

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



Fifteenth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 17-21 May 2005

STRATEGIC PLANNING

1. This document has been prepared by the working group on the establishment of Plants Committee priorities for the period until CoP14. Rev. 1 was prepared out of session. Changes are shown in underline/strikethrough for new text and deletions respectively.
2. The working group comprised all members of the Plants Committee and the alternate representative (North America) and was chaired by the regional representative of Oceania.
3. Source documents used for reporting progress against the current Strategic Plan were the reports of the PC Chairman to the CoP and Regional Representatives reports to PC.
4. In measuring progress against the Strategic Plan, a limitation of the current Plan is that it lacks performance indicators. The working group prepared some draft indicators and these have been included under the 'Action By' column. These indicators reflect the PC's view of how our progress might be measured against specific Action Points. It is recognised the indicators may well require broadening to capture efforts throughout CITES. The working group recommends that performance indicators be included as an essential element of the new Strategic Plan.
5. When activities of the PC over the last 5 years were recorded as progress against the Strategic Plan Action Points, the working group found a number of activities that did not match well with the Strategic Plan Actions directed to the PC. This was found to be a result of Decisions from the CoP directed to PC. The time bound nature of Decisions and the requirement to report back to the CoP means Decisions can assume priority for attention even if they do not fit well with the priorities determined in the Strategic Plan. The working group recommends that future Decisions be in line with the new Strategic Plan whereby the Conference of the Parties make Decisions that closely reflect the new Strategic Plan.
6. Action Points showing limited progress assists in identifying gaps in effort against the Strategic Plan. In some cases (e.g. 1.4.1, 1.4.4, 1.4.5) the working group has assigned these Action Points to a higher priority. The PC will need to consider its work program in light of these suggested changes in priority.
7. At the informal PC meeting at the conclusion of CoP13, some Decisions were allocated to PC members to act as a contact point for that issue. The working group considered it might be useful to maintain this approach and these PC contact points are recorded under the 'Remarks' column.

Action Point	Priority	Action by	Progress
<b>Objective 1.4</b>			
To facilitate development and use of appropriate technologies and information management systems that enhance and expedite the collection, submission and exchange of accurate information.			
1.4.1 On the basis of information from Parties, evaluate needs, capabilities and opportunities related to information technologies and management.	H	Secretariat, with three permanent Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Evaluation of information technology and management needs.	Participation in Capacity Building Workshops
1.4.4 Develop a simple guide to the Review of Significant Trade.	H	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Training material(s) on the review of significant trade available in the three languages of CITES in appropriate media.	Participation in Capacity Building Workshops (training materials, presentations).
1.4.5 Develop and enhance databases that include information related to species in trade, CITES Decisions and procedures.	H	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Provision of information to databases and awareness of databases and availability.	Lead with the Secretariat  Support preparation of CITES Checklists for Flora: Orchids (4 Volumes) <i>Bulbophyllum</i> Cactaceae <i>Aloe</i> and <i>Pachypodium</i> Medicinal Plants <u>succulent</u> <i>Euphorbia</i> <u>Carnivorous Plants</u>  Support preparation of standard slide packages for training.
<b>Objective 1.7</b>			
To improve the coordination between CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, and increase the effectiveness of the latter.			
1.7.1 Develop a manual specifying the obligations and procedures of the Scientific Authorities in order to encourage the development of specific training courses for them.	H	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> <u>Manual produced with PC</u> <del>A</del> assistance provided to the Secretariat.	Lead with the Secretariat. Cooperate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities.
1.7.2 Develop regional directories that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species.	L	Plants Committee, Animals Committee  <b>Indicator:</b> Current regional directories on CITES website.	Done for all regions and maintained as an ongoing task of regional representatives.

1.7.3 Communicate to the Parties the importance and advisability of including plants experts within the structure of the Scientific Authorities.	L	Plants Committee  <b>Indicator:</b> Number of Parties with plant experts within the structure of the Scientific Authorities.	Increased <u>Party</u> participation at Plants Committee meetings.
<b>Objective 2.1</b> To ensure that the Convention's Appendices correctly reflect the conservation and management needs of species.			
2.1.2 Regularly review the Appendices to ensure that listed taxa satisfy the relevant criteria.	H	Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicators:</b> Relevant criteria for listing species in the Appendices.  Methodology for reviewing species in the Appendices to ensure listed species satisfy the relevant criteria.  Recommendations regarding the Appendix listing (transfer, maintenance, or deletion).	Done for Orchidaceae, App I Cactaceae, and leaf bearing cacti.  Further reviews suspended until after CoP13.  Criteria Review Working Group tested the listing criteria, developed a proposal, and new criteria were adopted at CoP13.  Process for reviewing species listed in the appendices were developed.  Selection of further reviews ongoing.  Review of annotations (e.g., medicinal plants, orchids).
2.1.3 Continue the Review of Significant Trade as initiated by the Parties in Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.) <sup>1</sup> .	H	Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Species and countries involved in significant trade review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Taxon based reviews:</u> <i>Cycads, Prunus africana, Aquilaria malaccensis, Aloe</i> spp. for extract from Eastern Africa, <i>Pericopsis alata, Galanthus woronowii, Podophyllum hexandrum, Cyathea contaminans, Cibotium barametz, Dendrobium nobile</i></li> <li>• <u>Country based reviews:</u> Madagascar</li> <li>• New candidates proposed.</li> </ul> <p>Contribution to the evaluation of the review of significant trade, including development of terms of reference and the preparation of the new resolution on significant trade (Resolution Conf. 12.8). <u>Committee members involved in seeking information and responses for Sig Trade reviews</u></p>

