

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

Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Gigiri (Kenya), 10-20 April 2000

Strategic and administrative matters

Committee reports and recommendations

Nomenclature Committee

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Introduction

1. At its meeting in Harare, 1997, the Conference of Parties elected Dr Marinus S. Hoogmoed, National Museum of Natural History, Leiden the Netherlands, as Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee and Mr Noel McGough, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom as Vice-Chairman. Dr Hoogmoed is responsible for the subcommittee dealing with the nomenclature of species of fauna, Mr McGough for the subcommittee dealing with the nomenclature of flora. In Notification to the Parties No. 1998/24, the Secretariat asked Management and Scientific Authorities of Parties to make suggestions about possible members. None were received, although some persons indicated that they were interested to participate in Nomenclature Committee activities. Their interest was noted and, where possible, they participated in meetings.
2. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would like to take this opportunity to ask Parties to make suggestions for the membership of the Nomenclature Committee, indicating the field of specialization of the person(s) nominated.
3. The Committee's work has been conducted through two subcommittees that were established at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This report is presented in two parts: Fauna Subcommittee report; and or Flora Subcommittee report. Each part covers: a) Status of Checklists; b) Proposed Work Plan; and c) Proposed Operating Budget. The Fauna Subcommittee report also summarizes responses, endorsed by the Subcommittee, to notable enquiries received since the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. Recommendations of the Nomenclature Committee, calling for decisions of the Conference of the Parties, are included in documents Doc. 11.11.4.2 (Nomenclature Committee; Recommendations of the Committee) and Doc. 11.39 (Standard nomenclature).
5. The Nomenclature Committee will continue to provide timely services to the Parties and the Secretariat, including: i) responding to enquiries regarding the nomenclature of taxa listed in the appendices; ii) designation of appropriate taxonomic authorities for the nomenclature of taxa listed in the appendices that are not included in standard references that have been adopted by the Parties; iii) reviewing the nomenclature of the taxa that have been listed in the appendices, in consultation with the Secretariat; iv) reviewing the nomenclature of species proposed for listing in the appendices prior to their consideration at the meetings of the Conference of the Parties; and v) advising the Secretariat of recommended changes in the nomenclature that should be used in the appendices.

Fauna Subcommittee

6. The Fauna Subcommittee met in conjunction with the 14th and 15th meetings of the Animals Committee (Caracas, Venezuela, 25-29 May 1998; Antananarivo, Madagascar, 5-9 July 1999). Both meetings were attended by a small number of persons interested in nomenclatural matters, by the Chairman and by a representative of the Secretariat.
7. During the 14th meeting in May 1998 some nomenclatural problems regarding the spider genus *Brachypelma* were discussed and consensus was reached (based mainly on the work done by Mr T. Inskipp of WCMC under a consultancy) on which species were considered to belong to the genus at the time of listing. The agreed list was published in Notification to the Parties No. 1998/29. Some other questions concerning the genus came up later and were submitted to the Chairman by the Secretariat. A short review of the literature showed that one of the names of concern to the Secretariat (*Brachypelma andrewi*) was a synonym of a species in the genus *Euathlus* (*E. truncatus*) and therefore not subject to the provisions of the Convention. *Brachypelma annitha* Tesmoingt, *et al.*, 1997, was described on the basis of confiscated material and turned out to be a synonym for *B. smithii*. Moreover, *B. harmorii*, described together with *B. annitha*, turned out to be a colour variety of *B. smithii*. A specific recommendation on this subject has been included in document Doc. 11.11.4.2.
8. At the 15th meeting, the representative of Switzerland indicated that it had a reservation on *Ursus arctos isabellinus*, but that it was not certain whether this was a valid taxon. It was recommended that the IUCN Bear Specialist Group be consulted on this subject.
9. At the same meeting the Chairman informed those present that the first part of the Snake Checklist apparently had been published.
10. The Chairman also announced that he would propose a number of reptile checklists to serve as standard references. This proposal met with approval from those present. See paragraph 17 below.

