

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



Seventy-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 6–10 November 2023

Administrative and financial matters

REPORT OF THE CHAIRS OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS COMMITTEES

1. This document has been submitted by the Chairs of the Animals Committee and Plants Committee.\*
2. The 26th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC26) and the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee (AC32) took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 5 to 9 June 2023 and 19 to 23 June 2023 respectively. Meeting documents, executive summaries and summary records of the meetings can be found on the CITES website.
3. At their 32nd and 26th meetings, respectively, the Animals and Plants Committees established intersessional working groups to address matters referred to them by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the mandate and membership of which are detailed in Notification to the Parties No. 2023/090 of 20 July 2023.
4. This report summarizes the outcomes of PC26 and AC32 as they concern the Standing Committee and is structured in three sections reflecting the outcomes from PC26 (Section 1), AC32 (Section 2) as well as joint AC32/PC26 matters (Section 3).

Section 1: Outcomes from PC26 requiring inputs from Standing Committee

5. At PC26, the Plants Committee noted document PC26 Doc. 8.1 and its two Annexes on Resolutions and Decisions in effect directed to the Plants Committee that require action from the Plants Committee or may need consultation with or assistance from the Animals Committee. Said document also represents the overview of mandates directed to the Plants Committee with reporting requirements to the Standing Committee.
6. The issues discussed at PC26 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its current 77th meeting (SC77) are indicated in the table below. The reference document for each item is indicated in the second column. Other issues that need to be reported to the Standing Committee but are not the subject of a stand-alone agenda item for SC77 are detailed in the paragraphs below, with the Decisions relevant to the Standing Committee indicated in brackets in the header sections.

<b>PC26 agenda item</b>	<b>SC77 document</b>
CITES and forests	SC77 Doc. 21
CITES Tree Species Programme	SC77 Doc. 25

\* *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.*

PC26 agenda item	SC77 document
Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species	SC77 Doc. 35
Products containing specimens of Appendix II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)	SC77 Doc. 69
Annotations	SC77 Doc. 70
Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species	SC77 Doc. 72

*Plants Committee strategic planning for 2023-2025 (CoP19-CoP20)*

7. Document [PC26 Doc. 8.2 \(Rev.1\)](#) presents the Plants Committee's workplan for 2023-2025, consisting of a list of instructions directed to the Plants Committee, or that may require that it be consulted or informed as articulated in the currently valid Resolutions and Decisions. PC26 also agreed on the leads and co-leads among the Members of the Plants Committee for each of the instructions as found in document [PC26 Doc. 8.2 \(Rev. 1\)](#).
8. The Committee agreed at PC26 that, in the event of the Standing Committee establishing additional intersessional working groups, the lead or co-leads identified for the relevant Resolution or Decision in the current workplan would represent the Plants Committee on the working group concerned.
9. At PC26, the Plants Committee established five intersessional working groups, the outcomes of which are expected to be reported at its next meeting (PC27) and, if appropriate, to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting (SC78). These are listed below, noting that their membership and mandate can be found in the following link: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/pc/26/E-2023-2025-PC-IWGs.pdf>
  - a) Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops* spp.);
  - b) Boswellia trees (*Boswellia* spp.);
  - c) Identification of timber and other wood products;
  - d) Neotropical tree species; and
  - e) Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species.

*Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (Decision 19.23)*

10. Document PC26 Doc.11 provided the Committee with information relating to the agreed path within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to consider a revised Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) after the recently agreed Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. However, since the revised GSPC has not been finalized yet, it was proposed to postpone work on this issue. The CBD Secretariat indicated that a draft document will be open for peer review later in June for submission to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in October 2023. The Committee agreed to postpone consideration of a revision to Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* until its 27th meeting.

*Identification of timber and other wood products (Decision 19.148)*

11. In document PC26 Doc. 20, the Secretariat provided the Committee with an update on a series of activities relating to the improvement and review of the online timber repository and presented draft terms of reference for improving the timber online repository.
12. The Committee agreed a draft terms of reference for the maintenance and expansion of the repository on timber identification and established an intersessional working group on timber identification with the mandate to discuss and agree on a way forward for the implementation of paragraphs a) to h) of [Decision](#)

[19.147](#), including consideration of Annex 2 to document [PC26 Doc. 20](#) and report back to the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting.

*Agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.) (Decision 19.240)*

13. Document [PC26 Doc. 27](#) summarized the work done on the development of potential revisions to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on *Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa* and on the *Agarwood glossary* and the *Agarwood NDF guidance*.
14. The Plants Committee established an intersessional working group on agarwood and agreed on a mandate for the working group that includes the formulation of recommendations regarding the *Agarwood glossary* and the consideration of potential revisions to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on *Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa*.

*Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] (Decision 19.245)*

15. In document [PC26 Doc. 29](#), the Secretariat presented a draft terms of reference for a study on the conservation and trade in rosewood tree species and noted that the draft terms of reference anticipated reporting preliminary findings and recommendations at the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDF), and specifically to the workstream of the NDF project on high-value timber tree species. The Plants Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the comments made by the Plants Committee as it finalizes the terms of reference. The final study will be submitted for consideration by the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting.

*Boswellia trees (Boswellia spp.) (Decision 19.242)*

16. In document [PC26 Doc. 28.1](#), the Secretariat shared the report titled “*Boswellia species in international trade: Identification, supply chains and practical management considerations*” as instructed in Decision 19.241. In document [PC26 Doc. 28.2](#), Switzerland additionally shared progress in work on *Boswellia* that Switzerland is funding in support of Decisions 19.241 and 19.242. Switzerland also suggested that the Secretariat should organize a meeting of *Boswellia* range States. The Plants Committee therefore mandated its intersessional working group to draft decisions with regard to such a meeting, and to formulate recommendations regarding possible future listings of *Boswellia* species in CITES Appendices, including consideration of appropriate annotations.

*Brazil wood (Paubrasilia echinata) (Decision 19.253)*

17. In document [PC26 Doc. 31](#), the Secretariat shared the responses to a Notification to the Parties No. 2023/033 received from Parties and organizations and a draft terms of reference of a study to assess and monitor the implications of the amendment to annotation #10 on the conservation and international trade of Brazil wood. The Plants Committee invited the Secretariat to consider the comments made by the Committee as it finalizes the terms of reference. The Plants Committee specifically requested that the study should, as part of the improved implementation of the Appendix-II listing of *Paubrasilia echinata*, also consider a traceability system that would include unfinished products (bow blanks) and the stocks of discarded materials as part of the production process during the manufacture of bows. The Plants Committee will consider the outcomes at its 27th meeting.

*African tree species (Decision 19.256)*

18. Document PC26 Doc. 32 provided the Plants Committee with an updated overview of African tree species listed in the CITES Appendices and a compilation of recommendations and discussions on the sustainable management of *Prunus africana*.
19. The Plants Committee made recommendations relating to the prioritization of species for CITES processes (including NDFs, nomenclature checklists) and noted that, with legal and illegal sandalwood trade from Africa increasing, this calls for capacity-building for appropriate monitoring technologies across different entities. Capacity-building for newly listed species, including sharing data across countries for NDFs, is needed for species identified as priorities. Regarding the preliminary overview of African tree species listed in Appendix II, the Plants Committee noted and agreed the table presented as part of the document with minor amendments to be implemented by the Secretariat (see summary record PC26 SR, item 32).

20. Regarding *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, a regional workshop might be considered to promote open dialogue among Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities to share experiences, management information and improve regional coordination with the aim to improve overall management concerning the international trade in the species.
21. Regarding the recommendations on the sustainable management of *Prunus africana*, the main issues are monitoring (resource assessment and trade), and governance. The Plants Committee recommended inviting a case study on *Prunus africana* for the NDF workshop to discuss NDF methodologies.

*Neotropical tree species (Decision 19.260)*

22. The Plants Committee considered the list of neotropical tree species and associated CITES processes provided by the Secretariat in document [PC26 Doc. 33](#) and established priorities for strengthening the implementation of the Convention for the neotropical tree species concerned. The Plants Committee established an intersessional working group on neotropical species with the mandate as reflected in the executive summary and summary record PC26 SR. This working group is open to all range States of neotropical tree species and the Secretariat published Notification to the Parties [No. 2023/03](#) inviting Parties to express interest to join the intersessional working group, noting that all range States are invited to join and to confirm the prioritized list prepared by PC26. The Plants Committee furthermore recommended that projects be designed and promoted for the targeted species in order to build capacities, including research on population studies, management plans, identification of species and timber, non-detriment findings, legal acquisition findings, and traceability in the trade of the species concerned. The Plants Committee also recommended that mechanisms for cooperation with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental institutions be established in order to obtain funding to enable implementation of prioritized activities, for which purpose, the Secretariat's support will be required.

