

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



Twenty-second meeting of the Plants Committee
Tbilisi (Georgia), 19-23 October 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

24. Any other business

24.1 Listing of tree species in Appendix III..... *No document*

The Committee noted that Senegal is considering to include *Pterocarpus erinaceus* in Appendix III of CITES, and advised that Senegal should consult all range States should it decide to submit a proposal to include the species in Appendix II.

The Committee noted that Brazil is considering including *Cedrela fissilis* and *Cedrela lilloi* in Appendix III of CITES.

9. Guidance on making non-detriment findings (NDF)

9.1 Guidance on making NDFs for perennial plants..... PC22 Doc. 9.1

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 9.1, encouraging Parties to use the guidance for making non-detriment findings for CITES-listed tree species developed by Germany, and provide feedback to that country.

The Committee requested Germany to report to the Plants Committee at its 23rd meeting on progress achieved in the development of its NDF guidance

14. Timber identification

14.2 Development of a timber identification manual..... PC22 Doc. 14.2

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 14.2 (Rev. 1) and the draft decisions included in Annex 2 of that document.

The Committee supported the work undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to improve identification of CITES-listed tree species, and recognized the importance for the Committee to provide assistance in this regard.

The Committee invited the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to bring this issue to the attention of the Standing Committee at its 66th meeting.

18. Exports and imports of CITES timber subject to national decisions..... PC22 Doc. 18

The Committee agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting the following revision to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on the *Implementation of the Convention for timber species*:

Regarding exports and imports of specimens of timber species accompanied by CITES export permits issued under a court order:

- l) The exporting Parties should not proceed with any export of specimens of any CITES-listed timber species without evidence of legal origin of specimens of the species and, for species listed in Appendix I or II, without evidence of a non-detriment finding.

Upon receiving credible information or intelligence, importing countries should reject shipments of specimens of timber species accompanied by export permits issued under court order without the required CITES findings. In such cases, the importing Parties should contact the exporting Party to seek confirmation that a non-detriment finding by the Scientific Authority and a legal acquisition finding by the Management Authority were made.

Upon receiving credible information or intelligence, the Secretariat will contact the importing and exporting Parties involved in the potential trade of court-ordered specimens and inform them of the relevant provisions of the Convention.

The Committee noted that the issue of court-ordered CITES documents is applicable to all CITES-listed species (both animal and plant species) and referred this matter to the Standing Committee for its consideration at its 66th meeting.

22. Proposals for possible consideration at CoP17

22.2 Assessment of *Beaucarnea recurvata* based on the criteria of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) for amending Appendices I and II PC22 Doc. 22.2

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 22.2 and supported its submission for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

17. Trees

17.1 Progress report on the ITTO-CITES programme for CITES-listed tree species (Resolution Conf. 14.4) PC22 Doc. 17.1

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.1.

17.5 Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.)

17.5.1 Report of the Secretariat [Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16)] PC22 Doc. 17.5.1 (Rev. 1)

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.5.1 (Rev. 1) and agreed to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting the draft decisions in Annex 2 of PC22 Doc. 17.5.1 (Rev. 1) with the following amendments:

Directed to range States of agarwood-producing species

17.XX *Subject to available funding, the range States generate, record and compile biological and ecological data as well as information on the illegal harvest and trade logging and poaching of agarwood-producing species populations remaining in the wild. They report this information at the regional agarwood workshop referred to in Dec. 17.XX and agree on regional priorities to ensure the survival of populations of agarwood-producing species in the wild.*

17.XX *The range States are invited to develop policies to encourage the sustainable use of and trade in parts and derivatives of artificially propagated agarwood-producing trees species derived from artificial inoculation.*

Directed to the Secretariat

17.XX *Subject to external funding, the Secretariat, in cooperation with agarwood range States and the Plants Committee members' regional representative for Asia, shall organize a regional workshop to:*

continue the work referred to in Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16)^{*}, with an emphasis on how range States can cooperate to ensure the long-term survival of agarwood-producing species in the wild through agarwood plantation programmes that integrate forest recovery programmes; and develop an agarwood network for sharing information on planting stocks, management, technologies and other information.

~~17.XX The ITTO CITES Programme, if a third phase is funded, will provide technical assistance to agarwood range States, including through possible project proposals on agarwood to be developed or /considered at the regional workshop specified in 17.XX. Range States will agree on priority areas of work during the workshop.~~

17.XX The Secretariat will report to the Plants Committee meeting on the implementation of Decisions 17.XX and 17.XX prior to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES.

