

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



Seventy-eighth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 3-8 February 2025

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.*

Introduction

2. Activities carried out by the Animals and Plants Committees following the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19) Panama City, 2022) were reported to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023) in document [SC77 Doc. 6](#).
3. The 27th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC27) and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee (AC33) including two joint sessions of both Committees, took place from 8 to 19 July 2024. Meeting documents, executive summaries and summary records of the meetings can be found on the CITES website.
4. This report summarizes the outcomes of PC27 and AC33 as they concern the Standing Committee and is structured in three sections reflecting the outcomes from PC27 (Section 1), AC33 (Section 2) as well as joint AC33/PC27 matters (Section 3).
5. To facilitate consideration of the matters outlined throughout Sections 1 to 3, Section 4 to the present document provides an overview of the proposed recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Section 1: Outcomes from PC27 requiring inputs from the Standing Committee

6. The issues discussed at PC27 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its current 78th meeting (SC78) 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 standalone agenda item for SC78, incorporating inputs from PC27, are detailed in the paragraphs below.

| PC27 Agenda item | SC78 Document |
|---|-----------------------------|
| CITES and forests | See document SC78 Doc. 19 |
| Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species | See document SC78 Doc. 34.3 |
| Brazil wood (<i>Paubrasilia echinata</i>) | See document SC78 Doc. 73 |
| Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 72 |
| Annotation #15 | See document SC78 Doc. 77 |
| Orchid specimens exempted through annotation #4 g) | See document SC78 Doc. 78 |
| Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species | See document SC78 Doc. 74 |

* 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.

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

7. With regards to Decision 19.23, the Plants Committee at PC27 considered document PC27 Doc. 9 and:
- 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.
8. At the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP16, Cali, 2024), the Parties to the CBD adopted a decision on Plant Conservation including the Annex on voluntary complementary actions related to plant conservation.
9. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee and request the Secretariat to, in consultation with the Chairs of the Plants Committee and the Standing 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.

Identification of timber and other wood products (Decision 19.148)

10. At PC27, the Plants Committee considered document PC27 Doc. 18.1, where the Secretariat informed that it had identified external funds for the maintenance and expansion of the repository on timber identification, as per Decision 19.145. However, noting that the implementation of the work would require at least a calendar year, in paragraphs 10 to 12 of the said document, the Secretariat proposed a process to circulate by electronic means any available preliminary findings to the Plants Committee. Moreover, the Plants Committee noted the proposed approach reflected in paragraphs 10 to 12 of document PC27 Doc. 18.1 to provide the opportunity to Members of the Plants Committee to provide scientific or technical advice on any available preliminary results resulting from the implementation of Decision 19.145, ahead of the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee. The Secretariat was not able to initiate the work in collaboration with the Research Institute of Wood Industry of the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CRIWI-CAF) and therefore preliminary results could not be shared prior to SC78.
11. With regards to Decision 19.147, the Plants Committee considered document PC27 Doc. 18.2 and:
- a) noted the progress achieved by the intersessional working group of identification of timber and other wood products and the Annexes 1 to 8 of document PC27 Doc. 18.2;
 - b) noted that measures and activities outlined in the [outcome document of the CITES Task Force meeting on illegal trade in specimens of listed tree species](#) address some of the aspects covered in Decision

19.147, and that the Secretariat issued a Notification to the Parties [No. 2024/079](#) inviting Parties to submit information relating to the implementation of [Decision 19.89](#) on the *Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species*.

- c) invited the Secretariat to, subject to external funding, raise awareness relating to the online resources available on the Timber Identification Resources and Tools webpage on the CITES website.
- d) agreed to submit the new and revised decisions for consideration by the Standing Committee at SC78 for submission to CoP20, as contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

12. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee and agree to submit the new and revised decisions agreed by the Plants Committee contained in section A) of Annex 1 to the present document for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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

13. The Plants Committee considered document PC27 Doc. 25, which presented an update on the implementation of Decision 19.239, and proposed revisions to Resolution 16.10 on *Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa*.

14. Following consideration of document PC27 Doc. 25, the Plants Committee:

- a) noted the completion of the working group mandate as agreed at PC26;
- b) agreed the proposed revisions to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on *Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa* as contained in Annex 1 to document PC27 Doc. 26 with the following edits:

AWARE that agarwood-producing taxa can be grown in monospecific or mixed species plantations; [*deletion of the hyphen in mono-specific and deletion of the hyphen and adding a space for mixed-species*]

RECOGNIZING, however, that many Parties do not fully implement the exemptions of personal and household effects in Article VII, paragraph 3 of the Convention, and Resolution Conf. 13.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Control of trade in personal and household effects* for specimens of agarwood-producing taxa, owing due to stricter domestic measures or other provisions; [*deleted text is in strikethrough and new text is underlined*]

- c) agreed that Decision 19.239 has been completed and can be proposed for deletion;
- d) noted the need for future work to better explain the difference between exhausted powder and non-exhausted powder in the glossary in the Annex to Resolution Conf. 16.10 (Rev. CoP20); and
- e) agreed to report its recommendations to the Standing Committee.

15. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee, agree with the proposed amendment to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on *Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa* in Section B) of Annex 1 to be submitted for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and agree that Decision 19.240 has been implemented and can be deleted.

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

16. At PC27, the Secretariat presented the *Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]* in Annex 2 to document PC27 Doc. 27, as well as its executive summary and an example of one fact sheet in Annexes 1A and 1B (for *Pterocarpus erinaceus*). Annex 3 contains the “high”, “medium”, and “low” priority list of CITES-listed rosewoods with a breakdown of the criteria met for prioritization.

17. Following consideration of document 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 on rosewood tree species [*Leguminosae (Fabaceae)*] as contained in Annex 1 to the present document.
18. Taking into consideration the outcomes of PC27, the Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee, support the submission of the draft decisions on *rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]* as contained in section C) of Annex 1 to the present document for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and agree that Decision 19.245 has been implemented and can be deleted.

African tree species (Decision 19.256)

19. The Secretariat presented in the Annex to document PC27 Doc. 30 a *Preliminary overview of African tree species listed in the Appendices*, that it had revised based on the feedback provided by the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting (PC26, Geneva, June 2023). Following consideration of document 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.
20. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee and agree that Decision 19.256 has been implemented and can be deleted.

Neotropical tree species (Decision 19.260)

21. The Plants Committee considered document PC27 Doc.31 on *Neotropical tree species* which presented an update on the implementation of Decision 19.257 based on feedback provided by the Plants Committee at PC26.
22. Following consideration of document 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*.
23. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee and agree that Decision 19.260 has been implemented and can be deleted.
24. Following consideration of document 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 PC27;
- 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.

25. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Plants Committee and agree that Decisions 19.268 to 19.271 should be renewed.

Periodic Review of the Appendices

26. 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). Where a range State has volunteered to conduct the review, this is indicated in **bold** in the table.

| Taxon | Appendix | Range State(s) |
|---|----------|---|
| Output 3: | | |
| <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, Chile |
| <i>Podocarpus parlatorei</i> | I | Argentina , Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Peru |
| <i>Balmea stormiae</i> | I | El Salvador , Guatemala , Mexico |
| <i>Fouquieria purpusii</i> | I | Mexico |
| Output 4: | | |
| <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 |

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. Following consideration of document PC27 Doc. 33.2/AC33 Doc. 45.2 (Rev. 1), 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*

30. The Plants Committee also 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.

Section 2: Outcomes from AC33 requiring inputs from Standing Committee

31. The issues discussed at AC33 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its current 78th meeting (SC78) 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 standalone agenda item for SC78, incorporating inputs from AC33, are detailed in the paragraphs below.

| AC33 Agenda item | SC78 Document |
|---|--|
| Role of CITES in reducing risk of future zoonotic disease emergence | Inputs from AC have been transmitted directly to SC intersessional WG. See document SC78 Doc. 15 |
| Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species | See document SC78 Doc. 34.2 |
| Captive bred and ranched specimens [Resolution Conf. 17.7] | See document SC78 Doc. 35.1 |
| Review of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP19) on Review of trade in specimens reported as produced in captivity [Decisions 19.63 to 19.65] | See document SC78 Doc. 35.2 |
| Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.) | Inputs from AC have been transmitted directly to SC intersessional WG. See document SC78 Doc. 69.1 |
| Sharks and rays (<i>Elasmobranchii</i> spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 70.2 |
| Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 72 |
| Pangolins (<i>Manis</i> spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 67.1 |
| CITES Big Cats Task Force | See document SC78 Doc. 42 |
| Jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>) | See document SC78 Doc. 44.2 |
| Non-detriment findings for specimens of Appendix-II species in areas beyond national jurisdiction | See document SC78 Doc. 48 |
| Trade in stony corals (<i>Scleractinia</i> spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 60 |
| Taxonomy and nomenclature of African elephants (<i>Loxodonta</i> spp.) | See document SC78 Doc. 84 |

Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (Decision 19.25)

32. At AC33, the Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc.10](#), which identified two priority activities of the Programme of Work of the African Carnivores Initiative (ACI) that are relevant to CITES and more specifically the Animals Committee: the development of trade resource kits for lions and leopards based on the trade resource kit for cheetahs and the development of an African lion inventory and an African lion database. The Secretariat proposed new draft decisions to support these priority activities.

33. AC33 furthermore considered a proposal by the Secretariat to include the species covered by the ACI [cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*), lions (*Panthera leo*) and leopards (*Panthera pardus*)] in paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* to ensure it forms part of the ongoing work with the Convention on Migratory Species. The need to revise and update the Programme of Work for the ACI that will not be fully implemented

by 2025 and to reflect new Decisions adopted by CMS and CITES was also identified and draft decisions in this regard agreed by AC33.

34. Following consideration of document AC33 Doc.10, the Animals Committee:

a) agreed to submit the following amendment to paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)*, for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee for onward submission to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting:

b) *ensuring that CITES initiatives in respect of the following species or taxonomic groups complement, reinforce and, as far as possible, benefit from the regional collaboration already being undertaken or envisaged in the framework of CMS:*

[...]

v) *cheetahs (Acinonyx jubatus), lions (Panthera leo) and leopards (Panthera pardus);* and

b) agreed to submit draft decisions for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee for onward submission to the Conference of the Parties at its 20th meeting (see Section A) of Annex 2 to this document).

35. The Standing Committee is invited to review and submit the proposed amendment to paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 13.3 in paragraph 37 a) for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and note the draft decisions in Section A) of Annex 2 to be submitted by the Animals Committee for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

African lions (Panthera leo) (Decision 19.207)

36. At AC33, the Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc.36](#), which was prepared by the Secretariat and presented an update on the implementation of the Decisions on African lions (*Panthera leo*).

