

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



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

SYNERGY BETWEEN CITES AND CBD

The working group comprised the observers from Austria [M. Kiehn (Co-Chairman)], Mexico [H. Benítez (Co-Chairman)], Canada, France, Germany, Namibia, South Africa, United States of America, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Fauna and Flora International, TRAFFIC and COMURNAT.

Mandate: TWO ELEMENTS

1. Decision 13.8

The Plants Committee shall link its activities and collaborations with the CBD Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), especially regarding target XI 'No species of wild flora endangered by international trade', and with other CBD-related issues.

2. Notification 2005/017 "Synergy between CITES and CBD" Secretariats review of the Vilm report

Specific task: Link activities of PC with decisions 13.2-13.5

13.2 The Standing Committee, at its 53rd meeting, shall:

- a) consider the findings and recommendations of the Vilm report, taking into account the Secretariat's conclusions (referred to in Decision 13.5), and any comments by the Parties, and identify possible priority actions to improve synergies between the two Conventions in areas of common concern in order to contribute to reaching the WSSD 2010 target, considering *inter alia* Sustainable Use, the Ecosystem Approach and Access and Benefit Sharing¹; and
- b) provide guidance, on that basis, to the Standing Committee's Strategic Plan Working Group on the items to be considered in the revision of the Strategic Vision and Action Plan.

13.3 Following its discussions on the outcomes of the Vilm report, the Standing Committee shall provide guidance to the Secretariat so as to revise, in conjunction with the CBD Secretariat, the Work Plan for Implementation of Joint Activities attached to the Memorandum of Cooperation between them, before the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

13.4 The Secretariat shall, in collaboration with the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees, review the findings and recommendations of the Vilm report in order to identify its most relevant aspects.

13.5 The Secretariat shall make its conclusions available to the Parties at least 90 days before the 53rd meeting of the Standing Committee, in order to enable Parties to submit comments for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Suggested procedure:

- 1) Based on PC14.18 to evaluate the data mentioned and any progress since 2004 and a way to report back to CBD and to CoP14.
- 2) To look for additional elements arising from Vilm recommendations (eg. Best practices examples of PC work, potential for projects supported by GEF, etc.) and report to SC53.
- 3) Review the “desired changes” on notification 2005/017 for potential activities of the PC work to report back to SC53.

Relating to step 1 of the proposed procedure

The WG agreed on the need to develop a strategy to demonstrate CITES PC activities in the context of target 11 of the GSPC to be finished until the next PC.

The WG recognized that potentially all CITES listed species fall into target 11 of GSPC “No Species of Flora endangered by international trade”

The WG agreed upon the following elements of such a strategy including goals and indicators:

RELATING TO LISTING SPECIES

Include all species in need of protection under CITES into the appendices when appropriate.

RELATING TO ACTIVITIES FOR APPENDIX I SPECIES

- a) CITES Secretariat can provide Appendix I Plant list of Species to SCBD for CBD parties and/or GSPC focal points, making sure that CBD Parties:
 - i) are aware of CITES measures in place
 - ii) take Appendix I species into attention in their *in situ*, *ex situ* and sustainable use actions
 - iii) consider them in actions outlined in their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- b) See potential of Resolution Conf. 13.9 Encouraging cooperation between Parties with *ex situ* breeding operations of Appendix I species and those with *in situ* conservation programs.

INDICATORS

- Downlisting as an indicator of successful measures
- New listings and uplistings as a result of careful monitoring
- Monitoring the conservation status of Appendix I species using standard IUCN categories and criteria in order to monitor change and determine conservation strategies

ACTIVITIES FOR APPENDIX II SPECIES

- Conservation assessments and other processes like:
 - i) Significant trade process for Appendix II species
 - ii) Analysis of available data (e.g. Cycad conservation assessments)
 - iii) Outputs of periodic review analyses
 - iv) Monitor UNEP-WCMC trade artificially propagated data as a complementary indication for reduced pressure on wild populations
 - v) NDFs. Best practice examples of NDF as sustainable use like document PC15 Inf. 10 on international standard for sustainable wild collection of medicinal aromatic plants.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Best practices examples like avoiding listing species through promoting sustainable use and involvement of parties (like Harpagophytum).

