

2.70 Conservation of Tibetan Antelope (*Pantholops hodgsoni*)

NOTING that the Tibetan Antelope (*Pantholops hodgsoni*) is a key species of the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau Faunal region of Qinghai, Xinjiang, and Tibet, China and that a migrant population of Tibetan Antelope also occurs in the northern Ladakh region of India;

RECALLING that the Chinese Government listed the Tibetan Antelope in 1988 among the State's first class protected wild animals, thereby banning hunting and use of its products in trade, and has established nature reserves specifically for conservation of this species;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Government of India included the Tibetan Antelope in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act in October 1977, thereby according complete legal protection to the species;

FURTHER NOTING that these and other governments re-affirmed their commitment to Tibetan Antelope conservation at the International Workshop on Conservation and Control of Trade in the Tibetan Antelope, held in Xining, China, in October 1999;

ALSO RECALLING that the Tibetan Antelope was listed in Annex II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1975, and transferred to Annex I in 1979, and that a Resolution on the Conservation and Control of Trade in Tibetan Antelope was adopted at the 11th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES in April 2000;

RECOGNIZING that stocks of skins and underwool derived from Tibetan Antelopes are still being used to make products such as shahtoosh shawls, which are being traded on the world market in large quantities;

FURTHER NOTING that organized large-scale illegal hunting of Tibetan Antelope and smuggling of its products continue in spite of the rigorous measures taken by the Chinese Government to prevent these illegal activities;

RECOGNIZING that this illegal trade has contributed to the sharp decline in the population of the Tibetan Antelope, and that, if these activities continue, the Tibetan Antelope will become extinct; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the key to saving the threatened Tibetan Antelope depends upon the elimination of the processing of underwool for shahtoosh and other products, and the cessation of trade in these products, as well as on *in situ* species conservation measures;

The World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, 4–11 October 2000:

1. URGES all States to enforce existing legislation to conserve the Tibetan Antelope and to place a strict ban on all trade in products from this species;

2. ENCOURAGES States, within their respective laws and regulations, to make inventories of existing commercial stocks of Tibetan Antelope underwool and products and to apply a registration system to these stocks;
3. CALLS on all concerned States to take the strictest measures to shut down all processing of, and trade in, products made from the Tibetan Antelope;
4. ENCOURAGES close coordination between all concerned countries in supporting and facilitating the exchange of information among conservation and law enforcement authorities in their efforts to protect the Tibetan Antelope;
5. REQUESTS IUCN's members, international organizations and donors to support China's Tibetan Antelope Conservation Programme, together with conservation efforts in India, by providing financial assistance to manage nature reserves, improve anti-poaching efforts, facilitate scientific research, monitor populations, and prevent trade.

This Recommendation was adopted by consensus. State and Agency members United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this Motion and took no national government position on the Recommendation as adopted, for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process (see p. 76).