

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 8 – 13 July 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
THURSDAY 11 JULY 2024

9. Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation..... PC27 Doc. 9

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted the set of voluntary complementary actions recommended by the Convention on Biological Diversity's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice to be implemented by 2030 as part of the action agenda for plant conservation to be known as the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*;
- b) agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties the draft revisions to Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* as contained in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 9 as amended by the representative for North America (Mr. Boles) as follows:
  - i) deletion of "and the CITES Forest Compendium" in paragraph 2 a);
  - ii) amendment of the title of the Annex as follows: "List of potential CITES activities and products and their contribution to the objectives, ~~and~~ targets and complementary voluntary actions of the ~~updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2023-2030~~; and
  - iii) maintaining the last table in the Annex that maps the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)* objectives, ~~GSPC-targets~~ and CITES potential contribution;
- c) invited the Secretariat to review the final adopted version of the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*, arising from the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in consultation with the Chair of the Plants Committee, revise the text, if required on the CITES complementary actions presented in Annex 1 to Resolution Conf. 16.5 for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) agreed to report its findings and make recommendations to the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee; and

12. CITES and forests..... PC27 Doc. 12

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted the feedback provided on the progress reported on the implementation of Decision 19.32; and,
- b) agreed the proposed approach reflected in paragraphs 9 and 10 of document PC27 Doc. 12 to provide the opportunity to Members of the Plants Committee to provide scientific or technical advice on the preliminary results of the interdisciplinary study to assist decision-making processes on the future of any initiative relating to CITES and forests, ahead of the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee.

14. CITES Tree Species Programme ..... PC27 Doc. 14

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted the comments made in plenary;
- b) agreed that Decisions 19.49 and 19.50, paragraphs a) and c), have been implemented on the basis of the report contained in document PC27 Doc. 14;
- c) agreed that Decision 19.50, paragraph b), should be renewed as a new stand-alone Decision;
- d) requested the Secretariat to convey the above recommendations in its report to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting; and
- e) invited the Secretariat to continue informing the Parties of the availability of funds under the new phase of the CTSP.

26. Boswellia trees (*Boswellia* spp) ..... PC27 Doc. 26

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted that Decisions 19.241 and 19.242 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion to the Conference of the Parties;
- b) agreed the draft decisions contained in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 26 and amended in plenary as follows:

***Directed to the Secretariat***

***20.WW*** Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall:

- a) ~~subject to external funding~~, organize, in consultation with the Plants Committee, an in-person meeting of stakeholders of *Boswellia* tree species to:
  - i) exchange information among range States, exporting, transit, and importing States, and experts on *Boswellia* species in international trade;
  - ii) identify *Boswellia* species that are in international trade and evaluate whether current levels of trade are biologically sustainable ;
  - iii) evaluate whether certain species should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;
  - iv) identify those *Boswellia* species that would benefit from possible listing proposals;
- b) provide financial travel support to enable range States to attend the *Boswellia* meeting;
- c) ~~participate in suitable meetings of the gums and resins~~ invite industries relevant to the trade in *Boswellia* spp. (such as the IFRA - International Fragrance Association and IFEAT – International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades) to strengthen stakeholder engagement in CITES processes and ongoing efforts to improve the conservation and management of *Boswellia* spp.;
- d) liaise with the World Customs Organization to assess the possibility for designating taxon-specific HS (Harmonized System) codes for *Boswellia* spp., and
- e) compile and present the information to the Plants Committee.

***Directed to range States of *Boswellia* spp.:***

***20.XX*** Range States are invited to:

- a) host the *Boswellia* meeting referred to under Decision 20.WW;

- b) *make relevant information available to the Boswellia meeting on national population surveys, harvest, production and trade, and national legislation, and present case studies related to Boswellia species, as appropriate;*
- c) *consider including native species of Boswellia spp. in Appendix III, following guidance in Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) on Implementation of the Convention for species in Appendix III and Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on Use of annotations in Appendices I and II; and*

**Directed to the Plants Committee**

**20.YY** *The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *provide input to the Secretariat on the implementation of Decision 20.WW, and participate in the Boswellia meeting, as appropriate;*
- b) *review the Boswellia meeting outputs, formulate recommendations including whether certain species should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices;*
- c) *recommend means to improve the engagement of the gums and resins industries in CITES processes; and*
- d) *develop recommendations for consideration of the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

**Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders, and interested stakeholders**

**20.ZZ** *Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders, and stakeholders are encouraged to:*

- a) *provide funding to the Secretariat for the implementation of Decision 20.WW; and*
- b) *support range States in their efforts to ensure international trade of Boswellia spp. is biologically sustainable including efforts to gather relevant information and to include relevant taxa in the CITES Appendices.*
- c) agreed to report its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties.

27. Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]..... PC27 Doc. 27

The Plants Committee:

- a) invited the Secretariat to consider the feedback provided on the report on rosewood tree species contained in Annexes 1 to 3 to document PC27 Doc. 27 and to take that feedback into account in any revision of the report;
- b) requested the Secretariat to bring to the attention of the Standing Committee any relevant aspect of the report to support the Standing Committee in its review of the expedited application of Article XIII for West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*) for all range States;
- c) agreed that Decisions 19.243 and 19.244 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) agreed to submit to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties the draft decisions contained in paragraph 12 of document PC27 Doc. 27 and amended in plenary as follows:

**Directed to the Secretariat**

**20.AA** *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *focus its capacity-building efforts for CITES-listed rosewood tree species on the 13 high priority and 14 medium priority species identified in the “Report on the conservation and*

trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]” (see document PC27 Doc. 27, Annex 3), particularly as they relate to the implementation of Article IV of the Convention;

- b) *issue a Notification to the Parties inviting feedback on the “Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]” to assess which additional information or CITES-listed species could be added in a future revision of the report;*
- c) *subject to the availability of external funds and internal resources, and in close consultation with the Plants Committee, revise the “Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]” by:*
  - i) *reviewing or updating the prioritization exercise taking into account any new rosewood-tree species that may be included in the Appendices at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20);*
  - ii) *reviewing, updating and, if appropriate, expanding the set of factsheets;*
  - iii) *strengthening linkages with the Module on NDFs for tree species of the CITES Non-Detriment Findings Guidance (CITES Secretariat, 2024); and*
  - iv) *considering amending the title of the report to consider the inclusion of CITES-listed tree species not in the family Leguminosae; and*
- d) *report on progress on the above to the Plants Committee.*

#### **Directed to Parties**

**20.BB** *Parties are invited to:*

- a) *when developing non-detriment findings for CITES-listed rosewood tree species, consider using as a baseline reference the “Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]” and its factsheets, in conjunction with the Module on NDFs for tree species of the CITES Non-Detriment Findings Guidance (CITES Secretariat, 2024);*
- b) *provide feedback and information to the Secretariat in support of its implementation of Decision 20.AA.*

#### **Directed to the Plants Committee**

**20.CC** *The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *consider and provide input on any report prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA; and*
- b) *report on the implementation of these Decisions to the Conference of the Parties.*

35. Annotation #15 ..... PC27 Doc. 35

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted the feedback provided on the progress reported on the implementation of Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19); and
- b) agreed the approach proposed in paragraphs 9 and 10 of document PC27 Doc. 35 to provide the opportunity to Members of the Plants Committee to provide scientific or technical advice on the preliminary results of the study to assess the effect on *Dalbergia/Guibourtia* species in international trade of the exemptions contained in annotation #15 for finished musical instruments, parts and accessories, and the conservation implications thereof, ahead of the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee; and

- c) invited the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties informing Parties that the preliminary findings of the study had been submitted to the Members of the Plants Committee and inviting Parties to send their comments on the preliminary findings to their regional representatives.

28. Products containing specimens of Appendix II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)..... PC27 Doc. 28

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted the synthesis of available information in paragraphs 7 to 13 of document PC27 Doc. 28, and the Secretariat reflections on a possible way forward as contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of document PC27 Doc. 28;
- b) noted the terms of reference for the study mandated under Decision 19.246 in Annex 1 to document PC27 Doc. 28;
- c) agreed the draft decisions contained in Annex 3 to document PC27 Doc. 28 and amended in plenary as follows:

**Directed to Parties**

**20.AA** *Parties are encouraged to enhance their efforts to regulate the trade in edible tuberous orchids as required under the Convention and to combat illegal trade in edible tuberous orchids, in particular by raising awareness with relevant stakeholders, compiling and exchanging information, making non-detriment findings and legal acquisition findings for edible tuberous orchids, issuing permits, including information relating to trade in annual reports, building enforcement capacity and enhancing cooperation across borders with a focus on combatting illegal trade in edible tuberous orchids, including modus operandi of trade networks, species identification and the development or update of risk profiles.*

