

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



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 5 – 9 June 2023

Species conservation and trade

Flora

Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

ADDENDUM

1. This Addendum has been prepared by the Secretariat in relation to document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*. Decision 19.261 a) and b) instruct the Secretariat to:
 - a) *publish a notification inviting Parties to:*
 - i) *share information materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and, as far as possible, liaise with key stakeholders of medicinal and aromatic plant trade supply chains for this purpose;*
 - ii) *review their non-detriment findings (NDFs) for medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) and consider sharing such with the Secretariat to be included on the NDF section of the CITES website;*
 - iii) *assess the utility of the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in their routine work to see if it can contribute to the expansion of the Species+ database; and share any experience of using the MPNS database;*
 - b) *make information materials for raising awareness of CITES regulations for the medicinal and aromatic plant industry stakeholders and consumers available to Parties on the CITES website.*
2. In accordance with Decision 19.261 a) and b), the Secretariat published [Notification No. 2023/045](#) and the questionnaire in its [Annex](#) on 6 April 2023. The questionnaire sought information on the utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work and asked Parties to share information materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed MAPs, and NDFs for MAPs.
3. The Secretariat received responses to Notification No. 2023/045 from 13 Parties (Canada, Croatia, Germany, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America) and from TRAFFIC and the IUCN Medicinal Plants Specialist Group (joint submission). The completed questionnaires as received are included in the Annex to the present addendum.

Regarding the utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work

4. Six Parties report that they are using the MPNS database in their routine work. Seven Parties report that they have so far not used the MPNS in their routine work. Five of these indicated that they were previously not aware of its existence and did not use it in the past but consider it a useful tool for potential future use.

5. Reported uses of the database for CITES purposes include:
 - a) understanding whether CITES permits are needed for diverse products labelled by non-scientific names in various languages and scripts, or scientific synonyms that differ from CITES nomenclature (this aspect is relevant for traders and stakeholders, as well as CITES Authorities);
 - b) verifying species identification;
 - c) collecting basic information about the species and products in trade, including uses, plant parts in trade, species distribution, Red List status, and references to additional information sources;
 - d) compiling common names for CITES listing proposals and standard nomenclature references;
 - e) trade monitoring, research and data analysis to identify commodities or products containing particular CITES-listed species, or to assess trade in MAPs as a group of taxa; and
 - f) compiling risk profiles for customs or reducing the list of possible scientific names of plant derivatives to provide customs officers with better grounds for proceeding with inspections.
6. Parties suggest that barriers or disadvantages of using the MPNS database in CITES routine work could include:
 - a) limited awareness of the availability of this resource among the CITES community, or the need for basic training on the strengths and functions of this resource, including clarification that many finished medicinal products may be outside CITES regulations due to a range of annotations, which in one way or another exclude products “packaged and ready for retail trade”;
 - b) lack of an intuitive mobile app or downloadable resource that can be used without internet access;
 - c) difficulties in accessing the complete database, and possibility that some non-scientific names or trade names could contain racist, offensive or disparaging language;
 - d) false negatives, or having more than one plant name as a result of a search, could complicate how CITES controls should be applied, which a trader could use to get around the CITES controls;
 - e) one Party informed the Secretariat bilaterally that it has serious concerns about using the MPNS database specifically in CITES enforcement, since its use could cause misunderstandings about the regulatory status of CITES-listed specimens, in particular where local names are written in languages that do not use the Roman alphabet.
7. Nine respondents suggested that it would be helpful to integrate information from the MPNS database in CITES resources. Other Parties suggested that the integration of MPNS information in CITES databases might not be a pressing need; could require substantial consultation, expertise, and time; and would also necessitate regular updates. As an alternative, some Parties suggested that the MPNS database could be kept separate from CITES databases, but could be identified as a recommended source of information when medicinal or aromatic plants are queried within CITES databases. Guidance on how best to use the MPNS database for CITES purposes could also appear when such queries are made. However, it should be made expressly clear that the information has not been adopted by the CITES Parties and does not reflect an official endorsement of the accuracy of its content.
8. Taking into account the views described in paragraph 7 *supra*, the Secretariat notes that the use of the MPNS database could provide Parties and stakeholders with substantially improved information on specimens in trade that could be regulated under CITES. As with all species names, including differing scientific nomenclature references, some ambiguity could remain. This could be addressed by:
 - a) either amending the *CITES Checklist* database with information contained in the MPNS database, with a view to avoiding ambiguities between these sources. The Secretariat has preliminarily discussed this option with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC) and MPNS, and it would be a laborious and time-consuming process that would need additional financial resources as well as need periodical revisions due to updates in either database;

- b) or by 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.

Regarding information materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed MAPs

- 9. Various respondents submitted a wide range of information materials that they developed to assist Parties and stakeholders to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed MAPs. At the time of writing, these are being published in a dedicated section on the [webpage on MAPs](#) on the CITES website.

