

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



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Animals Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-20 March 2012 and Dublin (Ireland), 22-24 March 2012

Identification of CITES-listed corals in trade (Decision 15.64b)

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

1. This document has been prepared by Vincent Fleming (Regional Representative for Europe) and Suharsono Soemorumekso (Regional Representative for Asia) .
2. At its 15th meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 15.64.b as follows:

**Directed to the Animals Committee**

*The Animals Committee shall:*

- b) update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination.*
3. Decision 15.64.a, on the identification of reference materials that might be adopted by CITES as a standard nomenclatural reference for corals, is being addressed by a separate working group of the Animals Committee.
4. At the 25th Animals Committee (Geneva, July 2011), a working group was formed to implement this Decision comprising representatives of Australia, United States of America, Ornamental Fish International and TRAFFIC and to be co-chaired by Suharsono Soemorumekso (Regional Representative for Asia) and Vincent Fleming (Regional Representative for Europe).
5. The group has been conducting its work by email and will continue to do so. It has, so far, agreed upon its individual composition, agreed that members should make best use of coral specialists within their country and/or organisation and has agreed to invite independent coral experts to contribute their expertise to help the group with its tasks. It has discussed decision rules or criteria by which the list of corals, whose identification to genus level is acceptable, might be modified and has begun to consider suggestions for revision to the list.
6. It is expected that a provisional revised list should be available for consideration at the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee during which meeting further deliberations by the working group might be required.

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