

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

PRODUCTS CONTAINING SPECIMENS OF APPENDIX II ORCHIDS (ORCHIDACEAE SPP.)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

- Chair: representative for Europe (Ms. Smyth);
- Members: representative for Europe (Ms. Moser) and alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Chong);
- Parties: China, European Union, France, Germany, India, Slovakia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and
- IGOs and NGO: TRAFFIC.

Mandate

The in-session working group shall:

- a) review document PC26 Doc. 30 and its Annexes;
- b) in accordance with Decision 19.247, draft recommendations on how to improve CITES compliance for Appendix-II listed orchids for the Plants Committee to consider and submit to the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate; and
- c) report its recommendations to the Committee.

Recommendations

The working group recommends to:

- a) develop identification manuals as all tuberous orchids are currently listed in CITES Appendices. The main challenge is to distinguish tubers, as a group, from other specimens.
- b) address needs for additional support for ongoing red list assessments for tuberous orchids; and
- c) understand the regional differences in trade of tuberous orchids and how they translate into actions to strengthen CITES compliance, considering in particular any livelihood elements of this trade.

Recommendations to the Standing Committee:

- a) emphasize the need for identification manuals and training;
- b) urge Parties and other donors to support red list assessments for tuberous orchid taxa in international trade;
- c) urge Parties to regulate the trade in tuberous orchids as is currently required under the Convention;

- d) request the Secretariat to issue a Notification to Parties inviting them to provide information on:
  - i) trade volumes;
  - ii) manuals and regulations relating to trade in tuberous orchid , including domestic trade;
  - iii) enforcement challenges; and
  - iv) other relevant information related to trade in tuberous orchids, including any capacity-building needs.
- e) consider the study on edible orchids and responses to the Notification to prioritize issues relating trade in tuberous orchids to be addressed, and to propose recommendations to CoP20, including any draft decisions, as appropriate.