

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

Species specific matters

AFRICAN TREE SPECIES

1. This document has been submitted by the Plants Committee.*
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 17.302 on *African tree species* as follows:

Directed to the Plants Committee

17.302 *The Plants Committee shall form a working group on African tree species with the following terms of reference, as well as any other terms it deems appropriate:*

- a) *The working group will work primarily via electronic means;*
 - b) *The working group will seek to facilitate the circulation and exchange of experiences among the range States, importing countries and other stakeholders on the sustainable use and management of CITES-listed African tree species;*
 - c) *The working group will seek to identify gaps and weaknesses in the capacity of range States of African tree species to effectively implement CITES for these species;*
 - d) *The working group will examine how the processes currently used by countries to develop annual export quotas compare with the processes recommended under CITES and develop recommendations for reconciling them;*
 - e) *The working group will explore the conversion factors used for different commodities (e.g., logs, sawn wood, bark) and develop recommendations for improving such processes;*
 - f) *The working group will seek to identify other African tree species that may benefit from inclusion in the CITES Appendices;*
 - g) *The working group will bring any issues related to implementation and enforcement of CITES listings for African tree species to the attention of the Plants Committee; and*
 - h) *The working group will report its findings and recommendations to the Plants Committee.*
3. At CoP18, the Conference of the Parties also adopted Decisions 18.260 to 18.262 on *African cherry* (*Prunus africana*), as follows:

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Directed to the Plants Committee

18.260 *The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *review the recommendations from the Prunus africana-related discussions within the 'CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa' and advise the range States of Prunus africana of appropriate actions; and*
- b) *submit a report on the outcomes of Decision 18.260, paragraph a), and provide recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate, and report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to the Secretariat

18.261 *The Secretariat shall report to the Plants Committee at its 25th meeting about the recommendations from the Prunus africana-related discussions within the 'CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa' for consideration and advice to the range States of Prunus africana.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.262 *The Standing Committee shall review any report received from the Plants Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.260, and provide recommendations as appropriate to the Parties and the Plants Committee.*

4. The Secretariat and the co-Chairs of the Plants Committee's working group on *African tree species* submitted documents [PC25 Doc. 27](#), [PC25 Doc. 28](#) and [PC25 Doc. 28 Add.](#) to the Plants Committee at its 25th meeting (PC25, online, June 2021). These documents outlined in detail the progress achieved in the implementation of Decisions 18.260 to 18.262 on *African cherry* (*Prunus africana*) and Decision 17.302 on *African tree species*.
5. Based on the revised recommendations of the working group as reflected in document [PC25 Doc. 28 Add.](#), the Plants Committee agreed that it would be premature to publish on the CITES website the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 28 Addendum pertaining to PC25 Doc. 27 on *Prunus africana*, and further agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

Recommendations

6. The Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decisions in Annex 1 to the present document with amendments presented in paragraph E below. The Secretariat further recommends that Decision 17.302 and Decisions 18.260 to 18.262 be deleted since they have been either implemented or carried forward in the new set of draft decisions.
- B. Several projects are ongoing under the CITES Tree Species programme that address *Prunus africana* or other African tree species and are relevant to Decisions 18.260 – 18.262 and 17.302. Extensive work is ongoing regarding several species/country combinations in the review of significant trade process, which address *Prunus africana* and other African tree species (see document CoP19 Doc. 20).
- C. Furthermore, as per the summary record of the 25th meeting of the Plants Committee, the Secretariat notes the Plants Committee's intention to further discuss and revise recommendations for the sustainable management of *Prunus africana* that were formulated by experts from African range States of *Prunus africana* during the CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa (Dar es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, 11 to 15 March 2019).
- D. In order to reflect these considerations, the Secretariat suggests the following amendments to draft decisions 19.AA – 19.CC:

(Proposed new text is underlined, proposed deletions are indicated in strikethrough)

19.AA Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) update the list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 28;
- a~~b~~) based on documents PC25 Doc. 27, PC25 Doc. 28 and PC25 Doc. 28 Add., establish priorities to strengthen the implementation of the Convention for the African tree species, including priorities and recommendations for the sustainable management and for future work on *Prunus africana*, as contained in these documents;
- b~~e~~) liaise with Parties in advancing the priorities identified above; and
- c~~d~~) report the outcomes of this work to the Standing Committee ~~and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.~~

19.BB Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall, upon request of the Plants Committee, assist in the implementation of Decision 19.AA.

19.CC Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall consider ~~the~~any report from the Plants Committee regarding Decision 19.AA and develop recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON *AFRICAN TREE SPECIES*

Directed to the Plants Committee

19.AA The Plants Committee shall:

- a) update the list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 28;
- b) based on documents PC25 Doc. 27, PC25 Doc. 28 and PC25 Doc. 28 Add., establish priorities to strengthen the implementation of the Convention for the African tree species, including priorities for future work on *Prunus africana*;
- c) liaise with Parties in advancing the priorities identified above; and
- d) report the outcomes of this work to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.BB The Secretariat shall, upon request of the Plants Committee, assist in the implementation of Decision 19.AA.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.CC The Standing Committee shall consider any report from the Plants Committee regarding Decision 19.AA and develop recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

The work proposed under draft decisions 19.AA to 19.CC can be accomplished within the regular workloads of the Standing Committee, Plants Committee and Secretariat without external funding.