

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



Twenty-first meeting of the Plants Committee
Veracruz (Mexico), 2-8 May 2014

Strategic matters

Plants Committee strategic planning for 2013-2016 (CoP16-CoP17)

CITES STRATEGIC VISION: 2008-2020 (RESOLUTION CONF. 16.3)

1. This document has been prepared by the Interim Chair of the Plants Committee*.
2. At its 16th meeting (Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Resolution Conf. 16.3 on the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020, as follows:

The twofold purpose of the Strategic Vision is:

- to improve the working of the Convention, so that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels; and
 - to ensure that CITES policy developments are mutually supportive of international environmental priorities and take into account new international initiatives, consistent with the terms of the Convention.
3. In order to achieve this purpose, three broad goals, of equal priority, have been identified as the key components of the Strategic Vision:
 - Goal 1: Ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention.
 - Goal 2: Secure the necessary financial resources and means for the operation and implementation of the Convention.
 - Goal 3: Contribute to significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss and to achieving relevant globally-agreed goals and targets by ensuring that CITES and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually supportive.
 4. The CITES vision statement is as follows:

Conserve biodiversity and contribute to its sustainable use by ensuring that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade, thereby

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contributing to the significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss and making a significant contribution towards achieving the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

5. Eight objectives have been set within Goal 1, three within Goal 2, and five within Goal 3. The Introduction to Goal 1 states that: *“The effectiveness of the Convention depends upon its full implementation by all Parties, whether they are consumers or producers of wild animals and plants. Full implementation relies, in turn, upon each Party’s: commitment to the Convention and its principles; scientific expertise and analyses; capacity building; and enforcement”.*
6. The Committee has been performing a number of tasks that are directly linked to certain Goals and Objectives of the Strategic Vision.
6. The aim of this document is to reflect how the Plants Committee supports the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and the CITES Vision Statement.
7. In the Annex hereto, certain Goals and Objectives have been selected where the Committee is contributing to achieving the goals of the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and the CITES Vision Statement by implementing the Resolutions and Decisions in which the Committee was given instructions by the Conference of the Parties.
8. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - consider the table shown in the Annex to this document;
 - comply with the instructions given by the Conference of the Parties and to carry out the activities to be implemented during the period 2013-2016, which, on completion, will contribute to the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and the CITES Vision Statement;
 - review its achievements at its 22nd meeting and to consider possibly reporting its progress at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in the report to be presented by the Chair of the Plants Committee.

Plants Committee's Contribution to achieving the goals of: CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and Vision Statement. Period 2013-2016		
Goal 1 Ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention	Instructions to Plants Committee	Activities to be implemented
Objective 1.4 The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species.		
Objective 1.5 Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings.		
Objective 1.6 Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources.		
Objective 1.8 Parties and the Secretariat have adequate capacity-building programmes in place.		
Goal 3 Contribute to significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss and to achieving relevant globally-agreed goals and targets by ensuring that cites and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually supportive	Instructions to Plants Committee	Activities to be implemented
Objective 3.2 Awareness of the role and purpose of CITES is increased globally.		
Objective 3.3 Cooperation with relevant international environmental, trade and development organizations is enhanced.		

**Plants Committee's Contribution to achieving the goals of:
CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 and Vision Statement. Period 2013-2016**

<p>Objective 3.4 The contribution of CITES to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels.</p>		
<p>Objective 3.5 Parties and the Secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited.</p>		