

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

Nomenclature matters

Flora

STANDARD NOMENCLATURE FOR AFRICAN MAHOGANIES (*KHAYA* SPP.)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the specialist on botanical nomenclature of the Plants Committee (Ms. Ronell R. Klopper).
2. Following consideration of [CoP19 Prop. 51](#) at its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties agreed the inclusion of the African populations of the genus *Khaya* spp. in Appendix II with annotation #17 (*Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood*).
3. At CoP19, the Conference of the Parties also adopted a time-stamped download of the *Plants of the World Online* as the standard nomenclature reference of the genus *Khaya* spp. [see Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard on nomenclature*], as follows:

Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, Plants of the World Online, (POWO, 2022)

Accessible at: [https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/docs/Res/12\\_11/Khaya\\_POWO\\_19-1-2023.pdf](https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/docs/Res/12_11/Khaya_POWO_19-1-2023.pdf)

4. As a complement to the above, CoP19 adopted Decision 19.284 on *Standard nomenclature for African mahoganies* (*Khaya* spp.) as follows:

***Directed to the Plants Committee, with the support of the Secretariat***

**19.284** *The Plants Committee, with the support of the Secretariat, shall:*

- a) *consider and evaluate the nomenclatural issues related to *Khaya* spp., as outlined in document CoP19 Doc. 84.3 and identify a suitable standard nomenclatural reference for amendment of the Annex to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on Standard nomenclature; and*
  - b) *formulate recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*
5. For ease of reference, document CoP19 Doc. 84.3 [cited in paragraph a) of Decision 19.284] is included in the Annex to the present document.
  6. The nomenclature and taxonomy of the genus *Khaya* is currently not entirely resolved, and a full taxonomic revision of the genus is underway, as explained in document CoP19 Doc. 84.3.

7. The following species are currently recognized in *Khaya* based on the most recently published taxonomic literature:
- a) *K. agboensis* A.Chev. (1928);
  - b) *K. anthotheca* (Welw.) C.DC. (1878);
  - c) *K. euryphylla* Harms (1902);
  - d) *K. grandifoliola* C.DC. (1907);
  - e) *K. ivorensis* A.Chev. (1907);
  - f) *K. madagascariensis* Jum. & Perr. (1906);
  - g) *K. nyassica* Stapf ex. Baker f. (1911); and
  - h) *K. senegalensis* (Desr.) A.Juss. (1830).
8. At the time of writing (31 March 2023), the *Plants of the World Online*<sup>1</sup> recognized the eight accepted species listed in the paragraph *supra* and included the findings of a recent revision of the *K. anthotheca*-species complex (Bouka *et al.*, 2022)<sup>2</sup>. The *World Flora Online Plant List*<sup>3</sup> have not yet incorporated the Bouka *et al.* (2022) findings and recognized five species, with *K. agboensis*, *K. euryphylla*, and *K. nyassica* still treated as synonyms of *K. anthotheca*.
9. A further name, *K. comorensis* (mpori), is reported by the Management Authority of the Comoros according to documents CoP19 Prop. 51 and CoP19 Doc. 84.3. This species is considered endemic to the Comoros Islands, and this name also appears in other sources. However, no information on the nomenclatural validity of this name, its author and place of publication, or on the validity of the species could be obtained.

### Recommendations

10. In accordance with Decision 19.284, the Plants Committee is invited to:
- a) consider and evaluate the nomenclatural issues related to *Khaya* spp., as outlined in the present document and its Annex (document CoP19 Doc. 84.3);
  - b) identify a suitable, if any, nomenclatural reference for amendment of the Annex to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature*; and
  - c) formulate recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:924841-1>

<sup>2</sup> Bouka, G.U., Doumenge, C., Ekué, M.R., Dainou, K., Florence, J., Degen, B., Loumeto, J.J., McKey, D. & Hardy, O.J. 2022. *Khaya* revisited: Genetic markers and morphological analysis reveal six species in the widespread taxon *K. anthotheca*. *Taxon* 71(4): 814–832. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.12720>

<sup>3</sup> <https://wfo.plantlist.org/plant-list/taxon/wfo-4000019975-2022-12?page=1>

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
Panama City (Republic of Panama), 14 - 25 November 2022

Species specific matters

Maintenance of the Appendices

Standard nomenclature

STANDARD NOMENCLATURE FOR *KHAYA* SPP.

