

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



Fifteenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 17-21 May 2005

PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

1. This document has been prepared by the botanist of the Nomenclature Committee.

UNEP-WCMC Checklist

2. Early in 2005, UNEP-WCMC supplied the Nomenclature Committee with the draft of the 2005 edition of the *Checklist of CITES species*. This draft was checked with relevant experts and comments were returned to UNEP-WCMC within their deadlines. As the task was considerable and time limited, the Nomenclature Committee's views were given on a provisional basis. This allows the Committee to fully review selected plant groups as part of the current work programme before making recommendations to the Conference of the Parties. As part of this process, the Nomenclature Committee will review plant groups for which no standard reference has yet been adopted and will also consider issues arising from proposals adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004).
3. Plant taxa for which the Nomenclature Committee has not recommended a standard reference are the following:
 - a) *Cyathea* (514 spp.)
 - b) Didereaceae (11 spp.)
 - c) *Anacampseros* (14 spp.)
 - d) *Avonia* (10 spp.)
 - e) *Guaicum* (6 spp.)
4. Plant taxa listed at CoP13 which require consideration by the Nomenclature Committee are the following:
 - a) *Hoodia*
 - b) *Gonystylus*
 - c) *Aquilaria*
 - d) *Gyrinops*

Update of CITES checklists

5. **The CITES Orchid Checklists.** Volume 4 of the Orchid Checklist covers the genera *Aerides*, *Coelogyne*, *Compantia*, *Lycaste*, *Ida* and *Masdevallia*. The production of this checklist has been delayed to take account of reviews that have been recently published or are about to be published. This is to ensure that the checklist is as up to date as possible. To guarantee that the final list is suitable for CITES use and acceptable to the Parties, additional time will be given to allow in-country experts to review the draft checklists. Following this review the lists will be prepared for publication

and approval at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Plants Committee is asked to recommend experts, in particular from the range States of the orchids concerned, to comment on the draft text.

6. The Institute of Botany, Vienna (Austria) is preparing in cooperation with relevant international experts a checklist of the genus *Bulbophyllum* which it will submit to the Nomenclature Committee for approval. The observer from Austria on the Plants Committee will report on progress on this checklist.
7. Once Volume 4 of the Orchid Checklist is completed the Royal B.G., Kew, will have time to conduct some additional work in the checklist. A significant number of the major genera in trade will have been covered by volumes 1 to 4 of the orchid checklists. It is therefore planned to prepare a volume comprising an update of earlier volumes and an additional list of traded taxa not included in the earlier checklists. Much of the research for this work has already been carried by the international Monocot Checklist project. This process would include validation of the proposed list by a panel of international experts. The Plants Committee would, as usual, be asked to recommend experts for this panel.
8. **The CITES Cactaceae Checklist (1999)** was adopted as the standard reference for Cactaceae. This volume is now out of print. The cactus volume of the Lexicon is now near completion and can form the basis of a revised cactus checklist. Planned as a successor to Backeberg's Cactus Lexicon, The new Cactus Lexicon will be the most scientifically authoritative conspectus of the Cactaceae published for nearly a century. The Lexicon will be in two parts, a comprehensive scientific text and a companion 'Atlas' comprising of more than 2,000 colour illustrations. The Cactus Lexicon will form an essential reference and Parties will wish to have copies available as a reference for their Scientific Authorities and enforcement agencies. However, a revised Cactaceae checklist will be more practical for day-to-day work and can be widely distributed to CITES users at low cost. A new edition of the CITES Cactaceae checklist will also provide the opportunity for the checklist to be included on the Web thereby making it available to a wider range of CITES users. The costs of preparing an extract from the Cactus Lexicon are being investigated with the editors. The draft text will be checked with a panel of experts to ensure that it will be acceptable to the CITES Parties.
9. **The CITES Aloe and Pachypodium Checklist** was published in 2001. Since that time some important revisions have been carried out and new species published. Many of the species are native to Madagascar and are likely to be in demand for trade. The representative of Switzerland has been working on a document that summarizes the most important revisions. When completed this document will be submitted to the Nomenclature Committee with a view to the publication of a short supplement to the checklist. This supplement would then be put to the Conference of the Parties for its approval.

Conclusion

10. The comments of the Plants Committee are welcome on:
 - a) The work programme outlined in this document; and
 - b) Recommendations for experts to review the draft checklists.