<sup>1</sup> Replaced by Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).

<p>2.1.4 Evaluate trade and biological information on currently unlisted species subject to significant international trade to determine whether they would qualify for and benefit from CITES listing.</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>Animals and Plants Committees</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> Studies on biology and trade of internationally traded non-CITES species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Harpagophytum</i> spp. studies completed by the range states; importing countries to provide reports.</li> <li>• <i>Guaiacum</i> spp. studies completed and all included in App II at CoP13</li> <li>• <i>Taxus</i> spp. studies completed and Asian spp. included in App II at CoP13.</li> <li>• Remaining species of <i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp. listed at CoP13.</li> <li>• <i>Caesalpinia echinata</i> <del>study completed</del> <u>case was examined.</u></li> <li>• Netherlands published the <i>Contribution to an Evaluation of Tree Species using the new CITES Listing Criteria</i></li> <li>• Plants Committee supported the Netherlands recommendation to organise four regional workshops on tree conservation between 2004 and 2006</li> </ul> <p><u>Review of research on unlisted spp. (e.g. <i>Dalbergia melanoxyton</i>)</u></p> <p><u>Range states meeting on <i>Hoodia</i></u></p>
<p><b>Objective 2.2</b> To ensure that decisions to amend the Convention's Appendices are founded on sound and relevant scientific information and meet agreed biological and trade criteria for such amendments.</p>			
<p>2.2.2 Encourage Parties to consult with the Animals and Plants Committees as appropriate to assist in the preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices.</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> Proposals for amending the Appendices are brought before the Committee.</p>	<p>Submission of proposals by a small number of Parties.</p>
<p>2.2.3 For identified commodities, develop standardized units of measure for permits, trade analysis and reporting.</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees</p> <p><i>Comment: Implementation issue for consultative role by PC; Requires more attention through the Secretariat</i></p>	<p>Definition of plywood for bigleaf mahogany.</p>

<b>Objective 2.3</b> To improve the scientific basis on which Scientific Authorities make non-detriment findings.			
2.3.1 Develop practical guidance for making non-detriment findings, including a manual and checklist, and samples of non-detriment findings and case studies.	H	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Manual, checklist, samples, and case studies available.	Led by the Secretariat.  Training materials developed by the Secretariat.  Assistance provided to Parties on the making of non-detriment findings.
2.3.2 Facilitate national and regional training for Scientific Authorities in the issuance of scientifically based non-detriment findings; include the use of the aforementioned guidance on non-detriment findings.	H	Secretariat with Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Improved scientific basis in non-detriment findings.	Participation of PC members in national and regional meetings, seminars, courses, and workshops.  Five Master degree courses, International University of Andalucia  <u>Members participation in seminars/workshops (e.g. in Peru, Fiji, Brisbane, Ecuador)</u>  Workshops in Perugia in 2003 and 2005  Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group meetings.  CITES and CBD synergy meetings.  Use of the IUCN Checklist for making non-detriment findings in Capacity Building Workshops and seminars attended by PC members.
2.3.5 Provide opportunities for Scientific Authorities to exchange information and data (e.g. sharing of non-detriment findings; sharing of data, management plans and case studies; postings to a website; and communication through a listserver).	H	Parties, Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Increased access to information.	Technical review of <i>Tillandsia xerographica</i> in Guatemala  Collaboration with the range states to implement the bigleaf mahogany listing (e.g., participation in the working group, collaboration between management authorities).  Development of the pilot project on <i>Prunus africana</i> as mechanism to establish non-detrimental findings  Annual PC meetings and working groups <u>and satellite regional delegate meetings.</u>