**Directed to the Secretariat**

**20.BB** *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *subject to availability of external resources, consult with Parties and stakeholders and undertake a study to compile an overview of Appendix-II orchid taxa that are particularly affected by wild harvest of Appendix-II listed orchid taxa for international trade to inform the following:*
- i) *the conservation impacts of exempting artificially propagated Appendix-II listed orchid taxa from CITES regulations, including as articulated in footnote annotation P3 of the CITES Appendices, including identification challenges and look-alike issues;*
- ii) *the conservation impacts of exempting derivatives and/or finished products of certain Appendix-II listed orchid taxa from CITES regulations through amendments to annotation #4; and*
- b) *present the study and formulate recommendations for consideration at the 28th meeting of the Plants Committee; and*
- c) *subject to external funding,*
- i) *compile identification tools and methods for specimens of edible tuberous orchids that are in international trade, as well as to distinguish look-alike specimens, and, in consultation with the Plants Committee, develop an identification guide to assist Parties in applying these;*
- ii) *identify implementation challenges and capacity needs of Parties to regulate international trade in Appendix-II listed edible tuberous orchids;*
- iii) *upon request, provide support to key exporting range States, and other key exporting States of edible tuberous orchids, to carry out non-detriment findings for edible tuberous orchids, in consultation with relevant Members of the Plants Committee;*

iv) upon request, support Parties with the implementation of Decision 20.AA, by including illegal trade in edible tuberous orchids in ongoing activities in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, or through other appropriate means; and

d) report its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.

**Directed to the Plants Committee**

**20.CC** The Plants Committee shall:

a) consider the report and the Secretariat's recommendations in response to Decision 20.BB, paragraph a);

b) provide inputs to the Secretariat when developing an identification guide and when providing support to carry out non-detriment findings for edible tuberous orchids resulting from the implementation of Decision 20.BB, paragraph c) i) and iii).and

b) report its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

**20.DD** The Standing Committee shall:

a) consider the report and the Secretariat's recommendations in response to Decision 20.BB, paragraph b); and

b) report its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

d) agreed to report its recommendations to the Standing Committee.

29. Brazil wood (Paubrasilia echinata)..... PC27 Doc. 29

The Plants Committee:

a) noted the progress achieved in undertaking the study called for under Decision 19.249; and

b) invited the Secretariat to include in its report to the Standing Committee a revision or the deletion of Decisions 19.249 and 19.250 on *Brazil wood (Paubrasilia echinata)* based on progress in implementation.

30. African tree species ..... PC27 Doc. 30

The Plants Committee:

a) agreed the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 30;

b) requested the Secretariat to publish the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 30 on the *CITES and forests* webpage;

c) encouraged range States to advance the priorities identified and reflected in the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 30; and

d) agreed that Decisions 19.254 and 19.255 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

31. Neotropical tree species..... PC27 Doc. 31

The Plants Committee:

- a) requested the Secretariat to publish the findings and conclusions of the intersessional working group on the *CITES and forests webpage*;
- b) agreed that Decisions 19.257 to 19.260 have been fully implemented and can be proposed for deletion at CoP20; and
- c) noted the comments made by Mexico in plenary relating to *Abies guatemalensis*.

34. Inclusion of *Jubaea chilensis* in Appendix I ..... PC27 Doc. 34

The Plants Committee noted document PC27 Doc. 34.

36. Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species ..... PC27 Doc. 36

The Plants Committee noted the Secretariat's progress in the implementation of Decision 19.265.

38. Orchid specimens exempted through annotation #4 ..... PC27 Doc. 38

The Plants Committee:

- a) noted that the Secretariat is not able to report on the conservation impacts of the exemption contained in annotation #4 g) on *Bletilla striata*, *Cynoches cooperi*, *Gastrodia elata*, *Phalaenopsis amabilis* and *Phalaenopsis lobbii*;
- b) noted the information provided by two range States of *Gastrodia elata* (China and India) at the present meeting;
- c) encouraged range States of the species involved and especially range States of *Gastrodia elata* to bring any concerns relating to changes in the status of their wild populations associated with harvest for international trade to the attention of the Secretariat and the Plants Committee;
- d) agreed that Decisions 19.268 and 19.269 should be renewed; and
- e) agreed to report its conclusions to the Standing Committee.

39. Annotation of Cape aloe (*Aloe ferox*) ..... PC27 Doc. 39

Based on the information provided and the Secretariat's conclusions in paragraph 10 of document PC26 Doc. 39, the Plants Committee agreed that Decisions 18.323 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.324 (Rev. CoP19), as well as the additional requests made by PC26 have been implemented and agreed to propose the deletion of the Decisions to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Working group reports

33. Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II  
[Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17)]

33.2 Selection of species for the periodic review\* ..... PC27 Doc. 33.2 / AC33 Doc. 45.2

The Plants Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC27 Com. 1 amended by the representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Núñez Neyra) and Mexico as follows:

The membership of the working group included Mexico.

The Plants Committee agreed that the following species be reviewed in terms of the sources and purposes of trade to ascertain whether the Appendix-I listing is being managed appropriately regarding the sources and purpose codes:

- *Saussurea costus*
- *Aloe bakeri*
- *Aloe haworthioides*

The Plants Committee invited the Secretariat to:

- a) engage with Parties relating to the reported trade in the species included above and request them to verify the source of the specimens in trade and the correct use of purpose codes:
- b) draw the attention of the Standing Committee to the list above, the clarification provided by Parties in response to the Secretariat's request for verification of the source of the specimens in trade and the correct use of purpose codes.

