



CITES NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared for the 70th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee

Party: QATAR

Reporting period: APRIL 2018- JUNE 2018

PART A: Synopsis of NIAP implementation

This progress report is prepared by the Department of Protection and Wildlife at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, being CITES Management Authority for the State of Qatar. This report has been requested by the Secretariat in its letter reference: BVR/JSt dated 3 April 2018 , to be submitted no later than 1 July 2018 . Although most of the milestones fall beyond the reporting period , this document will report the actions which have been achieved and the others which are planned to start in the implementation of the national ivory action plan for the State of Qatar.

The State of Qatar has been requested by the Standing Committee in its 69th meeting (SC 69) to develop and implement a national ivory action plan, aimed at combating the transit transport of illegal ivory through its international airport (HIA), from source countries in Africa to final destinations in Asia.

This request came as result of Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) report to the Conference of Parties (CoP 17) , indicating that Qatar became transit point for movement of illegal ivory , and identified Qatar as a 'party of importance to watch' , could be considered for inclusion in the NIAP process.

The NIAP of Qatar was prepared and submitted in March 2018 and was assessed by the Secretariat as adequate in April 2018 . Qatar's NIAP has included (15) actions to be performed in order to achieve the objective of combating the transit movement of illicit ivory trade through Qatar.

The various stakeholders involved in implementation of the NIAP , including the Customs General Authority , Airport Security Department , Civil Aviation Department and Qatar Airways , were notified of the approval and beginning of NIAP implementation in Qatar.

So, the implementation of Qatar's national ivory action plan has started in April 2018 . And we are happy to report that since the beginning of this year 2018 no case of ivory seizure has been reported in Qatar .Undoubtedly , this is due to the awareness programs launched by Qatar airways , and actions taken at source countries.

Progress to date

Qatar's national ivory action plan has 15 actions to be implemented , and all milestones for these actions fall after July 2018 . However , some actions have been achieved while others on track. One of the good achievement was attendance of Mozambique meeting on NIAP's development and implementation , and face to face talk with representatives of CITES management authorities in source and final destinations countries. Two actions on Outreach , Public awareness and Education Pillar have been satisfactory achieved by Qatar Airways before the specified milestones . Qatar Airways has shown great commitment and engagement in combating transport of illegal wildlife , as representatives of Qatar Airways company has attended Mozambique meeting on NIAP implementation , and has already undertook robust actions on implementation of awareness programs for the airline staff and passengers in flight and across HIA.

Future outlook

The implementation of the NIAP process by the stakeholders at Hamad International Airport , and actions undertaken by Qatar airways and engagement with CITES management authorities in source countries during Mozambique meeting , will lead to achievement of combat of transit movement of illegal ivory trade from source countries.

The planned training workshop and capacity building program will improve the capacity of wildlife laws enforcement officials at HIA, and will lead to good implementation of NIAP in Qatar , through successful detection of illegal wildlife specimens and prosecution of offenders.

PART B: Summary evaluation of actions (assigned progress ratings)

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
1. Legislation and regulations		A.1 Initiate implementation of article (15) of law No.(15) of 2002 on Civil Aviation , which stipulate for the right of representatives of Customs , Public Security to search aircraft and any person or cargo , and refer any violation case to the concerned authority to deal with it according to its established rules and regulations.				
2. National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration		B.1 Establish a formal collaboration mechanism to facilitate cooperation and collaboration between different departments	B.2 Organize training sessions/workshops for enforcement authorities working at HIA , to raise awareness about wildlife crime and strengthen capacity			

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
		operating at Hamad International Airport (HIA) , with a role in combating wildlife crime , in particular ivory and rhinoceros horn trafficking transiting through Qatar.	to combat it , in particular on topics such as international policies governing wildlife trade , the detection and identification of illegal wildlife consignments , ivory and rhinoceros horn recognition and identification, applicable legislation and protocol to follow. B.3 Strengthen capacity among officers working at HIA , through the provision of operational handbooks and identification manuals. B.4 Scale up enforcement operations at HIA targeting			

