

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



Tenth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Shepherdstown (United States of America), 11–15 December 2000

Significant trade in plants

Significant trade plant projects pre-CoP11

IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE CONTROLS FOR *NARDOSTACHYS GRANDIFLORA*  
AND *PICRORHIZA KURROOA*

1. In her report to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Chairman informed the Conference that several of the projects of the Committee's programme on significant trade in Appendix-II plant species had been implemented.
2. One of these was on the Implementation of the Appendix-II listing of *Nardostachys grandiflora* and *Picrorhiza kurrooa*. A report on this issue was prepared by TRAFFIC, under contract to the Secretariat.
3. The report was sent to all range States concerned, seeking their comments. The comments received have been included in the final version.
4. The report is included in document Inf. PC.10.2. The suggested priorities for further research and action contained in this document are included below.
5. The Plants Committee is requested to consider these suggestions and to make recommendations for further action. Please note that the issues referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7 below are already dealt with in document Doc. PC.10.13.2.

Suggested priorities for further research and action

6. Further clarification is required regarding the taxonomy of *Picrorhiza kurrooa*, specifically whether *P. scrophulariiflora* is a synonym, as it is considered in China, or a separate species, as is suggested by Olsen (1999).
7. Further clarification is similarly required with regard to the taxonomy of *Nardostachys grandiflora*, specifically with respect to the relationship of this name to *Nardostachys jatamansi* and *Valeriana jatamansi*, both of which appear to be used to refer to this species in Nepal.

8. Modification of the current annotation in Appendices I and II to include the term 'rhizomes' in addition to roots should be considered, ensuring that the term 'root' is maintained in the annotation as it is more likely to be understood by Customs officials and others implementing CITES.
9. Further research is required to assess and ensure the sustainability of harvest for international trade in both species.
10. Trade between India and Pakistan should be investigated further and action taken to address any CITES trade control problems that have been identified.
11. Modifications in national legislation are an important first step toward more effective implementation of CITES for these species. Specifically:
  - a) National legislation in China should be expanded to address harvest of and trade in *Nardostachys grandiflora*;
  - b) Existing legislation in India should be expanded to ensure that application of CITES controls on imports and re-exports of all CITES-listed medicinal plant species, including *Nardostachys grandiflora* and *Picrorhiza kurrooa*.
12. Domestic harvest and trade controls and export policies for *Nardostachys grandiflora* and *Picrorhiza kurrooa* in Nepal should be reviewed and clarified. In addition, CITES implementing legislation providing for the effective control of exports should be adopted.
15. The treaty of trade between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India should be modified in order to reflect CITES requirements.
16. The Government of Bhutan should be encouraged to implement trade controls comparable to those required under the Convention.
17. Appropriate training materials and programmes should be developed in order to ensure that CITES Management and Scientific Authority staff within range States understand and are better able to implement their responsibilities under the Convention. Training should also be provided to Customs staff, who are largely responsible for CITES enforcement at international borders.