Further WORK

- a) Create an intersessional group to do follow up work and develop a strategy

- b) Create a document incorporating a revised version of document PC14 Doc.18 and submit this document to SC 53.
- c) Monitoring progress of CITES on Target 11.
- d) Supporting awareness on CITES support to target 11 through activities such as the proposal of TRAFFIC to organize a side event in SBSTTA 11.

Relating to steps 2 and 3 of the proposed procedure

It was agreed that best practice examples of projects showing synergy between CITES and CBD should be collected. This process should be initiated by a notification of the Secretariat to the Parties and by activities of the Regional Representatives asking for documented cases of synergies with a minimum description of one or two lines and the name of a contact person.

It was agreed to make some proposals for additions to the annex of Notification 2005/017 "Synergy between CITES and CBD" Secretariats review of the Vilm Report, as outlined below :

Annex to Notification to the Parties No. 2005/017 of 6 April 2005

Secretariat's review of the Vilm report on CITES-CBD synergy

The following is the Secretariat's review of the findings and recommendations of the report of the Expert Workshop Promoting CITES-CBD Cooperation and Synergy (International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, Germany, 20-24 April 2004) contained in document CoP13 Doc. 12.1.1, Annex 2. This review was carried out and is being distributed in accordance with Decisions 13.4 and 13.5.

The Vilm report offers a broad range of conclusions and recommendations concerning improved cooperation and synergy between CITES and CBD. Many of the issues discussed in Vilm, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of the Expert Group, were brought up in Committee and Plenary sessions during the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004). This led the Conference of the Parties to adopt new Resolutions and Decisions and to revise existing Resolutions, namely:

- Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP13) on Recognition of the benefits of trade in wildlife
- Resolution Conf. 13.2 on Sustainable use of biodiversity: Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
- Resolution Conf. 13.4 on Conservation of and trade in great apes
- Resolution Conf. 13.9 on Encouraging cooperation between Parties with *ex situ* breeding operations and those with *in situ* conservation programmes
- Resolution Conf. 13.10 on Trade in alien invasive species
- Resolution Conf. 13.11 on Bushmeat
- Decision 13.1 on Strategic Vision
- Decisions 13.2 to 13.5 on Synergy between CITES and CBD
- Decisions 13.6 and 13.7 on Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
- Decision 13.8 on Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
- Decisions 13.74 and 13.75 on National wildlife trade policy reviews
- Decisions 13.76 and 13.77 on Further work on economic incentives

* New text is underlined, deleted text is ~~struck through~~.

- Decision 13.78 on Relationship between *ex situ* production and *in situ* conservation
- Decision 13.92 on Reporting requirements
- Decisions 13.101 to 13.103 on Bushmeat
- Decisions 13.104 and 13.105 on Master's course on Management, Access and Conservation of Species in Trade.

As the purpose of this review is to assist the Standing Committee in identifying possible priority actions to improve synergies between the two Conventions in areas of common concern, matters that are already being addressed through the Resolutions and Decisions above have not been considered in the Secretariat's review.

All of the conclusions and recommendations of the Vilm report have merit, and these should be regarded as representing a wide and informed perspective on CITES-CBD interaction. Nevertheless, several areas are of particular importance in furthering collaboration and synergy between the two Conventions and are presented below for comment by the Parties.

Desired changes

The Vilm report identifies a number of desired changes in order to achieve better cooperation and synergy between the two Conventions. The most relevant changes include:

- strengthening sustainable development and benefits for local communities in the CITES context, and strengthening species conservation issues in the CBD context;
- improving communication ~~both~~ nationally, regionally and internationally;
- implementing more effectively the making of CITES non-detriment findings;
- developing integrated management for sustainable use and conservation of species;
- ensuring mutual support between the Conventions concerning access and benefit-sharing;
- ensuring that CITES implementation benefits from the experiences and knowledge from the CBD, and that CBD processes integrate more effectively CITES concerns, processes and experience; and
- ensuring that Parties to CBD and CITES, as well as Convention bodies, interpret their respective mandates in a manner which facilitates cooperation.