Notable enquiries

11. The Chairman was contacted by the Secretariat about the delimitation of families within lizards. The Chairman advised that in this connection the following reference be used: (Pough, F.H., *et al.*, 1998)*. The Committee recommends that the family names currently used in the Appendices should be changed accordingly.
12. The Secretariat, at the request of the Czech Republic, asked the Chairman for advice on the use of scientific names for Bovidae included in the appendices. This concerns *Bos gaurus* and *Bos mutus*, the wild populations of which are included in Appendix I. The standard reference for mammals, however, refers to the name of the domesticated form as being the valid name. It is now suggested, in accordance with what was done to distinguish wild and domesticated populations of *Bubalus bubalis*, to continue to use a different taxonomic denominator for these wild populations. The names used in the appendices should continue to be used but they should be annotated to indicate that domesticated populations are excluded from the provisions of the Convention. A specific recommendation on this subject has been included in document Doc. 11.11.4.2.
13. The Chairman was also consulted by the Secretariat on the export of *Uromastyx acanthinurus* from Mali and the validity and distribution of *Uromastyx maliensis*. The Chairman provided the requested information and indicated that *U. maliensis* was a valid species.
14. In its report to the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [document Doc. 10.18 (Rev.)], the Nomenclature Committee reported on work carried out to solve some problems regarding the nomenclature of *Tupinambis* spp. Recently this genus received much needed additional taxonomic attention. As a result, several new species were described and nomenclatural changes took place, especially involving *T. teguixin* and *T. nigropunctatus*. As a consequence of these activities the current standard reference (J.M. Cei, 1993)* is no longer sufficient itself and should be complemented by some new publications. It is therefore proposed to adopt as the new standard reference for this genus of lizards a combination of the current one and three new publications. This combination is necessary because one publication (Avila Pires, 1995)* provides detailed descriptions

of three of the currently accepted five species, one (Manzani & Abe, 1997)* describes a new species from Central Brazil, and the last one (Colli *et al.*, 1998)* described the same species again under a different name (see the note added in proof at the end of the article), but in addition provided a useful key to all five species of the genus and a table with morphometric characters for each of the species. It should be noted that a name change has occurred involving two species: the former *Tupinambis teguixin* should correctly be called *T. merianae*, and the former *T. nigropunctatus* is now correctly called *T. teguixin*, with *T. nigropunctatus* as a synonym. The key and table of meristic characters provided by Colli *et al.* (1998) are good tools to identify the different species, but it should be kept in mind that the name *cerradensis* therein should be replaced by *quadrilineatus*. The genus *Tupinambis* at the moment thus contains the following species:

- a) *Tupinambis longilineus* Avila Pires, 1995. Distribution: only known from a small area in southwestern Amazon Basin in Brazil (States Rondônia and Amazonas);
- b) *Tupinambis merianae* (Duméril & Bibron, 1839) [formerly known as *T. teguixin* (Linnaeus, 1758)]. Distribution: Northern Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, southern Brazil, extending into southern Amazonian Brazil;
- c) *Tupinambis rufescens* (Günther, 1871) (also includes *Tupinambis duseni* Lönnberg, 1910). Distribution: Argentina, Paraguay, southern and central Brazil;
- d) *Tupinambis quadrilineatus* Manzani & Abe, 1997 (also includes *Tupinambis cerradensis* Colli, Péres & Cunha, 1998). Distribution: West Central Brazil (States of Goiás, Mato Grosso and Tocantins).
- e) *Tupinambis teguixin* (Linnaeus, 1758) [formerly *Tupinambis nigropunctatus* (Spix, 1824)]. Distribution: Colombia, Venezuela, Guianas, Amazonian basin of Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil, in Brazil south into the State of Sao Paulo.

15. The Secretariat also consulted the Chairman on nomenclature relating to *Morelia albertisii* and *M. mackloti*.
16. It was brought to the attention of the Chairman and the Secretariat that Frost's Amphibian species of the World is now available on the Internet, and maintained online. This poses an interesting problem. The COP would need to decide whether it would be prepared to accept such a list as a reference to the nomenclature of Amphibians without knowing what the contents of future updates will be. Resolution Conf. 10.22, paragraphs i) to m) under RECOMMENDS refer to this subject and leave it to the Nomenclature Committee. Because of its rather amorphous constitution (no elected or appointed members, attendance haphazardly) this seems to be a moot point that should be discussed at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A specific recommendation on this subject has been included in document Doc. 11.39.
17. The Fauna Subcommittee would also like to make recommendations regarding standard references for the following taxa:
 - For crocodiles, turtles, tortoises and tuataras it proposes: Wermuth, H., & R. Mertens, (1996)*. This is a reprint of the classical work by Wermuth and Mertens, first published in 1961. The reprint is provided with an annex, in which all taxonomic changes up to 1994 are mentioned and referenced to the first edition. As an addition to this work, Iverson (1992)* can be used. It provides distribution maps for all species of turtles and tortoises;
 - Chameleons, see document Doc. 11.39;
 - Cordylid lizards, see document Doc. 11.39;
 - For fishes in general it proposes Eschmeier (1998)*. This book is also available on CD-ROM and covers all species of bony and cartilagenous fishes (sharks etc.), and also the Agnatha (lampreys). There is another checklist that only covers sharks, but in order to avoid possible conflicts of interpretation between the two lists, it is recommended to adopt only the more recent Eschmeier book for all fishes. For completeness sake, the reference to this specialized shark checklist is mentioned here for those who are seeking a reference with illustrations [Compagno, L.N.V., 1984. FAO species Catalogue. Vol. 4. Sharks of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of shark species known to date. Part 1. Hexanchiformes to

Budget

18. The Fauna Subcommittee is of the opinion that the current annual budget allocation of CHF 10,000 is sufficient to cover expenditures related to its activities.

Flora Subcommittee

19. The Flora Subcommittee met in conjunction with the eighth and ninth meetings of the Plants Committee (Pucon, Chile, 3-7 November 1997; Darwin, Australia, 7-11 June 1999). This report conveys the principal decisions and recommendations of those meetings.

Status of checklists

Cactaceae

20. The second edition of the CITES Cactaceae Checklist was published in early 1999. Its production and publication was funded by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom. The checklist was prepared by consensus using an international panel of experts, including specialists from the major range States of the species concerned. Key text in the checklist was produced in English, French and Spanish. Subspecific names are now included and a synonymized list, giving the full synonymy for all accepted taxa is provided. Of the 6022 names of Cactaceae in current use included in the first edition, 200 have been excluded and 500 new names included at specific rank.

Orchids

21. The CITES Orchid Checklist Volume 1 was published following the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The first volume covered the heavily traded genera *Cattleya*, *Cypripedium*, *Laelia*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Phragmipedium*, *Pleione* and *Sophranitis*. The second volume was published following the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Volume 2 contains a total of 3407 taxon names in the genera *Dendrobium*, *Disa*, *Dracula*, *Cymbidium* and *Encyclia*. The next volume will be published shortly after the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Volume 3 will contain some 2000 names in the genera *Aerangis*, *Angraecum*, *Ascocentrum*, *Bletilla*, *Brassavola*, *Calanthe*, *Catasetum*, *Miltonia* and *Miltoniopsis*. All of the orchid checklists were prepared by consensus using an international panel of experts, including specialists from the major range States of the species concerned. Their production and publication are funded by the CITES Trust Fund and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The publication of Volume 2 was financially supported by the American Orchid Society. The explanatory text in Volumes 2 and 3 is in English, French and Spanish.

Succulent *Euphorbia* taxa

22. The CITES Checklist of succulent *Euphorbia* taxa (Euphorbiaceae) was published by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation following the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This checklist is based on work done for the Lexicon of Succulent Plants. The extraction of this information, as well as the production and publication of the checklist was funded by the Government of Germany. The explanatory text was produced in, English, French, German and Spanish.

Bulbs

23. The CITES Bulb Checklist was published in 1999. It forms a guideline for the Parties when making reference to the names of species of *Galanthus*, *Cyclamen* and *Sternbergia*. Its production and publication is funded by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries of the Netherlands. The explanatory text is in English, French and Spanish.

Aloe and Pachypodium

24. The CITES *Aloe* and *Pachypodium* Checklist was prepared by the Städtische Sukkulenten-Sammlung, Zürich and will be published in 2000. The production of the checklist was funded by the CITES Trust Fund and its publication by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The explanatory text was produced in English, French, German and Spanish.

Carnivorous plants

25. The CITES Carnivorous Plant Checklist is being prepared by the IUCN Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group with some seed funds from the CITES Trust Fund. The list will be published in 2000.

