

Decree Num. 72/2007, date 27 October, by which the Hunting and Consumption of Monkeys and other Primates in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea
Is Prohibited

Preamble

The Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, conscious of its constitutional duty to protect the family and guarantee the health of persons;

Taking into account that various scientific researches have demonstrated in an irrefutable way that monkeys and other primates are carriers of epidemics and other pathologies dangerous to the health of persons;

Considering that International Organizations involved in health have recognized that the consumption of monkey meat and that of other primates is a source of contagion for epidemics and other diseases;

Having established that the present intensive hunting, and the consequent increase of consumption of the above-mentioned species of fauna not only increases the risk of diseases in the population but also threatens the extinction of said animals;

By virtue of, and by proposal of the Minister of Fisheries and Environment, following deliberation by the Council of Ministers in its session held on the 26th of October 2007.

I ORDER:

Article 1. – In accordance with the provision of Article 8 of the Convention on the Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), monkeys and other primates are declared to be endangered species in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, and in consequence, they become part of Appendix IV of the above-mentioned Convention.

Article 2. – The hunting, sale, consumption, and possession of monkeys and other primates in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea are strictly forbidden.

Article 3. -- Violators of the provision of Article 2 of the present Decree shall be subject to fines which range between 100,000 and 500,000 CFA francs per monkey or primate.

Besides the sanctions prescribed in the above section, there will also be the seizure of the live or dead unit, along with all artifices and means that may have been used to commit the violation.

Article 4. -1 Shotguns confiscated in accordance with the previous Article 3, shall be deposited with the Government Delegate of the municipal or district boundary concerned, who upon timely investigation, shall transfer them to the custody of the Military Chief of the district head office. A copy of such a determination shall be sent to the Ministry of Fisheries and Environment by administrative means.

4. -2 Dead animals confiscated shall be burned until their total destruction.

4. -3 In case of live species being confiscated, the procedure shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 40 of Decree No. 172/2005 dated 8 September, which regulates the Trade in Endangered Species of wild Flora and Fauna in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

Article 5. -1 In a period of 15 calendar days counting from the promulgation of the present Decree, the owners and/or users of hunting shotguns shall deposit a Sworn Declaration before the Government Delegate of the municipal or district boundary, that such arms shall not be used in any circumstance for the hunting of monkeys and other primates.

5. -2 Failure to comply with the provision of subsection 1 of the present Article, shall carry with it the confiscation of the affected shotgun as well as the withdrawal of the hunting license.

Article 6. - Environmental Inspectors, Forestry Guards, Delegates of Government, Police Commissaries, Military Chiefs, Presidents of Town Councils and Communities of Residents, are instructed to take all necessary measures, each within the scope of his competencies, to guarantee the strict enforcement of the present Decree.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION

The Ministry of Fisheries and Environment is authorized to issue whatever norms are necessary for the correct application of the present Decree.

REVOCATION PROVISION

All provisions of equal or lower rank which may run counter to the present Decree are revoked.

FINAL PROVISION

The present Decree shall enter into force upon the date of its publication in the national information media and in the Official Bulletin of the State.

I hereby order this by the present Decree, given in Malabo, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of October of the year two thousand seven.

FOR A BETTER GUINEA

[signed and sealed]

OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

Translation provided by United States Embassy, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea