

**Clarifications to the Record**  
**Twenty-Ninth Annual Stetson International Environmental**  
**Moot Court Competition**  
**2024–2025**

Please note that this document does not contain responses to all of the requests for clarification that were received. The answers to some requests are already contained within the Record, and other requests were beyond the scope of the legal and factual issues that should be the focus of your arguments in the memorials and during the oral rounds of the competition.

- Q1. Should teams frame the arguments only in terms of conventional international law, or may teams make independent customary international law arguments?
- A1. Teams should not make independent customary international law arguments. Customary international law may be relevant to treaty interpretation, however.
- Q2. Can the horns of the Royal Markhor be extracted without endangering the animal or affecting its ability to reproduce, or does the extraction process result in the animal's death?
- A2. The removal of the horns leads to the animal's death.
- Q3. In luring male Royal Markhors for hunting, how is the scent of female Royal Markhors acquired?
- A3. Urine collected from female Royal Markhors is used to lure male Royal Markhors. Each year, several adult females are captured and kept in a facility with a sloped, cement floor. Urine that contains estrus is collected for two weeks. The animals are then released in the area where they were captured.
- Q4. Does the law in Astor completely prohibit domestic trophy hunting of Royal Markhors?
- A4. Yes, hunting of Royal Markhors for any purpose is prohibited in Astor.
- Q5. Can you provide additional details about the methods used by Astori trophy hunters? Are all the hunts successful?
- A5. Since 2016, every trophy hunt but one has resulted in a kill, but frequently the first shot does not result in the animal's death. In about half the cases, the wounded animal is tracked for an average of three hours before additional shot(s) cause death.
- Q6. Out of the ten Royal Markhors that were permitted to be hunted annually, were all of them auctioned off, or did the Dione Ginsu retain some of the hunting rights?
- A6. Since 2016, hunting rights for all ten have been auctioned off each year.
- Q7. Paragraph 25 of the Record notes that Astori trophy hunters also kill bears, bobcats, and panthers domestically. Are the bears, bobcats, and panthers killed domestically in Astor listed in any CITES Appendix or CMS Appendix?
- A7. No.

- Q8. Have Astor and Rishmak been represented at all Conferences of the Parties (COPs) held under CITES and CMS?
- A8. Yes, Astor and Rishmak have been represented at all CITES and CMS COPs, and they were part of the consensus of any resolutions or decisions adopted at such fora.
- Q9. The ARTA provisions in the Record are similar to the corresponding GATT provisions. Are there other ARTA provisions that are not specifically listed in the Record that are identical or similar to the corresponding GATT provisions, or are there any notable differences?
- A9. You should confine your arguments to the ARTA text provided in the Record.
- Q10. Does the ARTA include substantive nondiscrimination provisions on ‘national treatment’ and ‘most-favoured-nation’ that are identical or similar to the GATT’s nondiscrimination provisions?
- A10. You should confine your arguments to the ARTA text provided in the Record.
- Q11. Is Astor considered the Applicant and Rishmak considered the Respondent for the purposes of this competition?
- A11. Yes.
- Q12. Should the diplomatic notes in the Record be considered aspersions or facts?
- A12. The facts referenced in the diplomatic notes should be taken as true, but the legal assertions in the diplomatic notes may be debated.