

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



Thirty-second meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 19 – 23 June 2023

Agenda items addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees

PLANTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT PC26 (GENEVA, 5-9 JUNE 2023)

1. This information document has been submitted by the Secretariat at the request of the Chair of the Animals Committee in relation to AC32 agenda items: **7** (PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7), **9** (PC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9), **10** (PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10), **12** (PC26 Doc. 12 / AC32 Doc. 12), **13** (PC26 Doc. 14 / AC32 Doc. 13), **16** (PC26 Doc. 17 / AC32 Doc. 16), **19.1** (PC26 Doc. 19 / AC32 Doc. 19.1), **20** (PC26 Doc. 21 / AC32 Doc. 20), **22** (PC26 Doc. 22 / AC32 Doc. 22), **25.1** (PC26 Doc. 23 / AC32 Doc. 25.1), **26** (PC26 Doc. 25 / AC32 Doc. 26), **27** (PC26 Doc. 26 / AC32 Doc. 27), **41** (PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41), **42** (PC26 Doc. 35 / AC32 Doc. 42), **43** (PC26 Doc. 36 / AC32 Doc. 43), **44** (PC26 Doc. 39 / AC32 Doc. 44), **45.1** (PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1), **45.2** (PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2), **45.3** (PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3).
2. These items are addressed to both Committees and were discussed by the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting (Geneva, 5-9 June 2023). The excerpts below show the recommendations of the Plants Committee as per executive summaries [PC26 Sum 1 \(Rev.1\)](#), [PC26 Sum 2 \(Rev.1\)](#) and [PC26 Sum 3 \(Rev.1\)](#).

Emerging operational matters of the committeesPC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7

The Committee agreed to support the general way forward described in document PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7. The Committee requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees through their Chairs, to prepare a document for the Standing Committee that would also propose a way to capture the guiding principles and other recommendations in document PC26 Doc. 7 / AC32 Doc. 7 in CITES official documentation, for instance in Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees*.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to organize meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees back-to-back and to ensure that the timing of any online or hybrid meeting be equitable for all regions.

CITES Strategic VisionPC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9

The Committee agreed the recommendations in paragraph 18 as follows.

The Committee invited Members and Parties to submit any comments they may have on the mapping of the *CITES Strategic Vision* and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its monitoring framework as contained in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9 directly to the Secretariat that would consider them in its report to the Standing Committee.

The Committee invited the Secretariat to continue working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on SDG indicator 15.7.1 and to inform the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity of the outcome of this work.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to follow the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and any work related to the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework; and to provide data from relevant Strategic Vision indicators (such as indicator 1.1.1 on the National Legislation Project) and possible indicators for objective 1.4 to the CBD Secretariat, if requested.

The Committee noted the comments made on the possible indicators for objective 1.4 of the Strategic Vision proposed in paragraph 13 of document PC26 Doc. 9 / AC32 Doc. 9 and invited Members and Parties to submit any further comments directly to the Secretariat that would consider them in its report to the Standing Committee.

The Committee agreed that the Chair of the Plants Committee will coordinate the Committee's input on the partnership strategy called for in Decision 19.20.

Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10

The Committee agreed to nominate the representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng), to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on the role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade, taking into account the comments made on paragraph 13 of document PC26 Doc. 10 / AC32 Doc. 10.

IPBES Report on the Assessment of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species PC26 Doc. 12 / AC32 Doc. 12

The Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group jointly with the Animals Committee on the IPBES assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species that will work through electronic means to:

- a) review the scientific aspects of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) relevant to CITES implementation as highlighted in the Annexes to document PC26 Doc. 12 / AC32 Doc. 12 and other aspects as agreed by the two Committees and the members of the working group;
- b) identify aspects relevant to CITES implementation that are not adequately covered in existing Resolutions and Decisions and may require further consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees or the Standing Committee;
- c) prepare a draft report of the results of the review and possible recommendations for consideration by the joint sessions of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee scheduled to take place in 2024; and
- d) prepare a document for consideration of the Animals and Plants Committees containing the outcome of the review and recommendations to be submitted for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: alternate representative for North America (Mr. Benítez Diaz);

Parties: Australia, Canada, China, European Union, Malaysia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGO: International Union for Conservation of Nature, International Wood Products Association, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

Country-wide Review of Significant Trade PC26 Doc. 14 / AC32 Doc. 13

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on country-wide Review of Significant Trade with a mandate to:

- a) review the progress updates on the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) in document SC74 Doc. 29, document CoP19 Doc. 30 and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *CITES compliance procedures*; and capacity-building activities in documents SC74 Doc. 22, document CoP19 Doc. 16 and Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building*;

- b) consider whether scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar and outlined in document AC30 Doc. 12.3/PC24 Doc. 13.3 are sufficiently addressed through existing mechanisms or, if appropriate, propose amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) or other existing resolutions, develop a new resolution, or propose a new mechanism to undertake such reviews; and
- c) present its findings and recommendations to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee in 2024.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: representative for Europe (Ms. Smyth);

Parties: Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, Germany, Madagascar, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux, ForestBased Solutions, TRAFFIC, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

Non-detriment findings..... PC26 Doc. 17 / AC32 Doc. 16

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 17 / AC32 Doc. 16.

Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species..... PC26 Doc. 19 / AC32 Doc. 19.1

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species with a mandate to:

- a) review selected identification materials and assess the need for their revision and improvement, taking into account the materials that are being developed or have already been developed by Parties and materials requested in Decisions or Resolutions as well as materials received in response to the Notification to the Parties No. 2023/051, and other relevant information, such as that compiled during previous discussions of joint intersessional working groups established since CoP16 (Thailand, 2013);
- b) take into consideration other items on the agendas of the Animals and Plants Committees related to the development of identification material to support coordination and avoid duplication of effort;
- c) when assessing gaps in identification materials, take into account those taxa that have been included in the Appendices at higher taxon levels solely due to look-alike issues, as well as the need for frontline and forensic identification tools;
- d) consider ways to improve the accuracy and availability of identification materials on CITES-listed species, including considerations and implications of linking identification materials directly in the *Checklist of CITES Species* (checklist.cites.org/#/en); and
- e) report on the progress with these activities to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Chong);

Members: representative for Africa (Mr. Balama);

Parties: Canada, China, European Union, India, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, American Herbal Products Association, Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux, ForestBased Solutions, International Wood Products Association, Species Survival Network.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

Transport of live specimens PC26 Doc. 21 / AC32 Doc. 20

The Committee requested the representative of Europe (Ms. Moser) and the representative for Oceania (Mr. Wrigley), in collaboration with the Secretariat, to develop the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the virtual workshop to share best practices related to live animal and plant transport and submit the ToR for consideration by the Standing Committee. The Committee furthermore requested the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties to welcome feedback about the workshop content and to request expressions of interest from Parties and relevant experts in serving as workshop instructors.

Specimens produced through biotechnology PC26 Doc. 22 / AC32 Doc. 22

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 22 / AC32 Doc. 22 and agreed to nominate the representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on specimens produced through biotechnology.

Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source PC26 Doc. 23 / AC32 Doc. 25.1

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on trade in specimens not of wild source that will work separately and jointly with the mandate to:

- a) consider the key elements in the current implementation of Article VII paragraphs 4 and 5 for animals and plants, respectively, in the current applicable Resolutions;
- b) determine if there is a need to implement Article VII paragraphs 4 and 5 differently for either animal specimens from species bred in captivity or plant specimens that are artificially propagated than what is outlined in existing Resolutions, and provide their recommendations to the Standing Committee in time for its 78th meeting;
- c) provide any other scientific advice and guidance on CITES provisions concerning trade in non-wild specimens of CITES-listed animal and plant species to the Standing Committee upon request and as appropriate; and
- d) report on progress to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: representative for Oceania (Mr. Wrigley);

Parties: Australia, Canada, European Union, Germany, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Euromed, TRAFFIC.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

The Committee agreed to nominate the Chair for PC of the joint intersessional working group to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group and invited the co-Chairs of the Standing Committee's intersessional working group to work closely with the AC/PC joint intersessional working group in implementing their mandates.

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on Appendix-I species to:

- a) review the results of the rapid assessment in information document AC31 Inf. 6/ PC25 Inf. 8 on Rapid assessment of Appendix-I taxa that could potentially benefit from further CITES action, the suggestions in document AC31/PC25 Com. 1 (Rev. by Sec.), the Annex to the present document, the case studies and responses from range States on the 10 species selected for detailed assessments;
- b) refine the methodology and its criteria for carrying out an assessment of species listed in Appendix I that might benefit from measures adopted by the Conference of the Parties; and
- c) formulate draft recommendations for consideration at the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng);

Members: representative for North America (Mr. Boles);

Parties: European Union, Germany, Madagascar, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nation Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, ForestBased Solutions, TRAFFIC, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

The Committee established a joint intersessional working group on species at risk of extinction with the mandate to develop draft recommendations on:

- a) a possible process or mechanism under Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building* to provide Parties with information to be considered in the preparation of listing proposals when Parties request information such as:
 - i) relevant studies, analyses or other sources of information on the identification of species at risk of extinction that are not yet regulated under CITES and may be affected by international trade, or
 - ii) relevant studies, analyses or other sources of information on the identification of species that may receive insufficient CITES regulation and may be affected by international trade;
- b) possible processes/ mechanisms for providing support or guidance to Parties in the development of listing proposals in addition to the process or mechanism referred to under a) above;
- c) coordination with the CITES Secretariat, CITES Parties, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, FAO, regional competent authorities, and relevant experts, as appropriate as part of a possible process/es or mechanism/s to provide Parties with information to be considered in the preparation of listing proposals when Parties request information; and
- d) report back with its recommendations to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committees.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: representative for North America (Mr. Boles);

Members: Chair of the Plants Committee (representative for Africa, Ms. Koumba Pambo) and the representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng);

Parties: Canada, European Union, Mexico, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

The Committee agreed to nominate its Chair (representative for Africa, Ms. Koumba Pambo), the representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng), the representative for Europe (Ms. Smyth) and the representative for North America (Mr. Boles) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on species at risk of extinction.

Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41

The Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 5 as amended by the representative for North America (Mr. Boles) with the deletion of "(in orange)" in Annex 2 as follows:

The Committee agreed to make the following comments on the terms of reference of the analysis of e-commerce supply chains in products of CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plant species:

- a) clarify the timescale of the analysis for activity 2;
- b) clarify the languages of the analysis for activity 3;
- c) select a subset of medicinal plants for activities 3 and 4 (such as those in demand, those endangered, those in compliance processes, or other criteria); and
- d) consider additional comments contained in Annex 1 to document PC26 Com. 5.

The Committee agreed to implement a cross-reference from CITES databases to the MPNS database with appropriate guidance, including a disclaimer that the MPNS database should be considered indicative for the need to verify CITES listing status of specimens in trade using appropriate CITES standard nomenclature references and identification materials [option b) in paragraph 8) of addendum PC26 Doc. 34 Add.]

The Committee requested the Secretariat to consider concerns voiced by Parties regarding a disclaimer to be published alongside the reference to the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database.

The Committee noted that the Resolution on traditional medicines is on traditional medicines, but MAP materials are traded in quite different products (cosmetics, pharmaceutical products, aromatic products, etc.).

The Committee noted that there is preference for a new Resolution to be developed in an intersessional working group.

The Committee established an intersessional working group with the mandate to:

- a) in accordance with Decision 19.263 paragraph b), take into consideration the information in document PC25 Doc. 30 and its addendum, information document CoP18 Inf. 11; document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41, and other relevant information;
- b) consider paragraph 6 of document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41, the comments on those contained in Annex 2 of document PC26 Com. 5, and any report of the Secretariat as per Decision 19.261, that may become available to further inform the review;
- c) draft a new Resolution on medicinal and aromatic plant products; and
- d) report its findings to the Plants Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: representative for Europe (Ms. Moser);

Members: representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng), representative for North America (Mr. Boles);

Parties: Austria, Canada, China, European Union, Germany, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for Conservation of Nature, American Herbal Products Association, TRAFFIC, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee agreed to submit the draft of the new Resolution, or draft decisions for the consideration of CoP20 to continue this work during the next intersessional cycle, as needed, to the Standing Committee.

Periodic review of species included in Appendices I and II PC26 Doc. 35 / AC32 Doc. 42

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 35 / AC32 Doc. 42.

Annotations PC26 Doc. 36 / AC32 Doc. 43

The Committee agreed to nominate the representative for North America (Mr. Boles) and the alternate representative for Europe (Mr. de Boer) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on annotations.

The Committee noted the tasks included in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group terms of reference as presented in paragraph 2 of document PC26 Doc. 36 / AC32 Doc. 43, and in particular, paragraphs a) and c) and invited the working group to consider as a priority completion of its tasks under paragraphs a) and c) of its mandate, with a particular focus on the review of annotation #14.

Informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations PC26 Doc. 39 / AC32 Doc. 44

The Committee noted the Secretariat's report on progress in the implementation of Decisions 19.266 and 19.267.

Botanical and zoological nomenclature

Higher taxon listings in the Appendices PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2

and

Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1

The Committee established a joint intersessional nomenclature working group with a mandate to:

- a) review the scientific implications and impacts of existing and future higher taxon listings in the Appendices, taking into consideration the aspects raised in document PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2; and
- b) review and revise document PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1; and
- c) develop draft recommendations and guidance for consideration at the joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee scheduled to take place in 2024.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Klopper);

Members: representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng);

Parties: Canada, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Madagascar, Mexico, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Species Survival Network.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

Development of a standardized global checklist of species PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3.