Regarding non-detriment findings (NDFs) for MAPs

- 10. Canada informed that it maintains a [website](#) with links to a series of NDFs for various species including *Panax quinquefolius* and *Hydrastis canadensis*. These NDFs are regularly reviewed and updated. Mexico informed that between 2019 and 2023, it has developed 497 NDFs for export of *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* (Candelilla) in line with its [guidance for making NDFs for the species](#). The United States of America submitted assessments for [artificially propagated Goldenseal \(*Hydrastis canadensis*\)](#) and [American Ginseng \(*Panax quinquefolius*\)](#) that have been published in the CITES NDF database.

Recommendations to the Plants Committee

- 11. The Plants Committee is invited to consider the responses to Notification No. 2023/045 as presented in the present Addendum to document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41 and advise on the options provided by the Secretariat in paragraph 8.

Notification to the Parties No. 2023/045
Annex

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	Canada		
b) Contact:	Name	Ruben Boles	
	Phone	1 873 354-6189	
	Email	ruben.boles@ec.gc.ca	

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<p>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> LAFs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.			
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	<p><i>Canada's Management of the medicinal and aromatic plant species database is helpful in responding to the past and present needs of the various parties who are involved in the trade of medicinal and aromatic plant products.</i></p> <p><i>For enforcement and border agents, this database is a very helpful tool to know the alternative names of CITES listed plant herb species and to identify the maximum number of products and derivatives. It is also a very challenging tool to keep up to date on the trade names for field applications.</i></p>		

Question	Answer or comments
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	<i>An analysis of MPNS data would have to be done with a knowledge of what trade commodities are included under CITES controls for the species being researched. Information from MPNS on finished medicinal products may be of use to CITES regulators to see a range of annotations which in one way or another will describe products packaged and ready for retail trade.</i>
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	<i>Canada does not have a pressing need for the MPNS to be integrated into CITES databases given the nature of our import/export list which may be set to see below.</i>
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	<p>A possible alternative might be kept in mind when assessing the utility of MPNS for CITES functions. In this approach, the MPNS database could be kept separate from CITES databases, but it would be identified as a recommended source of information when medicinal or aromatic plants are queried within CITES databases. Guidance on how best to use the MPNS database for CITES purposes could also appear when such queries are made.</p> <p>This approach might reduce the need to regularly maintain and update an integrated system where multiple databases are linked.</p>
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

a) Brochure on a Government of Canada website, which explains [Animal and plant ingredients in traditional medicine](#)

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

Canada maintains a website with links to a series of Non-detriment Finding reports for various species including Panax and Hederas canadensis. These are regularly reviewed and updated. For this reason, it is preferable for the link alone to be shared via the database.

[Link to Canada's Non-detriment finding reports](#)

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	The Republic of Croatia		
b) Contact:	Name	Ida Partl	
	Phone	+385 1 4866 131	
	Email	ida.partl@mingor.hr	

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	/		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	Yes, but it was not used by Croatian CITES MA or SA, so we cannot provide any recommendations.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	No.		

Question	Answer or comments
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Yes
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	/
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	/

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

n/a

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

n/a

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	Germany		
b) Contact:	Name	David Harter	
	Phone		
	Email	david.harter@bfm.de	

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	MPNS is not used in the CITES Management or Scientific Authority of Germany. It was not possible to evaluate whether it is possibly used in German customs enforcement authorities or specific actions, however, it is considered not likely that customs officers in Germany know and use the tool on a regular basis.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.			
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	For the routine work of the CITES MA and SA the MPNS is not a very relevant tool, as in almost any case the species name in CITES applications is clear. However, the MPNS could be a useful tool for customs and other enforcement staff, if ingredients of certain commodities are not clear and must be researched.		

Question	Answer or comments
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	Assumably, limited awareness of the availability of the MPNS by many potential users, e.g. customs officers, could be a barrier for its wider use.
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Until now, no general demand to integrate non-scientific names in CITES databases could be noticed. Instead, a step-wise research by first using the MPNS to find out the scientific name, and in a second step, by consulting the CITES Checklist or Species+ for checking the species' CITES status appear to be a practicable and sufficiently straightforward procedure.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	Ensure completeness of all vernacular and trade names in MPNS, e.g. in all relevant languages. Make MPNS more known in relevant/potential user groups, e.g. customs.
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

a) There are no recent materials available, but are under development in a project funded by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. The project is being conducted by TRAFFIC and is researching the German MAP market and industry and its supply chains to identify key stakeholders. In a second step a stakeholder meeting is envisaged to discuss general needs, demands and possible barriers of MAP industry and trade, but also consumer organisations and other stakeholders in Germany for implementing more sustainable supply chains of wild-harvested MAP species. Results of the market-study and of the stakeholder meeting will be used to develop targeted and detailed materials to raise awareness and to inform about useful measures to increase sustainability in use and trade of MAPs in supply chains. The project is working on both, CITES-listed and non-CITES-listed species. <https://www.bfn.de/projektsteckbriefe/nachhaltigkeit-im-globalen-handel-mit-wildpflanzen-die-rolle-und> (projekt description, in German language only)

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

a) ...