*Annotation #15 [Decision 18.322 (Rev. CoP19)]*

23. In document [PC26 Doc. 37](#), the Secretariat provided the Plants Committee with a draft terms of reference for a study to assess the conservation implications of the exemptions of annotation #15 for rosewoods of *Dalbergia* and *Guibourtia* included in the Appendices. The Plants Committee provided the Secretariat with comments to be considered as it finalizes the terms of reference.

*Orchid specimens exempted through annotation #4 g) (Decision 19.271)*

24. The Plants Committee noted that the Secretariat will compile any responses to the Notification called for under Decision 19.268 in time for consideration by the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and 78th meeting of the Standing Committee in 2024 (see summary [PC26 SR](#)).

Section 2: Outcomes from AC32 requiring inputs from Standing Committee

25. The issues discussed at AC32 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its 77th meeting (SC77) are indicated in the table below. The reference document for each item is indicated in the second column. Other issues that need to be reported to the Standing Committee but are not the subject of a stand-alone agenda item for SC77 are detailed in the paragraphs below, with the Decisions relevant to the Standing Committee indicated in brackets in the header sections. The Animals Committee established several intersessional working groups to move certain topics forward, the membership of which can be found [here](#).

<b>AC32 agenda item</b>	<b>SC77 document</b>
Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species	SC77 Doc. 35
Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity [Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19)]	SC77 Doc. 36
Saiga antelopes ( <i>Saiga</i> spp.)	SC77 Doc. 65
Eels ( <i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	SC77 Doc. 66

Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	SC77 Doc. 67.2
West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	SC77 Doc. 62
Queen conch ( <i>Strombus gigas</i> )	SC77 Doc. 68

*Animals Committee strategic planning for 2023-2025 (CoP19-CoP20)*

26. Document [AC32 Doc. 8.2](#) presents the Animals Committee's workplan for 2023-2025, consisting of a list of instructions directed to the Animals Committee, or that may require that it be consulted or informed as articulated in the currently valid Resolutions (Annex 1) and Decisions (Annex 2). The document also identifies a lead or co-lead among the Members of the Animals Committee for each of the instructions.
27. The Committee agreed at AC32 that, in the event of the Standing Committee establishing additional intersessional working groups, the lead or co-leads identified for the relevant Resolution or Decision in the current workplan would represent the Animals Committee on the working group concerned.

*African lions (Panthera leo) (Decision 19.207)*

28. In document [AC32 Doc. 32](#), the Secretariat indicated that several issues relating to the African lion, including the *Guidelines for the conservation of lions in Africa*, had been discussed by the second range States' meeting of the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI). The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), in consultation with the range States, would update the *Guidelines* and would prepare, in collaboration with the CITES and CMS Secretariats, a web-based document on the ACI web-portal that would be a "living" document to be updated as new information becomes available. A group responsible for the review of proposed amendments to the *Guidelines* before its online publication had been established (see information document AC32 Inf. 7, containing the outcomes of the ACI range States' meeting).
29. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that it was developing guidance on the making of non-detriment findings for African lions in collaboration with IUCN and in close consultation with the range States. To initiate the process, questions on existing information and processes relating to NDFs for lions were prepared and shared with the ACI range States for inputs.
30. The Animals Committee noted the document and the updates provided by the Secretariat that included information shared through information documents [AC32 Inf. 7](#) and [Inf. 9](#). The Committee also noted that a revised *Guidelines for the conservation of lions in Africa* was not available for review by the Animals Committee and that the CITES Big Cat Task Force considered the study entitled "The legal and illegal trade in big cats" during its meeting that resulted in outcomes agreed. The Committee further noted the comments made by the regional representative for Africa (Mr. Kasoma) that additional funding should be provided to tackle issues of human-wildlife conflict on the ground.

