

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

ORCHIDS: ANNOTATION FOR SPECIES INCLUDED IN APPENDIX II
(PC18 Doc. 11.2)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Co-Chair: the representative of Europe (Mr Sajeva) and the observer from Thailand.

Members: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Sra Mites Cadena) and the alternate representative for Europe: (Mr Lüthy) participating on behalf of Switzerland.

Party observers: Canada, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico and the United States of America.

IGOs and NGOs: American Herbal Products Association and TRAFFIC.

Mandate

1. Analyse the responses, and the measures envisaged to fulfil Decision 14.133;
2. Propose either maintaining or eliminating Decision 14.133. Should the Decision be maintained (with or without amendment), the working group shall give an indication of the budget required for its implementation,
3. Analyse the responses received further to Decision 14.134 and prepare a report for the CoP; and
4. Propose either maintaining or eliminating Decision 14.134. Should the Decision be maintained (with or without amendment), the working group shall give an indication of the budget required for its implementation.

Recommendations

In relation to the four points of the mandate, the recommendations are as follows:

1. On the basis of the analysis of the responses the working group concluded that the exemptions are acknowledged by the parties. However the parties drawn attention to the fact that exporters still apply for CITES export documents even when the shipments fulfil the exemption.
2. Considering the positive effects and the short time frame the exemption came into force, and that some parties may need more time to adopt the appropriate measures the working group proposes to maintain Decision 14.133. Estimated budget USD 5,000.
3. On the basis of the analysis of the seven responses the working group concluded that the responding parties reported no conservation issues arising from the exemption.

4. On the basis of available information the working group could not identify any conservation problems arising from the implementation. Considering the possibility of new taxa included in the exemption in the near future, and considering that some parties are still adopting the appropriate measures to implement Decision 14.133, the working group proposes to maintain decision 14.134. Estimated budget USD 5,000.