Proposed work plan

26. The publication of the *Aloe* and *Pachypodium* Checklist, the Carnivorous Plant Checklist and Volume 3 of the Orchid Checklist will mark the completion of the major nomenclatural tasks for plants. One significant task remains for the period between CoP11 and CoP12 - the consolidation of a checklist for orchid genera in trade not covered in Volumes 1 to 3 of the orchid checklists. This will be the final volume for orchids. A specific recommendation on this subject has been included in document Doc. 11.39.
27. Other tasks will include maintaining and updating the databases from which the checklists were generated, to facilitate publication of updates to these lists as required by the Parties. In addition, all of the databases require work to enable them to be made available in electronic form to the Parties. The most work required is for the upgrade to the Cactus Checklist database. It is planned that the key databases will be converted and maintained at a level to allow printing 'on demand' for future publications. Once established this will provide the most cost-effective means of supplying updates to the Parties.
28. In parallel with this process will be the development of CD-ROMs and the establishment of searchable checklists on the World Wide Web. It is beyond the scope of the nomenclature programme to fund such projects fully. It is hoped that the provision of limited seed funding will encourage organizations and institutions to develop, host and maintain Web sites and transfer checklists to CD-ROMs.

Orchidaceae

29. The orchid family contains perhaps 25,000 species in over 500 genera and is the most highly traded of all the CITES plant families. The CITES nomenclature programme has concentrated on key genera identified through the review of significant trade. To date, checklists for some 22 genera covering some 6000 names have been completed. Work is under way to complete checklists for the genera *Compsettia*, *Lycaste*, *Masdevallia*, *Oncidium*, *Renanthera*, *Rhynchostylis*, *Vanda* and *Vandopsis*, which will be included in Volume 4.
30. Based on expert opinion and trade trends indicated in recent significant-trade projects a number of additional genera have been shortlisted as potential taxa for inclusion in Volume 4. To produce adequate CITES Checklists for all of the shortlisted taxa is beyond the scope and budget of the Convention. The final choice of taxa will be made following the formulae adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The genera for inclusion in Volume 4 of the orchid checklist will be reviewed by an international panel of experts. The final choice will be made on the basis of the requirements identified by Parties, taking into account the lack of available standards for adoption, the view of the expert panel, the input from the present review of significant trade and the available budget. The selection will be submitted to the Plants Committee for approval. Volume 4 will cover at least 2000 names of orchids for which no suitable reference is available for the CITES Parties.

Significant trade

31. The review of significant trade may continue to identify the need to develop checklists for selected, previously neglected groups. To allow such action to be initiated it is proposed to dedicate a small budget line for such purposes.

Database update and maintenance

32. All of the information used to produce CITES plant checklists is or will be included in databases. The databases are held in institutions. To encourage these institutions to update and maintain this information in a form useful to the Parties, a small amount of funds will be dedicated to this process.

Development of CD-ROM checklists and Web sites

33. Parties are increasingly seeking to have standard references available on CD-ROM and as searchable lists on Web sites. Seed funding is required to facilitate this process, to assist in the conversion of the data sets and the establishment of search engines.

Proposed operating budget

34. Taking into account the various activities described in this section, the Flora Subcommittee proposes that the 11th meeting Conference of the Parties approves the budget proposed below.

	2001	2002	2003	TOTAL
Orchids	20,000	20,000	20,000	60,000
Database maintenance	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
Significant trade	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
CD-ROM and Web seed funds	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
Total	27,000	27,000	27,000	81,000

Other tasks

Cactaceae (at the request of Canada)

35. During the last few years, an increase in the trade of Nopal as well as several other preparations made from parts and derivatives of *Opuntia* spp. has been noticed:
- Two species of *Opuntia* spp.– namely *O. streptacantha* and *O. ficus-indica* – are mainly used.
 - In the Interpretation of Appendices I and II, annotation #4 e) stipulates that “*separate stem joints (pads) and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus Opuntia subgenus Opuntia*” are exempted.
 - However, there is no clear definition of which species are actually listed in the subgenus *Opuntia*. There are over 300 *Opuntia* species and more than 900 names can be found. Different taxonomic opinions can be found in literature.
 - In order to allow proper implementation of annotation #4 e), the Nomenclature Committee will investigate which species are to be considered to be included in the subgenus. If this information is available before the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties a recommendation on this subject will be included in document Doc. 11.11.4.2.

Note

- * Details on these references are included in document Doc. 11.39.