

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



Twentieth meeting of the Plants Committee
Dublin (Ireland), 22-30 March 2012

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS AND
HERBAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES ON FINISHED PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED
FROM ORCHIDS THAT ARE PACKAGED AND READY FOR RETAIL TRADE

The attached information document has been submitted by the United States of America in relation to agenda item 17.1.2.3.

Questionnaire for the U.S. personal care products and herbal products industries
Finished products manufactured from orchids that are packaged and ready for retail trade

The CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) Plants Committee is engaged in ongoing work to ensure that annotations to listings of plant taxa in the CITES Appendices appropriately cover the first commodities in trade from the range countries and the principal commodities in trade. Based on its work, the Plants Committee may recommend the exemption from CITES controls of certain plant-based products that are “packaged and ready for retail trade,” where the commodities earlier in the production chain are appropriately covered by CITES controls. The Plants Committee has developed the following working definition of finished products packaged and ready for retail trade: “Products requiring no further processing, packaged, labeled and ready for retail trade, in a state fit for being sold to or used by the general public.”

At the 19th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC19, Geneva, 2011), the interim Vice-Chair of the Committee (from Mexico), in collaboration with the Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom, submitted document PC19 Doc. 11.3 on the review of annotations for Cactaceae and Orchidaceae. The document can be found at <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/pc/19/e19-11-03.pdf>. Note: document PC19 Doc. 11.3 did not take into consideration the U.S. response, which we have attached for your reference.

Current efforts related to this work are focused on orchids. In preparing document PC19 Doc. 11.3, a number of products made from orchids that are “packaged and ready for retail trade” were identified as being in international trade. Orchid genera and species identified include: *Bletilla striata*, *Dendrobium nobile* and other *Dendrobium* spp., *Gastrodia elata*, and *Phalaenopsis* spp. The products produced from these orchids include: bath oil, body scrub, cosmetics, drinking tonic, extract (including flower extract and liquid extract), facial cream, hair care products (capillary preparations, hair mist, and shampoo), pill composition, deodorant, shower gel, salep and traditional medicine products.

As part of this ongoing work, we are now consulting with the U.S. personal care products and herbal products industries and would appreciate your assistance in answering the following questions. We would also appreciate your assistance in identifying other companies or associations in your business that we should contact regarding this issue.

- 1) Do you import products containing orchids? If yes, please provide us with descriptions of each type of product; the names of the species (or if unknown, genera) of orchids that are used in each product; the country (or countries) of export; an estimate of the volume of each product imported by you annually; and the proportion of such products that you would consider “packaged and ready for retail trade.” Please also provide the Customs Harmonized Tariff codes used for each product, if known.
- 2) If you import products containing orchids, do you import any of them directly from the country (or countries) where the orchids are native? If yes, please provide us with descriptions of these products.

- 3) Do you export products containing orchids? If yes, please provide us with descriptions of each type of product; the names of the species (or if unknown, the genera) of orchids that are used in each product; the country from which you source the orchid raw materials; an estimate of the volume of each product exported by you annually; and the proportion of such products that you would consider “packaged and ready for retail trade.” Please also provide the Customs Harmonized Tariff codes used for such products, if known.
- 4) If you export products containing orchids, do you manufacture such products in the United States from imported or domestically obtained raw material or are they products that were previously imported? Briefly explain.

Thank you for your assistance in responding to these questions.