

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

Appendices of the Convention

Annotations

INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR TRADE IN SPECIMENS OF CITES-LISTED TREE SPECIES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties revised Decision 18.317 (Rev. CoP19) and adopted Decision 19.265 on *Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species* as follows:

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Plants Committee

18.317 (Rev. CoP19) *The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Plants Committee, shall explore the feasibility and requirements for developing an information system, subject to agreed terms of reference, for the purpose of processing trade data associated with transactions in specimens of CITES-listed tree species authorized under the provisions of the Convention and submit any relevant recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.265 *Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall commission a study exploring the feasibility and requirements for developing an information system as proposed and provide its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.*

3. The Secretariat estimates the cost of implementation of the feasibility study mentioned in Decision 19.265 at USD 40,000. The Secretariat is making every effort to raise funds for this activity and has identified an initial amount of USD 10,000. Parties and potential donors are therefore kindly encouraged to consider additional contributions to enable the Secretariat to commission the study. The Secretariat expresses its appreciation to Switzerland that has pledged that initial amount.
4. In document SC74 Doc. 82, the Secretariat presented the initial considerations for developing an information system for the purpose of processing data on the regulated international trade in CITES-listed tree species. The expected outputs of an information system would include an in-depth analysis of international trade in CITES-listed tree species for review by the Parties at each meeting of the CoP; a data-driven, interactive and graphic presentation of the results of this analysis, including images, charts and infographics; and the publication and submission of a tree-species trade report to the CoP.
5. The Secretariat will present the terms of reference of a study exploring the feasibility and requirements for developing an information system to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023), based on the preliminary ideas outlined in document [SC74 Doc. 82](#). According to the workplan of the Plants Committee (see document PC26 Doc. 8.2), the Chair (Ms. Flore Koumba Pambo, Africa) and Vice-Chair (Mr. Damian Wrigley, Oceania) of the Plants Committee are the leads for this

Decision. As such, the Secretariat will consult them during the drafting of the terms of reference of the study prior to their submission to SC77.

Recommendations

6. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) take note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the implementation of Decision 19.265; and
 - b) request its Chair (Ms. Flore Koumba Pambo, Africa) and Vice-Chair (Mr. Damian Wrigley, Oceania) to provide comments on the Secretariat's draft terms of reference of a study exploring the feasibility and requirements for developing an information system prior to their submission to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting.