



International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation
Conseil International de la Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier
Internationaler Rat zur Erhaltung des Wildes und der Jagd



52nd General Assembly
12 – 16 March 2005, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Resolution
CICGA52.RES02

Overfishing Threatens West African Terrestrial Animals

1. Many West African mammals are threatened by extinction, so that the game population of Ghana in protected areas has been reduced by almost 80 % during the last 30 years.
2. A team of international scientists (article in Science 306, 1180-1183 (2004))
 - a) compared the decline of 41 mammal species between 1970 and 1998 with fish offered for sale at local West African markets during the same time span and
 - b) determined, that
 - the future of mammal species, whose meat is consumed in West Africa, depends on the state of the fish population offshore,
 - the offshore fish population of West Africa has halved, compared to that of 1970,
 - the pressure on game was particularly heavy in those years, in which fishermen's nets remained practically empty,
 - people there preferably meet their protein demand by consuming fish and, if not available, from game,
 - that people suffer from extreme poverty and malnutrition especially in the West African region, where game has been excessively decimated,
 - should the fish population fail, most game of West Africa would not only reduce within a short period of time, but also fail as secondary protein source for the human population.

The 52nd CIC General Assembly, held on 12-16 March 2005 in Abu Dhabi (UAE)

ASCERTAINS

- Research results disprove the claim, that game is an unnecessary delicacy for people in large West African cities,

and

REQUESTS

- that the President complies accordingly and informs members of the obtained information.