

Maintenance of the Namibian population of African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* in Appendix II. Proponent: Namibia.

Amendment of annotation °604 regarding the Namibian population to read:

For the exclusive purpose of allowing in the case of the population of Namibia:

- a) trade in hunting trophies for non-commercial purposes;
- b) trade in live animals for non-commercial purposes to appropriate and acceptable destinations (as determined by the national legislation of the country of import);
- c) trade in hides;
- d) trade in leather goods and ivory carvings for non-commercial purposes; and
- e) trade in registered stocks of raw ivory (whole tusks and pieces) of Namibian origin owned by the Government of the Republic of Namibia to trading partners that have been verified by the CITES Secretariat to have sufficient national legislation and domestic trade controls to ensure that ivory imported from Namibia will not be re-exported and will be managed according to all requirements of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev.) concerning domestic manufacturing and trade. No international trade in ivory to be permitted until 18 months after the adoption of the proposal (May 2004). Thereafter, an initial amount of not more than 10,000 kg of ivory may be traded, followed by annual export quotas of not more than 2,000 kg of ivory, from the year 2005 onwards.

Summary: The Namibian population of African Elephant was transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II in 1997, subject to annotation °604. The latter originally made provision for experimental export quotas of raw ivory (13.8 tonnes in the case of Namibia) which were exported in 1999. Parts of the annotation still applicable to Namibia allow for: 1) export of hunting trophies for non-commercial purposes; and 2) export of live animals to appropriate and acceptable destinations (Namibia: for non-commercial purposes only). All other specimens shall be deemed to be specimens of species included in Appendix I and the trade in them shall be treated accordingly. To ensure that where a) destinations for live animals are to be "appropriate and acceptable" and/or b) the purpose of the import is to be "non-commercial", export permits and re-export certificates may be issued only after the issuing Management Authority has received, from the Management Authority of the State of import, a certification to the effect that: in case a), in analogy to Article III, paragraph 3(b) of the Convention, the holding facility has been reviewed by the competent Scientific Authority, and the proposed recipient has been found to be suitably equipped to house and care for the animals; and/or in case b), in analogy to Article III, paragraph 3(c), the Management Authority is satisfied that the specimens will not be used for primarily commercial purposes.

The proposed amendment defines "appropriate and acceptable destinations" for the purposes of non-commercial import of live animals as "determined by the national legislation of the country of import". It further allows for trade in hides and leather goods and for trade in registered, government-owned stocks of raw ivory starting not earlier than May 2004, with an initial amount of not more than 10 000 kg and a subsequent maximum annual quota of 2 000 kg to trading partners whose national legislation and domestic trade controls have been verified by the CITES Secretariat.

The proposal entails a request for an annual quota for export of raw ivory, following a one-off export quota, and may thus be interpreted as adhering to paragraph D, Annex 4, of Resolution Conf. 9.24. There are no explicit guidelines in the Convention or in resolutions of the CoP for assessing such requests. However, as noted in the introduction to the elephant proposals, because annotation °604 indicates that all specimens of African Elephant in Namibia other than those specified in the annotation should be treated as if they were of species in Appendix I, the terms of paragraph B 2c) of Annex 4 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 appear to be applicable. These state that the quota must be approved by the Conference of the Parties, based on management measures described in the supporting statement of the amendment proposal, provided that effective enforcement controls are in place. In the case of hides and leather goods, no quota is proposed, so that the precautionary measures in paragraph B 2b) appear to be applicable (the Conference of the Parties must be satisfied with the implementation of the requirements of the Convention, in particular Article IV, and be satisfied that appropriate enforcement controls are in place). An analysis of whether the Namibian population of African Elephant might meet the criteria for inclusion in Appendix I is set out in the analysis of proposal 12.11.

Analysis The supporting statement reports that the raw ivory intended to be exported under the proposal is that recovered from natural mortalities and management activities. The current accumulation of such

ivory is reported to be 6853 kg, and is expected to be close to 10 000 kg by 2004. The supporting statement further notes that with an elephant population of around 10 000 animals, an annual accumulation of 1 000-5 000 kg per year would be expected.

Compliance with the precautionary undertakings referred to in Decision 10.1, Part A paragraph h) was verified by the CITES Secretariat in April 1999, allowing a one-off export of an experimental quota of ivory under the terms of annotation °604. No country of import is named for the requested ivory quota. The CITES Secretariat verified internal controls in Japan in July 1999 for the purposes of allowing a one-off sale of an experimental quota of ivory.

Supporting Statement (SS)	Additional information
<u>Range</u>	
Namibia	
<u>IUCN Global Category</u>	
	<i>Loxodonta africana is classified as EN A1b</i>
<u>Management measures</u>	
<p>Raw ivory: The SS states that only ivory recovered from recorded natural mortalities as well as that obtained from management related practices will be exported. The SS reports a current accumulation of 36.9 tonnes of whole tusks (5.4 tonnes from natural mortality/management sources, 30.4 tonnes from seizures and 1.1 tonnes of unknown source) and 2.2 tonnes of ivory pieces. It reports an expected annual accumulation from natural mortalities and management related practices of 1 000-5 000 kg (1-5 tonnes).</p> <p>Hide and related products: The only hide currently collected is from trophy animals, when sport hunters wish to export hide. The recovery of hides from problem animals will be pursued in future. The number of hides collected in this respect would average less than 20 per year.</p>	<p><i>Ivory carvings: The SS indicates a desire to develop a domestic ivory carving industry, but does not outline any domestic control measures for internal trade in ivory or address the conditions presented in <u>Regarding control of internal ivory trade in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev.)</u>.</i></p>
<u>Enforcement measures</u>	
within proposed country of export	
<p>Details of control measures for raw ivory that would be exported under quota are set out in the Supporting Statement.</p> <p>A national report form on illegal killing of elephants in Namibia is attached as an annex to the SS.</p>	<p><i>Hides and leather goods: There is no evidence of significant elephant poaching associated with commercial trade in elephant hides (TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa, 2002).</i></p>
<u>Enforcement measures</u>	
within potential countries of import	
<p>SS states that Namibia will only trade raw ivory with a country that has been verified by the CITES Secretariat to have sufficient national legislation and domestic trade controls to ensure that ivory imported will not be re-exported and will be managed according to all requirements of Resolution Conf. 10.10 concerning domestic manufacturing and trade. The built-in delay of 18 months will allow potential trade partners, where necessary, the time to develop required legislation and trade controls, and to obtain the endorsement of the CITES Secretariat.</p>	

References:

TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa, 2002. *in litt.* to TRAFFIC International, Cambridge, UK.