37. The Secretariat informed AC33 that the *Guidelines for the conservation of lions in Africa* will be updated based on a process agreed by the range States at the 2nd meeting of the African Carnivore Initiative

38. The Secretariat initiated the comparative study on African lion population trends and conservation and management practices called for in paragraph b) of Decision 19.205; consulted the range States on the proposed approach for the study, sources of information to be used, key research questions, criteria to identify the countries for the comparative assessment of population trends and conservation and management practices, and invited African lion range States to actively participate in the study.

39. The Secretariat developed draft guidance on the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) for African lions in collaboration with IUCN and in close consultation with range States. The Secretariat invited African lion range States to test the general CITES NDF guidance and the Guidance for Non-Detriment Findings for African lions (*Panthera leo*) under CITES (see [Annex 3](#) to document AC33 Doc. 36) and to provide feedback to the Secretariat on their experiences.

40. The Animals Committee agreed to submit draft decisions for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting and onward submission to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. These draft decisions are presented in section B) of Annex 2 to this document.

41. Taking into account the outcomes of AC33, the Standing Committee is invited to review and submit the draft decisions in Section B) of Annex 2 to this document for consideration at CoP20.

Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.) (Decision 19.125)

42. At AC33, the Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc.33](#), which was submitted by Madagascar and reports on measures taken by Madagascar for the conservation of tortoises and freshwater turtles in Madagascar on existing plans for the conservation of Madagascar's endemic tortoises and freshwater turtles. Current initiatives related to the fight against wildlife trafficking, including tortoises and freshwater turtles, were also outlined.

43. The Animals Committee invited Madagascar to report on any progress on the implementation of their conservation strategies and of Decision 19.125, paragraph b), to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting.
44. The Standing Committee is invited to review any progress report submitted by Madagascar.

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

45. The Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc. 23](#) which summarized the responses and feedback received on the Parties' experience with using the [Non-binding guidance for determining whether a proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it](#), the [Non-binding guidance for determining whether a proposed recipient of a living specimen of African elephant and/or southern white rhinoceros is suitably equipped to house and care for it](#) and the [Non-binding best practice guidance on how to determine whether "the trade would promote in situ conservation"](#).
46. The representative for Oceania (Mr. Robertson), Australia and Germany raised several questions that may not be accurately covered in the guidance. Does 'appropriate and acceptable destinations' requirements apply to transit countries for quarantine purposes? Shouldn't the guidance also encourage the importing Parties to ask for support, views and advice from the Management and Scientific Authorities of exporting Parties? Does the guidance also apply to re-exports, especially in cases where both exporter and importer are non-range States? Does the footnote in paragraph 1 of the Resolution also apply to paragraph 2?
47. The Animals Committee requested its Chair to include in its report to the Standing Committee the matters raised by the representative of Oceania, Australia and Germany relating to transit / re-exports outlined in paragraph 46 above, the need for consultation with the Management and Scientific Authorities of exporting countries and on the possible need for clarification of the footnote in paragraph 1 in relation to provisions in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution Conf.11.20 (Rev. CoP18) on *Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'*.
48. Following consideration of document AC33 Doc. 23, the Animals Committee agreed to propose to the Standing Committee the renewal of Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 for onward submission to the Conference of the Parties.
49. In accordance with Decision 19.166, the Standing Committee is invited to consider submitting a proposal to renew Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 for consideration at CoP20.

Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices (Decision 19.191)

50. The Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc. 30](#), which presented the background information and the outcomes of the technical workshop on *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices* that took place from 23 to 24 April 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland. The report of the workshop was presented in information document [AC33 Inf. 13](#). The workshop and its preparatory work were supported by the generous contribution of the European Union. The Secretariat and the Animals Committee appreciate the support provided in this regard.
51. The Animals Committee agreed to the following recommendations in paragraph 10 a) through c) of document AC33 Doc. 30:
 - a) The Animals Committee noted the background document prepared by the Secretariat *Variability of life history parameters and productivity in elasmobranchs and other commercially exploited aquatic species*.
 - b) The Animals Committee invited the Secretariat to consider including information on the application of footnote 2 to commercially exploited aquatic species when developing general capacity-building materials on Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II*.
 - c) The Animals Committee invited the Secretariat to provide a collation of the work done on the interpretation of the criteria that has been considered by the CoP as it relates to application of criteria Annex 2a criterion B to the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee and make it available on the CITES website.

52. The recommendation agreed by the Animals Committee in paragraph 51 c), which invites the Secretariat to provide a collation to AC33 and make it available on the CITES website, had been implemented at the time of the Animals Committee.
53. The Animals Committee furthermore agreed that Decisions 19.189 and 19.190 have been implemented.
54. Taking into consideration the outcomes of AC33, the Standing Committee is invited to consider the report of the workshop (see information document [AC33 Inf. 13](#)), note the recommendations in paragraph 51 a) and b) and agree that Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 have been implemented and can be deleted.

West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.) (Decision 19.196)

55. The Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc.31](#) and the Secretariat presented an update on the implementation of Decisions 19.192 to 19.194, including information relating to the [midterm implementation review](#) (MTIR) of the CMS Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP).
56. The Animals Committee agreed to submit revised decisions to the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee for submission to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 20th meeting. These draft decisions are presented in section C) of Annex 2 to this document. Concerning the Standing Committee, it is proposed to revise Decision 19.196 to adjust the timelines to report to CoP21.
57. The Standing Committee is invited to review and submit the draft decisions presented in Section C) of Annex 2 for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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

58. The Animals Committee considered document [AC33 Doc. 32](#) and its [Annex](#), and noted the concerns raised about the potential invasiveness of some amphibian species in trade and the need for demand reduction strategies in relation to illegal trade in amphibians.
59. The workshop and its preparatory work were supported by the generous contributions of the European Union and Switzerland. The Secretariat and the Animals Committee appreciate the support provided in this regard.
60. The Animals Committee agreed the recommendations contained in paragraph 29 of document AC33 Doc. 32 as amended by the Secretariat in paragraph 32 of the same document.
61. The Animals Committee noted that, in the context of the discussions on Decision 19.186 to 19.188 on *Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade* ([PC27 Doc. 24 / AC33 Doc. 29](#)), the Animals and Plants Committees agreed during their joint session to submit to the Standing Committee recommendations relating to, among others, making analyses and studies on species available to Parties through the CITES website, updates to the pertinent section of the Virtual College and expansion of the guidance material for the preparation of listing proposals. The Animals Committee agreed to include any identification materials for amphibians, particularly those for use by customs and law enforcement officers, in view of the sensitivity of amphibians to being handled and the way in which they are packaged, in the mandate of the proposed Animals Committee working group on identification materials, should it be established after CoP20.
62. The Animals Committee agreed to propose draft decisions to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20), which can be found in section D) of Annex 2 to this document. None of these decisions are directed to the Standing Committee.
63. The Animals Committee agreed that Decisions 19.197 and 19.198 can be proposed for deletion at CoP20.
64. Taking into consideration the outcomes of AC33, the Standing Committee is invited to note the draft decisions in section D) of Annex 2 to this document, which the Animals Committee will submit for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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

65. Document [AC33 Doc. 39](#) presented a preliminary study on *A Global Assessment of Songbirds in Trade* and the outcomes of the technical workshop on the management and conservation of songbird taxa in

international trade that took place in Bangkok, Thailand from 11 to 14 December 2023. The report included in [Annex 3](#) a priority list of 204 species (162 songbird species where there is evidence of significant trade in wild-caught individuals and 42 species that are already listed in CITES Appendix I or II) that may require further attention; while [Annex 4](#) included a long list of songbird species found in trade and their ranges. Paragraphs 15 to 23 of document AC33 Doc. 39 contained 30 recommendations on, *inter alia*, CITES implementation; capacity-building; captive-breeding and marking; demand; the role of indigenous peoples and local communities; data recording and management; harvest methodologies and mortality rates; disease management; and the possible inclusion of songbird species in the CITES Appendices. The proceedings of the workshop were made available as Information Document [AC33 Inf. 9](#).

66. The workshop and its preparatory work were supported by the generous contributions of Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom). The Secretariat and the Animals Committee appreciate the support provided in this regard.
67. Following consideration of document AC33 Doc.39 and its Annexes, the Animals Committee:
 - a) noted the preliminary study and the workshop report;
 - b) noted the observations from the workshop, as presented in Annex 2 to document AC33 Doc. 39;
 - c) agreed to support the recommendations in paragraphs 15 to 23 of document AC33 Doc. 39, taking into account the comment in paragraph 25 of the same document;
 - d) agreed to prioritize songbirds in the mandate of an Animals Committee working group on identification materials, should one be established after CoP20;
 - e) agreed to consider how the handling of birds impacts their well-being in the context of the review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP15) on the *Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade*, noting that there are other methods for marking such birds; and
 - f) agreed that Decisions 18.256 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.257 (Rev. CoP19) have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
68. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations from the Animals Committee and agree that Decision 18.258 (Rev. CoP19) has been implemented and can be deleted.

Queen conch (Strombus gigas) (Decision 19.236)

69. Document [AC33 Doc. 43](#) presented an update on meetings of the CFMC¹ /OSPESCA² /WECAFC³ /CRFM⁴ / CITES Working Group on Queen Conch (QCWG) , the queen conch NDF project and the queen conch genetics project. The Secretariat collaborated with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) to develop simplified NDF guidance for queen conch, which was presented in [Annex 3](#) of document AC33 Doc. 43. The Secretariat also reported on the pilot phase of a project to test genetic variation in queen conch as a way to identify illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, a collaboration with the University of Rhode Island and the GCFI.
70. The development of NDF guidance on queen conch was supported by the generous contribution of the United States of America (US), and the genetics project was supported by generous contribution from the Netherlands. The Secretariat and the Animals Committee appreciate the support provided in this regard.
71. Concerning the implementation of Decisions 19.233 to 19.236 on Queen conch, the Secretariat noted that many of the activities outlined in those Decisions are either ongoing or remain to be implemented.
72. The Animals Committee noted document AC33 Doc. 43 and agreed to propose the renewal of Decisions 19.233 to 19.236 on *Queen conch* (*Strombus gigas*) to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

¹ Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism

² Central American Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization

³ Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission

⁴ Caribbean Fishery Management Council

73. Taking into account the outcomes of AC33, the Standing Committee is invited to note that the Animals Committee intends to propose the renewal of Decisions 19.233 to 19.236 on *Queen conch* (*Strombus gigas*) for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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

74. The Chair of the Animals Committee, presented issues identified with Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on *Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade* in document [AC33 Doc. 21](#). In order to continue the work to update Resolution Conf. 8.3 (Rev. CoP17), taking into consideration changes in technologies and standards and the potential need to conduct an overall review of all Resolutions dealing with the issues of marking, draft decisions to undertake these reviews were proposed.