*Leopards (Panthera pardus) in Africa (Decision 19.212)*

31. In document AC32 Doc. 33, the Secretariat informed the Committee that the range States of the African Carnivores Initiative had discussed the *Roadmap for the conservation of the leopard* during their second range States' meeting and had agreed that the IUCN would update the *Roadmap* and finalize it in consultation with range States. Furthermore, range States agreed to focus on the development of regional conservation strategies for leopard, using the *Roadmap* as strategic guidance.
32. The Animals Committee noted document [AC32 Doc. 33](#) and the updates provided by the Secretariat that included information shared through information document [AC32 Inf. 7](#). The Committee invited the Secretariat to submit the revised *Roadmap for the conservation of leopards* to the Animals Committee when available.

*Seahorses (Hippocampus spp.)<sup>1</sup> (Decision 19.232)*

33. The Animals Committee considered documents [AC32 Doc. 38.1 \(Rev. 1\)](#) and [38.2](#), which provided an update on available information on trade in seahorses and the outcomes of the Asia region workshop on implementing CITES for seahorses held from 14 to 17 March 2023 in Cebu, Philippines. Based on these documents, the Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group on seahorses with the mandate to:
- a) review available information on trade in seahorses; including the recommendations contained in Annexes 1 and 2 to document AC32 Doc. 38.1 (Rev.1), taking into consideration the issues raised in paragraphs 8 and 9 of that document; and the recommendations of the expert workshop contained in document AC32 Doc. 38.2; and
  - b) produce a consolidated set of recommendations for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting.

*Pangolins (Manis spp.) (Decision 19.204)*

34. In document [AC32 Doc. 31](#), the Secretariat informed the Committee that it had worked with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species that would enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, in collaboration with the pangolin range States (see the table in paragraph 6 of the document). IUCN provided an update on its work on conversion parameters and noted that it had enough data for six of the pangolin species and that they were still gathering data for two species.
35. The Animals Committee noted document [AC32 Doc. 31](#) and comments made during the plenary and invited the International Union for Conservation of Nature to provide an updated report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties to solicit samples from relevant and potential sources holding carcasses and skins, including zoos and museums, that can be used to increase the sample sizes to meet or exceed the minimum baseline of 30 specimens for those species not adequately represented. Notification to the Parties No. 2023/088 was published on 19 July 2023.

*Trade in stony corals (Scleractinia spp.) (Decision 19.178)*

36. Following consideration of documents [AC32 Doc. 23.1](#) and [23.2](#), which relayed some concerns about trade in stony corals, specifically “confusion in relation to what ‘coral rock’ means, what forms of coral rock are subject to the provisions of the Convention and how coral rock should be reported in trade”, the Animals Committee established an in-session working group on trade in stony corals at AC32 with the mandate to draft a Notification to the Parties concerning the implementation of Decision 19.177, seeking advice from coral reef nations and coral experts. Notification to the Parties No. [2023/081](#) was published on 12 July 2023.
37. The Animals Committee also established an intersessional working group on stony corals with the mandate to:
- a) review the responses to the Notification to the Parties concerning the implementation of Decision 19.177, seeking advice from coral reef nations and coral experts;
  - b) make recommendations on possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.10 (Rev. CoP15) on *Trade in stony corals*;
  - c) provide advice on the conversion factors used to analyse trade in corals for the Review of Significant Trade process;
  - d) propose amendments to the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* and the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of the CITES annual illegal trade reports*; and

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<sup>1</sup> The Secretariat notes that funding has not yet been secured for the report on the global illegal trade in seahorses called for in Decision 19.228, and to be considered by the Standing Committee. Should the necessary funding be secured in sufficient time, the report will be considered at the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC78, date and venue tbd).



- e) present its findings to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.

*Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade [Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17)]*

38. The Animals Committee noted document [AC32 Doc. 21](#) concerning the need to update Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on *Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade* as the technologies and standards have changed. Furthermore, there are several specific recommendations in other Resolutions concerning the marking of specimens in trade, such as Resolution Conf. 17.12 on *Conservation, sustainable use of and trade in snakes* or Resolution Conf. 11.12 (Rev. CoP15) on *Universal tagging system for the identification of crocodilian skins*. In line with the mandate outlined in paragraph 2 g) of Annex 2 of Resolution Conf. 18.2 on *Establishment of committees*, the Chair of the Animals Committee will work intersessionally with the CITES Secretariat and the ISO Secretariat to develop a proposal on this matter for consideration by the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting. The Committee further noted that Germany would commission in 2024 a study on methods for individual marking of animal species based on recent scientific and practical experience.

*Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations' (Decision 19.166)*

39. The Animals Committee noted the update on the implementation of Decision 19.164 on *Definition of the term "appropriate and acceptable destinations"* provided by the Secretariat in document [AC32 Comp.](#) The Secretariat indicated it would issue a Notification in the third quarter of 2023 inviting Parties to provide feedback on experience with using the guidance documents and other information provided on the CITES webpage "Appropriate and acceptable destinations"; and it would bring any feedback reported to the attention of the Animals Committee at its 33rd meeting in 2024.

*Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.) (Decision 19.199)*

40. The Secretariat informed the Committee in document [AC32 Doc. 30](#) that it had secured funding for the preparation of three studies on (1) identification of non-CITES listed amphibian species that are in international trade; (2) assessment of the emerging threat of diseases to amphibians that are traded internationally; and (3) a compilation of existing national legislation relevant to the trade in both CITES listed and non-CITES listed amphibians; as well as the organization of two online workshops that would be held later this year.

*Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.) [Decision 18.258 (Rev. CoP19)]*

41. In document [AC32 Doc. 34](#), the Secretariat informed the Committee that it was producing a preliminary study with an overview of the current state of knowledge on the scale and scope of international songbird trade to consider the management and conservation priorities of songbird taxa involved in such trade. This study was expected to produce a preliminary list of the songbird taxa (species and species groupings) that are traded internationally. An in-person technical workshop would be convened by the Secretariat in the last quarter of 2023 to review the preliminary study and to consider the management and conservation of songbird taxa involved in international trade.

*Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction (Decision 19.138)*

42. The Animals Committee noted the information relating to *Non-detriment findings (NDF) for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction* as contained in document [AC32 Comp.](#), which presented progress on the implementation of Decisions 19.189 to 19.191. The Secretariat noted that the workstream on "Non-detriment findings (NDFs) for marine or aquatic species, including regional implications for shared species, introduction from the sea, and NDFs for marine or aquatic invertebrates" of the NDF workshop scheduled to take from 4 to 8 December 2023 would partly address the making of NDFs from areas beyond national jurisdiction. Given the possible overlap in participants of the technical workshop referred to in this Decision and in Decision 19.189 on *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices*, the Secretariat explained it was considering convening two workshops back-to-back in early 2024, subject to available funding and host for the workshops.
43. The Committee further noted the comments made in plenary, especially the idea of holding back-to-back workshops on NDF for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction and on aquatic species listed in the Appendices.

*Aquatic species listed in the Appendices (Decision 19.191)*

44. In document [AC32 Comp.](#), the Secretariat provided an update on the implementation of Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 on *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices* and informed the Committee it had not secured funding for the convening of a workshop on the issue estimated at a cost of USD 80,000. Given the possible overlap in participants of the technical workshop referred to in this Decision and in Decision 19.136 on *Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species taken from areas beyond national jurisdiction*, the Secretariat explained it was considering convening the two workshops back-to-back in early 2024, subject to available funding and host for the workshops.

*Zoological nomenclature (Decision 19.277)*

45. The Animals Committee considered the report of the specialist on zoological nomenclature contained in document [AC32 Doc. 46](#), adopted the substance of document AC32 Com. 2 (Rev.) and established an in-session working group.
46. Concerning the taxonomy and nomenclature of African elephants (*Loxodonta* spp.), the Committee acknowledged the scientific merit of recognizing the two species of African elephants, recognizing that hybrids and mixed-species groupings occur, and noted that a relevant nomenclature standard reference for these animals be further deliberated intersessionally, with the outcomes of deliberations reported back to AC33. The Committee requested the Secretariat to include in the Notification described in Decision 19.275, paragraph a), a request for suggested publications that can serve as nomenclatural standard reference for African elephants. Notification to the Parties No. 2023/078 was published on 11 July 2023.
47. The Committee established an intersessional working group on nomenclature with a mandate to, *inter alia*, identify an appropriate nomenclature standard reference for the African elephant(s) and report to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee.

Section 3: Outcomes from AC32 and PC26 joint matters requiring inputs from Standing Committee

48. The issues discussed at PC26 and AC32 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its current 77th meeting (SC77) are indicated in the table below. The reference document for each item is indicated in the second column. Other issues that need to be reported to the Standing Committee but are not the subject of a stand-alone agenda item for SC77 are detailed in the paragraphs below, with the decisions relevant to the Standing Committee indicated in brackets in the header sections. The Animals and Plants Committees established several joint intersessional working groups to move certain topics forward, the membership of which can be found [here](#).

<b>PC26/AC32 agenda item</b>	<b>SC77 document</b>
Emerging operational matters of the committees	SC77 Doc. 12
<i>CITES Strategic Vision</i>	SC77 Doc. 16
Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, including policy aspects of IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species	SC77 Doc. 19
Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence associated with international wildlife trade	SC77 Doc. 17.2
Transport of live specimens	SC77 Doc. 52
Specimens produced through biotechnology	SC77 Doc. 54
Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of	SC77 Doc. 58



wild source	
Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade	SC77 Doc. 60
Annotations	SC77 Doc. 70

*Country-wide Review of Significant Trade (Decision 19.48)*

49. Having considered document [PC26 Doc. 14 / AC32 Doc. 13](#), the Animals and Plants Committees agreed to establish a joint intersessional working group on country-wide Review of Significant Trade with a mandate to:
- a) review the progress updates on the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) in document SC74 Doc. 29, document CoP19 Doc. 30 and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *CITES compliance procedures*; and capacity-building activities in documents SC74 Doc. 22, document CoP19 Doc. 16 and Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building*;
  - b) consider whether scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar and outlined in document AC30 Doc. 12.3/PC24 Doc. 13.3 are sufficiently addressed through existing mechanisms or, if appropriate, propose amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) or other existing resolutions, develop a new resolution, or propose a new mechanism to undertake such reviews; and
  - c) present its findings and recommendations to the joint session of the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and 27th meeting of the Plants Committee in 2024.

*Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species (Decision 19.264)*

50. At its 26th meeting, the Plants Committee noted preference for a new Resolution on medicinal and aromatic plant products to be developed by an intersessional working group that was established by the Plants Committee. This will be done in accordance with the options defined in Decision 19.263 [[PC26 Sum. 3 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. Consequently, as such a new Resolution would be exclusively concerned with plant products, the Animals Committee, at its 32nd meeting, agreed that it did not need to contribute to the Plants Committee's work on this issue [[AC32 Sum 3 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. The Plants Committee furthermore provided the Secretariat with comments on the terms of reference for the analysis of e-commerce supply chains in products of CITES listed medicinal and aromatic plant species that will be undertaken by the Secretariat as per Decision 19.261 paragraph c).

*Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19)]*

51. The Animals and Plants Committees considered document [PC26 Doc. 35 / AC32 Doc. 42](#) and noted concerns raised in plenary of both meetings about the lack of funding for this work. The Committees emphasized the importance of the Periodic Review process. The Animals Committee proposed to include *Ramphastos vitellinus citreolaemus* in the Periodic Review and invited the representatives for Central and South America and the Caribbean to reach out to seek a volunteer from their region for the review. The Animals Committee noted the offer made by the United States of America to provide technical support for the review.

*Botanical and zoological nomenclature (Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings; and Higher taxon listings in the Appendices) [Decisions 18.314 (Rev. CoP19) and 19.273]*

52. Document [PC26 Doc. 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2](#) highlighted a number of cases of higher taxon listings that created complex situations and emphasized the need to consider the impacts of existing and future higher taxon listings. The Committees were invited to review the scientific implications and impacts of higher taxon listings in the Appendices and to consider whether the difference between a higher taxon listing and a list of all individual species in that higher taxon is sufficiently substantive to require a formal proposal to change a listing in the Appendices.
53. Document [PC26 Doc. 42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1](#) proposed that, should nomenclature changes be proposed for Appendix-III listing, the Animals or Plants Committees be consulted to determine if the change would

alter the scope of protection for fauna and flora under the Convention. If the proposed nomenclature changes would lead to inclusion or deletion of species or populations in the Appendices, the Secretariat could consult the listing Party and other affected range States, and Appendix III could be amended based on feedback from the Parties. Alternatively, the Secretariat could inform the listing Party about the nomenclature change and its implications and invite the Party to consult with affected range States and submit a request to amend the Appendix-III listing.

54. Following consideration of documents PC26 Doc.42.1 / AC32 Doc. 45.1 and PC26 Doc 42.2 / AC32 Doc. 45.2, the Animals and Plants Committees 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.

#### Recommendations

55. The Standing Committee is invited to note the information in this document.