

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



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

TIMBER SPECIES, MEDICINAL PLANTS AND AGARWOOD-PRODUCING SPECIES
(DECISIONS 15.26 AND 15.27)

and

AGARWOOD PRODUCING TAXA (DECISION 15.94)
(Agenda items 15.1 and 17.2.1)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Co-Chair: The representatives of Asia (Ms Zhou) and Oceania (Mr Leach) and the alternate representative of Asia (Ms Al-Salem)
- Members: The representative of Asia (Mr Partonihardjo)
- Parties: Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America
- IGOs and NGOs: European Union, Ajmal Perfumes, Assam Agarwood Traders Association

Mandate

Consider recommendations in documents PC20 Doc.15.1 and PC20 Doc. 17.2.1.

Recommendations

In relation to the recommendations outlined in paragraph 6 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1:

1. Due to differences in management and lifeforms, the WG decided that it would not be appropriate to standardize NDF guidance across timber species, *Prunus africana*, medicinal plants and Agarwood-producing species. Separate guidance should be developed for each of these groups.
2. While the WG noted the comments on structuring a handbook for making non-detriment findings for the above species, due to the amount of ongoing work of the Parties, the WG agreed that it was premature to produce such a handbook.

In relation to paragraph 8 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1:

3. That the following draft decisions be submitted to CoP16 (this also addressed the recommendation 2 on page 13):

Decision 16.XX

Directed to Parties and the Secretariat:

That the Agarwood NDF guidance, as amended by the WG (PC20 WG6), be used by the Parties and the Secretariat in capacity building workshops and training materials relating to Agarwood-producing species.

Decision 16.XX

Directed to Agarwood species range states.

That range states are encouraged to make use of the Agarwood NDF guidance as amended by the WG (PC20 WG6).

In relation to the Decisions referenced in document PC20 Doc. 15.1:

4. In relation to Decision 15.26, the WG agreed that due to ongoing work of the Parties this Decision should be extended to CoP17.
5. In relation to Decision 15.27, the WG agreed to extend all three parts of the decision to CoP17, noting that it would be premature to translate the guidance material produced to date as it will be refined in the future.

In relation to Table 2A appearing in Annex 3a of document PC20 Inf. Doc. 7:

6. The WG recommends including an introductory statement to the table, stating that all criteria in the table would apply to wild sourced Agarwood, while some of the criteria would apply to plantation-sourced Agarwood as indicated in the last column.
7. The WG recommends that under the heading "National conservation status", following the words "Conservation status of the species in the country determined through consultation of" : substitute "species risks list" in dot point one with "Threatened species lists".

In relation to the recommendations arising from the Kuwait workshops:

8. The WG considered that recommendation 1, pg 13 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1 was fulfilled.
9. The WG considered that recommendation 2, pg 13 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1 has been covered by the draft Decision which is included in ...
10. The WG did not reach consensus with regard to recommendation 3, pg 13 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1, regarding the proposed amended definition of 'under controlled conditions'. The WG noted that further work is required to clarify the meaning of this term, especially with regard to defining the "non natural environment".
11. In relation to recommendation 4, pg 13 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1, the WG did not agree to include 'inducement' in the list of controlled condition examples in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15). This recommendation was rejected on the basis that this is a process or an activity that is also applied to wild material and there was also concern about the lack of clarity of the term.
12. The WG agreed with recommendation 5, pg 13 of document PC20 Doc. 15.1 that the title of Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) should be amended to read 'Tree Species' instead of 'Timber species'.

In relation to document PC20 Doc. 17.2.1 Annex 1:

13. The WG recommends the development of a new Resolution relating solely to Agarwood to be submitted to CoP16.

14. The WG discussed the issue of mixed versus monospecific plantations. The WG noted that the issue of mixed plantations will be dealt with in the new Agarwood Resolution. The WG recommended that a new decision is required to direct the PC to do further work on this issue.

Decision 16.XX

Directed to the Plants Committee

To consider the current production systems of tropical tree species including mixed and monospecific plantations and assess the applicability of the current definitions in Resolution Conf. 10.13 and Resolution Conf. 11.11 and report back to CoP17.

In relation to making NDFs at the generic level, the WG noted the difficulty in identifying species at the time of export, but also noted the need to manage the harvest of Agarwood producing species in the wild at the species level. The WG did not reach consensus on this issue.

In relation to Decision 15.95, the WG recommended that it be revised as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

15.95 (Rev. CoP16)

Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in cooperation with the Agarwood range States and the Plants Committee, organize a workshop to share experiences and discuss management of wild and plantation-sourced Agarwood. Identify and agree on strategies that balance the conservation and use of the wild populations, while relieving the pressure on these by using the planted material.

In relation to document PC20 Doc. 17.2.1 Annex 2:

15. In relation to the annotations, the following draft Agarwood annotation was considered by the working group:

All parts and derivatives, except:

- a) seeds and pollen;
- b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
- c) fruits;
- d) Leaves;
- e) Mixed oil containing less than 15% of agarwood oil;
- f) exhausted powder;
- g) exhausted powder compressed into various shapes;
- h) Finished products packaged and ready for retail trade. This exemption does not apply to patent medicines.

The WG provided a number of comments for the proponent to consider in drafting an annotation. For example, difficulty of Customs officials to identify products identified in e), f) and g), and the requirement of a definition of patent medicines. A number of Parties offered to continue to participate in discussions to develop this annotation.

16. In relation to personal and household effects, the following amendment was proposed to Resolution Conf. 13.7 (Rev CoP14), 1 kg woodchips, 60 ml oil and 2 pieces beads, prayer beads, necklaces, bracelets etc. per person. The WG provided a number of comments for the proponent to consider in drafting this amendment.
17. In relation to the glossary, the WG recommended that it be attached as an annex to the new Agarwood Resolution. The WG noted the changes made by the Annotations WG (PC20 WGXX) and will take these changes into account in its revised draft.
18. The WG noted that Decision 14.137 addresses identification materials and recommended that it be retained.