion people and exhibits were investigated in Hanoi in July 2019

Vietnam authorities had collaborate with non-governmental organizations and international conservation organizations such as WCS, Traffic, ENV, and WJC to carry out inspection and surveillance campaigns at wildlife trade hotspots. Several main targets in the tiger trade and transport line had been arrested as result. All cases of trafficking, possession of tigers and big cats are arrested and prosecuted by the authorities. The court in Hanoi sentenced a total of imprisonment 16 years to 03 illegal dealers of 07 tigers in July 2019.



Movements of seizures of tigers and big cats in 2018-2019

2. Training and raising awareness

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority coordinated with scientific and enforcement agencies to organize training and capacity building for 1,000 provincial forest protection, customs and environment police, border guards, market management officer for CITES implementation and identification of wildlife species frequently traded, including tigers in period of 2018-2019. Based on these activities, CITES enforcement agencies have made great efforts in inspecting, controlling, detecting and preventing the illegal trade, transportation and storage of tiger specimens. In particular, the dissemination of the provisions of Article 244, the Criminal Code 2015 (amended in 2017), Decree No. 06/2019 /ND-CP, Decree No. 64/2019/ND-CP and other provisions of the law on wildlife protection encourage the

people to raise awareness on the protection and conservation of tiger and endangered, precious and rare wild animals.

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority in collaboration with CITES Scientific Authority compile documents guiding the implementation of Decree No. 06/2019/ND-CP for Forest and Fishery protection department in whole country has been developed. It is expected to organize a training course for 300 forest rangers will be organized throughout the country in 2020.

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority in collaboration with Department of Legislation and Scientific Management (Supreme People's Court) to organize to compile "Intensive training materials on the provisions of the Criminal Code on violations of regulations on protection of endangered, precious and rare wild animals" and to train 200 judges in whole country in the first quarter of 2020.

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority in collaboration with scientific organizations to develop a "Process of expertise, collection, storage, preservation and transportation of specimens from illegal trade, transportation and stockpiling of endangered, precious and rare wildlife". It is expected to organize training courses for executing staffs in the third quarter of 2020.

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority in collaboration with Anti-Smuggling Investigation Department (General Department of Customs) to develop a Customs Handbook of Customs Control of wildlife and wildlife products in 2019. It is expected to organize training courses for customs officers working at border gates in whole country in the third quarter of 2020.

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority cooperate with organizations such as ENV, Traffic, WCS to conduct investigation and survey of demand for tiger specimens and tiger parts and its derivatives in 2019.



3. International cooperation in trade control

Organizing annual dialogue between Vietnam and Laos on wildlife trade control in border provinces between the two countries, in which discussions on tiger trade has been controlled.

Organizing the bilateral meetings between Vietnam and China on strengthening cooperation in CITES implementation.

Submitting the reporting regularly to the CITES Secretariat and the Animal and CITES Standing Committee on the seizure of CITES wildlife, including tigers in 2017 and 2018; reporting to CITES Secretariat and India CITES MA on tiger skin image seizures in 2017-2018.

Exchanging regularly information with ASEAN countries within the framework of the ASEAN Working Group on CITES and wildlife protection, updating and sharing information on seizures and proposing national and ASEAN regional control measures.

Pictures of tiger skin from seizure in Vietnam in 2019 (Appendix 2) are summarized and sent to CITES Secretariat.

IV. PLAN FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT IN THE FUTURE

1. Proposing the Prime Minister to give instructions to comprehensively assess tiger facilities activities in whole country, tighter management solutions, and prohibition tiger facilities for commercial purposes.

2. Proposing the Prime Minister to direct local government agencies to ensure breeding conditions, strengthen the management, inspection and supervise raising

activities of big cat cultivate facilities, and ensuring the maintenance of existing numbers. Measures to destroy dead specimens must be taken immediately according to the provisions of law in the case of tiger death of at rearing facilities.

3. Implementing measures to mark tiger specimens by taking photos of "tiger skin", attaching microchips, and numbering for management. It shall be done by DNA sampling management for long term.