			Regional meetings.  CITES websites.
<b>Objective 2.4</b>			
To develop innovative technologies and encourage relevant research, including research into CITES implementation and enforcement, and to pursue these objectives, where appropriate, at the regional level.			
2.4.1 In collaboration with enforcement agencies, identify the needs for and potential benefits of innovative technologies.	L	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees, Parties  <i>Comment: Consultative role by PC; Requires more attention through the Secretariat</i>	
2.4.2 In collaboration with Parties, international agencies, and relevant research entities, identify the available technologies (e.g. digital technology, microchips, barcodes, holograms, DNA testing) relevant to assisting the better implementation of the Convention.	L	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees  <i>Comment: Consultative role by PC; Requires more attention through the Secretariat</i>	
2.4.4 Develop with relevant institutions collaborative research projects for testing the appropriateness of new and forthcoming technologies.	L	Secretariat, Animals and Plants Committees  <i>Comment: Consultative role by PC; Requires more attention through the Secretariat</i>	
2.4.5 Assess progress on a regional basis.	L	Standing, Animals and Plants Committees  <i>Comment: Consultative role by PC; Requires more attention through the Standing Committee</i>	
<b>Objective 4.3</b>			
To promote greater awareness among and cooperation with the scientific community.			
4.3.2 Participate actively at scientific meetings and conferences, and encourage participation in CITES issues by the scientific community.	M	Secretariat, Scientific Authorities, Animals, and Plants Committees  <b>Indicator:</b> Increased awareness and involvement in CITES issues by the scientific community.	Numerous meetings attended by PC members.  <u>Participation in country-based CITES awareness programs.</u>

Resolution Conf.	Priority	Remarks
VALID RESOLUTIONS DIRECTED TO THE PLANTS COMMITTEE		
9.24 (Rev. CoP13) Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II	H	
11.1 (Rev. CoP13) Establishment of Committees	H	
12.8 (Rev. CoP13) Review of significant trade in specimens of Appendix-II species	H	
13.1 Financing and budgeting	L	
13.10 Trade in alien invasive species	L	Priority may change dependent on WG and plenary discussions
VALID RESOLUTIONS THAT MAY REQUIRE CONSULTING OR INFORMING THE PLANTS COMMITTEE		
9.19 (Rev. CoP13) Annex 3 Guidelines for registration of nurseries	L	
9.25 (Rev.) Inclusion of species in Appendix III	M	Priority required elevation to increase attention to evaluation of App III
10.21 Transport of live animals	-	Irrelevant to PC; Directed to AC, See Decision 13.89
11.11 (Rev. CoP13) Regulation of trade in plants	L	
11.19 Identification Manual	L	
12.2 Annex 1 Procedure for approval of externally funded projects	M	To be a future regular agenda item at PC meetings. Regional representatives to remind Parties of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 12.2
12.8 (Rev. CoP13) Review of significant trade	H	

Decision	PRIORITY	Remarks
VALID DECISIONS DIRECTED TO THE PLANTS COMMITTEE		
13.1 Strategic Vision	H	Chairman and Vice-Chairman to lead for PC
13.6 Addis Ababa Principles	M	G. Leach (Oceania) to lead for PC
13.9 Review of Scientific Committees	H	Chairman to lead for PC
13.12 Improving Regional Communication	H	??
13.13 Improving Regional Communication	H	<u>B. Khayota (Africa) to lead for PC</u>
13.50* Medicinal Plants	H	<u>R. Gabel (North America) to lead for PC</u>
13.51* Medicinal Plants	H	<u>? C&amp;S America &amp; C or North America</u>
13.52* Medicinal Plants	H	<u>? C&amp;S America &amp; C or North America</u>
13.54 Tree Species	H	G. Frenguelli (Europe) to lead for PC
13.55 Bigleaf Mahogany	H	D. Rivera (C&S America & C) to lead for PC
13.56 Bigleaf Mahogany	H	D. Rivera (C&S America & C) to lead for PC
13.60 <i>Harpagophytum</i>	M	David Hafashimana (Africa) to lead for PC
13.68 Production Systems	H	R. Gabel (North America) to lead for PC
13.72 Artificially Propagated Plants	H	Vice-Chairman and F. Mereles (C&S America & C) to lead for PC
13.98* Orchid Annotation	H	Vice-Chairman to lead for PC
13.99* Orchid Annotation	H	Vice-Chairman to lead for PC
* Overall PC coordination on annotations questions by R. Gabel (North America)		
VALID DECISIONS THAT MAY REQUIRE CONSULTATION WITH OR ASSISTANCE FROM THE PLANTS COMMITTEE		
13.4 CITES - CBD	-	Completed
13.5 CITES - CBD	-	Completed
13.7 Addis Ababa Principles	M	Chairman to lead for PC
13.11 Regional Communication	L	Parties and Secretariat should give this high priority
13.14 Regional Communication	L	Parties and Secretariat should give this high priority
13.15 Regional Communication	L	Parties and Secretariat should give this high priority
13.16 Regional Communication	L	Parties and Secretariat should give this high priority
13.17 Regional Communication	L	Parties and Secretariat should give this high priority
12.91 Capacity Building	L	Secretariat should give this high priority
13.65 Agarwood	L	Secretariat should give this high priority
13.88 Transport of Live Specimens	-	Not relevant to PC; Directed to AC
13.89 Transport of Live Specimens	L	Roddy Gabel (North America) to lead for PC