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
			<p>passengers , luggage and cargo , moving between key countries identified as source and destination countries for illegal wildlife specimens , in particular ivory and rhinoceros horn , moving from Africa to Asia , by planning and conducting at least two operations at HIA by 31 December 2019.</p> <p>B.5 Increase the number of inspections targeting high risk flights , including random inspections and operations.</p>			
3. International and regional enforcement collaboration	C.3 Review mechanism in place to support collaboration with countries of source or destination to combat wildlife crime and in particular, ivory trafficking , to ensure timely exchange of	C.1 Initiate collaboration and joint initiatives with CITES Management Authorities in source countries to strengthen controls to prevent	C.2 Networking and engage with NIAP focal points in other countries participating in the NIAP process , to promote the sharing of best practices and identification of			

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
	information and intelligence and promote follow up investigations across the entire illegal trade chain.	the illegal transport of ivory from these countries on flights that transit Qatar..	common challenges.			
4. Outreach, public awareness and education	<p>D.2 Work with Qatar Airways to support the development of videos to raise awareness about and discourage crimes involving wildlife , to be made available as part of the Qatar Airways in – flight entertainment program.</p> <p>D.3 Publicize seizures and subsequent prosecutions in main stream media and on governmental social media platforms.</p>	D.1 Engage the ROUTES partnership and Qatar Airways to support the development of posters and videos to raise awareness about illegal trade in wildlife , for display in prominent public area at HIA.				
5. Reporting	E.1 Improve the seizure reporting mechanism to ensure timely reporting		E.2 Maintain an inventory of government-held			

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
	<p>of all ivory seizures to ETIS , in accordance with Resolution Conf.10.10 (Rev.CoP17).</p> <p>E.3 Submit an annual illegal trade report to the Secretariat by 31 October each year , covering the actions in the preceding year and in accordance with the report format distributed by the Secretariat , in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 in Resolution Conf.11017(Rev.CoP17) on National reports</p>		<p>stockpiles of ivory, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf.10.10 (rev.CoP17) paragraph 6.e) , and inform the Secretariat of the level of this stock each year before 28 February.</p>			

PART C: Detailed evaluation of actions

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
<i>PILLAR 1: Legislation and regulations</i>		
<p>A.1 Initiate implementation of article (15) of law No. (15) of 2002 on Civil Aviation , which stipulate for the right of representative of the Customs , Public Security to search aircrafts and any person or cargo , and refer any violation case to the concerned authority to deal with it according to its established rules and regulations.</p>		<p><i>substantially achieved,</i></p> <p><i>Qatar's CITES Management Authority has held meetings with the Legal Affairs Departments at the Civil Aviation Authority and General Authority of Customs , the Airport Security Department and the Passageways Passports Department of the Ministry of Interior , and has arranged for implementation of procedures for arrest and prosecution of transit passengers accused of transport of illegal wildlife at HIA.</i></p>
<i>PILLAR 2: National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration</i>		
<p>B.1 Establish a formal collaboration mechanism to facilitate cooperation and collaboration between different departments operating at Hamad International Airport(HIA) , with a role in combating wildlife crime , in particular ivory and rhinoceros horn trafficking transiting through Qatar.</p>		<p>Substantially achieved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The stakeholders operating at HIA has started implementation of Qatar's NIAP , which provide for collaboration mechanism to perform the actions to be undertaken by each of the stakeholders in combat of all types of wildlife crimes, including trafficking of illegal elephant ivory and rhinoceros horns through Qatar.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
<p>B.2 Organize training sessions / workshops for enforcement authorities working at Hamad International Airport (HIA) to raise awareness about wildlife crime and strengthen capacity to combat it . in particular on topics such as international policies governing wildlife trade , the detection and identification of illegal wildlife consignments , ivory and rhinoceros horn recognition and identification , applicable legislation and protocol to follow.</p>		<p>On track</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CITES management authority has prepared a training workshop to be conducted early July 2018. This workshop will be attended by wildlife laws enforcement officials working at HIA. The workshop will focus on CITES requirements , detection , identification of wildlife specimens , legal procedures to be followed with emphasis on implementation of Qatar's NIAP requirements.</i>
<p>B.3 Strengthen capacity among officers working at HIA , through the provision of operational handbooks and identification manuals.</p>		<p>On track</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CITES Management Authority is working on development of identification manual and operational booklet on NIAP implementation process at HIA. These materials will be available at the offices for the staff to be consulted according to the need.</i>
<p>B.4 Scale up enforcement operations at HIA targeting passengers , luggage and cargo , moving between key countries identified as source and destination countries for illegal wildlife specimens , in particular ivory and rhinoceros horn , moving</p>		<p>On track</p>	<p><i>CITES Management Authority is working with the stakeholders at HIA , namely General Authority of Customs, Airport Security Department and Qatar Airways , to arrange for operations targeting passengers of specified nationalities transiting from specified source countries.</i></p>

