

# **Session 8 – Identification of key wildlife crime trends and associated matters and engagement in operational activities at global/regional level**

**Clio Di Giovanni, CITES Secretariat**

**2. Species affected by wildlife crime under discussion at CoP19**

# Main species under discussion at CoP19

CITES listed  
tree species

Big cats

Rhinoceros

Totoaba

Big cats,

cheetahs,

pangolins,

Tortoises and  
Freshwater  
turtles

Marine turtles

Eels

Many others

# Task Force on Illegal Trade of CITES listed tree species – CoP19

**Illegal trade in CITES-listed tree species continues to be a matter of concern = Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species (February 2022) – CoP19 Doc.35**

The CITES Tree Task Force meeting identified measures and activities to elaborate strategies to prevent and combat illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species, including measures to promote and further strengthen regional and international cooperation.

## **Outcome document :**

- 1 . Improve legality and traceability and strengthen the implementation of CITES provisions regarding trade in CITES-listed tree species:
2. Strengthen regional and international collaboration to address illegal trade in CITES-listed tree species
3. Detection and identification of illegal consignments of CITES-listed tree species and mobilizing available tools
4. Addressing corruption and mobilizing investigations into illicit financial flows from illegal trade in CITES-listed tree species



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# CITES Listed tree species under discussion at CoP19

- Malagasy ebonies (*Diospyros* spp.) and palisanders and rosewoods (*Dalbergia* spp.) – CoP19 Doc. 29.3
- Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 62.1
- *Boswellia* trees (*Boswellia* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 63
- Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] - CoP19 Doc. 70

# CITES Big Cats Task Force – CoP19 Doc.67

Draft terms of reference and modus operandi agreed by SC74.

The CITES Big Cats Task Force will focus on **big cat species from Africa, Asia and Latin America, and consisting of representatives from Parties most affected by the illegal trade in big cats.**

The Secretariat shall provide support to the Task Force to allow it to :

- i. discuss enforcement and implementation issues related to the illegal trade in specimens of big cats;
- ii. as deemed appropriate, exchange intelligence and other information on the illegal trade in big cats; and
- iii. develop strategies and make recommendations to improve international cooperation

The Task Force is to be convened in 2023.

## Other species under discussion at CoP19

- Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) - CoP19 Doc.59
- Asian big cats (*Felidae* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 68
- African lions (*Panthera leo*) - CoP19 Doc. 72
- Jaguars (*Panthera onca*) - CoP19 Doc. 73

# Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 75

- Key matters concerning African and Asian rhinoceroses as outlined in the report prepared for CoP19 are highlighted in its executive summary. Some matters:
  - National and continental conservation status and trends for African and Asian rhinoceroses
  - Illegal killing of rhinoceroses in Africa and Asia
  - Illegal trade in rhinoceros' horn and enforcement efforts
  - Poaching and trafficking challenges
  - Activities to reduce demand for rhinoceros' horn
- The document also includes a section on Parties most affected by illegal trade in rhinoceros' horn. These are: South Africa, China (including Hong Kong SAR of China), Viet Nam, Malaysia, Mozambique, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. In addition, the Secretariat includes Botswana as Party for which a significant decline in rhinoceros' populations was observed.

The Secretariat also provide reporting on the updating of the Directory of illegal trade in rhinoceros horn focal points

# Other species under discussion at CoP19

- Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*) - CoP19 Doc.29
- West African vultures (*Accipitridae* spp.) - CoP19 Doc.58
- Eels (*Anguilla* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 61
- Marine turtles (*Cheloniidae* spp. and *Dermochelyidae* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 64.1
- Sharks and rays (*Elasmobranchii* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 65
- Elephants (*Elephantidae* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 66
- Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 69
- Pangolins (*Manis* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 71
- Songbird (*Passeriformes* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 74
- Saiga antelope (*Saiga* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 76
- Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) - CoP19 Doc. 77
- Tortoises and freshwater turtles (*Testudines* spp.) - CoP19 Doc. 78
- Etc...





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