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, W. I.		
b) Contact:	Name	Dr. Frederick Boyd	
	Phone	(876)770-1222	
	Email	frederick.boyd@uwimona.edu.jm	

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	✓ No	Not yet	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	I have been recently appointed to our local CITES Committee		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	Now I know of it, I shall utilize it for it appears to be a helpful resource.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	No		

Question	Answer or comments
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Yes, as under certain circumstances the plant concerned may be known only by the common (non-scientific) name in the particular locale in which it may be found.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	N/A
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	N/A

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

None yet

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

N/A

Notificación a las Partes No. 2023/045
Anexo

Cuestionario en relación con las Decisiones 19.261 sobre *Comercio de especies de plantas medicinales y aromáticas*

1. Se ruega completar y enviar este cuestionario a la Secretaría a info@cites.org con copia a martin.hitziger@cites.org antes del **10 de mayo de 2023**.

2. Información de contacto

a) Parte, organización o institución:	México	
b) Contacto:	Nombre	DGVS Autoridad Administrativa CITES en México, María de los Ángeles Cauich García
	Teléfono	55-54-90-0900, Ext. 23406
	Email	ma.cauich@semarnat.gob.mx
b) Contacto:	Nombre	CONABIO Autoridad Científica CITES en México
	Teléfono	5550044937
	Email	ac-cites@conabio.gob.mx
b) Contacto:	Nombre	PROFEPA Autoridad de Aplicación, Rafael Coello
	Teléfono	(555) 449-6300 Ext: 16350
	Email	rafael.coello@profepa.gob.mx
b) Contacto:	Nombre	Comisión Nacional Forestal (CONAFOR), Pedro Antonio Plateros Gastelum
	Teléfono	33-37-77-7000, Ext. 2200 y 2230
	Email	pedro.plateros@conafor.gob.mx jruizm@conafor.gob.mx

3. Utilidad de la base de datos del Servicio de Nombres de Plantas Medicinales (MPNS) en el trabajo habitual de la CITES [Decisión 19.261 a) iii)]:

Pregunta	Respuesta o comentarios		
3.1. ¿Ha utilizado la base de datos del Servicio de Nombres de Plantas Medicinales (MPNS) al llevar a cabo su labor habitual relacionada con la CITES? En caso afirmativo, sírvase facilitar algunos detalles.	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sí	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisión del comercio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Información general (especies, usos)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identificación de especímenes / productos objeto de comercio
			<input type="checkbox"/> Supervisión periódica del comercio
			<input type="checkbox"/> Otros
	<input type="checkbox"/> Permisos y certificados	<input type="checkbox"/> DAL	
			<input type="checkbox"/> DENP / cupos
			<input type="checkbox"/> Otros
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observancia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actuaciones nacionales de observancia	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Actuaciones internacionales de observancia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comercio ilegal (por ej., decomisos)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Otros			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Otros	En la revisión de nombre válidos para algunas especies de plantas medicinales de interés comercial.		
3.2. Por favor, proporcione cualquier detalle adicional sobre cómo utilizó la base de datos MPNS en su trabajo habitual.	Se realizan revisiones rápidas de especies de interés comercial, para el caso de especies de plantas medicinales, ha sido útil contar con una consulta rápida sobre información básica existente y que permite la facilidad de validar los nombres. Se ha buscado tanto los nombres usados en la práctica como los nombres de las especies reguladas, sobre todo en casos de similitud.		

Pregunta	Respuesta o comentarios
	Se podría explorar la promoción del uso de la Plataforma con los Grupos de productores de este tipo de plantas, en particular, las de aprovechamiento con fines no maderables.
3.3. ¿Considera que la base de datos MPNS es útil en el trabajo habitual en relación con la CITES? En caso afirmativo, sírvase facilitar algunos detalles.	<p>Sí, al proporciona una búsqueda rápida para el usuario sobre la información disponible de la especie, cumple con el objetivo de contar con los elementos necesarios sobre búsquedas de especies de plantas medicinales y facilita validar los nombres con los que se encuentra registrada en las diferentes fuentes de información.</p> <p>Los productos vegetales suelen etiquetarse con nombres no científicos, sino únicamente comunes lo que genera complicaciones durante la verificación de los movimientos transfronterizos. Esta base de datos ha servido para identificar algunos de los más comercializados.</p> <p>Es de utilidad para conocer usos, generalidades y algunas especificaciones de las especies que se encuentran en los Apéndices de la CITES.</p>
3.4. ¿Considera que hay obstáculos o desventajas en la utilización de la base de datos MPNS en el trabajo habitual en relación con la CITES? En caso afirmativo, sírvase facilitar algunos detalles.	<p>Sí, aunque puede ser útil para tener acceso a fotografías, información básica y estatus de estas especies a partir de nombres comunes y su asociación con el nombre científico, facilitando la consulta durante, por ejemplo, una verificación, además de que contiene una lista enunciativa mas no limitativa de plantas medicinales utilizadas en el comercio internacional, haciéndola una plataforma dinámica, la forma de acceder no es inmediata.</p> <p>Al entrar a la página principal no se accede directamente al buscador, retrasando la consulta.</p> <p>Al momento de buscar la especie, sería preferente que el resultado de la búsqueda apareciera como un catálogo tipo ficha desglosada (en vez de pestañas) para visualizar toda la información que ofrece y así agilizar la consulta y la identificación de la información que se busca.</p>
3.5. ¿Considera que sería útil integrar los nombres no científicos que figuran en la base de datos MPNS en las bases de datos CITES (Lista de especies CITES, Species+)?	<p>Sí, muchas veces las especies son registradas con los nombres comunes de la zona, región o lugar, por lo que, tener una fuente que permita contar con estos nombres comunes ligados a un nombre científico, es de gran utilidad para confirmar la especie de la que se trata.</p> <p>Sería útil como referencia inmediata complementaria aunque con fines legales, posiblemente afectaría el uso de los listados oficiales que usan la nomenclatura botánica internacional consensuada en el sector científico.</p>
3.6. ¿Recomendaría otras opciones para facilitar el uso de la base de datos MPNS en el trabajo habitual en relación con la CITES?	<p>La consulta de la base solo se encuentra en inglés, limitando su uso y visita a usuarios que no dominen el idioma, sería recomendable que pudiera accederse a esta base (solo sus componentes, no la información) en español y francés.</p> <p>Sería útil desarrollar algún tipo de aplicación digital que permitiera búsquedas más rápidas. Esto apoyaría el trabajo de revisión de los movimientos transfronterizos cuya principal limitante es el tiempo de operación aduanera.</p> <p>Desde el punto de vista práctico, los listados o enlaces requieren pericia del personal verificador, lo cual los hace más difíciles de utilizar.</p>
3.7. Lista de anexos o enlaces pertinentes.	<p>Catalogue of life: https://www.catalogueoflife.org/</p> <p>Tropicos: https://www.tropicos.org/home</p> <p>CITES Virtual collage: https://cites.org/eng/virtual-college con la liga de información que exista para cada especie.</p> <p>Timber identification resources and Tool (para las especies que aplique): https://cites.org/eng/timber/timber-ID-repository</p> <p>Y la página de Medicinal and aromatic plants de la CITES: https://cites.org/eng/prog/medplants</p>