75. The Animals Committee agreed to propose the draft decisions to the Standing Committee for consideration at its 78th meeting as presented in Section E) of Annex 2 to this document.

76. The Standing Committee is invited to review and submit the draft decisions in section E) of Annex 2 to this document for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Periodic review of the Appendices

77. In document [PC27 Doc. 33.2 / AC33 Doc. 45.2 \(Rev. 1\)](#), the Secretariat invited the Animals Committee to establish a schedule for the Periodic Review of the Appendices, and based on outputs indicated in paragraph 8 of document PC27 Doc. 33.2 / AC33 Doc. 45.2 (Rev. 1), identify a list of animal taxa to review during the next intersessional period until CoP21 (2028). The Secretariat noted that revisions to the document related to paragraph 8 d) iv) to include Neobalaenidae in line with paragraph 2 of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) and the consequential amendment to Annex 1 on fauna to remove *Caperea marginata*.

78. The Animals Committee:

a) agreed that the following species in output 1 in Annex 1 of document AC33 Doc. 45.2 (Rev. 1) 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:

- *Ara macao*
- *Gorilla gorilla*
- *Pan troglodytes*

b) invited the Secretariat to:

- i) 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:
- ii) 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.

c) agreed to select the following 6 species in outputs 3 and 4 in Annex 1 of document AC33 Doc. 45.2 (Rev. 1), as candidates for potential review under Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) during the next intersessional period until CoP21 (2028). Where a range State has volunteered to conduct the review, this is indicated in **bold** in the table

| Taxon | Appendix | Range State(s) |
|---|----------|------------------|
| Output 3: | | |
| <i>Pteropus pilosus</i> | I | Palau |
| <i>Falco newtoni</i> (population of Seychelles) | I | Seychelles |
| <i>Pezoporus wallicus</i> | I | Australia |
| <i>Psephotellus pulcherrimus</i> | I | Australia |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----|-----------------|
| <i>Unio tecomatensis</i> | <i>tampicoensis</i> | I | Mexico |
| Output 4: | | | |
| <i>Ovis jubata</i> | | II | China, Mongolia |

- d) acknowledged that the species identified under Output 2 (in document AC32 Doc. 14.2) was considered at length by the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee and therefore agreed not to review those species at this time.
- e) 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 Animals 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.
- f) noted that an indication of whether illegal trade is taking place in the species included in the outputs produced in terms of paragraph 3 b) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on *Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II* may assist in informing the selection of species for review.

79. The Standing Committee is invited to note this report from the Animals Committee.

Section 3: Outcomes from PC27 and AC33 joint sessions requiring inputs from the Standing Committee

80. The issues discussed at the joint sessions of PC27 and AC33 that are relevant to the Standing Committee and subject of a separate agenda item for its current 78th meeting (SC78) 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 standalone agenda item for SC78, incorporating inputs from AC33/PC27, are detailed in the paragraphs below.

| PC27 / AC33 Agenda item | SC78 Document |
|---|---|
| Emerging operational issues of the committees | See document SC78 Doc. 10 |
| CITES Strategic Vision | Inputs from AC/PC have been transmitted directly to Secretariat. See document SC78 Doc. 14 |
| IPBES Assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species | See document SC78 Doc. 17 |
| Cooperation with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other international organizations | See document SC78 Doc. 16 |
| Transport of live specimens | See document SC78 Doc. 55 |
| Specimens produced through biotechnology | See document SC78 Doc. 57 |
| Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source | Inputs from AC/PC have been transmitted directly to SC intersessional WG. See document SC78 Doc. 62 |
| Informal review mechanism for existing and proposed annotations | See document SC78 Doc. 81 |
| Identifying information on species at risk of extinction affected by international trade | Inputs from AC have been transmitted directly to SC intersessional WG. See document SC78 Doc. 63 |
| Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings | See document SC78 Doc. 82 |
| Higher taxon listings in the Appendices | See document SC78 Doc. 83 |

Periodic review of the Appendices (Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19))

81. At AC33/PC27, the Plants and the Animals Committees considered documents PC27 Doc. 33.1/AC33 Doc. 45.1 (Rev. 1) and PC27 Doc. 33.2/AC33 Doc. 45.2 (Rev. 1). The Secretariat presented an overview of the animal and plant species in the periodic review process since CoP13.
82. Following consideration of document PC27 Doc. 33.1/AC33 Doc. 45.1 (Rev. 1), the Plants and Animals Committees:

- a) agreed the completion of the review of *Pteropus tokudae* and the deletion of the species from the periodic review listed below:

CoP17 to CoP19 – species selected at the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC29; Geneva, July 2017)

| TAXON CITES APPENDIX | PROPOSED ACTION |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Ovis ammon</i> (App. II) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |
| <i>Ovis aries</i> complex (App. I/II) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |
| <i>Podilymbus gigas</i> (App. I) | Delete species from review – no volunteer (species is extinct) |
| <i>Struthio camelus</i> (App. I) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |
| <i>Podarcis lilfordi</i> (App. II) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |

CoP17 to CoP19 – species selected at the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee (PC23; Geneva, July 2017)

| TAXON CITES APPENDIX | PROPOSED ACTION |
|--|---|
| <i>Melocactus paucispinus</i> (APP. I) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |
| <i>Caryocar costaricense</i> (APP. II) | Delete species from review – no volunteer |

- b) invited Indonesia to submit the information it has provided in information document PC27 Inf. 2/AC33 Inf.10 as a working document to the next meeting of the Animals Committee;
- c) noted that Colombia had volunteered to conduct a periodic review for *Ramphastos (vitellinus) citreolaemus* with support from the United States of America; and
- d) requested the Secretariat to update the records in the Annexes accordingly.

83. The Animals and Plants Committees agreed to propose to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of criterion D in paragraph 3 b) ii) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on *Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II*.

84. The Standing Committee is invited to note the report of the Animals and Plants Committees.

Countrywide Significant Trade Reviews [Decision 18.72]

85. At AC33/PC27, the Animals and Plants Committees considered document [PC27 Doc. 13/AC33 Doc. 13](#), which was submitted by the co-chairs of the joint intersessional working group on Country-wide Review of Significant Trade. The document noted the parallels between the work on country-wide Significant Trade Reviews, the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP), the capacity-building framework (Decision 19.41) and the development of comprehensive new guidance on making Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs), which should serve as a useful new resource for those range States that are currently subject to the Review of Significant Trade (RST).

86. The document concluded that since the development of an integrated capacity-building framework remains ongoing it is not yet possible to determine if this will sufficiently address the scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar. The working group further concluded that a country struggling with RST may not be selected as a priority country for assistance within the CAP and that future work should support those Parties with re-occurring issues regarding NDFs for multiple species and who are not currently eligible for the CAP.

87. Following consideration of document PC27 Doc.13/AC33 Doc.13, the Animals and Plants Committees:

- a) noted the conclusions of the working group as outlined in paragraphs 19 to 21 of document PC27 Doc. 13 / AC33 Doc. 13; and
- b) agreed to propose replacing Decisions 19.47 and 19.48 with the draft decisions presented in Section A) of Annex 3 to this document, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

88. The Standing Committee is invited to review and submit the draft decisions in Section A) of Annex 3 to this document for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs) (Decision 19.133)

89. At AC33/PC27, the Animals and Plants Committees considered document [PC27 Doc. 16/AC33 Doc. 16](#), which was prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Animals Committee and the Vice-Chair of the Plants Committee. The document provided an update on the publication of the preliminary CITES NDF guidance on the CITES website and indicates how the NDF guidance will be field tested. The document also proposed a way forward for a strategy and feedback mechanism from Parties and the wider CITES community to share experiences with using NDF guidance materials, and to review and update NDF materials as may be needed.

90. Following consideration of document PC27 Doc.16/AC33 Doc.16, the Animals and Plants Committees:

- a) noted the progress of the CITES NDF project and the publication of the preliminary CITES NDF guidance on the CITES website;
- b) agreed that Decisions 19.132 to 19.134 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
- d) agreed the draft decisions contained in Annex 4 to document PC27 Doc. 16/AC33 Doc. 16 on a strategy and feedback mechanism to review and update NDF guidance materials and amended by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (as presented in Section B) of Annex 3 to this document),

91. The Standing Committee is invited to note the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees and the draft decisions in Section B) of Annex 3 of this document, which will be presented by the Animals and Plants Committees for consideration at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Recommendations

92. The Standing Committee is invited to:

- a) note the recommendations adopted by the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee on the items discussed in the present document as contained in the summary records of the meetings ([PC27 SR](#) and [AC33 SR](#));
- b) request the Secretariat to, in consultation with the Chairs of the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee to revise the text, if required, on the CITES complementary actions presented in draft revisions to Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* agreed by the Plants Committee and contained in Section A) in Annex 1 to the present document;
- c) regarding the *Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'*, note the matters in paragraph 46 raised by the representatives of Oceania, Australia and Germany relating to transit / re-exports, the need for consultation with the Management and Scientific Authorities of exporting countries and on the possible need for clarification of the footnote in paragraph 1 in relation to provisions in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution Conf.11.20 (Rev. CoP18);
- d) regarding *Aquatic species listed in the CITES Appendices* consider the report of the workshop (see information document [AC33 Inf. 13](#)), note the recommendations in paragraph 51 a) and b) and agree that Decisions 19.189 to 19.191 have been implemented and can be deleted;
- e) note the draft decisions and amendments to resolutions that the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee agreed to submit for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties contained in Annexes 1 and 2 of the present document:

| Item under consideration | Proposed recommendation to the Standing Committee |
|---|--|
| <i>Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] (Decision 19.245)</i> | i. new draft decisions in section D) of Annex 1; |
| <i>Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.) (Decision 19.199)</i> | ii. new draft decisions in section D) of Annex 2; |
| <i>Queen conch (Strombus gigas) (Decision 19.236)</i> | iii. renewal of Decisions 19.233 to 19.236 on <i>Queen conch</i> (<i>Strombus gigas</i>); |
| <i>Periodic review of the Appendices (Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19)) – flora and fauna</i> | iv. deletion of criterion D in paragraph 3 b) ii) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on <i>Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II</i> ; and |
| <i>Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs) (Decision 19.133)</i> | v. new draft decisions in Section B) of Annex 2. |

