

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
TUESDAY 6 JUNE 2023

16. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

The Committee agreed that Togo and the International Union for Conservation of Nature would participate in the in-session working group on the Review of Significant Trade.

15. CITES and forests

The Committee agreed that the Democratic Republic of the Congo would participate in the in-session working group on CITES and forests.

29. Rosewood tree species ..... PC26 Doc. 29

The Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the following comments as it finalizes the terms of reference contained in Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 29. This study on the conservation and trade of rosewood tree species should:

- a) ideally be done before the study called for in Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) is initiated because the scope is broader and has the potential to generate information that could inform the study under Decision 18.321 (CoP19);
- b) include relevant elements of the study called for in Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19), as appropriate;
- c) allow for enough time for range States to provide comments; and
- d) prioritize output 1, especially activity 1.3 c) and d), so that these elements are available for consideration and discussion at the international Non-Detriment Finding workshop scheduled to take place in December 2023.

42. Botanical and zoological nomenclature

42.2 Higher taxon listings in the Appendices ..... PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2

and

42.1 Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings ..... PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1

The Committee established a joint intersessional nomenclature working group with a mandate to:

- a) review the scientific implications and impacts of existing and future higher taxon listings in the Appendices, taking into consideration the aspects raised in document PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2; and
- b) review and revise document PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1; and

- c) develop draft recommendations and guidance for consideration at the joint session of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee scheduled to take place in 2024.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair for PC: the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Klopper);

Members: representative for Asia (Ms. Yan);

Parties: Canada, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Madagascar, Mexico, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Species Survival Network.

The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties after the meeting of the Animals Committee.

42.3 Development of a standardized global checklist of species..... PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3

The Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 42.3 / AC32 Doc. 45.3.

43. Report of the specialist on botanical nomenclature

43.1 Overview of flora nomenclature matters for the period CoP19-CoP20 ..... PC26 Doc. 43.1

The Committee noted the sets of Decisions on nomenclature matters for flora as contained in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 43.1, as well as the progress in the implementation of Decisions 18.307 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.308 (Rev. CoP19) on *Production of a CITES Checklist for rosewoods (Dalbergia spp.)* and Decisions 19.285 and 19.286 on *Nomenclature of Appendix-II listed orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)*.

43.2 Nomenclature for aloes (Aloe spp.)..... PC26 Doc. 43.2

43.3 Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement ..... PC26 Doc. 43.3

43.4 Nomenclature for ebonies (Diospyros spp.) (populations of Madagascar)..... PC26 Doc. 43.4

43.7 Nomenclature for pachypodiums (Pachypodium spp.)..... PC26 Doc. 43.7

43.9 Nomenclature for yews (Taxus spp.)..... PC26 Doc. 43.9

43.5 Standard nomenclature for cumarus (Dipteryx spp.)..... PC26 Doc. 43.5

43.6 Standard nomenclature for African mahoganies (Khaya spp.) ..... PC26 Doc. 43.6

and

43.8 Standard nomenclature for roseroots (Rhodiola spp.)..... PC26 Doc. 43.8

The Committee established an in-session working group on nomenclature to:

- a) review documents PC26 Doc. 43.1 to 43.9, and
- i) develop recommendations for additional nomenclature matters outlined in paragraphs 17 to 19 of document PC26 Doc. 43.1 on *Overview of flora nomenclature matters for the period CoP19-CoP20*;
- ii) consider and evaluate the nomenclatural issues and identify suitable, if any, nomenclatural references for amendment of the Annex to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* for:

- A. *Dipteryx* spp., as outlined in document PC26 Doc. 43.5 on *Standard nomenclature for cumarus* (*Dipteryx* spp.) and its Annex;
  - B. *Khaya* spp., as outlined in document PC26 Doc. 43.6 on *Standard nomenclature for African mahoganies* (*Khaya* spp.) and its Annex; and
  - C. *Rhodiola* spp., as outlined in document PC26 Doc. 43.8 on *Standard nomenclature for roseroots* (*Rhodiola* spp.) and its Annex;
- iii) review the utility of the CITES Cactaceae Checklist (3rd edition) and its Supplement (2018) with regard to issues that arise as Parties apply these lists, including feedback to improve it in the light of relevant updates of cacti taxonomy contained in document PC26 Doc. 43.3 on *Cactaceae checklist and its supplement* and its Annexes;
- iv) provide input into the draft terms of reference contained in:
- A. Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 43.2 on *Nomenclature for aloes* (*Aloe* spp.);
  - B. Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 43.4 on *Nomenclature for ebonies* (*Diospyros* spp.) (*populations of Madagascar*);
  - C. Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 43.7 on *Nomenclature for pachypodiums* (*Pachypodium* spp.); and
  - D. Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 43.9 on *Nomenclature for yews* (*Taxus* spp.); and
- b) report its recommendations to the Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the nomenclature specialist (Ms. Klopper);

Parties: China, European Union, France, Germany, Madagascar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

18. Sustainability criteria for timber non-detriment findings ..... PC26 Doc. 18

The Committee noted the concerns raised on document PC26 Doc. 18 and invited the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties to refer any feedback on document PC26 Doc. 18 to the European Union.

