

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

Summary record of the fourth session for Committee I

16 November 2022: 14h05 - 16h55

Chair: V. Fleming (United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland)

Secretariat: I. Higuero
I. Camarena Osorno
K. Gaynor
M. Hitziger
H.J. Kim
D. Morgan

Rapporteurs: A. Caromel
J. Mark
S. Rouse
C. Stafford

Species-specific matters

64. Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)

64.1 Report of the Secretariat and the Standing Committee

and

64.2 Conservation of marine turtles

The Chair stated that the mandate of the in-session working group on agenda item 64, chaired by the European Union, will be as follows:

- a) revise the draft resolution contained in document CoP19 Doc. 64.2 as amended by the Secretariat, taking into account comments and interventions made in the Committee, and
- b) consider and revise as necessary the renewal of Decision 18.217 (Rev. CoP19) and the draft decision proposed by Samoa.

87. Amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17)

87.2 Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices: Proposals for a new approach to the listing of sharks and rays

The Chair stated that the mandate for the in-session working group on agenda item 87.2, chaired by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, will be as follows: consider and revise as necessary the draft decisions proposed by Senegal for a process to enable consideration of the possible need to review Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) and its footnote on application of decline criteria for commercially exploited aquatic species with regard to the class Chondrichthyes.

70. Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP19 Doc. 70, containing the draft decisions arising from the intersessional working group on rosewood tree species.

The European Union, Guatemala, Senegal and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland generally supported the draft decisions in Annex 1 to the document as amended by the Secretariat; the European Union expressed concern about high ongoing levels of illegal trade in rosewood species and supported the deletion of Decisions 18.234 to 18.237. Senegal noted that many countries in the West African region had limited resources to produce non-detriment findings for rosewood species and to manage stockpiles of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*. The United States of America suggested a series of amendments to the draft decisions which will be presented to Committee I as an in-session document.

The Committee agreed to delete Decisions 18.234 to 18.237.

79. African tree species

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP19 Doc. 79, containing draft decisions in Annex 1 arising from the intersessional working group on African tree species.

The United States of America supported the draft decisions with some amendments, and supported the deletion of Decisions 17.302 and 18.260 to 18.262.

The draft decisions as amended by the United States were accepted as follows:

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., and other relevant information establish priorities to strengthen the implementation of the Convention for the African tree species, including priorities and recommendations for the sustainable management and 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 the report from the Plants Committee regarding Decision 19.AA and develop recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

81. Neotropical tree species

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP19 Doc. 81, containing draft decisions in Annex 1 arising from the intersessional working group on Neotropical tree species.

Guatemala and the United States of America supported the draft decisions in Annex 1, with the United States proposing the following amendment to draft decision 19 AA a):

- a) update the list of neotropical tree species and the related CITES processes included in the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 29, taking into consideration the recommendations included in document PC25 Doc. 29, Addenda and the outcomes of CoP19;

The draft decisions presented in Annex 1 to document CoP19 Doc. 81 were accepted with the amendment to draft decision 19.AA proposed by the United States of America. It was also agreed that Decision 18.299 be deleted.

82. Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP19 Doc. 82 on trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species, noting that the Secretariat had proposed a number of draft decisions. She also drew attention to information documents CoP19 Inf. 31 and CoP19 Inf. 32 submitted by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom.

The United States of America supported the continuation of work on trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species, but proposed some amendments to the Secretariat's draft decisions 19.AA and 19.CC. The European Union was generally supportive of the draft decisions but proposed a small amendment to extend the scope of draft decision 19.CC b) to include aromatic plant products. Cameroon expressed its hope that efforts would be made to assist countries in capacity building. China stated that it had proposed amendments to the draft decisions, contained within the summary record of the 25th meeting of the Plants Committee.

The Committee established a drafting group comprising China, the European Union, the United States of America and TRAFFIC to produce revised draft decisions.

84. Standard nomenclature

84.1 Report of the Animals and Plants Committees

The nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees introduced document CoP19 Doc. 84.1, which contained draft decisions in Annex 1 and amendments to the Annex to Resolution Conf 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature* in Annexes 2 and 3 for consideration. They drew attention to a number of corrections to the amendments in Annexes 2 and 3, outlined in addendum CoP19 Doc. 84.1 Add.