4. Materiales desarrollados para mejorar el conocimiento de la reglamentación CITES y fomentar el uso sostenible y el comercio legal de plantas medicinales y aromáticas incluidas en los Apéndices de la CITES [Decisión 19.261(a)i]:

Sírvase enumerar y adjuntar a este cuestionario cualquier material que hayan elaborado para fomentar la sensibilización sobre la reglamentación CITES y fomentar el uso sostenible y el comercio legal de plantas medicinales y aromáticas incluidas en los Apéndices de la CITES y que desearía que la Secretaría publicase en su sitio web:

“Guía informativa para la elaboración de estudios técnicos de aprovechamiento sustentable de candelilla (*Euphorbia antisiphylitica*) en el marco de las disposiciones de la CITES”, como herramienta de apoyo para orientar a los usuarios y técnicos forestales en aspectos sobre el manejo y aprovechamiento sustentable, para facilitar el proceso de formulación de DENP y como apoyo a la toma de decisiones de otras autoridades, comercializadores y actores de la cadena productiva. La guía se presentó durante la CoP19 (Panamá, 2022) como documento informativo CoP19 Inf. 92.

"Manual general de procedimientos para la formulación de Dictámenes de extracción no Perjudicial para candelilla (*Euphorbia antisiphylitica*)", mismos que se encuentra publicado en la página web de la CITES sobre materiales de NDFs: <https://cites.org/esp/virtual-college/ndf?page=1>

HIERBAS AROMÁTICAS Y MEDICINALES EN MÉXICO: TRADICIÓN E INNOVACIÓN. Liga electrónica:

<https://revistabiociencias.uan.edu.mx/index.php/BIOCIENCIAS/article/view/42/134>

EL MERCADO DE PLANTAS MEDICINALES EN MEXICO, SITUACION ACTUAL Y PERSPECTIVAS DE DESARROLLO. Liga electrónica: <http://www.herbotecnia.com.ar/c-public-003.html>

Plantas medicinales que se comercializan en el mercado 8 de julio y uno tradicional, ambos localizados en el Centro de Actopan, Hidalgo, México. Liga electrónica: https://www.scielo.org.mx/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1405-27682020000200209

5. DENP para plantas medicinales y aromáticas [Decisión 19.261a) ii)]:

Sírvase enumerar y adjuntar a este cuestionario los DENP para especies de plantas medicinales y aromáticas que desearía que la Secretaría publicase en la base de datos sobre DENP de la CITES:

Se ha elaborado un total de 497 NDF durante el periodo de 2019 a 2023 para el sustento de las exportaciones de cera de candelilla, siguiendo el procedimiento que se muestra en el "Manual general de procedimientos para la formulación de Dictámenes de extracción no Perjudicial para candelilla (*Euphorbia antisiphylitica*)".

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	The Netherlands		
b) Contact:	Name	RVO CITES permit bureau	
	Phone	+31(0)880424242	
	Email	cites@rvo.nl	

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	-		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	We feel it could be helpful for verifying the correct scientific name accepted by CITES.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so,	No		

Question	Answer or comments
please provide some details.	
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	We are of the opinion that it should remain/be clear to traders which correct scientific name they should use for CITES. It is our concern that Integrating non-scientific into Species+ could have the opposite effect. It would be helpful as a tool (for the permit or enforcement officers) to find the correct scientific name accepted by CITES as long as it is clear which names should be used.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	-
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

a) ...

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

a) ...