- f) review and submit the draft decisions and amendments to resolutions proposed by the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee, referred to in the table below and contained in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 to the present document, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and

| Item under consideration | Proposed recommendation to the Standing Committee |
|--|---|
| <i>Identification of timber and other wood products (Decision 19.148)</i> | i. new and revised draft decisions in section B) of Annex 1; |
| <i>Agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.) (Decision 19.240)</i> | ii. proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.10 on <i>Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa</i> in Section C) of Annex 1; |
| <i>Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (Decision 19.25)</i> | iii. proposed amendment to paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i> in Section A) i. of Annex 2; iv. new draft decisions in Section A) ii. of Annex 2; |
| <i>African lions (Panthera leo) (Decision 19.207)</i> | v. draft revised decisions in Section B) of Annex 2; |
| <i>Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations' (Decision 19.166)</i> | vi. renewal of Decisions 19.164 to 19.166 on <i>Definition of the term 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'</i> ; |
| <i>West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.) (Decision 19.196)</i> | vii. draft revised decisions in in Section C) of Annex 2; |
| <i>Review of Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade</i> | viii. new draft decisions in section E) of Annex 2; and |
| <i>Countrywide Significant Trade Reviews (Decision 18.72)</i> | ix. new draft decisions in Section A) of Annex 3; |

- g) agree that the following Decisions directed to the Standing Committee relating to the items in the present document have been implemented and can be deleted:
- i) Decision 19.240 on *Agarwood-producing taxa* (*Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.*);
 - ii) Decision 19.245 on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]*
 - iii) Decision 19.256 on *African tree species*
 - iv) Decision 19.260 on *Neotropical tree species*
 - v) Decision 18.258 (Rev.CoP19) on *Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes spp.)*

COMPILATION OF DRAFT DECISIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS AGREED BY THE
PLANTS COMMITTEE AT ITS 27TH MEETING (PC27) FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE 20TH MEETING OF
THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP20)

A) Global Strategy for Plants Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Amendments agreed by the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee (clean version from Annex 1 to PC27
Doc. 9 – edits agreed by PC27: *deleted text is in strikethrough and new text is underlined*)

Conf. 16.5* **Cooperation with the Global Strategy** **(Rev. CoP20)** **for Plant Conservation of the** **Convention on Biological Diversity**

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 10.4 (Rev. CoP14) on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity*, and the *Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of CITES and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*, signed on March 1996, as well as its amendment, signed in 2000 and 2001;

RECALLING that, ~~in 2002~~, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2002, adopted, through Decision VI/9, the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* (GSPC), including outcome-oriented global targets ~~through to for 2010~~; in Decision X/17 adopted the *Consolidated update of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation for 2011-2020*, and, in 2024 through Decision XX/X adopted the voluntary complementary actions related to plant conservation to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

NOTING that, since its 13th meeting (Geneva, August 2003), the Plants Committee has recognized that CITES contributes to many of the Targets of the GSPC and since its 27th meeting (Geneva, July 2024) that these contributions will continue through the voluntary complementary actions under the CBD's new Global Biodiversity Framework;

NOTING further that the Secretariat of the CBD recognizes in the 20209 Plant Conservation Report that Target 11 of the GSPC (*No species of wild flora endangered by international trade*) formeds the core business of CITES activities related to flora;

RECALLING Decision ~~159.2249~~ adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 159th meeting (Panama City/Doha, 202240), which directs the Plants Committee and the Secretariat to collaborate with processes established to implement develop the relevant outcomes regarding the post-2020 future of the GSPC beyond 2040, as it relates to CITES activities;

WELCOMING Decision X/XX17 of the 160th meeting of Conference of the Parties to the CBD (Japan-Cali, Colombia, 202410), which adopted the consolidated update of the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020* (GSPC) to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

RECOGNIZING the significant role that CITES can play in the achievement of the objectives and targets voluntary complementary actions of the GSPC, and the effect upon CITES if the GSPC is successfully implemented;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

1. INVITES Parties to:

- a) take note of the potential contribution of CITES through ~~to~~ the objectives and targets and voluntary complementary actions of the consolidated update of the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2023-2030* through the activities and products listed in the Annex to the present Resolution;
 - b) promote and enhance collaboration between their GSPC focal point and their CITES Authorities, through:
 - i) the involvement of CITES authorities in the development and implementation of the GSPC national biodiversity strategies, particularly activities related to CITES-listed species; and
 - ii) the inclusion of CITES-GSPC-related activities in CBD National Reports;
2. DIRECTS the Secretariat to encourage the exchange of information related to the GSPC and other plant conservation and sustainable use initiatives, by:
- a) promoting awareness of ongoing CITES activities that contribute to the achievement of GSPC voluntary complementary actions~~Targets~~, by communicating information among CITES bodies and Parties on the operations and outcomes of CITES processes, such as the Review of Significant Trade, Periodic Review of the Appendices, proposals to amend the CITES Appendices, ~~and~~ formulation of Non-detriment Findings (NDFs), among others;
 - b) collaborating with the CBD Secretariat to streamline reporting on relevant CITES activities related to the GSPC objectives, targets and voluntary complementary actions~~Targets~~;
 - c) including the GSPC in any work plans developed under the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Secretariat of CBD; and
 - d) inviting a CBD representative to participate as an observer at Plants Committee meetings that address GSPC;
3. DIRECTS the Plants Committee and the Secretariat to promote CITES collaboration with CBD on the implementation of the GSPC objectives, targets and voluntary complementary actions by:
- a) representing the CITES Plants Committee at meetings of CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and other GSPC-related meetings subject to the availability of external funding; and
 - b) providing contributions for CBD documents regarding the implementation of the GSPC objectives, targets and voluntary complementary actions.

Annex

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-2011-2020*

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
|--|---|--|
| 1. <u>Reducing threats to biodiversity</u> | | |
| <p>Target 1 <u>Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> | <p><u>Plant conservation in spatial planning and management processes</u></p> <p>1. <u>Identify and map, where possible, all plant species in terrestrial, inland water, marine and coastal ecosystems, including at the population level, as well as areas and ecosystems important for plant diversity, using diverse knowledge systems.</u></p> | <p>– <u>CITES Appendices.</u></p> <p>– <u>Proposals for amendment of the Appendices.</u></p> <p>– <u>Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p>– <u>Periodic Review of the Appendices.</u></p> <p>– <u>Review of Significant Trade.</u></p> |
| <p>Target 2 <u>Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem</u></p> | <p><u>Ecological restoration</u></p> <p>2. <u>Implement or participate in programmes for the effective restoration of degraded ecosystems and habitats, including to prevent or mitigate the existing drivers of degradation, prioritizing the use of genetically appropriate material of native species, enhancing and</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
|--|--|--|
| <p><u>functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.</u></p> | <p><u>conserving soils, considering ecological criteria, associated fungal symbionts, pollinators and dispersers, and including species of conservation concern, as well as climate resilience, long-term commitment, innovative financing and adaptive management, ensuring that the programmes enhance biodiversity and human well-being and are informed, where possible, by traditional knowledge, with the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned.</u></p> | |
| <p><u>Target 3</u> <u>Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.</u></p> | <p><u>Important areas for plant diversity</u> <u>3 (a) Ensure that important areas for the conservation of plant species and their genetic diversity are identified, well connected and represented within protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, including in marine and coastal areas.</u> <u>3 (b) Develop integrated management plans for important areas for plant diversity and implement programmes to ensure that those areas are effectively documented, protected, monitored and sustainably managed, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 4</u> <u>Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and</u></p> | <p><u>Plant species conservation</u> <u>4 (a) Ensure that extinction risk and conservation status are known, understood and maintained and that</u></p> | <p><u>Species Plus.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
|---|--|---|
| <p><u>conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence.</u></p> | <p><u>assessments are regularly updated, as far as possible, for known plant species.</u></p> <p>4 (b) <u>Develop and implement recovery plans for all known threatened plant species, including management plans for pests, weeds and other known threats and drivers of loss, to significantly reduce extinction risk.</u></p> <p>4 (c) <u>Promote programmes to ensure that threatened plant species are effectively conserved, managed, monitored and restored using in situ and ex situ methodologies, aiming to achieve adequate levels of genetic diversity and viable populations and, where appropriate, involving indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> <p><u>Conservation of genetic diversity</u></p> <p>4 (d) <u>Undertake ex situ and in situ conservation programmes for genetic diversity in wild and domesticated plant species and populations, including crops and their wild relatives and other socioeconomically valuable plant species, considering the domestication gradient and the use of surrogates or proxies, ensuring that the genetic diversity within and among populations is effectively documented, managed and monitored, to maintain and restore genetic diversity and safeguard their adaptive potential, taking into account the relevant frameworks and plans of action developed under the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.</u></p> <p>4 (e) <u>Establish programmes to ensure that domesticated, cultivated species and crop wild relatives are effectively protected, restored and managed using on-farm and in situ methodologies and by applying sustainable management practices using agroecology</u></p> | <p><u>CITES Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p><u>Artificial Propagation and assisted production.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 13.9 Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
|---|---|---|
| | <p><u>and other sustainable production practices involving the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, with their free, prior and informed consent.</u></p> <p>4 (f) <u>Encourage ex situ operations that artificially propagate threatened plant species to seek cooperative measures that would support in situ conservation, such as technical support, the contribution of funds, the exchange of specimens for reintroduction into the wild, capacity-building and training, technology transfer, investment and infrastructure.</u></p> | |
| <p>Target 5 <u>Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> | <p><u>Sustainable harvesting</u></p> <p>5 (a) <u>Develop and implement strategies to ensure the sustainable and legal harvesting and use of wild plants, including by determining sustainable harvest levels, and for artificial propagation or assisted production, respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> <p><u>Trade in plants</u></p> <p>5 (b) <u>Identify wild plants that are currently or likely to be threatened by unsustainable or illegal trade, and support the implementation or development and adoption of national or international guidelines and other measures to ensure that the harvesting of and trade in plants are sustainable, safe and legal.</u></p> | <p><u>Legal Acquisition Findings.</u></p> <p><u>Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) Implementation of the Convention for tree species.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) Regulation of trade in plants.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 14.4 Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| | | <u>Conf. 16.10 Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa.</u> |
| <p><u>Target 6</u> <u>Eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services by identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species, reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of other known or potential invasive alien species by at least 50 per cent by 2030, and eradicating or controlling invasive alien species, especially in priority sites, such as islands.</u></p> | <p><u>Monitoring invasive species</u></p> <p><u>6 (a) Develop or strengthen early warning and monitoring and tracking systems, including public awareness programmes, at the national and international levels, to prevent, manage and eradicate potentially invasive alien species that affect or may affect native plants and their ecosystems, and put in place measures¹ to manage pathways of introduction.</u></p> <p><u>¹ Any international measures should be implemented in compliance with the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization and the International Plant Protection Convention.</u></p> <p><u>Controlling invasive species</u></p> <p><u>6 (b) Address the detrimental impact of invasive alien species on plant diversity and ecosystems by undertaking control or eradication measures, with a focus on areas important for plant diversity and considering the impacts of climate change.</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> <p><u>Nevertheless, CITES Parties have recognized the link between trade and alien invasive species in Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14) on Trade in alien invasive species.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 7</u> <u>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a)</u></p> | <p><u>Impact of pollution on plants</u></p> <p><u>7. Gather information, research, assess and provide evidence of pollution risks and their negative impacts, and take action to minimize pollution pressures on plant species and their ecosystems.</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u> • <u>However, CITES does take into consideration the impacts on plants from multiple threats, including pollution.</u> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.</u></p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CITES Appendices.</u> • <u>Supporting statements for proposals to amend the Appendices.</u> • <u>Non-detriment Findings.</u> |
| <p><u>Target 8</u> <u>Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.</u></p> | <p><u>Native plant use in climate mitigation and adaptation</u></p> <p><u>8 (a) Consider current and projected impacts of climate change on species, species distribution and ecosystems when implementing plant conservation activities, including those undertaken under Targets 2, 3, 4 and 6.</u></p> <p><u>8 (b) Encourage the use of genetically, biologically and ecologically appropriate native plant species, including species of conservation concern, in areas planted for carbon sequestration and in nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for climate mitigation and adaptation, ensuring that such areas are selected appropriately to avoid negative effects and foster positive impacts on biodiversity.</u></p> | <p>– <u>CITES Appendices.</u></p> <p>– <u>Supporting statements for proposals to amend the Appendices.</u></p> <p>– <u>Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p>– <u>Periodic Review results.</u></p> <p>– <u>Review of Significant Trade results.</u></p> |
| <p><u>2. Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing</u></p> | | |
| <p><u>Target 9</u> <u>Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing</u></p> | <p><u>Plants for peoples' needs</u></p> | <p><u>Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) CITES and Livelihoods.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> | <p><u>9. Co-develop and implement programmes with indigenous peoples, local communities and relevant stakeholders to sustainably maintain and manage wild plants that are of socioeconomic and cultural importance, as well as their ecosystems, and to enhance benefits for people.</u></p> | |
| <p><u>Target 10</u> <u>Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.</u></p> | <p><u>Sustainable management of production land</u></p> <p><u>10 (a) Support and put in place sustainable management programmes for existing areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry and increase the proportion of those areas that is managed sustainably to ensure the conservation and restoration of associated wild plant diversity, including crop wild relatives.</u></p> <p><u>10 (b) Include a special effort to conserve landraces, both in situ and ex situ, and promote the wider use of landraces to support the diversification of crops and cropping systems.</u></p> <p><u>10 (c) Promote and support actions relating to the conservation of wild relatives of edible species as a clear contribution towards food security.</u></p> | <p><u>Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) CITES and Livelihoods.</u></p> <p><u>Captive-produced animals and artificially propagated plants.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 11</u> <u>Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions</u></p> | <p><u>Native plants and ecosystem functions and services</u></p> <p><u>11. Ensure that genetically, biologically and ecologically appropriate and adapted native plant species, including species of conservation concern, are used for the restoration of ecosystems or ecosystem services,</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <u>and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.</u> | <u>including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches.</u> | |
| <p><u>Target 12</u> <u>Significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature, and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and to the provision of ecosystem functions and services.</u></p> | <p><u>Urban green infrastructure</u></p> <p><u>12 (a) Establish green infrastructure projects focused on plant diversity and connectivity, encouraging the use of native climate-resilient species in plant diversity conservation programmes in urban areas and developing and implementing new strategies for promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services into urban and territorial planning and management, taking into account coastal urban areas and coastal and marine ecosystems.</u></p> <p><u>Urban plant diversity</u></p> <p><u>12 (b) Develop, designate and protect biodiversity-rich accessible green and blue spaces in urban areas by establishing or strengthening, inter alia, parks, greenways, ponds, watercourses, wetlands, botanical gardens and arboretums in such areas, and ensure connectivity among those spaces, in order to support biodiversity conservation, environmental education and awareness, and human health and well-being effectively.</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 13</u> <u>Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic</u></p> | <p><u>Access and benefit-sharing for plant conservation</u></p> <p><u>13. Support and encourage measures to facilitate appropriate access to plant genetic resources, ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of such resources and associated traditional knowledge, as well as from digital sequence information originated from those resources, in accordance with</u></p> | <p><u>Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) CITES and Livelihoods.</u></p> <p><u>Artificially propagated plants.</u></p> <p><u>Medicinal Plants.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</u></p> | <p><u>applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</u></p> | |
| <p><u>3. Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming</u></p> | | |
| <p><u>Target 14</u> <u>Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</u></p> | <p><u>Tools for mainstreaming plant conservation</u></p> <p>14. <u>Provide open and accessible data and develop tools to help to measure and integrate the importance of diverse knowledge systems and value of plant diversity into policies, regulations, environmental assessments and planning processes, including rural and urban development, poverty reduction strategies and national accounting and reporting mechanisms.</u></p> | <p><u>CITES and Forests Compendium.</u></p> <p><u>CITES Tree Species Programme.</u></p> <p><u>Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p><u>Legal Acquisition Findings.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 15</u> <u>Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions</u></p> | <p><u>Sustainable practices in plant use</u></p> <p>15 (a) <u>Encourage and support the adoption by businesses, in particular large and transnational companies and other sectors that focus on plants of sustainable practices along supply chains for trade in wild plant species, and promote those practices in such sectors as finance, transport, e-commerce and tourism.</u></p> <p>15 (b) <u>Promote and support the development of best practices for the monitoring and evaluation of plant use in sustainable production, to support plant</u></p> | <p><u>Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) CITES and Livelihoods.</u></p> <p><u>Artificially propagated plants.</u></p> <p><u>CITES Tree Species Programme.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios;</u></p> <p>(b) <u>Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</u></p> <p>(c) <u>Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable;</u></p> <p><u>in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</u></p> | <p><u>conservation and benefits to indigenous peoples and local communities.</u></p> <p>15 (c) <u>Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption practices in plant use.</u></p> | <p><u>CITES and Forests Compendium.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 16</u> <u>Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</u></p> | <p><u>Sustainable consumption</u></p> <p>16 (a) <u>Provide information and guidance, including in the form of trade statistics and data, and capacity-building to inform the development of policies and legislative and regulatory frameworks that recognize the importance of wild plants as a source of food, fibres, medicines, pharmaceuticals and construction material and as a resource for other sectors.</u></p> <p>16 (b) <u>Develop and support education programmes on the importance of plants and the impacts of the global footprint of consumption, global food waste and overconsumption on plant diversity.</u></p> | <p><u>Review of Significant Trade.</u></p> <p><u>Medicinal Plants.</u></p> <p><u>CITES and Forests Compendium.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 13.9 Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>Target 17</u> <u>Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement in all countries, biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and measures for the handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19 of the Convention.</u></p> | <p><u>17. Foster and support research and development, especially in developing countries, to enhance the benefits arising from the use of safe biotechnologies related to plant conservation and increase the sustainability and resilience of agrifood systems.</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 18</u> <u>Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</u></p> | <p><u>No particular plant conservation action is required under Target 18, except to support its achievement.</u></p> | <p><u>Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 19</u> <u>Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by:</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from</u></p> | <p><u>Financial resources for plant conservation</u></p> <p><u>19. Support and mobilize resources from a wide range of appropriate sources to carry out plant conservation actions.</u></p> | <p><u>CITES consistently seeks to increase the resourcing raised and allocated to plant conservation actions that relate to CITES-listed plant species.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least \$20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least \$30 billion per year by 2030;</u></p> <p>(b) <u>Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs, priorities and circumstances;</u></p> <p>(c) <u>Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments;</u></p> <p>(d) <u>Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards;</u></p> <p>(e) <u>Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises;</u></p> <p>(f) <u>Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions and non-market-based</u></p> | | |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity;</u></p> <p>(g) <u>Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use.</u></p> | | |
| <p><u>Target 20</u> <u>Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework.</u></p> | <p><u>Capacity-building</u></p> <p><u>20 (a) Establish or strengthen professional training and capacity-building initiatives related to plant conservation, scientific research and monitoring, taxonomy and information management, horticulture, botany, plant conservation biology research, biotechnology and ecological restoration.</u></p> <p><u>20 (b) Establish mechanisms, partnerships and networks to support the accessibility of data, knowledge, technology and South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation for collaborative plant conservation.</u></p> | <p><u>Capacity building.</u></p> <p><u>Draft guidance on Non-detriment Findings.</u></p> <p><u>CITES Tree Species Programme.</u></p> <p><u>Conf. 13.9 Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 21</u> <u>Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and</u></p> | <p><u>Public awareness programmes</u></p> <p><u>21 (a) Develop or implement programmes to raise public awareness of the value of plant diversity and the ecosystem services that they provide.</u></p> <p><u>Plant information systems</u></p> | <p><u>Species Plus, CITES Checklist.</u></p> <p><u>CITES and Forests Compendium.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation.</u></p> | <p><u>21 (b) Support the development and use of existing comprehensive, authoritative and accessible expertise and online information systems, documentation and inventories, as well as access to biological collections (e.g. through digitization) at the local, national and international levels, making available to all countries information on their floras and the status of known plant species and associated ecosystems, while ensuring the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples with regard to access to traditional knowledge and taking into consideration the ongoing work and processes carried out under relevant organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.</u></p> <p><u>21 (c) Explore ways to consider various knowledge systems, including traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies, to support plant conservation action.</u></p> <p><u>21 (d) Promote the continuous updating of the World Flora Online, including its identification support tools, information on plant distribution and the updating of regional floras.</u></p> <p><u>[Citizen science</u></p> <p><u>21 (e) Develop or support citizen science programmes for identifying, documenting, monitoring, conserving, restoring and sustainably using plant diversity.]</u></p> | <p><u>CITES identification materials.</u></p> <p><u>CITES Virtual College.</u></p> <p><u>CITES website.</u></p> |
| <p><u>Target 22</u> <u>Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources,</u></p> | <p><u>Plant conservation and traditional knowledge</u></p> <p><u>22. Ensure the full equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all relevant levels, with their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation, to build respect for, and safeguard traditional</u></p> | <p><u>Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) CITES and Livelihoods.</u></p> <p><u>Capacity Building.</u></p> |

| <u>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> | <u>Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Voluntary complementary actions for the period 2023–2030</u> | <u>CITES's potential contribution</u> |
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| <p><u>and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.</u></p> | <p><u>knowledge, innovations and practices related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant diversity.</u></p> | |
| <p><u>Target 23</u> <u>Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.</u></p> | <p><u>Gender equality</u> <u>23. Ensure gender equality in the implementation of plant conservation and restoration actions by proactively implementing a responsive approach, encompassing the recognition of women's rights, equitable access to plant resources and inclusive participation at all levels in decision-making processes, while highlighting the important role of women, as essential knowledge holders, in plant conservation.</u></p> | <p><u>CITES gender action plan.</u></p> <p><u>Resolution Conf. 19.3 on Gender and international trade in wild fauna and flora.</u></p> |

