

Conf. 20.2

Conservation of and trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*)

RECOGNIZING that jaguars (*Panthera onca*) are the largest cat species and the only representative of the genus *Panthera* that occurs in the Americas;

BEARING IN MIND that jaguars have been included in CITES Appendix I since 1975; and are also listed in CMS Appendices I and II since 2020;

EXPRESSING SERIOUS CONCERN that the jaguar has lost about 50% of its original range and is currently extinct in El Salvador and Uruguay;

AWARE of the threat that poaching and illegal trade of their parts and derivatives poses on jaguars;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Jaguar 2030 New York Statement and the ongoing Jaguar 2030 Conservation Roadmap for the Americas launched 2018;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING the Lima Declaration, subscribed by Jaguar Range States during the First High Level Conference of the Americas on Illegal Wildlife Trade and its continental role (Lima, 2019) which declared jaguars as an emblematic species of the Americas;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the study on illegal trade in jaguars presented to the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting (SC74; Lyon, 2022) and the subsequent jaguar-related decisions;

WELCOMING the joint work and coordination between CITES and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and its potential integrated multilateral actions with cross-border impact;

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP20) on *Compliance and enforcement*;

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 13.9 on *Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes*;

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES and livelihoods*;

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19) on *Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species*;

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 17.6 (Rev. CoP20) on *Prohibiting, preventing, detecting and countering corruption, which facilitates activities conducted in violation of the Convention*;

NOTING Resolution 90 on *Continental Conservation Priority for the Jaguar (Panthera onca)* adopted by the World Conservation Congress 2020 of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Marseille, 2020);

ALSO NOTING Resolution 14.14 on CMS Jaguar Initiative (*Panthera onca*) adopted by CMS CoP14 (Samarkand, 2024);

RECOGNIZING the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted in December 2022 (Montreal, 2022);

BUILDING ON the results of the 1st and 2nd meetings of jaguar range States (Cuiabá, 2023 and Mexico City, 2025);

RECOGNIZING the need for a range wide Action Plan for the conservation of jaguars, considering regional needs and particular strategies;

WELCOMING consensus reached by the jaguar range States on the Regional Action Plan for Jaguar Conservation at the second meeting of jaguar range States, held in Mexico City, September 2025,

as a strategic framework guiding coordinated action of the range States; and

UNDERLINING the importance of having an intergovernmental platform as a support mechanism for its implementation and follow-up, as well as for the operation of the Modular system for monitoring the illegal killing and illicit trade of jaguars (with the aim of strengthening regional efforts to monitor and address the poaching and illegal trade of jaguars and their parts) through information sharing, technical cooperation and the coordination of joint actions;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. ENCOURAGES Parties to implement the Regional Action Plan for jaguar conservation, particularly the aspects that strengthen the implementation to the present Resolution;

Regarding national legislation

2. ENCOURAGES Parties to:
 - a) in line with Resolution Conf. 11.3 (CoP20), strengthen national legal frameworks and policies to guarantee that offenses related with jaguars are effectively investigated and prosecuted; and promote actions for coordination among relevant agencies and international institutions;
 - b) enforce national and international regulations restricting the entry and exit of jaguar specimens for their legal import/(re)export to only designated ports with environmental enforcement officials; and
 - c) strengthen national regulations so international transport companies enhance controls against illegal jaguar trade;

Regarding law enforcement

3. ENCOURAGES Parties to:
 - a) provide accurate seizure data of jaguar specimens in their annual illegal trade report to be submitted under Resolution Conf. 11.17 (CoP20) on *National reports* irrespective of whether the seizure was made at an international border or elsewhere in the country;
 - b) strengthen judicial capacity to support effective prosecution of illegal jaguar killings and trafficking;
 - c) implement strict enforcement controls at local, national and border levels, for instance by increasing funding, inter-agency coordination within and between countries, and application of forensic and intelligence techniques, particularly in monitoring online trade and safeguarding confiscated specimens;
 - d) facilitate the identification of jaguar specimens in international legal and illegal trade or subject to judicial or official proceedings, and implement, to the extent possible, forensic techniques (e.g. genetic testing, among others);
 - e) coordinate with relevant international bodies [e.g., INTERPOL; the World Customs Organization (WCO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)], to investigate transboundary trafficking and criminal convergence in the illegal trade in jaguars;
 - f) communicate all international jaguar-related trade seizures and arrests to INTERPOL, using the INTERPOL Ecomessage, in real time or as soon as circumstances permit and engage INTERPOL for support in mobilizing financial investigations in the fight against jaguar trafficking, through the INTERPOL Global Financial Crime Task Force, where appropriate;
 - g) investigate the origin of jaguar specimens found illegally within destination countries not covered by a corresponding CITES permit and notify the country of origin (if known) of any seizures made;

