

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



Twelfth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Leiden (The Netherlands), 13-17 May 2002

STRATEGIC PLANNING (PC)

1. This document has been prepared by the Vice-Chairman of the Plants Committee.



## ACTION POINTS DIRECTED TO THE PLANTS COMMITTEE

Two sets of action points are directed to the Plants Committee.

The first one is taken from the Terms of reference of the PC and listed in Resolution Conf. 11.1. The second set is listed in the Strategic Plan of CITES. In some cases they are duplicative.

It is important to note that actions described in the Terms of Reference should have priority over the ones listed in the Strategic Plan.

Two tables are shown below. The first lists that actions directed to the Plants Committee, the second, the ones directed to the Secretariat. In many cases the actions are to be implemented in co-operation with the lead from either the plants Committee or the Secretariat.

The first column shows the reference in Resolution Conf. 11.1, the second column the reference to the actions in the Strategic Plan.

The items have been set in chronological order as listed in Resolution Conf. 11.1. Priorities may be re-assessed for future work and then re-evaluated periodically for highest possible efficiency.

### A) lead by Plants Committee

Resol. 11.1 Ann. 2	Strat. Plan Action #	Description	Lead	Status	Further work needed
a)		Provide advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the other committees, working groups and the Secretariat, on all matters relevant to international trade in animal and plant species included in the Appendices, which may include proposals to amend the Appendices;	PC	Ongoing regular work of the PC	See PC12 Doc. 3.1
b)		Assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardised list of species names;		Ongoing work under PC Agenda item 14.	See PC12 doc. 14.1 /14.2 / 14.3

c)		Assist the Secretariat with the implementation of the Resolution on the Identification Manual and Decisions related to it and, upon request of the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices with regard to possible identification problems;		Ongoing work under PC Agenda item 16. Lead is actually with the Secretariat.	See PC12 Doc. 16.1 and 3.1 item 16.2
d)	1.7.1 2.3.x	Co-operate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities; <b>(see also under <i>Actions for Secretariat</i> listed below)</b>		Actually lead by Secretariat. Regional workshops provided by the Secretariat with inclusion of the regional Reps of the PC.	Workshop to be held in September 2002 in the Central, South America and the Caribbean region
e)	1.7.2	Develop <b>regional directories</b> that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species.	PC Reg. Reps	Done for: Europe, North America, Oceania	Completion needed for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central, South America and the Caribbean</li> <li>• Asia</li> <li>• Africa</li> </ul> External funds (USA) made available
"e)"	1.7.3	Communicate to the Parties the importance and advisability of including <b>plants experts within</b> the structure of the <b>Scientific Authorities</b> .	PC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify from the directories which Parties do not have the relevant botanical expertise</li> <li>• Regional reps to send a letter to those Parties</li> </ul>
f)	2.1.3	Continue the <b>Review of Significant Trade</b> as initiated by the Parties in Resol. Conf. 8.9.	PC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of taxa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycads</li> <li>• ?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One Country selected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madagascar</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Noel McGough (UK) is the Sig. Trade co-ordinator. List of taxa should be available including decisions of PC9 and the related proposals to COP11. A table explaining what has been done for of each selected taxon might be valuable. The Committee needs to carefully consider which species should be selected and reviewed. On the basis of such a list, priorities should be established.

g) ?	2.1.4	<b>Evaluate</b> trade and biological information on <b>currently unlisted species</b> subject to <b>significant international trade</b> to determine whether they would qualify for and <b>benefit from CITES listing</b> .	PC	Parties have started look at unlisted species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aquillaria</i> sp. other than <i>A. mallacensis</i></li> <li>• <i>Taxus</i> sp. other than <i>T. wallichiana</i></li> </ul> Etc.	When the PC has determined that a reviewed unlisted species qualifies for Appendix, a listing in Appendix II may become relevant. PC needs to provide guidance (with help of the Secretariat) on the meanings of a listing in App. II. (incl. the benefits or disadvantages)
h)	2.1.2	Periodic <b>review the Appendices</b> to ensure that listed taxa satisfy the relevant criteria.	PC	Done for: Orchidaceae App. I Cactaceae Pachypodium spp. Sarracenia spp., Nepenthes spp. Dionaea muscipula Et al.	For those specimens for which the evaluation was done, take appropriate decision with regard to amendment to Appendices. Further evaluation needed for:
i)		Make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range States requesting such assistance;			
j)		Draft resolutions on matters related to animals or plants, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;		Ongoing work at PC	See PC12 Doc. 9.1 / 9.2 / 11.1 et al.
k)		Perform any other functions that may be entrusted to them by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee		Chairperson and/or members selected by Chairperson of PC attended technical meetings such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mahogany WG</li> <li>• Criteria review WG</li> </ul>	
l)		Report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities they have carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference		Report of the Chairperson of the PC	