PC27 agreed to maintain the last table in the Annex that maps the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation objectives, targets and CITES potential contribution:

| GSPC's Objective | GSPC's Target ⁵ | CITES's potential contribution |
|---|--|--|
| (I) Plant diversity is well understood, documented and recognized | 1. An online flora of all known plants. | CITES checklists available online. |
| | 2. An assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, as far as possible, to guide conservation action. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CITES Appendices. – Supporting statements for proposals to amend the Appendices. – NDFs. – Periodic Review results. – Review of Significant Trade results. |
| | 3. Information, research and associated outputs, and methods necessary to implement the Strategy developed and shared. | |
| (II) Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved | 4. At least 15 % of each ecological region or vegetation type secured through effective management and/or restoration. | Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level. |
| | 5. At least 75 % of the most important areas for plant diversity of each ecological region protected with effective management in place for conserving plants and their genetic diversity. | |
| | 6. At least 75 % of production lands in each sector managed sustainably, consistent with the conservation of plant diversity. | |
| | 7. At least 75 % of known threatened plant species conserved <i>in situ</i> . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inclusion of species/populations in CITES Appendices. – Identification of the location/habitat of Appendix-I species. – Efforts by CITES Parties to ensure sustainable use of CITES-listed species: NDFs and national quotas. – Implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.9 on <i>Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes</i>. – CITES Certificate of Scientific Exchange. |
| | 8. At least 75 % of threatened plant species in <i>ex situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20 % available for recovery and restoration programmes. | |

⁵ As taken from the CBD Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020.

| GSPC's Objective | GSPC's Target ⁵ | CITES's potential contribution |
|---|---|---|
| | 9. 70 % of the genetic diversity of crops including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, while respecting, preserving and maintaining associated indigenous and local knowledge. | Not directly applicable. |
| | 10. Effective management plans in place to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are invaded. | Not directly applicable. Nevertheless, CITES Parties have recognized the link between trade and alien invasive species in Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Trade in alien invasive species</i> . |
| (III) Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner | 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade. | All CITES activities contribute directly to this Target, and CITES is recognized as having a leadership role in implementing this Target. |
| | 12. All wild-harvested plant-based products sourced sustainably. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NDFs, national quotas, Review of Significant Trade, and Periodic Review of the Appendices. – Annotations to the Appendices enable regulation of certain target commodities. |
| | 13. Indigenous and local knowledge innovations and practices associated with plant resources, maintained or increased, as appropriate, to support customary use, sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NDFs. – Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Traditional medicines</i>. – CITES Standing Committee Working Group on CITES and Livelihoods. |
| (IV) Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and importance to all life on earth is promoted | 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, education and public awareness programmes. | <p>CITES tools, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Training courses, workshops results and technical reports. – CITES Virtual College. – CITES website. – CITES Identification Manual and Web pages. |
| (V) The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy have been developed | 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities sufficient according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Training materials, including PowerPoint presentations and CD-ROMs. – Capacity-building work of the Secretariat. |
| | 16. Institutions, networks and partnerships for plant conservation established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels to achieve the targets of this Strategy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CITES Parties and Plants Committee. – Regional Directories. |

B) Identification of timber and other wood products

Directed to Parties (new text underlined, deleted text in ~~strikethrough~~)

19.146 (Rev. CoP20) Parties are encouraged to:

- a) ~~collaborate with the Secretariat in sharing relevant information in support of the implementation of Decisions 20.AA 19.145 and 19.147 Dalbergia species, taking into consideration progress made in document PC25 Doc. 34 and document CoP19 Doc. 84.1, and giving attention to frontline identification materials to assist differentiating look-alike species that may not be of conservation concern, such as Dalbergia sisso~~;
- b) prioritize the development of identification material for:
 - i) priority CITES listed tree species, taking into consideration the prioritization done by the Plants Committee in Decision 19.147 (Rev. CoP20) and the needs of frontline enforcement staff; and
 - ii) look-alike species that may not be of conservation concern, such as Dalbergia sisso.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall

- a) issue a Notification to the Parties inviting Parties to provide information to the Secretariat relating to:
 - i) the CITES listed tree species in international trade to be prioritized for the development of timber identification material, taking into consideration the prioritization done during the previous intersessional period for African tree species, Neotropical tree species and Rosewood tree species contained in documents [PC26 SR](#), [PC27 Doc 31](#), [PC27 Doc. 27](#), PC27 SR;
 - ii) priorities for frontline enforcement as it relates to timber identification, including:
 - A. existing diagnostic keys or taxon-specific CITES identification materials for priority species that can be shared with the Secretariat for publication on the CITES website; and
 - B. key gaps relating to identification material to be addressed.
 - iii) available timber identification techniques and tools used by Parties, the standards applicable to the techniques and tools and the usefulness of these tools,
 - iv) minimum information contained in wood sample collection forms or documents for wood samples to be recognized; and all possible fields that are captured in a wood sample collections;
 - v) publicly accessible wood sample databases that can be included on the CITES website; and where feasible, information on the process by which other Parties might submit a request to access database that are restricted; and
 - vi) best practices and experiences in the development and use of wood identification technologies to build expertise in wood identification;
- b) make information shared by Parties relating to materials, techniques, tools and database on timber identification available on the CITES website; and
- c) collate this information for the consideration of the Plants Committee at its 28th meeting and Standing Committee, as appropriate.

Directed to the Plants Committee, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders (new text underlined, deleted text in ~~strikethrough~~)

19.147 (Rev. CoP20) *The Plants Committee shall, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and building on information on existing initiatives and processes, information contained in document PC27 Doc. 18.2 and its Annexes and the responses to the Notification issued by the Secretariat in terms of Decision 20.AA, and progress to date:*

- ~~a) develop a plan to prioritize the CITES-listed tree species for which identification materials, reference databases and tools should be developed; to focus global efforts on developing and sharing identification reference databases and tools, including sampling campaigns for vouchered reference samples;~~
- ~~b) advise on possible mechanisms to address the shortage of vouchered reference samples;~~
- ~~b) prioritize the development of identification material for Dalbergia species, taking into consideration progress made in document PC25 Doc. 34 and document CoP19 Doc. 84.1, and giving attention to frontline identification materials to assist differentiating look-alike species that may not be of conservation concern, such as Dalbergia sissoo;~~
- ~~c) consider the develop a list of available techniques and tools, and evaluate their standards and usefulness to species-specific identification and enforcement for priority CITES-listed tree species and their look-alikes;~~
- ~~d) determine gaps in current knowledge sources for CITES timber identification, on their availability and usefulness, and consider challenges and resourcing required to make these tools more widely available to CITES Parties;~~
- ~~e) develop standardized information templates and other tools that could be used by Parties to facilitate sharing information on the content and status of wood sample collections, and exchange with research institutions, law enforcement agencies, and other authorities;~~
- ~~f) determine methods to stimulate global, regional and national exchange of best practices in wood identification technologies between Parties, including lessons learned on how Parties have built their timber identification capacity and expertise;~~
- ~~gd) consider the outcomes of the review of the utility and practicality of the online repository conducted by the Secretariat and make recommendations on its further development to inform implementation of Decision 19.145;~~
- ~~h) consider the relevant outcomes of the online Task Force meeting on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species presented in the Annex to the Addendum to document SC74 Doc. 33.2; and~~
- ~~ie) update the Standing Committee, as appropriate, on progress made, and report its findings and recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 210st meeting.~~

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.148 (Rev. CoP20) *The Standing Committee shall consider any report by the Plants Committee relating to the implementation of Decision 19.147 (Rev. CoP20) and convey, as appropriate, any recommendations it may have to the Conference of the Parties.*

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

AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 16.10 ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR
AGARWOOD-PRODUCING TAXA

Conf. 16.10 **Implementation of the Convention** **(Rev. CoP20)** **for agarwood-producing taxa**

RECOGNIZING that agarwood-producing taxa included in Appendix II refer to *Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.;

NOTING that wild populations of agarwood-producing taxa are in decline due to several reasons, including selective harvesting and over-exploitation, some of the main species in trade are threatened with extinction according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List⁶ and the conservation status of others remains unclear;

RECOGNIZING that some agarwood-producing tree species are easy to propagate artificially, and AWARE that the production of resinous wood is typically induced through natural or artificial stress factors (e.g. bacteria/fungi attacks, inoculation or mechanical injuries), and that the amount of tree stock is not equivalent to the amount of resinous wood produced;

RECOGNIZING that, for artificially propagated agarwood-producing taxa, and all parts and derivatives thereof, the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5), of the Convention apply;

NOTING that the definition of 'artificially propagated' in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Regulation of trade in plants*, and Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18) on *Implementation of the Convention for tree species* can be applied to monospecific tree plantations;

AWARE that agarwood-producing taxa can be grown in monospecific or mixed species plantations; [PC27 edit: deletion of the hyphen in *mono-specific* and deletion of the hyphen and adding a space for *mixed-species*]

RECOGNIZING that for plant species that are propagated and grown in diverse production systems with varying degrees of human intervention, the Conference of the Parties adopted the term and definition for 'assisted production' and source code 'Y' at its 18th meeting (Geneva, 2018), in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Regulation of trade in plants*, and Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP19) on *Permits and certificates*, respectively;

RECOGNIZING that range States may have different procedures for making non-detriment findings (NDFs) for agarwood-producing taxa and that Scientific Authorities are encouraged to take into account the concepts and non-binding principles in Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings*;

NOTING the availability of guidance materials to assist Parties in making non-detriment findings for agarwood-producing taxa, such as the *CITES NDF Guidance*⁷;

RECOGNIZING that range States may establish national export quotas for agarwood specimens, which must be for individual species of agarwood-producing taxa consistent with the guidelines in Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15) on *Management of nationally established export quotas*;

ACKNOWLEDGING that paragraph 3 iv), of the Resolution Conf. 13.7 (CoP17) on *Control of trade in personal and household effects* sets certain maximum quantities of specimens of agarwood-producing taxa that may qualify for the personal or household effects exemption from the provisions of Articles III, IV and V of the Convention;

RECOGNIZING, however, that many Parties do not fully implement the exemptions of personal and household effects in Article VII, paragraph 3 of the Convention, and Resolution Conf. 13.7 (Rev. CoP17) on

⁶ <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/documents/PC/26/agenda/E-PC26-27.pdf>

⁷ <https://cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php>

Control of trade in personal and household effects for specimens of agarwood-producing taxa, owing due to stricter domestic measures or other provisions;

ACKNOWLEDGING the outcomes of the workshop on *Implementation of CITES for Agarwood-producing species* (Kuwait, 3-6 October 2011), the Asian regional workshops on agarwood (*Management of wild and plantation-grown agarwood* (Indonesia, 22-24 November 2011), the Asian Regional Workshop on the *Management of Wild and Planted Agarwood Taxa* (India, 19-23 January 2015, and Indonesia, 25-29 June 2018), the CITES Tree Species Programme Validation Workshop on Agarwood Report (Malaysia, 20-22 June 2022), and the International Tropical Timber Organization technical report: *Expensive, Exploited and Endangered. A review of the agarwood-producing genera Aquilaria and Gyrinops: CITES considerations, trade patterns, conservation, and management* (Thompson, I.D., Lim, T., and Turjaman, M. 2022. ITTO Technical Series No. 51);

RECOGNIZING that the management of agarwood-producing taxa can be improved through measures taken by and with cooperation among range States and agarwood exporting, importing, and transit States; and

NOTING that information document CoP16 Inf. 3, contains a previous version of the CITES Glossary of Agarwood products, with illustrated samples of agarwood products;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

Regarding 'artificially propagated' specimens of agarwood-producing taxa

1. AGREES that the definition of 'artificially propagated' in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) does not fully cover all production systems and current practices in cultivating agarwood-producing taxa, due to the definition of the term 'under controlled conditions', and due to the fact that agarwood-producing taxa are also grown in mixed-species plantations;

2. ADOPTS the following definition used in this Resolution:

For agarwood-producing taxa, 'under controlled conditions' means monospecific or mixed species plantations or non-wild environments without wild populations of agarwood-producing taxa or remnants thereof, that are cultivated and intensively manipulated by human intervention for the purpose of producing agarwood specimens;

3. DETERMINES that the term 'artificially propagated' shall refer to specimens of agarwood-producing taxa as follows:

a) grown under controlled conditions; and

b) grown from cultivated parental stock in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18), or from specimens that are exempted from CITES regulation through the annotation associated with the Appendix-II listings of agarwood-producing taxa;

Regarding 'assisted production' specimens of agarwood-producing taxa

4. AGREES that for agarwood specimens derived from trees that do not fulfil the definition of 'artificially propagated' according to Resolution Conf 11.11 (Rev. CoP18), and that are considered not to be 'wild' because they are propagated or planted in an environment with some level of human intervention for the purpose of plant production, the requirements for 'assisted production' apply as for other plant species;

5. ALSO AGREES that propagation material for 'assisted production' of agarwood-producing taxa may be derived from plant material that is exempt from the provisions of the Convention, or from artificially propagated plants, or from plants obtained through 'assisted production' in accordance with Resolution Conf 11.11. (Rev. CoP18), or from plant material collected in a non-detrimental manner from wild populations and legally acquired in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of the Convention and relevant national laws;

Regarding non-detriment findings (NDFs)

6. ENCOURAGES range States to make use of the *CITES NDF Guidance* as a reference for making NDFs for specimens of agarwood-producing taxa sourced from wild populations or from ‘assisted production’ and for the establishment and maintenance of parental stock, and any subsequent additions to the parental stock for artificially propagated trees. The guidance is available on the CITES website and should be updated as appropriate;
7. ALSO ENCOURAGES Parties and the Secretariat to use the *CITES NDF Guidance* in capacity-building workshops and relevant training materials;

Regarding management and trade control

8. ENCOURAGES range States to establish registration systems for the artificial propagation and ‘assisted production’ of agarwood-producing taxa; and

Regarding parts and derivatives

9. RECOMMENDS that Parties use the ‘Glossary of agarwood products’ in the Annex to the current Resolution.

D) Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

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.

COMPILATION OF DRAFT DECISIONS AGREED BY THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE AT ITS 33RD MEETING (AC33) FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE 20TH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP20)

A) Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative

i. **Proposed amendment to paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) agreed by the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee:**

b) *ensuring that CITES initiatives in respect of the following species or taxonomic groups complement, reinforce and, as far as possible, benefit from the regional collaboration already being undertaken or envisaged in the framework of CMS:*

[...]

v) *cheetahs (Acinonyx jubatus), lions (Panthera leo) and leopards (Panthera pardus):*

ii. **Draft decisions proposed by the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee for consideration by the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee:**

CITES-CMS AFRICAN CARNIVORE INITIATIVE

Directed to range States of African carnivores

18.59 *Relevant range States of African carnivores are urged to work through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to implement CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.*

Directed to Parties

18.60 (Rev. CoP19) *Parties are invited to recognize the importance of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative in implementing CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by the Initiative, and in seeking synergies as appropriate to implement complementary CMS resolutions and decisions.*

Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

18.61 *Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support relevant African range States, through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, in their implementation of CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.24 (Rev. CoP20) *The Secretariat shall:*

a) *subject to external resources, support the range States of the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative in preparing a revised ACI Programme of Work and in implementing relevant CITES Resolutions and Decisions that contribute to the ACI;*

b) *inform the Animals Committee regarding the draft revised ACI Programme of Work and the activities and outputs of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivore Initiative (ACI) that relate to the Committee's mandate and request advice from the Animals Committee, as appropriate; and*

- c) report on the implementation of this Decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 21st meeting.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.25 (Rev. CoP20) *The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on information that it provides regarding:*

- a) the revised Programme of Work of the African Carnivore Initiative (ACI); and
- b) *the activities and outputs of the ACI that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.*

DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE RESOURCE KITS FOR
AFRICAN LIONS (*PANTHERA LEO*) AND LEOPARDS (*PANTHERA PARDUS*)

Directed to Parties

20.AA Parties are encouraged to:

- a) share trade resource kits for African lion (*Panthera leo*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*) with the Secretariat; and
- b) request the Secretariat to make these trade resource kits available to the Parties on the CITES website.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB The Secretariat shall subject to external funding,

- a) review the trade resource kits for African lion (*Panthera leo*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*) shared by Parties;
- b) identify gaps and develop trade resource materials for African lion (*Panthera leo*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*) based on the gaps identified and taking into consideration lessons learnt from the development of the CITES Cheetah Trade Resource Kit.
- c) share trade resource kits developed by Parties on the CITES website, as appropriate.
- d) inform the Animals Committee, as appropriate, regarding the development of trade resource kits for African lion (*Panthera leo*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*).

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.CC The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on aspects of the development of trade resource kits and other guidance materials that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.

SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN
AFRICAN LION INVENTORY AND DATABASE

Directed to the Secretariat, in consultation with African lion range States

20.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, and in consultation with African lion range States, support the process as agreed by the ACI range States relating to the development of an inventory and of an African lion database (see Activities 11.2.1 and 11.4.1 in the [PoW of the ACI](#) and outcome 5.3 of the [outcomes of the ACI2 meeting](#)); and
- b) inform the Animals Committee regarding the development of an inventory and of an African lion database that relate to the Committee's mandate and seek its advice, as appropriate.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.BB The Animals Committee shall advise the Secretariat, as appropriate, on aspects of the development of an African lion database that are relevant to the Animals Committee's mandate.

B) African lions (Panthera leo)

Directed to the Secretariat, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

19.205 (Rev. CoP20) Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, as appropriate, taking into consideration the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa ~~in information document CoP18 Inf. 10:~~

- a) support the implementation of activities in joint African lion conservation plans and strategies that relate to trade in African lion specimens and the implementation of CITES and as needed, the review of such plans and strategies;
- b) jointly with the CMS Secretariat, undertake a comparative study of African lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade;
- c) support capacity-building in African lion conservation and management including where appropriate, in the making of non-detriment findings by range States according to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.9 on Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II, taking into consideration the available guidance on the making of non-detriment findings; and
- d) ~~assist in maintaining a joint CITES-CMS web portal on African lions, that also allows for the posting and sharing of information and guidance on the conservation and management of African lions;~~
- e) share any relevant update of the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa that relate to the Committee's mandate with the Animals Committee for its review; and
- f) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee and to the Conference of the Parties at its ~~21st~~ meeting.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.206 (Rev. CoP20) The Animals Committee shall:

- a) review any relevant update of the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa that relate to the Committee's mandate and that has been brought to the Committee's attention by the Secretariat;
- b) review the information reported by the Secretariat under Decision 19.205 (Rev. CoP20) and submit recommendations to the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and African lion range States, as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.207 (Rev. CoP20) The Standing Committee shall:

- a) review any reports received from the Secretariat and the Animals Committee under Decisions 19.205 (Rev. CoP20) and 19.206 (Rev. CoP20) and;
- b) make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, the Animals Committee, the Secretariat and/or African lion range States to improve the implementation of the Convention for African lions, as appropriate.

Directed to Parties

19.208 Parties, including range States and consumer countries of African lion, as relevant, are encouraged to:

- a) increase enforcement efforts to detect illegal, unreported or misreported trade in specimens of African lion and other big cats;
- b) use, where appropriate, South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project to help identify lion specimens in trade and, when importing lion specimens from South Africa, collaborate where necessary with relevant authorities in South Africa to improve the traceability of such specimens;
- c) provide details on the observed and/or removed lion body parts in trade when collecting and communicating data on illegal killing and illegal trade in lions to CITES in their annual reports; and
- d) cooperate on lion conservation, including by sharing information on lion populations, illegal killing and illegal trade.

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities

19.209 (Rev. CoP20) All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities are encouraged to support African lion range States and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore African lions across their range, taking into consideration the Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa, the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the outcomes of the CITES Big Cat Task Force meeting, and the implementation of Decision 19.205 (Rev. CoP20) and 19.208.

