

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Interpretation and implementation matters

Exemptions and special trade provisions

SPECIMENS GROWN FROM WILD-COLLECTED SEEDS OR SPORES
THAT ARE DEEMED TO BE ARTIFICIALLY PROPAGATED

1. This document has been submitted by the Plants Committee in consultation with the Chair of the Standing Committee.*

Background

2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.179 to 18.181 on *Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated*, as follows:

Directed to the Plants Committee

18.179 *The Plants Committee shall review the implementation of paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on Regulation of trade in plants and the trade in specimens of artificially propagated Appendix-I species. The report shall include consideration of conservation benefits to wild populations and any adverse effects on the conservation of Appendix-I species that have been subject to the implementation of paragraph 4.*

Directed to the Plants Committee

18.180 *The Plants Committee, following the review under Decision 18.179, shall consider any changes to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18), and as appropriate, propose such amendments for consideration of the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.181 *The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations of the Plants Committee made in accordance with Decisions 18.179 and 18.180, and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Implementation

3. The Secretariat submitted documents [PC25 Doc. 23](#) and [PC25 Doc. 23 Addendum](#) to the Plants Committee at its 25th meeting (PC25, online, June 2021) on progress in the implementation of Decisions 18.179 to 18.181. The Annex to the addendum [PC25 Doc. 23 Addendum](#) included a report¹ commissioned by the

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¹ *The report is also available on the CITES website in the tools and resources section of the webpage on Captive-produced animals and artificially propagated plants ([An assessment of the exception in paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 \(Rev.CoP18\) allowing specimens grown from wild collected seeds or spores to be deemed as artificially propagated](#)).*

Secretariat to the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) on this matter.

4. The report is based on consultations with range States that registered nurseries of Appendix-I listed species that take a long time to reach reproductive age. It also includes an assessment of conservation benefits to wild populations and any adverse effects of the conservation of Appendix-I species that have been subject to the implementation of paragraph 4 of [Resolution Conf. 11.11 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#) on *Regulation of trade in plants*.
5. After consideration of this matter, the Plants Committee adopted the following recommendations:
 - a) accept the report from the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and acknowledge its findings.
 - b) note that there currently is a limited number of examples of the implementation by Parties of paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Regulation of trade in plants*, and any amendments of paragraph 4 at this stage are not necessary until a later date, at which more examples of its implementation are anticipated to have been identified.
 - c) note that any future revision of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) should also include a review of paragraph 4.
 - d) note that certain revisions to Resolution Conf. 9.19 (Rev. CoP15) on *Registration of nurseries that artificially propagate specimens of Appendix-I plant species for export purposes* could be considered jointly with amendments to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18).
 - e) encourage Parties to submit case studies and examples of non-detriment findings on the use of the exception in paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) to meetings of the Plants Committee, and report on best practice examples on implementation of paragraph 4 to the Plants Committee for the formulation of future guidance.
 - f) invite the Secretariat to publish indications in the registry of nurseries to identify those registered nurseries that implement paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18).
 - g) agree to consider that Decisions 18.179 and 18.180 are completed.
6. In line with Decision 18.180, through document [SC74 Doc. 6](#), the Chair of the Plants Committee reported the recommendations *supra* to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC74, Lyon, March 2022), which were noted by the Standing Committee.

Recommendations

7. The Conference of the Parties is invited to delete Decisions 18.179 to 18.181.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the Plants Committee's recommendation to delete Decisions 18.179 to 18.181 on *Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated*, as they have been implemented.
- B. The Secretariat reminds Parties that the report it commissioned in support of the implementation of Decisions 18.179 and 18.180 is available [on the CITES website](#).
- C. At the time of writing, the Secretariat is in the process of implementing the recommendation in paragraph 5 f) of the document, by amending the registry of nurseries on the CITES website with footnotes to indicate those nurseries that may be implementing paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18).