32. African tree species ..... PC26 Doc. 32

The Committee established an in-session working group on African tree species with the mandate to:

- a) review and, as appropriate, revise the list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 32;
- b) based on Annexes 2 and 3 to document PC26 Doc. 32, and other relevant information, establish priorities to strengthen the implementation of the Convention for African tree species, including priorities and recommendations for the sustainable management and future work on *Prunus africana*, including linkages with the CITES Tree species programme, as per paragraph 7 of document PC26 Doc. 32; and
- c) report its recommendations to the Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative for Africa (Mr. Balama) and alternate representative for Africa (Mr. Lagarde);

Parties: Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, Germany, Madagascar, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Tropical Timber Organization, Center for International Environmental Law, World Resources Institute, World Wide Fund for Nature.

33. Neotropical tree species..... PC26 Doc. 33

The Committee established an in-session working group on neotropical tree species with the mandate to:

- a) review and, as appropriate, revise the list of neotropical tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 33;
- b) establish priorities for strengthening the implementation of the Convention for the neotropical tree species concerned, including linkages with the CITES Tree species programme, as per paragraph 6 of document PC26 Doc. 33;
- c) identify avenues to cooperate with Parties in making progress with the priorities identified; and
- d) draft recommendations for the Plants Committee to consider and submit to the Standing Committee and/or the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-Chairs: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Belleton Chacon) and acting representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Olave);

Parties: Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Tropical Timber Organization, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute and World Wide Fund for Nature.

30. Products containing specimens of Appendix II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.) ..... PC26 Doc. 30

The Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the following comments as it finalizes the terms of reference for the study referred to in Decision 19.246 paragraph b). The terms of reference should:

- a) clarify what is meant by “potential fluctuations / shifts in trade patterns”; and
- b) take into account prior work and information on products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids, notably by Switzerland.

The Committee established an in-session working group on orchids with the mandate to:

- 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.

The membership was decided as follows:

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.

31. Brazil wood (*Paubrasilia echinata*)..... PC26 Doc. 31

The Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the following comments as it finalizes the terms of reference contained in Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 31. Specifically, Activity 1.1 of this study on improved implementation of the Appendix-II listing of *Paubrasilia echinata* should also consider a traceability system that would also include unfinished products (bow blanks) and the stocks of discarded materials as part of the production process during the manufacture of bows.

34. Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species ..... PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41  
PC26 Doc. 34 Add.

The Committee established an in-session working group on medicinal and aromatic plants with the mandate to:

- a) consider the draft terms of reference for the study referred to in Decision 19.261 paragraph c) contained in Annex 1 of document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41 and propose amendments, as appropriate;
- b) consider the responses to Notification No. 2023/045 as presented in the Addendum to document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41 and advise on the options provided by the Secretariat in paragraph 8;
- c) in accordance with Decision 19.263 paragraph b), taking into consideration the information in document PC25 Doc. 30 and its addendum, information document CoP18 Inf. 11, document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41, and other relevant information, initiate the process to inform recommendations for a revised Resolution on traditional medicines or a new Resolution on medicinal and aromatic plant products;
- d) consider the establishment of an intersessional working group with representation of the Animals Committee, as appropriate, taking into consideration the potential terms of reference contained in Annex 2 to document PC26 Doc. 34 / AC32 Doc. 41; and
- e) based on the above, draft recommendations for the Plants Committee to consider and submit to the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate and report its recommendations to the Committee.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: representative for Europe (Ms. Moser);

Members: representative for Africa (Mr. Balama), representative for Asia (Ms. Yan), representative for North America (Mr. Boles);

Parties: Austria, China, European Union, Germany, India, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; and

IGOs and NGO: United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre, American Herbal Products Association, Industria Derivati Naturali, TRAFFIC.

36. Annotations..... PC26 Doc. 36 / AC32 Doc. 43

The Committee agreed to nominate the representative for North America (Mr. Boles) and the alternate representative for Europe (Mr. de Boer) to participate in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group on annotations.

The Committee noted the tasks included in the Standing Committee's intersessional working group terms of reference as presented in paragraph 2 of document PC26 Doc. 36 / AC32 Doc. 43, and in particular, paragraphs a) and c) and invited the working group to consider as a priority completion of its tasks under paragraphs a) and c) of its mandate, with a particular focus on the review of annotation #14.

37. Annotation #15..... PC26 Doc. 37

The Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the following comments as it finalizes the terms of reference included in Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 37. The Secretariat could:

- a) include the relevant elements of the terms of reference of this study in the terms of reference of the broader study on the conservation and trade of rosewood tree species discussed under agenda item 29 or implement this study after the broader study on the conservation and trade of rosewood tree species;
- b) consider postponing the study since it is taking place too soon after the adoption of the revisions to annotation #15 at CoP18 and after the COVID-19 pandemic;
- c) consider a step-wise approach by completing Activity 1 before starting Activity 2 as Activity 2 might not be necessary;
- d) include an evaluation to assess if annotation #15 meets the principles contained in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*; and
- e) include consultation with the CITES Management Authorities under Activity 1.

The Committee invited Mexico to provide any comments it may have on the terms of reference in writing to the Secretariat.

38. Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species..... PC26 Doc. 38

The Committee noted the information provided by the Secretariat on the implementation of Decision 19.265; and requested its Chair (Ms. Koumba Pambo, Africa) and Vice-Chair (Mr. Wrigley, Oceania) to coordinate the inputs of the Plants Committee 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.