~~Directed to the Secretariat~~

~~19.210~~ ~~The Secretariat shall:~~

- ~~a) share relevant information generated through the implementation of Decision 19.208 with the CITES Big Cats Task Force, the Standing Committee, or both, as appropriate; and~~
- ~~b) report on the implementation of the previous Decision 18.246 to the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee.~~

C) West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)

Directed to West African range States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo)

19.192 (Rev. CoP20) West African range States for *Gyps africanus* (Whitebacked vulture), *Gyps fulvus* (Griffon vulture), *Gyps rueppelli* (Rüppell's vulture), *Necrosyrtes monachus* (Hooded vulture), *Neophron percnopterus* (Egyptian vulture), *Torgos tracheliotos* (Lappet-faced vulture), and *Trigonoceps occipitalis* (White-headed vulture) are urged to:

- ~~a) integrate illegal vulture trade considerations into their implementation of the West Africa Strategy on Combatting Wildlife Crime (WASCWC) and any decisions relating to Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting;~~
- ~~b~~a) ensure that national laws to protect vultures and control trade in vulture parts and derivatives are effectively implemented, and ensure that penalties for non-compliance are sufficient to deter illegal trade;
- eb) ensure that any international trade in West African vultures is not allowed except in accordance with CITES requirements, and if international trade is found not to be in accordance with CITES requirements, consider implementing a zero export quota;
- ed) follow Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings, and, in cases where there is an interest in exporting globally threatened vulture species, consider submitting non-detriment findings for the export of vulture specimens to the Secretariat for inclusion on the CITES website and review by the Animals Committee;
- ~~ed) prioritize implementation of the identify any trade-related issues associated with the implementation of the West Africa Vulture Conservation Action Plan, the regional implementation plan of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS);~~
- fe) work with relevant experts and organizations for implementing demand reduction strategies for vultures and their parts and derivatives including for belief-based use and consumption and, where appropriate, expand the implementation of strategies that have been successful;
- gf) work with relevant organizations to initiate wide-scale public awareness campaigns at regional, national and local levels about the impacts of trade in these species, including the importance of vulture species to ecology and human health, the negative impacts of belief-based use of vulture body parts, and existing national and international legislation that protects vultures; and
- hg) ~~provide information report to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision well in advance of the 34th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 81st meeting of the Standing Committee to assist it in its reporting to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.~~

Directed to Parties, West African range States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

19.193 (Rev. CoP20) Parties, West African range States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged, subject to resources, to:

- a) collaborate in the conservation and restoration of West African vultures and support the implementation of the West Africa Vulture Conservation Action Plan, the regional implementation plan of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), taking into consideration the findings of the Midterm implementation review of the MsAP; and
- b) gather and exchange scientific knowledge and expertise on West African vultures, with a particular focus on:

- i) documenting the scale of vulture trade by surveying markets in and outside West Africa, and identifying inter-regional and international trade routes;
 - ii) characterizing links between poisoning and trade in vultures, and contributing to the African Wildlife Poison Database; and
 - iii) updating the conservation and population status information of West African vultures, and *Gyps africanus* (white-backed vultures), *Gyps rueppellii* (Rüppell's vultures) and *Torgos tracheliotus* (lappet-faced vultures) in particular; and
- c) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision well in advance of the 34th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 81st meeting of the Standing Committee to assist it in its reporting to the Committees.

Directed to the Secretariat

19.194 (Rev. CoP20) The Secretariat shall:

- ~~a) cooperate with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) partner organizations, regional and subregional wildlife enforcement networks, and competent national authorities, where relevant and feasible, to consider vultures in the context of ICCWC's enforcement and capacity-building efforts in West Africa;~~
- ~~b) subject to external funding, support the production of identification materials focusing on parts and derivatives of vulture species for use by law enforcement officials;~~
- ~~c) liaise with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) to assist in the implementation of the trade-related aspects of the Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP) 2017-2029 subject to external funding, and share information based on the work of the Animals Committee;~~
- d) subject to external funding and upon request from Parties, liaise with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) to support the implementation of capacity-building activities aimed at providing support to the West African range States in implementing the trade-related aspects of the West Africa Vulture Conservation Action Plan Vulture MsAP;
- ~~e) in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, consider available trade data and conservation status information from the whole geographic range of the vulture species concerned for inclusion in its reporting to the Animals and Standing Committees; and~~
- f) collect information from West African vulture range States on their implementation of Decision 19.192 (Rev. CoP20), and report as appropriate this and other information on the implementation of Decisions 19.192 (Rev. CoP20) to 19.194 (Rev. CoP20), paragraphs a), b), c), d) and e) to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, at their first regular meetings following the 4920th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with conclusions and recommendations for their consideration.

Directed to the Animals Committee

19.195 (Rev. CoP20) The Animals Committee shall:

- ~~a) encourage West African range States to undertake a Periodic Review of the vulture species referred to in Decision 19.192 pursuant to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19) on Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II, taking note of the offer of the Vulture Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature to assist range States in such an effort;~~
- ~~b) consider any reports or requests for advice submitted by Parties with respect to the making of non-detriment findings for trade in CITES-listed West African vulture species;~~
- ~~b) consider the reports and recommendations of the Secretariat submitted in accordance with Decision 19.194 (Rev. CoP20), paragraph e); and~~
- ~~c) make recommendations as appropriate for consideration by range States, Parties, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.~~

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.196 (Rev. CoP20) *The Standing Committee shall review the implementation of Decisions 19.192 (Rev. CoP20) to 19.195 (Rev. CoP20) and make recommendations as appropriate to West African vulture range States, Parties and the Secretariat, and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 21st meeting.*

D) Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)

Directed to Parties

20.AA Parties are invited to:

- a) collect information on the priority species identified in the [revised species prioritization matrix](#) for amphibians, with a particular emphasis on CITES-listed species, concerning:
 - i) national legislation protecting those species, including legislation covering the protection of amphibian habitats;
 - ii) current levels of trade;
 - iii) harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade; and
 - iv) captive breeding; and
- b) provide the information to the Secretariat, as appropriate; and
- c) implement biosecurity protocols, including those identified in paragraph 29 b) of document AC33 Doc. 32.

Directed to the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Animals Committee and relevant experts

- 20.BB** Taking into account document AC33 Doc. 32, the Secretariat shall, subject to availability of external funding , and in close consultation with the Animals Committee and relevant experts,
- a) update [the revised species prioritization matrix](#) with information on CITES-listed species from Parties under Decision 20.AA and make this information available to Parties;
 - b) develop a table of conversion factors for CITES-listed amphibian specimens in trade;
 - c) identify existing identification materials for amphibians, particularly those for use by customs and law enforcement officers, in view of the sensitivity of amphibians to being handled and the way in which they are packaged; and

- d) report its findings, with draft recommendations to the Animals Committee.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.CC The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the report submitted by the Secretariat as per Decision 20.BB; and
- b) make recommendations to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

E) *Review of Resolution 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) on the “Use of coded-microchip implants for marking live animals in trade”*

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall,

- a) prepare an overview of all currently valid Resolutions dealing with the issue of marking; and
- b) in collaboration with the ISO Secretariat and relevant experts, develop guidance on the various issues in relation to marking as outlined in Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev. CoP17) and document AC33 Doc. 21.

Directed to the Animals Committee

20.BB The Animals Committee shall:

- a) consider the overview and draft guidance developed by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA and determine whether Resolution Conf. 8.13 (Rev CoP17) and other relevant Resolutions should be amended or if a new Resolution or other technical guidance on marking techniques and standards is required, and
- b) submit its recommendations, including possible amendments to existing Resolutions or a new draft resolution to the Standing Committee for its consideration.

Directed to the Standing Committee

20.CC The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the overview and draft guidance developed by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA and the recommendations from the Animals Committee under Decision 20.BB; and
- b) submit the results of this work along with its own recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 21st meeting (CoP21).

COMPILATION OF DRAFT DECISIONS AGREED BY THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS COMMITTEE AT THEIR JOINT SESSION AC33/PC27, FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE 20TH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP20)

A) Countrywide Significant Trade Reviews [Decision 18.72]

Directed to Parties subject to recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade

20.AA Parties subject to recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade are encouraged to make use of the Guidance on the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) developed under Decision 19.132; and provide feedback on the use of this guidance to the Secretariat.

Directed to the Secretariat

20.BB Subject to the availability of resources, the Secretariat shall provide targeted capacity-building support at a national level to Parties currently subject to recommendations under the Review of Significant Trade, including the application of the new NDF Guidance produced under Decision 19.132.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

20.CC The Animals and Plants Committees shall, taking into account the progress made under the Compliance Assistance Programme and the development of a Capacity-Building Framework:

- a) review the results of the Evaluation of the country-wide Review of Significant Trade (RST) process report produced for AC30/PC24 and consider whether the RST process or a complementary new mechanism could provide targeted support to Parties with recurring issues in making non-detriment findings for multiple species, who are not currently eligible for the Compliance Assistance Programme, and on the possible role of the Scientific Committees in facilitating this; and
- b) provide recommendations, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species or other existing resolutions, or the development of a new resolution; for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat

20.DD The Standing Committee shall review the report and the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees, and in consultation with the Secretariat, make recommendations for consideration at the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

B) Non-Detriment Findings (NDFs)

Directed to the Secretariat

20.AA The Secretariat shall

- a) publish a Notification to the Parties inviting them to share:
 - ⇒ feedback, including examples, as appropriate, on the use of the CITES Non-detriment finding (NDF) guidance with the Secretariat, preferably through the regional representatives of the Animals and Plants Committees; and

- b) taking into consideration the information received through the Notification as well as the experience gained through the field-testing of the guidance, prepare recommendations for consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees regarding:
 - i) possible amendments of the CITES NDF guidance, as appropriate; and
 - ii) possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings, to establish a regular mechanism for the Animals and Plants Committees to identify, review and agree updates to the CITES NDF guidance; and
- c) subject to external funding, prepare draft amendments to the NDF guidance based on advice received from the Animals and Plants Committees and submit the proposed amendments for consideration by the Committees.

Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

20.BB The Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) consider the recommendations submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 20.AA;
- b) advise the Secretariat on amendments to the CITES NDF guidance, as appropriate; and
- c) if necessary and as appropriate, propose to the Conference of the Parties amendments to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings to establish a regular mechanism for the Animals and Plants Committees to identify, review and agree updates to the CITES NDF guidance; and
- d) report to the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties.