

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

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Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

Strategic matters

Cooperation with other organizations

GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION  
OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

1. This document has been prepared by the Chair of the Plants Committee on behalf the Committee with the support of Mexico as chair of the working group on this issue.\*
2. The fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CITES (The Hague, June 2007) adopted Decision 14.15 directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat as follows:

*The Plants Committee shall collaborate with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), especially regarding target 11 "No species of wild flora endangered by international trade" and other issues related to flora species included in the CITES Appendices, and the Secretariat shall communicate the results of its work in the context of its Memorandum of Understanding with the CBD Secretariat.*

Background

3. A Memorandum of Co-Operation was signed in 1996 between the CITES and the CBD. This was amended in 2000 to include activities developed under the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) and in particular those species that are threatened by international trade.
4. The GSPC and the links with the CBD were discussed at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Plants Committee (PC16, Lima, July 2006) under agenda item 13.2. A draft text was elaborated for submission by the CITES Secretariat to the CBD Secretariat and for distribution to CBD Parties to highlight the contribution of CITES towards implementation of the GSPC. This document included an introduction to CITES, its Plants Committee and the specific contribution to GSPC Target 11 by indicating plant species that were removed from the CITES Appendices or transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II between 1997 and 2004. Document PC16 Doc. 13.2 also included a table listing the CITES activities and their contribution to the 5 sub objectives and 16 targets of the GSPC. The analysis identified that CITES contributed to all sub objectives, specifically to 11 of the 16 targets.
5. The 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Plants Committee (PC17, Geneva, April 2008) discussed the subject of cooperation with advisory bodies of other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements. Specific reference was made to existing cooperation between CITES and the CBD through the GSPC. The PC decided to create an intersessional working group (PC17 WG12) chaired by Mexico, to analyze ways to support implementation of Decision 14.15, while in the same meeting the GSPC was ranked as a high priority for Plants Committee work.

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

6. The 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties (CoP 9, Bonn, May 2008) decided in Decision IX/3 to consider the further development and implementation of the GSPC beyond 2010. It also requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to provide, prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties, proposals for a consolidated updating of the GSPC, taking into account the *Plant Conservation Report*, the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, the fourth national reports and additional inputs from the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation and other relevant organizations.
7. Also during CBD CoP 9, the contribution of PC 16 was included by the CBD Secretariat in the elaboration of the *Plant Conservation Report* (PCR) and it was recognized that Target 11 formed the core business of CITES flora activities. The PCR also noted that the CITES Plants Committee had suggested that CBD Parties and their GSPC focal points were aware of the provisions in place through CITES by receiving a full list of the flora species in the CITES Appendices.
8. At its 18<sup>th</sup> meeting (PC18 Buenos Aires, 2009), the Plants Committee established a working group chaired by Mexico (PC18 WG2) to consider mechanisms to facilitate cooperation between CITES and GSPC, including a calendar to submit a recommendation to be presented at the present meeting and to consider whether Decision 14.15 should be maintained or another decision should be proposed.

#### Ongoing activities and further work

9. During PC18 the Plants Committee recognized that CITES had the leadership in implementing target 11 of the GSPC, but also had important relevance addressing targets 12 and 13. The Committee also agreed that CITES contributions to the GSPC would need to be connected with the current phase of the GSPC as well as the new planning phase beyond 2010, as agreed by CBD CoP-9. As a result, a draft Decision was agreed by the Committee to be presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> CoP.
10. Also, in order to facilitate cooperation between CITES and GSPC, PC18, adopted a table included in Annex 1, where objectives are identified, mechanisms and methodologies are proposed and a general calendar with responsible bodies designated.
11. The result of the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Plants Committee (PC18 WG02) was included as information document (UNEP/CBD/LG-GSPC/3/INF/2) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Liaison Group of GSPC held from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2009 in Dublin, Ireland, where Austria and South Africa assisted on behalf of the Plants Committee. The new draft of the GSPC beyond 2010 will be evaluated by SBSTTA 14 (May 2010) and will be proposed for adoption to the CBD CoP10 (Japan 2010).
12. For further information please refer to documents: PC14 Doc. 18; PC16 Doc.13.2; PC18 DOC. 7.2; PC18 WG02; UNEP/CBD/COP9/INF/25 and UNEP/CBD/LG-GSPC/3/INF/2.
13. The 15<sup>th</sup> CoP is invited to take note of the Plants Committee activities in support of CBD GSPC and its definition process beyond 2010.
14. The Plants Committee recommends the adoption of the Decision included in the Annex 2.
15. Estimated budget to implement the Decision: 15,000 USD.

## COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decision proposed by the Plants Committee.
  
- B. Concerning the budget for the implementation of the decision estimated in paragraph 15 of the document, the Secretariat understands from the table in Annex 1, that this is to pay for the attendance of a Plants Committee nominee at meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of CBD and CBD working groups on the development of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation post-2010, and for the preparation of Plants Committee documents for meetings of these working groups. If a decision is made these activities and the amount of external funding required for their implementation decided, the Secretariat will thereafter incorporate the activity and the required amount of external funding into the costed programme of work for the appropriate year. As the Secretariat will be mobilizing resources for the overall costed programme of work, in accordance with priorities established by the Parties, there is no need for it to be separately instructed to identify funds for a particular activity and such an instruction may be deleted.

OBJECTIVES, MECHANISMS AND METHODOLOGIES TO FACILITATE COOPERATION  
BETWEEN CITES AND GSPC (PC18 WG2)

OBJETIVE	MECHANISM	METHODOLOGY	CALENDAR	RESPONSIBILITY & BUDGET
a) Promote and enhance collaboration between the focal points of GSPC and CITES Authorities at the national level	Encourage involvement of CITES authorities in the development and implementation of the GSPC national strategies. Ensure CITES activities are included on GSPC National Reports.	Notification to national CITES authorities to encourage them to get in touch with focal points responsible for GSPC activities CITES Secretariat should post key dates for CBD reporting regarding the GSPC on the CITES website.	Linked to CBD reporting calendar	CITES Secretariat
b) Promote awareness of ongoing activities of CITES that contribute to achieving the targets of the GSPC	Share information on the operations and outcomes of CITES processes, such as significant trade reviews, periodic review of the Appendices, and amendment of proposals for the CITES Appendices, and indicate how these contribute to meeting the GSPC targets.	Revise and update Document PC16 Doc. 13.2 Annex for submission to CoP15 through a working group chaired by Mexico and including the Secretariat. Submit doc to CoP15 Secretariat to submit to the updated doc to CBD CoP10	Latest date for submission of proposal to CoP15 Date for submission to CBD CoP10	Working Group Mexico to submit to CoP15 Secretariat to submit to CBD Part of working group document
c) Encourage GSPC national focal points to focus on CITES listed species when addressing target 12 & 13	National CITES Authorities identify CITES species that may be used to develop sustainable use best practice models GSPC focal points to be invited to approach CITES authorities to identify priority species	CITES Secretariat encouraging National CITES Authorities to identify priority species that would fit GSPC priorities. CITES Secretariat to ask CBD Secretariat to notify GSPC focal points to suggest the use of CITES species in meeting targets 12 and 13.	Before CoP15	CITES and CBD Secretariats

OBJETIVE	MECHANISM	METHODOLOGY	CALENDAR	RESPONSIBILITY & BUDGET
d) Ensuring CITES participation with CBD in development of GSPC beyond 2010	PC representative to participate in the meeting on 25-28 May 2009 to develop GSPC	PC chair or nominee	May 2009	PC Chair (or Budget of Party of the nominee)
	PC representative participate in ongoing SBSTTA meetings or working groups to develop the GSPC beyond 2010	PC chair or nominee attend the meeting	2009-2010	PC Chair (or Budget of Party of the nominee)
	Ensure inputs from CITES PC into the development of CBD documents relating to plant conservation, especially the GSPC beyond 2010	PC chair or nominee to make inputs into develop documents	2009-2010	PC Chair (or Budget of Party of the nominee)
e) Within the framework of MOU between CITES and CBD, improve the exchange of information relating to the GSPC and plant conservation issues	Dates of key meetings relating to the development and implementation of the GSPC communicated	CITES and CBD Secretariats	See CBD calendar	CITES and CBD Secretariats
	Invite CBD representative to participate in PC meetings dealing with GSPC	PC chair to issue invitation		PC Chair
	Ensure communication of advances in both conventions regarding the GSPC	CITES and CBD Secretariats		CITES and CBD Secretariats
f) Streamlines reporting	Ensure that efforts to streamline reporting by/ for MEAs provides better synchrony for reporting on CITES activities relating to GSPC targets	CITES Secretariat		CITES Secretariat

DRAFT DECISION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

**Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation  
of the Convention on Biological Diversity**

15.XX

***Directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat***

The Plants Committee shall collaborate with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and with any processes established to develop the Strategy beyond 2010, provided it is related to CITES, as well as on other issues related to flora species included in the CITES Appendices, and the Secretariat shall communicate the contributions of CITES in the context of its Memorandum of Understanding with the CBD Secretariat.