

**8<sup>th</sup> AHEAD – GLTFC Working Group  
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**Commodity-  
based trade:  
New opportunity  
for economic  
activity in the  
GLTFCA**



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**To be successful the GLTFCA needs,  
among other things, to generate  
income to ensure economic viability**

- It is apparently anticipated that tourism will be the major source of such income generation
- However, tourism is unlikely to generate enough income or employment to justify the maintenance of the GLTFCA on economic grounds
- Therefore, other sources of income-generation will likely need to ensure economic viability

**To be successful the GLTFCA needs,  
among other things, to generate  
income to make it affordable (cont.)**

- In all probability a diversity of income-generating activities will be required to achieve economic viability
- Therefore, other sources of income-generation are an urgent requirement
- Consumptive utilisation of wildlife & trading the products so derived on high-value international markets presents one such opportunity
  - Seems not to have been considered seriously
  - Why is this?

**TADs & access to international  
markets**

- The potential for this approach is greatly constrained by SPS rules (WTO Agreement on Sanitary & Phytosanitary Measures) relevant to animal diseases
- Until recently these rules were based almost exclusively on the ability of the exporting country to prove freedom from trade-influencing TADs (e.g. foot and mouth disease)
- Presents a huge problem for GLTFCA!
- But the rules are starting to change: OIE has accepted that a commodity approach is also possible

## What is the concept behind commodity-based trade?

The idea is that an array of alternatives can be used (principally processing, including processes associated with complex food products) so that animal disease (and human food safety) hazards are reduced to acceptable risk levels

So risk management is based on meeting specific standards for the commodity concerned and not standards for the locality of production

## What does this mean in plain language?

Basically, that if a product can be produced that demonstrably poses minimal risk of passively transmitting TADs, that product is safe to trade internationally

What it does **not** mean is that products that are derived from diseased animals are acceptable for inclusion in food products: All human food safety standards need to be strictly enforced!

## The commodity approach presents two practical advantages



Processing commodities derived from animals offers possibilities for ensuring biologically safe products for export while adding value (beneficiation) to the product and associated employment creation near the site of production

## How does consumptive exploitation of wildlife fit into all this?

- Simply, that the potential is created for production & beneficiation of an array of products derived from wildlife on an industrial scale
- The possible benefits are presently incalculable – something to investigate!

Of course, the conservation purists will not like this idea .....