Directed to consumer and trading Parties

17.XX Consumer and trading countries of agarwood parts and derivatives are encouraged to contribute financially towards the in situ conservation of agarwood-producing species in range States.

17.XX Encourage cooperation between in situ conservation programmes and the fragrance industry for the promotion of the conservation and sustainable use of agarwood-producing species.

22. Proposals for possible consideration at CoP17

22.3 Amendment of the annotation to the listing of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* included in Appendix II PC22 Doc. 22.3

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 22.3 and supported its submission for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

22.4 Risk assessment for the tree species of the genus *Dalbergia* in Mexico..... PC22 Doc. 22.4

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 22.4 and supported its submission for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

22.5 Amendment proposal for *Sclerocactus* spp. PC22 Doc. 22.5

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 22.5 and supported its submission for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

17. Trees (continued)

17.2 Report of the working group on Neotropical tree species (Decision 16.159) PC22 Doc. 17.2

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.2.

The Committee agreed to submit the following decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting in order to renew the mandate of the working group on Neotropical tree species:

Directed to the Plants Committee

16.159 (Rev. CoP17) *The Working Group on Neotropical Tree Species shall work under the auspices of the Plants Committee.*

During its 23rd meeting, the Plants Committee shall define the membership and the terms of reference of the Working Group.

^{*} The Secretariat notes that, the following day (23/10/2015), the Plants Committee agreed to delete Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16).

The Working Group shall preferably work through electronic means in order to reduce costs and speed up information exchange and progress in the activities included in its terms of reference.

The Working Group shall report on its progress at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee. In turn, the Plants Committee shall prepare a report on work completed for submission at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

17.4 East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) (Decisions 16.153 and 16.154)..... PC22 Doc. 17.4

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.4.

17.5 Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.)

17.5.2 Report of the working group on production systems of tree species, plantations and definitions of artificial propagation (Decision 16.156)..... PC22 Doc. 17.5.2

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.5.2 and the oral update of co-chair of the working group on production systems of tree species, plantations and definitions of artificial propagation.

The Committee agreed to submit the following decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting in order to renew the mandate of the working group on production systems of tree species, plantations and definitions of artificial propagation:

Directed to the Plants Committee

16.156 (Rev. CoP17) *The Plants Committee shall consider the current production systems of tree species, including mixed and monospecific plantations, and assess the applicability of the current definitions of artificial propagation in Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) and Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15) respectively, and report back at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

The Committee asked the Secretariat to publish an updated version of Notification to the Parties No. 2015/046 of 11 August 2015 at the request of the working group.

Adoption of executive summary PC22 Sum. 1

The Committee adopted executive summary PC22 Sum. 1 with the following amendments:

- Agenda item 1: Correction of the French translation of the following sentence: "The Committee noted that no member present declared any financial interest that he or she considered calling into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the meeting agenda."
- Agenda item: 2: Deletion of the following sentence: "The Committee agreed to request to the Conference of the Parties an increase in the translation budget of Secretariat for the committees."
- Agenda item 9.2: Deletion of Mexico as a member of the working group on NDF guidance and deletion of the following sentence "The Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a notification asking Parties for feedback and comments on the Annex of document PC22 Doc. 9.2 (Rev. 1)."

Adoption of executive summary PC22 Sum. 2

The Committee adopted executive summary PC22 Sum. 2.

22. Proposals for possible consideration at CoP17

22.1 Amendment of the annotation for Appendix-II orchids to exempt finished products package and ready for retail trade which contain components of Appendix-II orchids..... PC22 Doc. 22.1

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 1 with the following amendments:

- Inclusion of Germany as a member of the working group.
- At the beginning of paragraph 8 of the Terms of Reference, add the following sentence: “At its 17th meeting, the Conference of the Parties shall review the outcomes of the work undertaken by the working group, and evaluate the need for continuing such a working group. If maintained, the working group will report its findings to the 23rd and 24th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC23 and PC24) as appropriate, with the request that PC23 and PC24 report to the Standing Committee for its consideration and inform the Standing Committee Working Group on annotations.”

The preliminary membership of the intersessional working group of the Plants Committee on the exemption of finished products of orchids from CITES Parties was decided as follows:

- Co-chairs: Alternate representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair) and Switzerland (Ms. Moser);
- PC members: Representative of Asia (Ms. Zhou);
- Parties: Canada, China, European Union, France, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America;
- IGOs and NGOs: UNCTAD, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, Special Survival Network, TRAFFIC, WWF and FTS Botanics.