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	New Zealand CITES Management Authority		
b) Contact:	Name	Border Operations Team	
	Phone		
	Email	cites@doc.govt.nz	

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	Used rarely but has been helpful when used.		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	Yes. Helpful to check common names of MAPs that vary considerably.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	A mobile app may be helpful – more so if information on identification of raw forms could be included. See answer to 3.6.		

Question	Answer or comments
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Yes.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	Yes. Expanding to include identification information for the raw forms of MAPs that are traded would be useful.
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

None developed.

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

None to publish.

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff	
b) Contact:	Name	
	Phone	
	Email	oed@pcsd.gov.ph

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments					
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	We are currently using the IUCN website and the CITES checklist in verifying species for the species trade regulation				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring <table border="1"> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td></tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)	<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)				
		<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade				
		<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade				
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates <table border="1"> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> LAFs</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td></tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs	<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs				
		<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas				
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement <table border="1"> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)</td></tr> <tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td></tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions	<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions	<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions						
<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions						
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:						
<input type="checkbox"/> Other						
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.						
Not Applicable.						
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.						
Yes. It could be used as additional reference in verifying plant species identification including corresponding information in regulating these plant species especially those threatened and endemic species in the province of Palawan.						
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES						
None						

routine work? If so, please provide some details.	
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	No. It would be much helpful if it includes scientific names
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	The link should be provided and available at all times to all the CITES Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities. We further suggest that there should have a matrix as the summary of the species with corresponding information and could be downloaded for future reference even without internet connection.
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	None

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

- a) *PCSD Administrative Order No. 12, as amended "DETAILED GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9147 AND JOINT DENR-DA-PCSD ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 01 AS MAY BE MADE APPLICABLE IN THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN"*
<https://pcsd.gov.ph/pcsd-administrative-order-no-12/>

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

- a) *None*

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	Party – Slovakia (Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic – CITES Management Authority)	
b) Contact:	Name	Silvia Rusnakova
	Phone	+421 2 5956 2466
	Email	silvia.rusnakova@enviro.gov.sk

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments	
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	x No	For CITES Scientific Authority, no experiences, no applications
	x Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring
		<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
		<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates
		<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
		<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	x Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
		<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
		<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)
		x Other: We (MA) have used database as a source of common names (in trade) in case of compiling risk profiles for customs (based on the information from this questionnaire, we were not aware of this source of information before)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	-	
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful	yes	

in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	-
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Definitely yes, customs (resp. enforcement agencies) need to know also common names in trade to identify CITES species
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	-
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	-

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

a) ...

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

a) ...

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	Swiss Management Authority		
b) Contact:	Name	Ursula Moser	
	Phone	+41 79 746 19 22	
	Email	Ursula.moser@blv.admin.ch	

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions		
	<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	We use the tool for checking the names and synonyms but also to see where the species appears and what part of the plant is used.		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	Yes, it is a helpful tool to check names and synonyms or what part of the plants are used.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	no		

Question	Answer or comments
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Yes, because in trade there are often used non-scientific names as well. It could be helpful for identification.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	-
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

a) ...

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

a) ...

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	CITES M.A. of Thailand for Flora		
b) Contact:	Name	Sumalee Tongdonae	
	Phone	66 2940 5687	
	Email	citesflora@gmail.com	

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	-		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	It's very helpful for international trade regulation by using non scientific name.		
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	-		

Question	Answer or comments
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	It's very useful.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	Should to added the picture of plant materials in trade in the MPNS database.
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	-

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

Non

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

Non

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	United States of America		
b) Contact:	Name	Naimah Aziz, Head, Division of Management Authority Rosemarie Gnam, Head, Division of Scientific Authority	
	Phone		
	Email	managementauthority@fws.gov	

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	X No		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	We have not used this database. Prior to the intersessional period following CoP18 and the side event at CoP19, we were not generally aware of this resource.		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	We think this database could be an additional resource tool as part of routine work for monitoring CITES trade and as part of the permit reviewing process. We envision that its value would be primarily in tasks such as finding non-scientific names (see response to item 3.4). It could be a resource when undertaking background research for proposals to amend the Appendices, i.e., when assessing the possible commodities or products containing a particular species.		