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
from Africa to Asia , by planning and conducting at least two operations at HIA by 31 December 2019.			
B.5 Increase the number of inspections targeting high risk flights , including random inspections and operations.		On track	<i>CITES Management Authority has arranged with the Aviation Security Department and the Airport Security Department , to carry double inspection of luggage coming from key countries identified as source country for ivory and destined to countries identified as final destination for smuggled ivory.</i>
PILLAR 3: International and regional enforcement collaboration			
C.1 Initiate collaboration and joint initiatives with CITES Management Authorities in source countries to strengthen controls to prevent the illegal transport of ivory from these countries on flights that transit Qatar		On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Representatives of Qatar's CITES Management Authority have participated in Mozambique meeting , and has met with representatives of CITES management authorities from source countries , and discussed with them and urged their cooperation to prevent transport of illegal wildlife from their countries</i>
C.2 Networking and engage with NIAP focal points in other countries participating in the NIAP process , to promote the sharing of best practices and identification of common challenges..		On track	<i>Qatar's CITES Management Authority has initiated contacts with NIAP focal points during Mozambique NIAP implementation meeting , and will continue contact with them in NIAP implementation process.</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
C.3 Review mechanisms in place to support collaboration with countries of source or destination to combat wildlife crime and, in particular , ivory trafficking , to ensure timely exchange of information and intelligence and promote follow-up investigations across the entire illegal trade chain.		On track	<i>Qatar's CITES Management Authority is set to review the existing mechanism of contacts with CITES management authorities in source and destination countries , to ensure timely sharing and exchange of information concerning movement of illegal ivory.</i>
PILLAR 4: Outreach, public awareness and education			
D.1 Engage the ROUTES partnership and Qatar Airways to support the development of posters and videos to raise awareness about illegal trade in wildlife , for display in prominent public areas at HIA.		Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Qatar Airways has signed memorandum of understanding and teamed up with ROUTES(Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species) , to share intelligence and improve detection and disrupt wildlife trafficking activities (See Annex !).</i>
D.2 Work with Qatar Airways to support the development of videos to raise awareness about and discourage crimes involving wildlife , to be made available as part of Qatar Airways in –flight entertainment program.		Achieved	<i>Qatar Airways has completed awareness program and training for its staff covering CITES requirements , illegal wildlife trafficking . Also, Qatar airways has completed development of videos , in-flight magazine , in-flight entertainment system , and posters on screens across Hamad International Airport (HIA) , as actions for raising passengers awareness on illegal wildlife trafficking(See Annex 2).</i>
D.3 Publicize seizures and subsequent prosecutions in main stream media		On track	<i>Usually , in all seizure cases of illegal wildlife trade , the Ministry of Municipality and Environment , represented by the Department of Protection and Wildlife , as designated CITES Management Authority for Qatar, call for</i>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
and on governmental social media platforms		<i>press conference to be attended by all representatives of local newspapers , and special interviews are hosted by the national television channels.</i>
PILLAR 5: Reporting		
E.1 Improve the seizure reporting mechanism to ensure timely reporting of all ivory seizures to ETIS , in accordance with Resolution Conf.10.10(Rev.CoP17)		Substantially achieved. <i>All cases of ivory seizure were reported by CITES Management Authority in time to ETIS through the Ivory and elephant product seizure data collection form.</i>
E.2 Maintain and inventory of government held stockpiles of ivory , in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf.10.10 (Rev.CoP17) paragraph 6.e. and inform the Secretariat of the level of this stock each year before 28 February.		On track <i>Inventory of all government held ivory stockpile has already started and is scheduled to be completed by 31 December 2018 .It will be reported to the Secretariat for consideration of possible disposal (See Annex 4).</i>
E.3 Submit an annual illegal trade report to the Secretariat by 31 October each year , covering the actions in the preceding year and in accordance with the report format distributed by the Secretariat , in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 in Resolution Conf.11.17 (Rev.CoP17) on National reports.		Substantially achieved. <i>The annual illegal trade report for the year 2017 will be submitted to the Secretariat before 31 October 2018.</i>

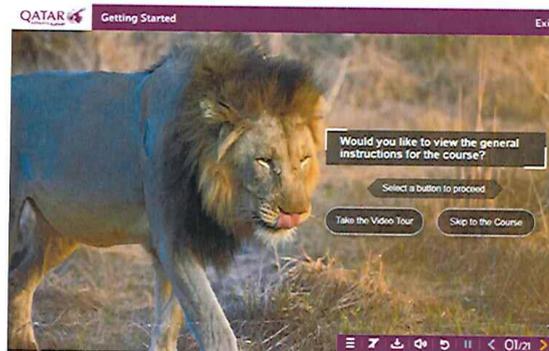
Attachment 1: Update on training and awareness on illegal wildlife Transportation

Actions completed for Training

- All Cargo acceptance staff are trained in Live Animal Regulation and CITES requirements for endangered species.

Actions in progress for Training

- Role specific e-learning package is currently being finalised to be rolled out to all relevant personnel (the photo below is the screen shot of first screen in e-learning).
- Generic illegal wildlife toolbox training package is being developed and made available to all personnel.

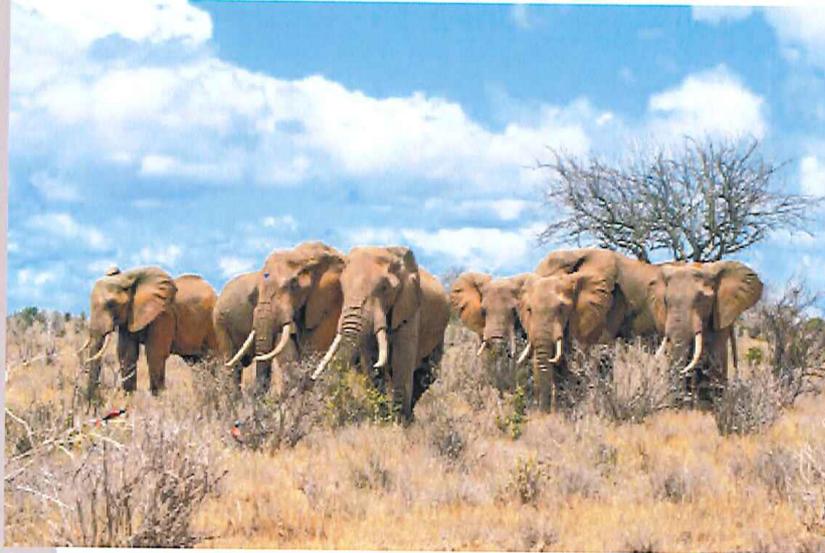


Actions completed for Awareness

- Staff Awareness:
 - An awareness session covering the impacts of illegal wildlife trafficking; modes of transportation and commonly used routes by traffickers; and actions taken by Qatar Airways to combat illegal wildlife transportation was delivered to ~150 staff.
- Passenger Awareness:
 - Qatar Airways has started raising passenger awareness through articles on the importance of preventing illegal wildlife in our inflight magazine (attachment 2).
 - Qatar Airways has also included video on the impact of illegal wildlife transportation in the Qatar Airways inflight entertainment system.

Actions in progress for Awareness

- Staff Awareness:
 - In addition to the e-learning training, a toolbox session is planned for the staff at some of the high risk outstation. The awareness session will be held in Q2 of FY2018/19.
- Passenger Awareness:
 - A targeted illegal wildlife e-poster campaign has been implemented for passengers travelling through HIA (attachment 3).



The elephants in the room

Qatar Airways has joined forces with ROUTES to tackle the illegal trafficking of wildlife

It's astonishing that fewer than half a million African elephants remain in the wild, compared to five million just 100 years ago.

The loss of habitat and migratory routes through the encroachment of expanding human populations into wildlife areas has had a major impact, as has the human elephant conflict. But the major driver of recent decline has been the industrial scale massacre of elephants to supply ivory into trade. Close to 55 African elephants are killed every day. Each year, poachers kill many thousands of African elephants for their ivory.

The ivory trade is global but ivory is largely smuggled in Asia where it is carved into ornamental objects that are in high demand.

The good news is that Qatar Airways has a zero tolerance policy towards the illegal transportation of endangered wildlife through its network and proudly supports the global response to the illegal wildlife trade.

Qatar Airways has teamed up with ROUTES (Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species) to share intelligence, improve detection and disrupt wildlife trafficking activities. ROUTES helps address wildlife poaching and wildlife traffickers exploiting the increasing connectivity of global transportation.

Qatar Airways also maintains strong ties with United for Wildlife. Created by the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry,

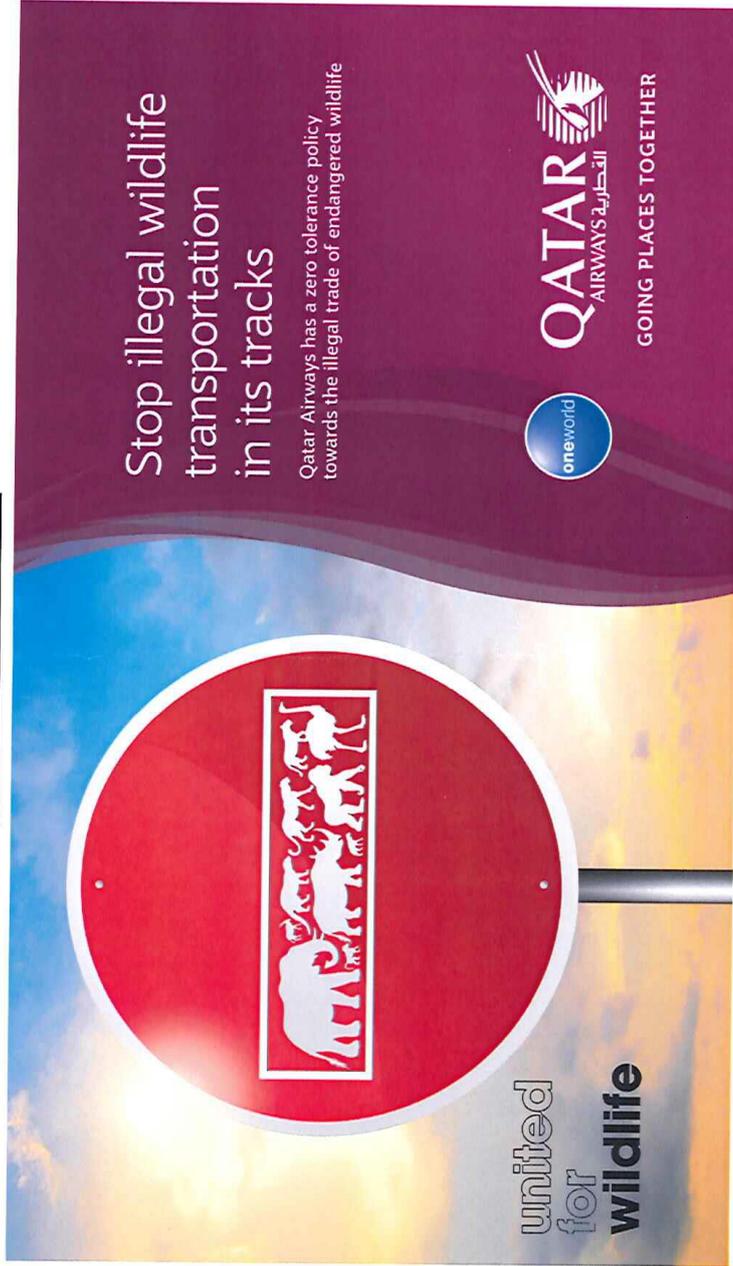
United for Wildlife aims to unify the world's leading wildlife charities such as the World Wildlife Fund and the Wildlife Conservation Society to create a global movement for change.

Make sure you know what you are carrying on board, and never transport any animals or products illegally.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

- Avoid purchasing illegal wildlife products when travelling
- Pay attention to labelling and avoid buying products that you are not sure about
- Learn more about wildlife conservation by visiting our partners' websites: unitedforwildlife.org routespartnership.org

Attachment 3: Posters that have been deployed on screens across HIA



Part D: Annex : Information on actions achieved in the implementation of Qatar's NIAP.

Pillar 4: Outreach, public awareness and education

Qatar Airways has conducted training program for 150 of its staff on CITES requirements , illegal wildlife trade , methods of concealment in transportation and actions undertaken to combat illegal wildlife transportation. Also, Qatar Airways has developed passenger awareness materials in form of videos ,posters at HIA , articles in the in-flight magazine and in -flight entertainment program on impact of illegal wildlife transportation.

Also, Qatar Airways has signed memorandum of understanding with ROUTES (Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species) , to share intelligence , improve detection and disrupt wildlife trafficking activities.

