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CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CHEETAH (Acinonyx jubatus) AND AFRICAN WILD DOG (Lycaon pictus)

(Submitted by the Governments of Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger)

Summary:

The Governments of Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger have submitted the attached decision* on the conservation and management of the Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and the African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*).

Both species have been accepted for Concerted Actions by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting (Quito, 2014) and are thus listed in Annex 1 of document UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.26.2. This set of decisions can be considered complementary to the Concerted Actions nomination.

This document should be considered together with document UNEP/CMS/COP12/Doc.24.3.1.1 on the African Carnivores Initiative, which proposes that concrete conservation measures should be identified to be implemented under the umbrella of the Initiative. This set of decisions can thus be implemented as part of the African Carnivores Initiative.

Rev. 1 corrects reference to one of the proposed partner organisations as well as the common name of the *Lycaon pictus* in the French version of this document.

^{*}The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CMS Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

DRAFT DECISIONS

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CHEETAH (Acinonyx jubatus) AND AFRICAN WILD DOG (Lycaon pictus)

Directed to the Secretariat

12.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) Subject to external funding and in collaboration with Range States, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant partners:
 - 1. Support the implementation, and regular revision of existing joint Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation plans and strategies, both regional and national.
 - Develop and implement strategies to reinforce international cooperation on the management of Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs, including effective information exchange between Range States;
 - Support capacity building and skill transfer as relevant to Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation and management, with an emphasis on developing the capacity of the local wildlife authorities in this regard.
 - 4. Support the development of relevant databases, including information on populations across their range, sightings, livestock depredation, killing and illegal trade, within Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States, taking due consideration of existing inventories collated by the IUCN/Cat Specialist Group and the Zoological Society of London/Wildlife Conservation Society and other organizations.
 - 5. Assist Parties to share information about trade in the species, including levels and sources of species in trade with Burkina Faso.
 - 6. Promote fundraising to support the effective implementation of conservation and management plans and strategies for cheetah and African wild dogs.
- b) Encourage those Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States that are not yet Parties to the Convention to become a Party to the Convention;
- c) Report to the Standing Committee at its 48th and 49th meetings on the implementation of the above decisions.

Directed to Range State Parties

12.BB Parties are requested to:

- a) Collaborate in implementing the decisions contained in paragraph a) 1.-6.;
- b) Develop and implement within communities evidence-based strategies that reduce livestock depredation by Cheetah and African Wild Dog.
- c) Develop and implement within communities evidence-based strategies that reduce disease transmission to African wild dogs.
- d) Promote wildlife-based income generation mechanisms that benefit both people and wildlife.
- e) Provide policy environments that better support sustainable wildlife-based enterprises.
- f) Ensure that legislation that protects Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs is in place and that penalties for transgression are sufficiently high to act as a deterrent.

- g) Enforce protection within protected areas and maintain buffer zones and connectivity outside, in order to secure the large landscapes necessary for Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation.
- h) Ensure that all large-scale infrastructure development, including fencing and roadbuilding, allows Cheetahs and African Wild Dogs to pass through safely.
- i) Consider land zoning options to maintain and restore important areas for Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation outside protected areas.
- j) Investigate opportunities to ensure that Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation are integrated into relevant educational curricula at national and subnational levels, including schools, universities and professional training colleges.
- k) Collaborate and exchange best conservation practices regarding the preservation and restoration of African Wild Dog (*Lycaon pictus*) populations, and cooperate with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other interested organizations in taking actions at the national and regional level, in particular with regard to: habitat conservation; the establishment of ecological corridors to address habitat fragmentation; the management of infectious diseases; the restoration of preybasis; human-wildlife conflicts; and trade, including trade in captive bred specimens.
- I) Report to the Standing Committee at its 48th and 49th meetings on the progress in implementing the decisions.

Directed to Range and Consumer States for African Wild Dog (Lycaon pictus)

12.CC Parties are encouraged to share information about trade in the species, including levels and sources of species in trade with Burkina Faso.

Directed to the Scientific Council

12.DD The Scientific Council shall revise the list of countries exempted from the CMS Appendix 1 listing for cheetah to reflect current conservation status and national policy.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 12.EE The Standing Committee shall:
 - a) Consider at its 48th and 49th meetings the reports submitted by the Secretariat and the Parties and as appropriate recommend further actions to be taken;
 - b) Report to the Conference of the Parties at its 13th meeting on the progress in implementing this decision.

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities

12.FF Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support the Cheetah and African Wild Dog Range States and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore these species across their range; and in implementing the decisions contained in Decision 12.AA, paragraphs 1-6 and Decision 12.BB paragraphs b) – k).

CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN LARGE CARNIVORES

Directed to the Secretariat

12.AA The Secretariat shall establish an African Large Carnivores Task Force to support Range State Parties to implement national conservation plans and regional strategies and to encourage transboundary conservation between Range States, including through harmonizing laws, policies and land use practices across international boundaries of shared populations.