

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Animals Committee  
Veracruz (Mexico), 28 April – 3 May 2014

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

STANDARD NOMENCLATURE  
(Agenda item 25)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair:	AC nomenclature specialist (Ms Grimm);
Members:	Oceania
Party:	Australia, Chile, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa and the United States of America; and
IGOs and NGOs:	Convention on Migratory Species, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Conservation Force, Conservation International, Humane Society International.
CITES-Secretariat:	David Morgan

Mandate

Taking account of the presentations and discussions in plenary, the working group shall:

1. Draft recommendations regarding the nomenclature issues in paragraphs 2, 4, 5, 7-8 and 10-12 of document AC27 Doc. 25.1.
2. Draft recommendations on the implementation of Decision 15.64, a).
3. Provide guidance and advice with regard to the developments outlined in paragraphs 13 to 19 of document AC27 Doc. 25.
4. Review document AC27 Doc. 25.2, and draft recommendations regarding the nomenclature of *Poicephalus robustus* and *Cordylus* spp.

## Recommendation

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 2 (*Hippocampus*)

- As there are considerable concerns by the IUCN/SSC Seahorse, Pipefish & Stickleback Specialist Group with regard to the validity of the proposed changes and the possibility of identification, the AC recommends that the chair of this Specialist Group provides Australia with the detailed background information of these concerns and recommends that these be considered by Australia which may come back on this issue at AC28 if regarded necessary.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 4 (new layout/format of list of nomenclature references for animal species in Res. Conf. 12.11)

- The Animals Committee recommends to the Secretariat to use the proposed new format of the list of nomenclature standard references for animal species in the Annex of Res. Conf. 12.11 which is no change in substance but will facilitate the use of this list. The Nomenclature specialist of the AC welcomes further suggestions to improve the clarity of the list for further consideration at AC 28.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 5 (Nomenclature references for species suggested for inclusion in the CITES Appendices not covered by the nomenclature references listed in Res. Conf. 12.11)

- The AC recommends that this problem be addressed by requesting the CITES Secretariat to approach the copyright holders for the databases currently serving as source for the downloaded checklists of amphibians, fish and spider species in order to receive a snapshot of those databases, to be used as nomenclatural standard reference for these taxon groups in case of CITES discussions of taxa not currently contained in the Appendices, for example in the case of new listing proposals.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 7 and 13-19 (General Nomenclatural Standard Reference for Birds)

- The WG recommends to the AC to postpone this discussion to the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Animals Committee when hopefully - in addition to the new edition of the Howard & Moore Checklist for Non-Passerines - the new Birdlife Checklist of Birds of the world will be published and available, thus enabling the AC to thoroughly evaluate which would best serve the needs under CITES.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 8 (*Nilssonia leithii*)

- The Secretariat has already corrected this previously overlooked change in genus in the Appendices when implementing the nomenclature changes adopted at CoP16. Therefore there is no need for action.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 10

(Identified nomenclature changes for reptiles other than chameleons and *Phelsuma*)

and

### AC27 Doc. 25.2 (regarding *Cordylus*)

- The AC recommends to adopt NIELSEN & al. (2011) (see page 58 of AC27 Doc. 25.1) as new nomenclature standard reference for the New Zealand gecko genera *Naultinus* and *Hoplodactylus* as well as to adopt STANLEY & al. (2011) in combination with GREENBAUM & al. 2012 (see page 58 of AC27 Doc. 25.1) as new nomenclature standard reference for the whole family of Cordylidae, replacing the current Checklist for the genus *Cordylus* from 2006.
- With regard to the other changes identified for reptile species in annex 5 of AC27 Doc. 25.1 the WG recommends to postpone the discussion to AC 28.

### AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 11 (Amphibians)

- The AC recommends the addition of the taxon reports of the three species mentioned in this paragraph, missing by error from the current Taxonomic Checklist of CITES listed Amphibian species, to be adopted.

AC27 Doc. 25.1 Paragraph 12 (Fish nomenclature)

- The AC recommends the addition of the taxon reports listed for the species in Annex 7 of AC Doc. 25.1 to the current “Taxonomic Checklist of CITES listed Fish species” but not accepting the validity of *Sphyrna gilberti* described in 2013 after the submission of the CITES listing proposal for three *Sphyrna* species for CoP 16. This species is not regarded as valid species under CITES, however, is covered by CITES as part of *Sphyrna lewini* and will be added to the list of synonyms under *Sphyrna lewini*.

This recommendation will also include the adoption of *Scleropages inscriptus* as valid species being split from *Scleropages formosus* as outlined on page 4 of AC27 Doc. 25.1 and in Notification 2012/43.

Dec. 15.64 (a)

(Identification of Coral reference material to serve as nomenclatural references for CITES listed coral species)

- To the best of the ACs knowledge there are no suitable publications to date to be used as nomenclature standard references for CITES listed coral species. Until such publications become available the AC recommends the Secretariat to request WCMC to provide updated printouts of the coral species in their database indicating identified new changes in publications to be submitted for consideration to the AC at the meeting before the CoPs.

AC27 Doc. 25.2 (*Poicephalus robustus*)

- The AC recommends that South Africa provides identification guidelines to distinguish the two taxa native to South Africa (currently regarded as *P. robustus robustus* and *P. robustus suahelicus*) and suggest a peer reviewed publication as nomenclature standard reference for validity of *Poicephalus robustus robustus* as a species of its own and placing *Poicephalus robustus suahelicus* and *P. r. fuscicollis* into the new species *P. fuscicollis*.