Regarding flora, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America supported the recommendations in the document, the relevant draft decisions in Annex 1 and the amendments in Annex 2 with the corrections in the addendum. They supported the comments by the Secretariat, excluding items c) and d) of paragraph D relating to the inclusion of wood identification guides in the *CITES Checklist for Dalbergia spp.*, They considered that work on this aspect should continue as part of the work programme under document CoP19 Doc. 44.2 on *Identification of timber and other wood products* and that such guides should be made available to Parties as soon as available

rather than waiting for their adoption as part of nomenclature standard references. The United States proposed an additional paragraph be inserted in revised Decision 18.307 (Rev. CoP19) as follows:

New paragraph X, “prioritise input in the development of identification material for *Dalbergia* species, taking into consideration progress made in document PC25 Doc. 34 and the *Dalbergia* checklist as included in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19), and giving attention to frontline identification materials to assist differentiating look-alike species that may not be of conservation concern.”

The Chair proposed that this be considered under document CoP19 Doc. 44.2.

Regarding fauna, following a recommendation from Ethiopia, the Chair proposed the following text for inclusion at the beginning of draft decision 19.AN5 paragraph a) in Annex 1 to document CoP19 Doc. 84.1: “in consultation with the IUCN African Elephant Specialist Group, review the taxonomic-nomenclatural history of African elephant *Loxodonta africana*”. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) stated that it was available to provide support to Parties in preparing for the implications of recognising two African elephant species.

Regarding overarching items in paragraph M of the comments of the Secretariat, the United States suggested the addition of checklist after the words “standardized global” to draft decision 19.AA as well as further amendments to ensure that the nomenclature specialists report to their respective committees so that the committees could report progress to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. TRAFFIC supported the renewal of existing Decisions on the use of time-specific versions of online-databases as standard nomenclature references.

The revisions to the Annex of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature* presented in Annexes 2 and 3 to document CoP19 Doc. 84.1, with the corrections contained in the addendum to the document, were accepted. Draft decision 19.AA in paragraph M of the comments of the Secretariat, with the addition of “checklist” after the words “standardized global”, and the draft decisions presented in Annex 1 to document CoP19 Doc. 84.1, with the amendment to draft decision 19.AN5 paragraph a), were accepted. It was agreed to delete Decisions 17.312 and 18.315, and to renew Decisions 18.309 and 18.310, the latter as revised by the Secretariat in paragraph H of its comments and Decisions 18.311 and 18.312, the latter as revised by the Secretariat.

Proposals to amend the Appendices

89. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II: CoP19 Prop. 48

Proposal CoP19 Prop. 48 to list *Dipteryx* spp. in Appendix II was introduced by Panama speaking also on behalf of the co-proponents.

Senegal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, TRAFFIC, speaking also on behalf of IUCN, and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), speaking also on behalf of several other observer organizations, expressed support for the proposal.

Bolivia, Brazil, Guyana, and the International Wood Products Association opposed the proposal. Bolivia and Brazil considered there was insufficient scientific data showing that trade was detrimental to wild populations, and stated that the proposal did not reflect the management and status of the genus within these range States. Guyana considered that listing *D. odorata* in Appendix II could increase pressure on other native timber species.

Suriname suggested that seeds be removed from the proposal's annotation to avoid a significant administrative burden, and Peru suggested a delay of 24 months prior to implementation to allow sufficient time for range States to implement management mechanisms. The Chair noted that as the two substantive amendments reduced the scope of the proposal, they were admissible into the debate.

Panama, Peru, Senegal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, TRAFFIC, speaking also on behalf of IUCN, and WWF supported the exclusion of seeds from the proposed annotation. The European Union agreed, noting that *Dipteryx* seeds had been included in the proposal as a precautionary measure.

The United Kingdom and World Wide Fund for Nature were opposed to any implementation delay. The International Wood Products Association supported Peru's suggested implementation delay. The European Union suggested a compromise of 12 months to facilitate implementation by range States. Panama suggested an implementation delay of 18 months.

The European Union asked for a suspension of the debate in order to consult with the co-proponents. The Chair agreed to suspended discussion until the next session of Committee I.

The meeting was adjourned at 16h55.