The following activities identified in the Vilm report are particularly relevant towards achieving the above changes:

a) General recommendations

- Documenting case examples of synergy between CITES and CBD, concerning national coordination, project implementation and other areas that mutually support the objectives of both Conventions.
- Encouraging the development of complementary CITES and CBD national legislation (through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans).

– Improving communication between the two Conventions on areas of overlap

b) Sustainable use

- Strengthening sustainable development by (a) improving the making of non-detriment findings and (b) developing indicators for sustainability.

c) Access and benefit-sharing

- Providing CBD with CITES experiences on the design and implementation of licensing and permitting systems.

- Including access and benefit-sharing issues in CITES outreach and capacity-building activities and materials to ensure that decisions taken under CITES are compatible with the obligations of the Parties to CBD.
- d) The ecosystem approach
 - Improving communication between the two Conventions on areas of overlap with respect to ecosystem approaches.
- e) Linking CBD to CITES approaches
 - Enhancing attention to CITES-listed species in designing and implementing CBD programmes of work, with particular attention to the recovery of threatened species.
 - Ensuring site-based CBD activities reinforce CITES management and trade controls, especially for promoting the recovery of Appendix-I species.
 - Integrating CITES implementation in the development and implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.
 - Using CITES species as indicators under CBD processes.
 - Encouraging CBD to take advantage of CITES expertise.

GSPC targets in which the work of CITES contributes

(A) Understanding and documenting plant diversity		
(1) A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	Yes	Work of the Nomenclature Committee, Periodic review of the Appendices and significant trade process. CITES Checklists produced for various groups of plants including orchids, cacti, other succulents and bulb genera.
(2) A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.	Yes	The <u>routine</u> work of Scientific Authorities, the Plants Committee, the Significant Trade process, <u>creates data which should or could contribute to this all-contribute-to-this-process.</u>
(3) Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	Yes	Article 4 and best practice examples e.g. <i>Guaiacum</i> . Setting quotas and non-detriment findings.
(B) Conserving plant diversity		
(4) At least 10 per cent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	No	
(5) Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.	No	
(6) At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	No	
(7) 60 per cent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>in situ</i> .	Yes	Identifying Appendix I species helps in establishing protected areas. Second, when there is sustainable use <i>in situ</i> studies (e.g. <i>Harpagophytum</i>) it provides an incentive for <i>in situ</i> conservation. <u>Make use of Res. Conf 13.9 cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes</u> <u>Listing species in App II requires a NDF for any trade that explicitly promotes in situ conservation</u> <u>Listing species in App I aims to eliminate trade as a threat to in situ populations</u> <u>Listing in CITES appendices may require management that also benefits non-target species in situ (e.g. management & Ramin)</u>
(8) 60 per cent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>ex situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 per cent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.	Yes	Listing has created higher motivation for conservation work as opposed to simple collecting. Because they are listed, seeds of cacti in Mexico are cultivated <i>in situ</i> instead of flowing out of country. <u>Make use of Res. Conf 13.9 cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes</u>
(9) 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	No	

(10) Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.	No	Conf 13.10 Trade in alien invasive species.
(C) Using plant diversity sustainably		
(11) No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	Yes	Everything CITES does contribute to this target.
(12) 30 per cent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	Yes	Annotations in CITES ensure to target commodities and through NF's ensures sustainable use of the to species listed in the Appendices bring products into consideration.
(13) The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.	Yes	Non-detriment findings contribute to the sustainable use of CITES listed species. at a minor level.
(D) Promoting education and awareness about plant diversity		
(14) The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public –awareness programmes.	Yes	Training courses, web pages, technical reports, slide packs, CD-ROM, training officer.
(E) Building capacity for the conservation of plant diversity		
(15) The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	Yes	Training courses, web pages, technical reports, slide packs, CD-ROM, training officer.
(16) Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.	Yes	CITES is a network. Regional directories are an expression of the network.