

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Eighteenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Buenos Aires (Argentina), 17-21 March 2009

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE APPENDICES
(PC18 Doc. 16.1.1 and PC18 Doc. 16.1.2)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair: the alternate representative for Europe (Mr Lüthy).

Members: the representative of Europe (Mr Sajeva).

Party observers: Czech Republic, France, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico Namibia and South Africa.

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, American Herbal Products Association and TRAFFIC.

Mandate

With regard to agenda item 16.1.1

1. Finalize the review of *Tillandsia harrisii* and *Podocarpus parlatorei* [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (*Periodic Review of the Appendices*), paragraph g)];
2. Discuss the draft guidelines for the Periodic Review of the Appendices contained in document PC18 Doc. 16.1.1, Annex 2, and draft a final version at PC18, which will then be discussed with the Animals Committee. The Committees will then decide on a possible document and agenda item for CoP15; and
3. Based on reports received by the Chair of the inter-sessional working group, analyze all available reports and finalize reviews.

Regarding agenda item 16.1.2

Review the two lists [A: species proposed for deletion from Appendix II because they are frequently traded as artificially propagated specimens; B: species proposed for retention in Appendix II because they meet the listing criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP14)] and decide on how to proceed with the Plants Committee mandate to submit a proposal for an amended listing of *Euphorbia* species in Appendix II for CoP15.

Recommendations

Periodic Review of the Appendices (agenda item 16.1.1)

1. Reviews of taxa for consideration of PC18

Tillandsia harrisii

The report submitted by Guatemala concludes, that the present listing in Appendix II is appropriate. The WG agreed by consensus.

Podocarpus parlatorei

The report submitted by Argentina concludes, that the present listing in Appendix I is appropriate. The WG agreed by consensus.

Welwitschia mirabilis

Based on the report submitted by Namibia, and considering the comments by Namibia on the way forward, the WG proposes by consensus delisting from Appendix II. The Plants Committee should prepare a corresponding proposal for consideration of CoP15, to be submitted by the Depository Government.

Euphorbia antisiphilitica

The report submitted by Mexico concludes, that the listing in Appendix II is appropriate. Finished products however should be exempted. The WG agrees by consensus.

With submission of an amendment proposal for *Welwitschia mirabilis*, the review of these four species will be finalized (Conf. Res. 14.8).

2. Draft guidelines for the Periodic Review of the Appendices

The WG agrees by consensus with the draft guidelines outlined in Annex 2 of PC18 Doc. 16.1.1 and doesn't propose any amendments.

3. Malagasy taxa

3.1 *Aloe* spp. and *Euphorbia* spp. listed in Appendix I and Didiereaceae spp. (PC18 Doc. 16.1.1, Annex 5)

The WG acknowledges the great effort of Madagascar to contribute to the Periodic Review of the Appendices. The data provided by Madagascar are quite extensive and helpful. However they don't allow direct application of the criteria Res. Conf. 9.24. Consequently, the WG is not in a position to assess the corresponding listings. The WG concludes that the intersessional WG should be maintained and provided with a mandate of the Plants Committee to continue its work on all taxa that are still to be reviewed up to CoP15. The intersessional WG should in particular consult with the Malagasy Authorities in order to seek completion of reviews of Malagasy taxa.

3.2 Look-alike species (see PC18 Inf. 7)

This issue was not discussed in the WG meeting by an oversight. The chair however consulted with the members of the WG in the process of finalizing the WG report. There was no complete consensus of the WG in this matter. The pronounced look-alike problem is outlined in document PC18 Inf. 7. A number of Malagasy *Aloe* spp. and *Euphorbia* spp. that are listed in Appendix I have very close look-alikes that are listed in Appendix II. This could stimulate false declarations (illegal export of wild-collected specimens that are listed in Appendix I under names of their look-alikes of Appendix II). The look-alike species of Appendix II are: *Euphorbia itremensis* Kimnach & Lavranos, *Euphorbia suzannae-marnierae* Rauh & H. Pétignat, *Aloe inexpectata* Lavranos & McCoy, *Aloe florenceae* Lavranos & McCoy, *Aloe hoffmannii* Lavranos, *Aloe droseroides* Lavranos & McCoy, *Aloe pseudoparvula* Castillon. The Plants Committee could consider this issue and, if it seems appropriate, consult with Madagascar on a possible way forward, for example an uplisting of these look-alike species to Appendix I and preparation of a corresponding proposal for submission to CoP15.

Succulent *Euphorbia* spp. (PC18 Doc. 16.1.2)

1. The WG points out that its mandate only covers part of the Plants Committees mandate, i.e. the second part of it. The first part of the mandate, i.e. the draft Annotation in Annex 1, consequently will have to be treated in Plenary.
2. The WG amends list A by adding *Euphorbia trigona* (cultivars are already exempted) for consistent treatment of taxa with no known natural population, such as, for example, *Aloe vera*. The latter is exempted from CITES. The WG agrees by consensus that the species of the amended list A should be exempted from CITES and that the Plants Committee should elaborate a corresponding proposal for submission by the Depositary Government for consideration of CoP15. The WG took note of the offer of Switzerland to provide adequate identification material, if species should be exempted. The amended list A contains the following species: *E. abyssinica*, *E. canariensis*, *E. ingens*, *E. lactea* (the species, specimens other than artificially propagated specimens of crested, fan-shaped or colour mutants, when grafted on artificially propagated root stock of *Euphorbia neriifolia*), *E. trigona* (the species, specimens other than artificially propagated specimens of cultivars), *E. tirucalli*.
3. The WG agrees by consensus that list B should be improved through further consultation with range States and experts, and analysis of trade. The intersessional WG should be provided with a mandate of the Plants Committee and continue its work. It should present a consolidated list to PC19.
4. Considering the report on *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* by Mexico, the WG discussed the present annotation of *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix II. It concludes that the Plants Committee should provide for application of the guiding principles to an amended annotation. Especially finished products should be exempted. The WG reported its conclusions to WG 4 on Annotations for consideration.