1. This document has been submitted by the European Union and its Member States\*

Background

2. In CoP19 Prop. 51 it is proposed to amend CITES App. II to include the African populations of the genus *Khaya*, which contains several commercially valuable timber species.
3. The taxonomy of *Khaya* remains unresolved. Royal Botanic Gardens Kew's Plants of the World Online database (POWO, 2022) recognises five species (*K. anthotheca* (Welw.) C. DC. (1878), *K. grandifoliola* C. DC. (1907), *K. ivorensis* A. Chev. (1907), *K. madagascariensis* Jum. & Perr. (1906) and *K. senegalensis* (Desr.) A. Juss. (1830)). However, a recent review of *K. anthotheca* by Bouka *et al.* (2022) identified two new undescribed species and supported the rehabilitation to the rank of species of three taxa previously considered to be synonyms of *K. anthotheca*: *K. agboensis*, *K. eryphylla* and *K. nyasica*. In addition, the CITES MA of Comoros recognises an endemic species, *K. comorensis*. A full taxonomic revision of the genus is currently underway (Bouka *et al.* 2022).
4. If the proposal to include African populations of *Khaya* in CITES Appendix II is adopted, the above-mentioned nomenclatural discrepancies and ambiguities create the potential for confusion or misinterpretation among Parties in the context of implementation and enforcement of trade controls for *Khaya* under CITES. In order to address such issues, and with regard to Res. Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard Nomenclature*, it is considered that a CITES standard nomenclatural reference for *Khaya* spp. would become necessary, with the following two references suggested as the most preferable to adopt until a full taxonomic revision is published:

Bouka Dipelet, U.G., Florence, J., Doumenge, C., Loumeto, J.J. & McKey, D.B. (2017). *Khayae* (Meliaceae) specierum nomenclator. *Adansonia*, sér. 3, 39: 15–30. <https://doi.org/10.5252/a2017n1a2>

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\* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

Bouka, G.U.D., Doumenge, C., Ekué, M.R.M., Daïnou, K., Florence, J., Degen, B., Loumeto, J.J., Mckey, D. and Hardy, O.J. 2022. *Khaya* revisited : Genetic markers and morphological analysis reveal six species in the widespread taxon *K. anthotheca*. *Taxon*, 00(00): 1-19.

### Recommendations

5. Should CoP19 Prop. 51 on the inclusion of African populations of *Khaya* spp. in Appendix II be adopted by CoP19, it is recommended that the Conference of the Parties takes note of the nomenclatural ambiguities for the genus outlined above and directs the Plants Committee to provide advice on the possible amendment of the Annex to Res. Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) by proposing a standard reference for the genus *Khaya*. The following draft decisions are proposed for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties:

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

The Plants Committee, with support of the Secretariat, shall:

- 19.AA a) Consider and evaluate the nomenclatural issues related to *Khaya* spp., and, if considered appropriate, propose a standard nomenclatural reference for amendment of the Annex to Res. Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard Nomenclature*.
- b) Formulate recommendations to the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

### References

Bouka, G.U.D., Doumenge, C., Ekué, M.R.M., Daïnou, K., Florence, J., Degen, B., Loumeto, J.J., Mckey, D. and Hardy, O.J. 2022. *Khaya* revisited : Genetic markers and morphological analysis reveal six species in the widespread taxon *K. anthotheca*. *Taxon*, 00(00): 1-19.

Bouka Dipelet, U.G., Florence, J., Doumenge, C., Loumeto, J.J. & McKey, D.B. (2017). *Khayae* (Meliaceae) specierum nomenclator. *Adansonia*, sér. 3, 39: 15–30. <https://doi.org/10.5252/a2017n1a2>

### COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decision in the document, subject to proposal CoP19 Prop. 51 being adopted at the present meeting. The Secretariat therefore recommends this document be considered together with CoP19 Prop. 51 on *Khaya* spp.. The Secretariat also point's Parties attention to its assessment of said proposal as contained in document CoP19 Doc. 89.1.
- B. Although the taxonomy and nomenclature of the species subject to CoP19 Prop.51 is under review, in order to address possible confusion or misinterpretation among Parties if the proposal is adopted, the proponents, suggest that 'Bouka Dipelet, U.G., Florence, J., Doumenge, C., Loumeto, J.J. & McKey, D.B. (2017). *Khayae* (Meliaceae) specierum nomenclator. *Adansonia*, sér. 3, 39: 15–30. <https://doi.org/10.5252/a2017n1a2> Bouka, G.U.D., Doumenge, C., Ekué, M.R.M., Daïnou, K., Florence, J., Degen, B., Loumeto, J.J., Mckey, D. and Hardy, O.J. 2022. *Khaya* revisited: Genetic markers and morphological analysis reveal six species in the widespread taxon *K. anthotheca*. *Taxon*, 00(00): 1-19', be adopted by addition to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature*. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt this suggestion.
- C. Should proposal CoP19 Prop. 51 be adopted, the Secretariat recommends the adoption of the draft decision contained in in paragraph 5 of the document, with the following revisions:

(Proposed new text is underlined, proposed deletions are indicated in ~~strikethrough~~)

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

19.AA The Plants Committee, with support of the Secretariat, shall:

a) ~~C~~onsider and evaluate the nomenclatural issues related to *Khaya* spp., as outlined in document CoP19 Doc. 84.3 and identify a suitable and, if considered appropriate, ~~propose a~~ standard nomenclatural reference for amendment of the Annex to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature*; and

b) ~~F~~ormulate recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

D. Further, should the draft decision be adopted, the Secretariat also draws Parties' attention to paragraph 3 of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) which outlines the procedure for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING  
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

As no new nomenclature reference is proposed for development during the upcoming intersessional period, the Secretariat considers that the workload implications for the implementation of the draft decision by the Plants Committee (and the Secretariat, should the revisions proposed be adopted) can be accommodated using existing resources.