	4.3.2	<b>Participate</b> actively at <b>scientific meetings and conferences</b> , and <b>encourage participation in CITES issues by the scientific community</b> .	PC	Members and observers from the PC attend scientific meeting and explain about CITES issues	Link to Actions 1.7.1 & 2.3.x to Secretariat Secretariat is working on different level of presentations regarding CITES. Targeted material is a must if PC members want to inform efficiently the scientific communities on the aims of CITES and the responsibilities of scientists. Also standard presentation can be useful as base material to be adapted for specific cases, as well as other simple explanatory documentation or case-studies relating to regional examples for presentation or distribution at scientific meetings
	2.2.2	Encourage <b>Parties to consult with the AC, PC</b> as appropriate to assist in the <b>preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices</b> .	PC, Secr.		Regional Reps to assist Parties in their region in the preparation of proposals for the COP, by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informing Parties in the region of the outcomes of past meeting of the PC and upcoming agenda items of interest for them;</li> <li>• Providing guidance to Parties on how to draft a proposal.</li> </ul>
	2.2.3	For identified commodities, <b>develop standardised units</b> of measure for permits, trade analysis and reporting.	PC, Secr.		

**Actions for the Secretariat:** (in chronological order. Actions are part of the Secretariat's working programme assigned by the COP.)

Resol. 11.1 Ann.2	Strat. Plan Action #	Description	Lead
	1.4.1	On the basis of information from Parties, <b>evaluate needs, capabilities and opportunities</b> as related to <b>information technologies</b> and management.	Secr.,
	1.4.4	Develop a simple <b>guide to the Review of Significant Trade</b> .	Secr., PC
	1.4.5	Develop and enhance <b>databases</b> that include information related to <b>species in trade, CITES Decisions and procedures</b> .	Secr., PC
d)	1.7.1	Develop a <b>manual</b> specifying the <b>obligations and procedures of the Scientific Authorities</b> in order to encourage the development of specific training courses for them.	Secr. PC
d)	2.3.1	<b>Develop practical guidance for making non-detriment findings</b> , including a <b>manual and checklist</b> , and <b>samples</b> of non-detriment findings and case studies.	Secr. PC
d)	2.3.2	<b>Facilitate national and regional training for Scientific Authorities</b> in the issuance of scientifically based <b>non-detriment findings</b> ; include the use of the aforementioned guidance on non-detriment.	Secr. , PC
d)	2.3.5	<b>Provide opportunities for Scientific Authorities to exchange information and data</b> (e.g. sharing of non-detriment findings; sharing of data, management plans and case studies; postings to a website; and communication through a listserver).	Parties, Secr., PC
	2.4.1	In collaboration with enforcement agencies, <b>identify the needs for and potential benefits of innovative technologies</b> .	PC, Secr., Parties
	2.4.2	In collaboration with Parties, international agencies, and relevant research entities, <b>identify the available technologies</b> (e.g. digital technology, microchips, barcodes, holograms, DNA tests) <b>relevant to assisting the better implementation of the Convention</b> .	Secr., PC
	2.4.4	<b>Develop with relevant institutions collaborative research projects</b> for testing the appropriateness of new and forthcoming technologies.	Secr., PC
	2.4.5	Assess progress on a regional basis.	Secr., PCs

**Resolution Conf. 11.1 Annex 2: Establishment of the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties (extract)**

RESOLVES to re-establish the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties, with the following terms of reference:

within the policy agreed to by the Conference of the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) provide advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the other committees, working groups and the Secretariat, on all matters relevant to international trade in animal and plant species included in the Appendices, which may include proposals to amend the Appendices;
- b) assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardized list of species names;
- c) assist the Secretariat with the implementation of the Resolution on the Identification Manual and Decisions related to it and, upon request of the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices with regard to possible identification problems;
- d) cooperate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities;
- e) develop regional directories that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species;
- f) establish a list of those taxa included in Appendix II that are considered as being significantly affected by trade, and review and assess all available biological and trade information including comments by the range States on these taxa to:
  - i) exclude all species for which there is adequate information to conclude that trade is not having a significant detrimental effect on their populations;
  - ii) formulate recommendations for remedial measures for those species for which trade is believed to be having a detrimental effect; and
  - iii) establish priorities for projects to collect information for those species for which there is insufficient information available on which to base a judgement as to whether the level of trade is detrimental;
- g) assess information on those species for which there is evidence of a change in the volume of trade or for which specific information is available to indicate the necessity for review;
- h) undertake a periodic review of animal or plant species included in the CITES Appendices by:
  - i) establishing a schedule for reviewing the biological and trade status of these species;
  - ii) identifying problems or potential problems concerning the biological status of species being traded;
  - iii) consulting the Parties on the need to review specific species, working directly with the range States in the selection process, and seeking their assistance in such reviews; and
  - iv) preparing and submitting amendment proposals resulting from the review, through the Depository Government, for consideration at meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- i) make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range States requesting such assistance;
- j) draft resolutions on matters related to animals or plants, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
- k) perform any other functions that may be entrusted to them by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
- l) report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities they have carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference;