

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



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

CACTI AND ORCHID ANNOTATIONS
(Agenda item 13.1)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chairman: Mexico (H. Benítez);

Rapporteur: Canada (A. White);

Members: representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Sra. Rivera) and Europe (Mr Sajeva);

Parties: Canada, China, France, Germany, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, American Herbal Products Association, TRAFFIC.

Attendees:

Representative of Europe (Mr Sajeva);

Parties: Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand, United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: American Herbal Products Association and IWMC.

Mandate

1. Analyse whether some of the described elements could be partly or entirely exempted from CITES;
2. Evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of merging and amending annotations #1 and #4;
3. Analyse the consequences of merging and amending the annotations to the taxa concerned;
4. Clarify the annotation to seeds of Mexican Cactaceae; and
5. Clarify the translation of "cactus without chlorophyll".

Results of the Working Group

1. Items 1-4 of the mandate were reviewed during the general discussion of the Working Group (WG).
2. The WG reviewed elements a) to g) of the proposed annotation in PC17 Doc. 13.1 (Annex 1). The WG agreed to the proposed merge of Annotations #1 and #4 for elements a) to e), with some modifications. The WG agreed not to include in the new merged annotation, elements f) and g). The new proposed annotation which was agreed upon by the WG is as follows:
 - a) seeds, spores, and pollen (including pollinia) except those seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico;
 - b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
 - c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
 - d) fruits and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae), *Opuntia*, subgenus *Opuntia* (Cactaceae), *Hylocereus* and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae);
 - e) stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia*, subgenus *Opuntia*, and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae).
3. Regarding element f) of the proposed annotation in PC17 Doc. 13.1 (Annex 1), the WG considered that this element deserves more attention and proposes that an intersessional WG is formed to investigate the issue of finished products and related annotations. Also, this new WG would prioritize the species suggested in PC17 Doc. 13.1 (Annex 1) and begin work on specific cases to be considered under the finished product exemption. It should be noted that the WG did not agree to consider exemption of finished products at the family and genus level at this time.
4. Regarding element g) of the proposed annotation in PC17 Doc. 13.1 (Annex 1), the WG agreed to not include it in the new merged annotation, because CITES already has Resolution Conf. 11.15 (Rev. CoP12): Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of museum and herbarium specimens in place to deal with non-living herbarium specimens. The WG acknowledged that there are problems with the movement of non-living herbarium specimens because not all Parties are implementing this Resolution.
5. Regarding cacti lacking chlorophyll, the WG agreed to delete "lacking chlorophyll" from footnote 6 of the Appendices related to artificially propagated specimens of hybrids and/or cultivars. The WG recognized the expression "lacking chlorophyll" is technically incorrect, in that the mutants in question contain chlorophyll. This results in enforcement problems when implementing this exemption. The amended part of footnote 6 of the Appendices would read as follows: Cactaceae spp. colour mutants grafted on the following grafting stocks: *Harrisia* 'Jusbertii', *Hylocereus trigonus* or *Hylocereus undatus*.