The Plants Committee agreed to select the following 15 species as candidates for potential review under Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) during the next intersessional period until CoP21 (2028).

Taxon	Appendix	Range State(s)
<b>Output 3:</b>		
<i>Melocactus deinacanthus</i>	I	Brazil
<i>Pachycereus militaris</i>	I	Mexico
<i>Zamia restrepoi</i>	I	Colombia
<i>Aloe albida</i>	I	Eswatini, South Africa
<i>Aloe vossii</i>	I	South Africa
<i>Sarracenia rubra jonesii</i>	I	United States of America
<i>Fitzroya cupressoides</i>	I	Argentina, <del>Colombia</del> Chile
<i>Podocarpus parlatoresi</i>	I	Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Peru
<i>Balmea stormiae</i>	I	El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico
<i>Fouquieria purpusii</i>	I	Mexico
<b>Output 4:</b>		
<i>Beccariophoenix madagascariensis</i>	II	Madagascar
<i>Ravenea louvelii</i>	II	Madagascar
<i>Oreomunnea pterocarpa</i>	II	Costa Rica
<i>Uncarina stellulifera</i>	II	Madagascar
<i>Fouquieria columnaris</i>	II	Mexico

The Plants Committee acknowledged that the species identified under Output 2 (in document [PC26 Doc. 16.5](#)) were considered at length by the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee and therefore agreed not to review those species at this time.

The Plants Committee noted that, in terms of paragraph 3 d) in Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19), the Secretariat shall send a copy of the proposed list of taxa to be reviewed to all Parties, and request range States of the taxa to comment within 60 days on whether they support a review of the taxa and express their interest in undertaking the reviews. The responses shall be relayed by the Secretariat to the Plants Committee. If no volunteer offers to undertake a review within two intersessional periods between CoPs, those taxa shall be deleted from the list of species to be reviewed.

#### Adoption of executive summary PC27 Sum. 1

The Committee adopted executive summary PC27 Sum. 1 with the following amendment:

- under agenda item 33.2, include Mexico as a member of the working group.

#### Adoption of executive summary PC27 Sum. 2

The Committee adopted executive summary PC27 Sum. 2.

## Working group reports

### 22. Guidance on the term 'artificially propagated' [Decision 19.183] ..... PC27 Doc. 22

The Plants Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC27 Com. 2 as amended by the representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng), the representative for Europe (Ms. Smyth), the representative for Oceania (Mr. Wrigley), Mexico and the Secretariat as follows:

The Plants Committee:

- a) agreed the amendments to the *Guidance on terms related to the artificial propagation of CITES regulated plants* contained in Annex 2 to document PC27 Com. 2 with the following amendments:
  - delete “Preliminary” from the title and throughout the document;
  - delete “However, assisted production is cultivation being carried out by local communities without the use of advance technologies, and may be a significant source of income” on page 12;
- b) agreed the draft decisions contained in Annex 2 to document PC27 Com. 2 for submission to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties amended as follows:

#### DRAFT DECISIONS ON GUIDANCE ON TERMS RELATED TO THE PRODUCTION AND SOURCE OF CITES REGULATED PLANTS

#### ***Directed to the Secretariat***

**20.AA** *The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, keep under review maintain the Guidance on terms related to the artificial propagation of CITES regulated plants and the Guide to the application of CITES source codes, as living documents, and based on feedback received by Parties and any relevant developments adopted by the Conference of the Parties, and submit any revisions to the Plants Committee for review and approval.*

#### ***Directed to Parties***

**20.BB** *Parties are encouraged to use the Guidance on terms related to the artificial propagation of CITES regulated plants and the Guide to the application of CITES source codes and to provide feedback and information to the Secretariat.*

#### ***Directed to the Plants Committee***

**20.CC** *The Plants Committee shall review and approve any revisions of the Guidance on terms related to the artificial propagation of CITES regulated plants and the Guide to the application of CITES source codes.*

#### **Directed to the Plants Committee**

**20.DD** *The Plants Committee shall analyse and identify possible inconsistencies on the use of source code D in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) on Permits and certificates, Resolution Conf. 9.19 (Rev. CoP15) on Registration of nurseries that artificially propagate specimens of Appendix-I plant species for export purposes, and Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on Regulation of trade in plants and provide recommendations on how to address them.*

- c) requested the Secretariat to publish the two guidance documents on its website with the amendments agreed under paragraph a);
- d) agreed that Decisions 19.182 and 19.183 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20);
- e) invited Parties to support the translation of the *Guide to the application of CITES source codes* into additional languages referred to in paragraph 9 of document PC27 Doc. 22; and
- f) noted that the Republic of Korea had provided a translation of the *Guide to the application of CITES source codes* as information document PC27 Inf. 14.