

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-21 April 2011

Nomenclatural Matters

OVERVIEW

1. This document has been submitted by the Nomenclature Specialist of the Plants Committee.*

Update on CITES Checklists

2. **The CITES Orchid Checklists:** A revision of Volume 1 (published 1995) of the Checklist which includes the widely traded genera *Paphiopedilum* and *Phragmipedium* is near completion, based on the *World Checklist of Selected Plant Families* (<http://www.kew.org/wcsp>). Unfortunately, completion has been delayed due to staff cutbacks at supporting institutions that were providing support in kind. Alternate mechanisms are being explored to allow completion of the revision to allow an update to be presented to the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
3. **The CITES Cactus Checklist:** The editor of the checklist is now preparing a third edition of the Cactus Checklist (CC3) based on *The New Cactus Lexicon* (Hunt, 2006). It was planned that funds from outside the CITES budget be used to support this process that would allow a revision to be produced that would be presented to the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties. However, the funding originally identified to be used for this process is not now available. Alternate funding resources are currently being explored.

Cycad Nomenclature

4. **World list of Cycads:** Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP15) states that the CITES standard reference is "A World List of Cycads (D.W. Stevenson, R. Osborne and K.D. Hill, 1995; In: P. Vorster (Ed.), Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Cycad Biology, pp. 55-64, Cycad Society of South Africa, Stellenbosch) and its updates accepted by the Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to names of species of Cycadaceae, Stangeriaceae and Zamiaceae."
5. Since that time a number of updates of the checklist have been produced. PC18 reviewed comment from the Parties which requested minor changes in the format of the checklist to make it suitable for CITES use. The CITES Authorities of Italy have funded the production of a training manual on CITES and Cycads. Subject to the agreement of the authors of the Checklist an amended list will be produced to compliment the training manual. This would make the list available in the standard CITES format in a publication which would be widely distributed to CITES Parties. In addition, enforcement officials would benefit from the additional information available in the training manual. Subject to funding the available list will be put for adoption to the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Carnivorous Plant Checklist

6. The *CITES Carnivorous Plant Checklist* (B. von Arx *et al.*) was published in 2001. Since that time a significant number of new names have been published and there has been increased interest in trade in these newly described taxa. On that basis it might now be time for a revision of the list and the preparation of a update or supplement similar to that that prepared to update *the CITES Aloe and Pachypodium Checklist* (U. Egli *et al.*, 2001). It would help inform decision making if Parties can inform the Plants Committee if they are having problems in dealing with these new names. To date, no Parties have communicated any such problems to the Nomenclature Specialist of the Plants Committee.

Decision 15.63

7. The 15 Meeting of the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 15.63 which states:

The Animals and Plants Committee shall conduct an analysis to identify taxa listed in the Appendices that can be included under the name of a higher taxon without altering the scope of the listing, to be consistent with the section on "Higher taxa" in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), and, where appropriate, prepare proposals for submission to the Conference of the Parties by the Depositary Government.

8. An initial review of the flora listings in the Appendices did not immediately reveal any cases where such action may be necessary.

Decision 15.68

9. The 15 Meeting of the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 15.68 which states:

The Standing Committee shall, at its 61st meeting (SC61), establish a working group, in consultation with the nomenclature experts of the Animals and Plants Committees and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, to:

- a) *Investigate the usefulness and feasibility of incorporating taxonomic serial numbers as an element of CITES data sets;*
- b) *Report its findings at SC62; and*
- c) *If necessary, prepare a draft resolution for submission and consideration at the 16th meeting Conference of the Parties.*

10. No action is required by the Plants Committee at this time.

Recommendations to the Plants Committee

11. The Plants Committee is asked to:

- a) Consider and advise on funding sources that may be available to support the completion of outstanding revisions of key plant checklists;
- b) Consider whether it is necessary to produce a supplement to the *CITES Carnivorous Plant Checklist* and as part of this process ascertain if Parties are having problems in dealing with new plant names within the groups covered by the checklist;
- c) Consider whether they are aware of any cases where the issues identified in Decision 15.63 apply to the flora listings in the Appendices; and
- d) Note that input to implementation of Decision 15.68 will be required over formation of the working group at SC61 (15-19 August 2011).