Question	Answer or comments
<p>3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.</p>	<p>Expect this database resource will be updated periodically for the benefit of users. However, we have several concerns associated with using such unofficial lists, including:</p> <p>Due to the non-exhaustive nature of the list and that trade names are subject to change, the MPNS should not be considered exhaustive or wholly accurate.</p> <p>Parties may take this index as an authoritative source. However, it would be difficult, laborious; and, in our view, low value for Parties to fully assess the accuracy and completeness of the plant names index to fully understand the application of using such a database in CITES routine work.</p> <p>Moreover, there is the role of domestic legislation and international industry-specific standards (e.g., personal care products and dietary supplements regulations, as well as labelling laws), which may legally define common or trade names that are associated with specific species.</p> <p>We would further caution that any such database (including the MPNS) should not be used as a substitute for including such descriptive terms as non-scientific or trade names in identification materials or in proposals to amend the Appendices.</p> <p>There is also a concern that some non-scientific names or trade names could contain racist, offensive or disparaging language that may not be apparent to all CITES Parties, but will be to some.</p>
<p>3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?</p>	<p>While it would perhaps be helpful for consistency purposes, we have serious concerns with integrating non-scientific names in the CITES databases. Non-scientific names (which may also include common names) are, by definition, not scientific names and cannot be presumed to accurately identify a specific species. Particularly for plant species, some <i>have</i> no common name and other common names may refer to groups of taxa that may not even be related to each other. There is potential for false negatives (e.g., if the non-scientific name has not yet been included in the MPNS or other unofficial list of common trade names) or partially false negatives (e.g., if the trade name is associated with more than one CITES species, but the unofficial list is not fully updated to reflect each species).</p> <p>We recognize that non-scientific names are included in proposals to amend the Appendices and in identification material, and that this information can become outdated. While the ready-made resources of the MPNS may address the workload associated with efforts to maintain updated information on non-scientific names, for the reasons noted in this and previous U.S. input to this issue, we find this to be of little relative value to the routine work of CITES, such as making non-detriment findings.</p> <p>The CITES Checklist is the official reflection of information that is agreed upon by Parties, either through the proposal process or based on further work and recommendations from the Committees or the Nomenclature Specialists; which receives final endorsement of the Parties. In the Checklist of CITES Species (https://checklist.cites.org/#/en), the non-scientific names are derived from information that has been adopted by the Parties, as noted in paragraph 7 in Resolution Conf. 12.11 on Standard nomenclature, and therefore would not be the ideal location for any such information. The</p>

Question	Answer or comments
	<p>consultation, expertise, and time to review, update, and adopt MPNS information for inclusion in the CITES Checklist of Species could be all-consuming. At the same time, linking to an external database directly from the Checklist may imply endorsement or acceptance that the information is agreed upon by the Parties. We do not consider it would be appropriate to endorse this database as a singular resource for such information, let alone as a “CITES-approved” resource.</p> <p>While Species+ (https://www.speciesplus.net/species) is not the official CITES Checklist so that it includes additional information and offers online interconnectivity between the taxon entries and resources (including info on quotas, etc.), we have similar concerns about linking this information directly in Species+, unless it is made expressly clear that the information has not been adopted by the CITES Parties and does not reflect an official endorsement of the MPNS and the accuracy of its content.</p>
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	<p>We suggest that a link to the MPNS database could be included as a resource on the <i>CITES and Medicinal Plants</i> webpage (https://cites.org/eng/prog/medplants)</p> <p>We would see value to providing this information as a source of information for non-scientific names through such a webpage. However, there should be a clear statement on the webpage that this information has not been adopted by the Parties and should not be considered to reflect an official endorsement of the MPNS or the accuracy of its content. The web “redirect” to the MPNS database should also clearly warn and inform users that they are leaving the official CITES website.</p>
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	---

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

We routinely prepare outreach material directed at particular stakeholder groups and letters outlining the requirements for trade in CITES-listed species, including to industry organizations such as the American Herbal Products Association and the Personal Care Products Council.

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

- a) **“Wild American Ginseng information for dealers and Exporters”**:
<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/factsheet-american-ginseng-harvesters-dealers-exporters.pdf>
- b) **Strengthening Sustainable International Trade in Medicinal and Aromatic Plants**—Updates from the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES and potential future directions in *HerbalEGram Volume 17, Issue 5* (2020):
https://abc.herbalgram.org/site/SPageNavigator/CoP18_Sustainability.html
- c) **“Don’t forget to celebrate plants on World Wildlife Day”** on U.S. Department of Interior *Blog* (2020): <https://www.doi.gov/blog/dont-forget-celebrate-plants-world-wildlife-day>
- d) Outreach letter to U.S. dietary supplement/personal care products communities

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

- a)*** Non-detriment finding for wild American ginseng (***Panax quinquefolius***)
- b)*** Finding and determination for artificially propagated goldenseal (***Hydrastis canadensis***)

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

- Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
- Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
b) Contact:	Name	Sonia Dhanda
	Phone	Not applicable
	Email	CITES@kew.org

- Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade <input type="checkbox"/> Other: </div>	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates <div> <input type="checkbox"/> LAFs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas <input type="checkbox"/> Other: </div>	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enforcement <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions <input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (<i>e.g.</i> seizures) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: customs training </div>	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
		3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	
		<p>It is useful for searching for plants by genera and seeing which plant part is the most common in trade. To identify controlled species from the ingredients list. MPNS provides the synonyms as it is not always the most up to date name that is used on packages. It also provides alternative name options in other local dialects.</p> <p>The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew used MPNS while compiling the CITES Dalbergia checklist for the Secretariat to find common names for Dalbergia species and for documenting their uses. We also used MPNS for research when looking at the new species proposals for Appendix II for CoP19.</p> <p>From an enforcement perspective, in terms of CITES, most plant derivative seizures made in the UK come from Ayurvedic and Unani products from Southeast Asia.</p>	