- h) if affected by the international trafficking of live jaguars and/or their parts and derivatives, reach out to WCO to request support in conducting risk assessments to develop jaguar-specific risk profiles, where they do not already exist;
- i) involve and strengthen collaboration with national customs agencies regarding inspections at ports of entry and exit; such collaboration should involve training customs agents and x-ray operators to identify jaguars, and their parts and derivatives during inspections; and
- j) involve and strengthen collaboration with national Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) and other relevant stakeholders that can support international financial investigations;

Regarding international cooperation

- 4. ENCOURAGES range States, other Parties and relevant international organizations, to strengthen cooperation in matters of international trade and fight against illegal trade in jaguars through information exchange, best practices, capacity-building, technology transfer and joint efforts;
- 5. RECOMMENDS operationalizing the Modular system for monitoring illegal killing and illicit trade of jaguars, with input from annual CITES legal and illegal trade reports, national databases, and other verified data sources with robust evidence;
- 6. REQUESTS that the CITES Secretariat, within the mandate of CITES, continue its joint work with the CMS Secretariat, and work in close collaboration with CBD, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other appropriate entities to facilitate strengthened collaboration among all jaguar range States, international organizations and partners on measures to address jaguar management and conservation, including by convening meetings of all jaguar range States and such other entities to, *inter alia*, review and update priorities, exchange information, and identify gaps and opportunities;
- 7. RECOMMENDS that Parties strengthen implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.9 on *Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes*, and strengthen other cooperation initiatives (e.g., movement of seized or rescued individuals) especially through, *inter alia*, technical support, contribution of funds, exchange of specimens for reintroduction into the wild, capacity-building and training, technology transfer, investment, infrastructure and other measures;
- 8. ENCOURAGES transit and destination States to promote training in the detection and identification of jaguars, parts, and derivatives for environmental, customs and inspection agents at ports of entry and exit; and
- 9. ENCOURAGES transit and destination States to collaborate and exchange information with range States and the Secretariat when implicated in cases of illegal jaguar trade and to return seized live specimens to range States, so that they can be integrated into an official conservation programme for the species;

Regarding financial resources

- 10. ENCOURAGES Parties to ensure the availability of human and financial resources to promote jaguar conservation and to combat illegal trade activities; and
- 11. INVITES Parties, international organizations and the private sector to support range States in the funding, training and provision of technical expertise and implementation of regional, national and landscape level jaguar strategies and action plans aimed at the conservation of jaguar populations, their habitat and the livelihood of indigenous peoples and local communities that coexist with jaguars;

Regarding livelihoods and coexistence

- 12. ENCOURAGES range States to adopt regulations, response protocols, and establish conflict response units, to address negative interactions between livestock and jaguars and to prevent retaliatory killing of individuals of this species;

Regarding captive-breeding operations

13. ENCOURAGES Parties to:

- a) ensure full compliance with national and international welfare and management standards, as well as safeguards against illegal trade;
- b) consider limiting the breeding of jaguars to serve a clearly defined nationally determined conservation purpose;
- c) ensure that operations breeding jaguars in captivity for commercial purposes are registered with the CITES Secretariat and contribute to the conservation needs of the species in line with Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP20) on *Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes*; and
- d) identify and/or develop facilities and technical expertise to rescue, rehabilitate and release (when appropriate) jaguar individuals confiscated from the illegal trade, or those affected by human-jaguar conflict; and

Regarding education, awareness raising and behaviour change

14. ENCOURAGES Parties to:

- a) ensure that the content of environmental education strategies on jaguars is targeted to different audiences;
- b) in line with Resolution Conf. 17.4 (Rev. CoP19), implement demand reduction of illegal trade and other behaviour change programmes targeting stakeholders along the entire jaguar parts trade chain (poaching/transit/consumption) to reduce jaguar poaching, using existing guidelines;
- c) ensure that the content of environmental education strategies highlights the negative impact of illegal hunting and the cultural, economic and ecological significance of jaguars and the positive impacts of habitat conservation and jaguar conservation and reintroduction strategies, including the cultural, economic and ecological significance of jaguars; and
- d) ensure that any educational or awareness-raising strategy incorporates an intercultural approach, taking into account the linguistic, cultural, and territorial context of indigenous peoples and local communities.