

SUBCHAPTER II—REPORT ON MAJOR
WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING COUNTRIES

§ 7621. Report

(a) Report

Not later than one year after October 7, 2016, and biennially thereafter by June 1 of each year in which a report is required, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, shall submit to Congress a report that lists each country determined by the Secretary of State to be a focus country within the meaning of this chapter.

(b) Special designation

In each report required under subsection (a), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, shall also list each country determined by the Secretary of State to be a country of concern within the meaning of this chapter¹

(c) Procedure for removing countries from list

Concurrently with the first report required under this section and submitted after December 23, 2022, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, shall publish in the Federal Register a procedure for removing from the list described in subsection (b) any country that no longer meets the definition of country of concern under section 7601(4) of this title.

(d) Sunset

This section shall cease to have force or effect on September 30, 2028.

(Pub. L. 114-231, title II, §201, Oct. 7, 2016, 130 Stat. 952; Pub. L. 117-263, div. E, title LIX, §5943(c)(1), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3470.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

*For termination of section on Sept. 30, 2028,
see subsec. (d) of this section.*

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 114-231, Oct. 7, 2016, 130 Stat. 949, known as the Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note under section 7601 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 117-263, §5943(c)(1)(A), substituted “biennially thereafter by June 1 of each year in which a report is required” for “annually thereafter”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 117-263, §5943(c)(1)(B), substituted “shall also list each country determined by the Secretary of State to be a country of concern within the meaning of this chapter” for “shall identify each country of concern listed in the report the government of which has actively engaged in or knowingly profited from the trafficking of endangered or threatened species.”

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 117-263, §5943(c)(1)(C), added subsecs. (c) and (d) and struck out former subsec. (c).

¹ So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.

Prior to amendment, text of subsec. (c) read as follows: “This section shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after October 7, 2016.”

SUBCHAPTER III—FRAMEWORK FOR
INTERAGENCY RESPONSE

§ 7631. Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking

(a) Responsibilities

In addition to the functions required by Executive Order 13648 (78 Fed. Reg. 40621), the Task Force shall be informed by the Secretary of State’s annual report required under section 7621 of this title and considering all available information, ensure that relevant United States Government agencies—

(1) collaborate, to the greatest extent practicable, with the national wildlife services, or other relevant bodies of each focus country to prepare, not later than 90 days after the date of submission of the report required under section 7621(a) of this title, a United States mission assessment of the threats to wildlife in that focus country and an assessment of the capacity of that country to address wildlife trafficking;

(2) collaborate, to the greatest extent practicable, with relevant ministries, national wildlife services, or other relevant bodies of each focus country to prepare, not later than 180 days after preparation of the assessment referred to in paragraph (1), a United States mission strategic plan that includes recommendations for addressing wildlife trafficking, taking into account any regional or national strategies for addressing wildlife trafficking in a focus country developed before the preparation of such assessment;

(3) coordinate efforts among United States Federal agencies and non-Federal partners, including missions, domestic and international organizations, the private sector, and other global partners, to implement the strategic plans required by paragraph (2) in each focus country;

(4) not less frequently than annually, consult and coordinate with stakeholders qualified to provide advice, assistance, and information regarding effective support for anti-poaching activities, coordination of regional law enforcement efforts, development of and support for effective legal enforcement mechanisms, and development of strategies to reduce illicit trade and reduce consumer demand for illegally traded wildlife and wildlife products, and other relevant topics under this chapter;

(5) pursue programs and develop a strategy—

(A) to expand the role of technology for anti-poaching and anti-trafficking efforts, in partnership with the private sector, foreign governments, academia, and nongovernmental organizations (including technology companies and the transportation and logistics sectors); and

(B) to enable local governments to develop and use such technologies;

(6) consider programs and initiatives that address the expansion of the illegal wildlife trade to digital platforms, including the use of