Question	Answer or comments
	<p>Basic Ayurvedic formulas can have 50 to 60 plant names listed on the product packaging. These can be memorized over time, but now and again, a new common or scientific name pops up and the MPNS database along with Google can help get you to the scientific name quickly.</p> <p>If presented with a common name by an importer/exporter, MPNS can help reduce the possible scientific names of the plant derivatives being transported and/or provide evidence of an offence, if a CITES listed plant name is provided. For example, an MPNS non-scientific name search for Shan Ci Gu (Crematris Orchid) returns 3 separate orchid scientific names. Thus, we should be looking for CITES documentation in this instance.</p> <p>MPNS can also search on Chinese characters, so we can cut and paste from the internet, rather than spend a lot of time translating from Chinese to pinyin. Having more knowledge of what is being imported can provide customs officers with better grounds for proceeding with inspections.</p>
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	<p>Yes, plant products are traded under various names and languages so it's helpful to have a resource which helps you find the scientific name. This is particularly useful if someone needs to apply for a CITES permit and doesn't know the scientific name or for customs officers checking whether products require a permit. The list of references is also useful to use if further research is needed.</p>
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.	<p>MPNS has taxonomic revisions yearly, compared to CITES names which often don't reflect recent taxonomic changes due to the need for CITES Parties using standard names agreed at CoPs.</p> <p>From an enforcement perspective, having some training to understand the strengths and functions of MPNS is required, perhaps having this integrated into Species+ would reduce this training need.</p> <p>Also, the biggest barrier, is that with so few analytical tests being available for plant derivative identification, having more than one plant named as a result of a search starts to complicate how CITES controls should be applied which a trader can use to get around the CITES controls.</p> <p>One downside is that it would not be available when there is no or very limited internet available. It is a good companion when used in conjunction with other databases e.g., Species +.</p>
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	<p>Yes. It would supplement the section titled 'common names' as MPNS has trade names in numerous languages.</p> <p>Additionally, it could help resolve the taxonomic lag CITES has by boosting the Species+ database with additional names. For example, <i>Dolomiaea costus</i> isn't on Species+ but it is recognized as the scientific name for <i>Saussurea costus</i>. In some cases, this would be useful as the list of ingredients would not always be available in English or Latin so <i>Saussurea costus</i> which is the name usually used rather than <i>Dolomiaea costus</i> is listed in MPNS as Mu Xiang, Qust Shirin, Radix aucklandiae plus many other options.</p>
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the	<p>If the product is in another language, it is difficult to find the characters to type in. It would be easier to take a photograph of the ingredients and see if they match with any names from the database.</p>

Question	Answer or comments
MPNS database in CITES routine work?	It would be helpful if MPNS was available as an app.
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	Banned and restricted herbal ingredients - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

Please note materials a) – e) were produced in the UK. Material f) was not produced in the UK but we are sharing as we find the resource helpful.

- a) Extinction risks and CITES protection: Rhodiola as a case study in Herbal Eye Volume 1 issue 3
- b) CoP19 Inf. 32 Medicinal Plant Name Services
- c) APA Self-regulation CPD and Pharmacopeia documents
- d) Sustainability & Quality Guidelines Herbal Alliance
- e) RCHM-Restricted-Substance-list
- f) Export guide medicinal and aromatic plant ingredients and products

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

The UK does not harvest and export any CITES listed wild sourced medicinal or aromatic plants.

Questionnaire on Decisions 19.261 on *Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species*

1. Please complete and submit this questionnaire to the Secretariat at info@cites.org with copy to martin.hitziger@cites.org by **10 May 2023**.
2. Contact information

a) Party, Organization, or Institution:	TRAFFIC		
b) Contact:	Name	Anastasiya Timoshyna	
	Phone	+447889565660	
	Email	Anastasiya.timoshyna@traffic.org	

3. Utility of the MPNS database in CITES routine work [Decision 19.261(a)iii]:

Question	Answer or comments		
3.1. Have you used the Medicinal Plant Names Service (MPNS) database in the course of routine CITES work? If so, please provide some details.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> General information (species, uses)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Identification of specimens / products in trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Regular monitoring of trade
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Permits and certificates	<input type="checkbox"/> LAFs
			<input type="checkbox"/> NDFs / Quotas
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> National enforcement actions
			<input type="checkbox"/> International enforcement actions
<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal trade (e.g. seizures)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
3.2. Please provide any additional details on how you used the MPNS database in your routine work.	TRAFFIC and the IUCN Medicinal Plant Specialist Group have used MPNS for cross-checking the names of medicinal plants to compile full list of the medicinal and aromatic plants. This information was instrumental for research and data analysis, as well as compiling information on the IUCN Red List Status of medicinal and aromatic plants.		
3.3. Do you consider the MPNS database to be helpful in CITES routine work? If so, please provide some details.			
3.4. Do you see barriers or disadvantages with using the MPNS database in CITES routine work? If so,			

Question	Answer or comments
please provide some details.	
3.5. Would you consider it helpful to integrate non-scientific names from the MPNS database in CITES databases (CITES Checklist, species+)?	Yes, including those in traditional use, relevant trade names.
3.6. Would you recommend other options to facilitate the use of the MPNS database in CITES routine work?	
3.7. List of attachments or relevant links.	

4. Materials that have been developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)i]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any materials that you have developed to enhance awareness of CITES regulations and to encourage sustainable use and legal trade in CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants and that you would like the Secretariat to publish on its website:

- a) A selection of CITES and Livelihoods case-studies covering medicinal and aromatic plants, as well as a set of factsheets, produced and presented for the CITES CoP19
- Harvest and trade of Jatamansi in Nepal ([factsheet](#))
 - Wild harvest and “forest farming” of American ginseng in the United States ([factsheet](#))
 - Harvest and trade of Candelilla in Mexico ([factsheet](#))
 - Guaiacwood harvesting for essential oils in the Paraguayan Gran Chaco ([factsheet](#))
- b) Schindler, C., Heral, E., Drinkwater, E., Timoshyna, A., Muir, G., Walter, S., Leaman, D.J. and Schippmann, U. 2022. Wild check – Assessing risks and opportunities of trade in wild plant ingredients. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9267en>
- c) [WildCheck Platform](#) – an online knowledge and collaboration platform aims to enable decision-makers, businesses and consumers to take responsibility for their use of wild plants. Its premise is that if critical and accessible information on risks and opportunities within wild ingredient supply chains is compiled and communicated to businesses, investors, policymakers and consumers, while building effective sectoral alliances, this will drive market transformation and positive change for nature and people. The platform also hosts the [We Use Wild Pledge](#)
- d) Urgent need to bolster sustainable trade in medicinal and aromatic plants to benefit ecosystems and people, press-release TRAFFIC, in preparation to CITES CoP19, 2022: <https://www.traffic.org/about-us/working-with-cites/cites-cop19/cites-cop19-medicinal-and-aromatic-plants/>
- e) Strengthening Sustainable International Trade in Medicinal and Aromatic Plants: Updates from the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES and potential future directions, Patricia De Angelis, PhD, and Anastasiya Timoshyna, HerbalEgram Volume 17, Issue 5, May 2020
https://abc.herbalgram.org/site/SPageNavigator/CoP18_Sustainability.html

- f) Implementation of CITES trade measures for medicinal and aromatic plants, press-release, 2019 <https://www.traffic.org/news/implementation-of-cites-trade-measures-for-medicinal-and-aromatic-plants/>
- g) A TRAFFIC-led project in Nepal focuses on maximising the conservation and livelihood benefits from the trade in CITES Appendix-II listed medicinal and aromatic *Nardostachys jatamansi* through the application of the market-based voluntary standard FairWild.
- h) Timoshyna, A., Furnell, S. and Harter, D. (2019). CITES and voluntary certification for wild medicinal and aromatic plants, 31(2), TRAFFIC Bulletin, pp. 79–88.
- i) Furnell, S., Timoshyna, A. and Harter, D. (2019). Voluntary certification standards and the implementation of CITES for trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species. Information document to the Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Inf. 36. [Available here.](#)
- j) The FairWild Standard sets forth ecological and fair trade guidelines, focused on wild-sourced products. Available at: www.fairwild.org/the-fairwild-standard
- k) Jenkins, M., Timoshyna, A. and Cornthwaite, M. (2018). Wild at home: exploring the global harvest, trade and use of wild plant ingredients. [Available here.](#)
- l) Lehr, H. and Jaramillo, L. (2017). Applicability of traceability systems for CITES-Listed medicinal and ornamental plants (Appendices II and III) Preliminary Assessment: Key findings. UNCTAD, pp. 28. [Available here.](#)
- m) UNCAD (2017). Applicability of traceability systems for CITES listed medicinal and ornamental plants (Appendices II and III). [Available here.](#)
- n) Timoshyna, A., & Drinkwater, E. (2021). Understanding corruption risks in the global trade in wild plants. [Available here.](#)
- o) National Geographic article (2022) Everyday foods and cosmetics that use wild plants may be harming the environment <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/everyday-foods-and-cosmetics-that-use-wild-plants-may-be-harming-the-environment>
- p) The We Use Wild Forum on Wild Plant Ingredients, was hosted by TRAFFIC online and in Cambridge on 4 October 2022. The purpose of the event was twofold: to formally launch the WildCheck Platform and We Use Wild Pledge, and to bring key wild plants users and stakeholders together to discuss next steps and collaboration. The event was attended by 43 participants total, including 14 businesses, many of whom we had not previously engaged with. The list of attendees as well as the agreed action points from the event can be seen in the [event report](#).
- q) Cambridge University Botanic Garden [wild plants event](#) in March/April 2022 for Cambridge Festival, focusing on consumer education, which reached an estimated 2,000 visitors. Another botanic garden event is to take place at the [Eden Project](#) 28-29 January 2023 (rescheduled twice from July and September 2022), building on the consumer-facing information created for the Cambridge Festival event.
- r) Summary of the European Commission Expert Roundtable Discusses The Role Of Behaviour Change Approaches In Addressing Illegal Wildlife Trade, which included focus on plant-derived ingredients for aromatic and medicinal purposes, March 2023, <https://www.traffic.org/news/european-commission-expert-roundtable-sbc/>

5. NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants [Decision 19.261(a)ii]:

Please list and attach to this questionnaire any NDFs for medicinal and aromatic plants species that you would like the Secretariat to publish in the CITES NDF database:

- a) Drawing attention to the 9-Step process for making science-based non-detriment findings for CITES-listed timber and perennial plant species <https://www.9steps-cites-ndf.org/>