

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 April 2008

Regional reports

AFRICA

1. The attached report has been submitted by the regional representative of Africa, Mrs Beatrice Khayota.
2. As it was received by the Secretariat after the deadline for submission of documents, it is provided herewith in English only (the language in which it was submitted).

General information

- a) Names of representatives:
Regional Representatives: Dr. David Hafashimana (Uganda); Dr. Beatrice Khayota (Kenya)
Alternate Members: Mr. Quentin Luke (Kenya); Prof. Koffi Akpagana (Togo)
- b) Number of Parties in the region: 52
Number of Parties responding to the request for information: 6 (Comoros, Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Togo and Uganda)

1. Activities carried out

Significant trade

Cameroon

Pericopsis elata: In compliance with the Project "Ensuring international trade CITES-listed timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation", the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) organized a workshop on sustainable trade of *P.elata* in Kribi, Cameroon, 2-4 April 2008. The workshop was hosted by the Government of Cameroon, Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife.

The purpose of the workshop was to develop a participatory action plan to ensure that international trade in *P. elata* is consistent with its sustainable management and conservation in Africa. The workshop finally came up with five thematic areas

Prunus africana: Export has been banned by the European Community and meetings have been held to find solutions to the suspension. A workshop was held in November 2007 in Bamenda, to address technical, material and financial issues. This was with regard to feasibility of *Prunus* inventories, exploitation and regeneration follow up and control. Other issues discussed included CITES quotas, capacity of stakeholders, licensing etc. Funds are being sought for setting of appropriate quotas.

Kenya

Aloe species: National Guidelines for the utilization of Aloe species have been finalized and guidelines gazetted as Kenya subsidiary legislation, The Wildlife (Conservation and Management) (Aloe species) Regulations, 2007; Legal Notice No. 403, on 27 November 2007.

A certification scheme for sustainable harvesting of Aloes has been developed and is set for testing and subsequent review, later in the year as a Trial Management Program.

A detailed report on the progress of implementation of Article IV with regard to Aloe species, was submitted to the CITES Secretariat on November 2006, at the request of the Standing Committee during SC 54 Meeting.

Assessment of the conservation status of Kenyan Aloes is ongoing.

Prunus africana: Implementation of recommendations of PC16 (within 3 months) with regard to significant trade review of *P. africana* was undertaken, in consultation with the Secretariat. The Management Authority responded to the request by the Secretariat on the result of actions to implement the provisions of Article IV and to clarify reported exports of extracts that were likely to be powder, and if any facilities to extract existed in the country.

Plans to host and participate in the *P. africana* Working Group Workshop (in collaboration with WG co-chairs, CITES Secretariat and TRAFFIC International) are well advanced. Participants from Range States of "urgent concern" have been identified, venue selected, field excursions planned and funds

allocated by France, Italy and Spain. Discussions are ongoing to determine the dates and logistics of the workshop.

A field assessment of the status of the species is being undertaken. Major distribution areas for the species have been visited and populations assessed, as part of the preparation for the *P. africana* Workshop.

Madagascar

Submitted a report on the implementation of the Action Plan for sustainable management of *P.africana*.

Uganda

P. africana: Inventories of *P.africana* were carried out in two major central forest reserves, to serve as a basis to set quotas for *Prunus* bark, sustainable harvesting and export. Further inventories will be undertaken.

Review of Appendices

None.

CITES projects in the region

None.

Nursery Registration

Kenya

Registers of operations of artificial propagation of *Aloe* species have been developed to be administered at selected field stations of the Management Authority. This would be part of the process for implementation of National Guidelines for utilisation and international trade in the species.

Togo

Regarding collection and conservation of medicinal tree species, as recommended by sub-Saharan African Forest Centre (SAFORGEN).

Others

Kenya

Osyris lanceolata: Surveys on distribution of East African Sandalwood (None CITES listed) were carried out with the aim of generating scientific information on population and harvesting levels of the species, to guide in the development of conservation and management strategy, including possibilities for CITES listing. Large quantities of specimens traded illegally have been confiscated.

Participated in the Red-data assessment of the East African flora.

Uganda

An assessment was carried out on the endangered plant species of Uganda, their habitats, threats and their mitigation.

2. Capacity building

Comoros

Community Based Organisation (CBO); flora assessment (National Museum of Natural History, Paris)- National Centre of Development and Research (NCDR)

Cameroon

A project proposal was submitted to the International Timber trade Organisation (ITTO), to enhance capacity of the Cameroon Scientific Authority. These would include all stakeholders for Cameroon plants listed on the CITES Appendices.

Kenya

One staff of the Kenya Wildlife Service was selected for the 7th CITES Masters course, offered at the International University of Andalucia, Spain, beginning April 2008, as part of capacity building of the Management Authority on CITES issues.

Uganda

Awareness workshops were held for policy review for trade in wildlife (including plants), Inter-institutional review of National participation in CITES implementation (follow up to CoP 14), stakeholders' consultation and update on the outcomes of CoP14; and preparation of sustainable management plans for plants in trade.

Contact with specialist and/ or NGOS

Comoros

AIDE, COMFLORA, Comorian Scientific and Engineers Society (CSIS), etc.

Cameroon

International and national NGOs like SNV, CIFOR, WWF and IUCN Central Africa.

Kenya

The Management and Scientific Authorities maintained and strengthened contacts with plant specialists in the country with regard to matters of CITES issues. Consultations were made with TRAFFIC International regarding the *P. africana* WG Workshop.

Uganda

Specialists from key sectors were involved in CITES related workshops.

3. Difficulties of implementation encountered

Conservation issues

General: Poor responses to request for information, invalid and inadequate contacts of Scientific and Management Authorities and/or plant experts are a major obstacle in preparation of regional reports.

Comoros: Lack of reference herbarium; incomplete assessment of flora and inadequate finances

Kenya: Challenges were encountered in the review of the country's wildlife Legislation regarding domestication of the provisions of CITES and other MEAs. A Wildlife (Conservation and Management) Bill 2007 is awaiting debate by Parliament.

Inadequate field data on the status of the flora, limited resources for research, inadequate domestic legislation and enforcement capacity to respond effectively to issues of international trade.

Uganda; Key conservation bodies understaffed and poorly facilitated to enforce conservation laws; policy conflict between conservation and development projects

Technical issues

Comoros: Inadequate botanists and financial resources

Cameroon: Inadequate capacity of Scientific and Management Authorities, necessary for timely and effective implementation of CITES.

Kenya: Limited expertise in plant issues within the Management Authority, leading to reliance on consultations with experts from other Institutions and inadequate facilitation for research activities.

Togo: Lack of capacity of the CITES Management Authority, which was not nominated on the flora committee, leading to delays in implementation of CITES flora issues.

Uganda: Limited expertise on CITES issues in key conservation organisations

4. Other topics related to CITES (i.e. medicinal plants, timber, etc.)

Comoros: There is concern on management of local CITES listed timber species

Cameroon: There is concern for species not listed on CITES Appendices, and yet they are threatened with overexploitation, but the Scientific Authority lacks the capacity to undertake studies necessary for CITES listing.

Kenya: Ongoing work on rare and endemic plants

Togo: There is concern for species not listed on the Appendices CITES, and yet they are threatened with unsustainable exploitation (often uprooted from the roots), such as, *Conyza egyptiaca* var. *aegyptiaca*, *Strophanthus* spp. etc. The Scientific Authority lacks the capacity to undertake studies necessary for CITES listing.

Uganda: A project on genetic and chemical diversity within various *P. africana* populations in Uganda is ongoing at the National Forestry Resources Institution, in collaboration with the Biodiversity International and Austrian Federal research and Training Centre for Forests. The information will be used to establish diverse Prunus mother garden for providing quality stock for farmers.

5. Work to done until the next Plants Committee

Kenya:

- a) Inventory of *P. africana* populations;
- b) Plans to host and participate in the *P. africana* Working Group Workshop for countries of "urgent concern" ongoing;
- c) Implementations of the provisions of the subsidiary legislation on Aloes- The Wildlife (Conservation and Management) (Aloe species) regulations, 2007, that will include establishment of a national database for operations of commercial use of Aloes and compliance; and
- d) Participate in the process of the International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings.

Uganda:

- a) Undertake inventories of *P. africana* in privately owned lands and forests (outside protected areas) to serve as a basis for establishment of trade quotas; and
- b) Dispatch leave and bark samples to Austria for genetic and chemical analysis.

Annex

REGIONAL DIRECTORY OF PLANT EXPERTS FOR AFRICA

Cameroon

Management Authority

Address: Ministry of Forests and Fauna (MINOF)

Contact person for plant issues: Ebia Ndongo Samuel Ebes

Expertise: Director in charge of forests (MINOF); Coordinator of the office in charge of plants management

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Scientific Authority

Address: Forest Department Development Support National Agency (ANAFOR) P.O Box 1341, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Contact person for plant issue: Mbarga Narcisse Lambert

Expertise: Forestry Ing. Cameroon Flora Authority activities Coordinator

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Other experts for plant issues

Name: Dr. Marie Louise Avana Tchamdjou

Expertise: Plant species domestication

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Comoros

Management Authority

Address: P.O Box 2585, Moroni, Comores

Contact person for plant issues: Soule Hamidou Hamada

Expertise: Botany

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Other experts for plant issues

Name: Alawoudine Abdou
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Scientific Authority

Address: P.O Box 2585, Moroni, Comores
Contact Person for plant issues: Yahaya Ibrahim
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Kenya

Management Authority

Address: Kenya Wildlife Service, P.O Box 40241-00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Contact person for plant issues: Hewson Kabugi
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Other Experts for plant issues

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Scientific Authorities

Address: Kenya Wildlife Service, P.O Box 40241-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Contact person for plant issues: Kavaka Mukonyi Watai

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Cel.: 254-722389819

Fax: 254-20-603792

Email: mukonyi2000@yahoo.com

Address: National Museums of Kenya, P.O Box 40658-00100, Nairobi Kenya

Contact person for plant issues: Dr. Beatrice Khayota

Expertise: Plant Taxonomy-Orchidaceae; CITES issues

Address: National Museums of Kenya, P.O Box 40658-00100, Nairobi Kenya

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Other experts for plant issues

Name: Quentin Luke

Expertise: Plant taxonomy; CITES issues

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Name: Peris Kamau

Expertise: Taxonomy, conservation and sustainable use of plants (*P. africana*, *Osyris lanceolata*)

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Togo

Management Authority

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Contact person for plant issues: Issifou Aboudoumisamilou

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Scientific Authority

Address: Plant Systematics and Ecology Lab, Faculty of Science, University of Lomé, Togo

Contact person for plant issues: Pro. Koffi Akpagana

Expertise: Plant systematics and forest ecology, Director of the University Herbarium

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Uganda

Management Authority

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Contact person for plant issues: (None)-Employs biologists with expertise in wildlife biology and conservation. The Authority makes use of plant experts outside the Management Authority, from within the country.

Expertise: Wildlife Conservation

Other Experts for plant issues

Name: (None)-Employs biologists with expertise in wildlife biology and conservation.

Scientific Authority

Address: Forestry Sector Support department

Contact Person for plant issues: Stephen Mpangire

Expertise: Forestry

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Other experts for plant issues (outside the Scientific Authority)

Name: Dr. David Hafashimana

Expertise: Trees, Cycads, Orchids and medicinal plants

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