



PROPOSAL: CITES CoP18 – **Prop. 9 App. I to App. II**  
**Southern white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*)**

PROPOSER: Namibia

SUBJECT: With the inclusion of an annotation for the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in live animal and hunting trophies

**IWMC RECOMMENDS – ADOPTION of PROP. 9**

The current CITES policy is totally flawed and has disastrous effects on the conservation of the species. There is a demand currently satisfied only by poaching and illegal trade, that are flourishing. Once again, “prohibitions” have had a disastrous effect on Rhinos populations. With direct economic benefits from their conservation and management, Rhino will survive and thrive.

IWMC strongly recommends to the CITES Parties to adopt the proposal Namibia to transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II its population of the above-mentioned species with the following annotation “For the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in: a) live animals to appropriate and acceptable destinations; b) hunting trophies.”

The other specimens of the species, e.g. the horns, would remain subject to the Appendix I provisions, thus the split listing would not allow for the trade in rhino horn.

The above proposal should be supported by not only the African rhino Range States but by CITES Member States. The applications are from countries with excellent rhino conservation histories and have effective management strategies in place. The current trade ban in rhino horn was imposed in 1977 and in over 40 years has not been an effective measure in the reducing of poaching of wild populations. All range states have suffered severe poaching losses over this period and a number of range states have lost all their populations.

Demand reduction campaigns have not proven successful as poaching pressure (losses and incursions) and continued demand for rhino horn impact detrimentally on all Range State populations. The annual security costs to protect these populations runs into \$ millions annually and a policy of sustainable utilization will help mitigate these expenses.

This proposal will place the Range State in the same position as the current listing of South Africa and Eswatini.

**IWMC strongly recommends to CITES Parties to adopt Prop. 9 submitted by Namibia.**