4. Strengthening interdisciplinary coordination among law enforcement authorities on trade control on tigers and wildlife in key areas and provinces sharing the border with China and Cambodia and Laos.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CITES SECRETARIAT

1. Recommend CITES Secretariat to re-plant to implement Decision 18.102 by sending a mission to visit selected tiger facilities in Vietnam after controlling the Covid - 19 epidemic.

2. Proposing the Conference of the Member States to amend Resolution 12.5 to further clarify the concept of "tiger facility on a non-commercial scale".

3. Proposing relevant international organizations to provide technical and financial support for Vietnam to strengthen the management of tiger breeding.

Annex 1. The seizures of tiger and other big cats in the period of 2018-2019

Date	Enforcement agency	Place	Species	Quantity
16 July 2018	Cai Rang Police	Can Tho	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	02 heads
5 July 2018	Ha Long Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	41 kg
8 June 2018	Long Bien Police	Ha Noi	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 head
6 June 2018	Nghe An Police	Nghe An	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	05 heads
01 July 2018	Ha Long Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	05 heads
01 July 2018	Ha Long Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 kg
01 July 2018	Ha Long Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	41 kg
01 February 2018	Hoa Binh Police	Hoa Binh	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	03 heads
1 November 2019	Sop Cop Police	Son La	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	02 heads
10 November 2019	Sop Cop Police	Son La	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	01 head
20 September 2019	Quang Ninh Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	09 heads
20 September 2019	Quang Ninh Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	03 heads
30 September 2019	Me Linh Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	01 head
4 October 2019	Ha Noi Forest Protection Department	Ha Noi	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	01 head
16 September 2019	Quang Ninh Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 head
9 September 2019	Dzien Chau Police	Nghe An	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	01 head

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Date	Enforcement agency	Place	Species	Quantity
29 July 2019	Ha Noi Police	Ha Noi	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	07 heads
25 July 2019	Hai Phong Police	Hai Phong	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	10 heads
26 June 2019	Dong Nai Forest Protection Department	Dong Nai	<i>Lynx lynx</i>	01 head
26 June 2019	Dong Nai Forest Protection Department	Dong Nai	<i>Caracal caracal</i>	01 head
6 May 2019	Le Chan Police	Hai Phong	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	01 head
29 May 2019	Thai Nguyen Police	Thai Nguyen	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	30 kg
29 May 2019	Thai Nguyen Police	Thai Nguyen	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 head
29 May 2019	Thai Nguyen Police	Thai Nguyen	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	01 head
23 April 2019	Tu Son Police	Bac Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris corbetti</i>	02 heads
21 April 2019	Hoang Mai Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	03 heads
16 April 2019	Tay Ho Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	02 heads
11 April 2019	Mong Cai Police	Quang Ninh	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 head
22 March 2019	Nghe An Police	Nghe An	<i>Panthera tigris corbetti</i>	02 heads
4 March 2019	Thuong Tin Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	02 heads
29 March 2019	Ky Son Police	Nghe An	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	01 head
30 January 2019	Bac Tu Liem Police	Ha Noi	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	18 heads
30 January 2019	Bac Tu Liem Police	Ha Noi	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	01 head

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Date	Enforcement agency	Place	Species	Quantity
31 January 2019	Thanh Xuân Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	04 heads
8 January 2019	Nam Tu Liem Police	Ha Noi	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	05 heads
25 December 2018	Ha Dong Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	03 heads
25 December 2018	Dong Da Police	Ha Noi	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	05 heads

Annex 2. Photo of tiger skin in all seizures in 2019



Seizured by Police in Quang Ninh Province, 19 June 2019



Seizured by Police in Quang Ninh Province, 19 June 2019



Seized by Police in Ha Noi, 23 July 2019



Seized by Police in Quang Ninh Province, 5 August 2019



Seized by Police in Thai Nguyen Province 29 May 2019



Seized by Police in Thai Nguyen Province 29 May 2019



Seizured by Police in Thai Nguyen Province 29 May 2019

