

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

SUMMARY RECORD

1. Opening of the meeting

Participants were welcomed by H. E. Mr. Teimuraz Murgulia, First Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia, who underscored the importance of CITES for conserving the diverse flora of Georgia and the Caucasian region and by Mr. John Scanlon, Secretary-General of the CITES Secretariat.

The Chair opened the meeting and thanked participants for their commitment to support CITES Parties and the Standing Committee (SC) with the best possible science-based advice.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16), the Secretariat asked participants to state any conflict of interest. The Committee noted that no member present declared any financial interests that he or she considered calling into question his or her impartiality, objectivity or independence regarding any subject on the meeting agenda.

2. Rules of Procedure

The Secretariat introduced in document PC22 Doc. 2 (Rev. 1) proposed revisions to the Rules of Procedure of the Plants Committee to streamline these Rules of Procedures with those of the Standing Committee. The document proposed adopting amendments to Rules 13 (election of Chair and Vice-Chair), 20 (submission of documents) and 22 (dissemination of documents) similar to those adopted by the Animals Committee.

The Chair of the Animals Committee presented the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Animals Committee adopted at its 28th meeting in Tel Aviv, Israel. She also noted that there was room for modernization of the Rules of Procedure of the governing bodies. However, this should be done as a joint exercise between the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees. During its last meeting, the Animals Committee reviewed the terms of reference of the Scientific Committees in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) and agreed that some elements of the work of the Scientific Committees were not well reflected in these terms of reference. For instance, the references to the Review of Significant Trade and to the Periodic Review seem to be outdated, since there have been Resolutions on these two activities that have not been reflected in the terms of reference. Another key missing element is the advice the Committees provided to Parties on scientific matters. As a consequence, the Animals Committee will request the Conference of the Parties for a mandate to review its own terms of reference. The Animals Committee's Chair expressed her interest in hearing the views of the Plants Committee on this issue.

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<sup>1</sup> *As the Chair of the Plants Committee and the Secretariat intervened on all items discussed in the meeting, their names are not included in the list of speakers at the end of those items.*

The discussion focused on Rule 13 and on the role of the alternate representative and on the mode of election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scientific committees during the Conference of the Parties with some arguing that it would be better to wait until all the members of the Committee have been assembled and have had a chance to know each other to make a better decision. Others argued that it is helpful to elect a Chair as soon as possible as long as there is a quorum within the Committee. The majority of Committee members agreed that the immediate election of a Chair, provided that there is a quorum, was preferable since there would be no gap in leadership of the Committee.

Discussion of rule 20 focused on the timing of the submission and a Party agreed with the proposed amendments made by the Animals Committee, noting that documents should indeed be submitted in one of the working languages of the Convention.

During discussion of rule 22, a Plants Committee member called for the posting of all documents in all three languages 30 days before the meeting (instead of the current 14 days). The Secretariat noted that meeting such deadlines would entail a significant increase in the translation budget of the Secretariat.

The Committee adopted amendments to Rules 13, 20 and 22 as proposed in paragraph 14 of document PC22 Doc. 2 (Rev. 1) with the following modification to Rule 13:

1. Immediately following each regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the members ~~and alternate members~~ of the Committee, or their alternates, present shall elect its Chair and ViceChair from among the Committee.

The Committee urged Parties to include members and alternate members of the Scientific Committees, including regional candidates to the Scientific Committees, in their delegation to the Conference of Parties.

The Committee agreed to report to the Standing Committees that it was supportive of an overall review of the Rules of Procedure for the meetings of the committees.

The Committee agreed to seek a mandate at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to review the Terms of Reference of the Scientific Committees contained in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP16) on *Establishment of committees*.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Asia (Ms. Zhou), Europe (Mr. Sajeve), North America (Mr. Benitez) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), by the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) and by the United States of America.

### 3. Adoption of the agenda and working programme

#### 3.1 Agenda

The Chair introduced document PC22 Doc. 3.1 (Rev. 2) and informed the Committee that she had received requests from Senegal and Brazil to address the listing of tree species in Appendix III under "Any other business". Under the same agenda item, the Chair invited the Secretariat to present a list of issues that could be included in a proposed revision of Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on *Implementation of the Convention for timber species*.

The Committee adopted the agenda in document PC22 Doc. 3.1 (Rev. 2).

Under "Any other business", the Committee included agenda items 24.1 on "Listing of tree species in Appendix III" at the request of Senegal, and 24.2 on "Possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on *Implementation of the Convention on timber species*".

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 3.2 Working programme

The Chair introduced document PC22 Doc. 3.2 (Rev.1). The issue was raised that the possible confusion that could arise between agenda items 11 and 12 and that, while non-detriment findings (NDF) can be made on a species that is included in the Review of Significant Trade (RST), these reports do not necessarily represent an answer to the RST.

The Committee adopted the working programme in document PC22 Doc. 3.2 (Rev. 2) with the agenda items 12.1, 12.2 and 13 to be considered before agenda items 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

An intervention was made by the representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) during discussion of this item.

#### 4. Admission of observers

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 4.

The Committee noted the list of observers provided in document PC22 Doc. 4.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 5. Preparation of the report of the Chair of the Plants Committee for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

The Chair reminded the Committee of the need to prepare the PC report for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Committee established a working group on the Chair's report to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with the following mandate:

Start preparing the Chair's report to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Chair of the Plants Committee (Ms. Clemente);

PC/AC members: Representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Asia (Ms. Zhou), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera), Europe (Mr. Sajeve and Mr. Kikodze), North America (Mr. Benítez) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), Alternate Representatives of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem), Europe (Mr. Carmo), and North America (Ms. Sinclair), Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough); and Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres).

The vice-Chair of the Plants Committee announced that he was stepping down as member of the Plants Committee and its vice-Chair. The Committee agreed that the Alternate Representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair) would replace the Representative of North America (Mr. Benítez), and also be the vice-Chair of the Plants Committee until the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Chair announced that she did not plan to attend the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC66). The Committee asked the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) to present at SC66 the joint AC/PC agenda items and the Alternate Representative of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem) to present the PC agenda items.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 6. Annotations for species listed in the CITES Appendixes

##### 6.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat presented document PC22 Doc. 6.1, referring to Decision 15.35 to commission a trade study, in cooperation with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), to, among other things, review the trade in timber species listed in Appendices II and III. Based on this timber trade study, the PC should decide on the need to revise annotations for certain tree species. The ITTO Secretariat presented the results of the first phase of the study, including: objectives and background; range States trade overview; preliminary results; and future work. The compilation and analysis of trade data focused on the wood products trade originating from range States for *Pericopsis elata* (Afrorosia), *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* (Siamese rosewood), *Swietenia macrophylla* (Bigleaf mahogany) and *Cedrela odorata* (Spanish cedar). With the exception of the *Pericopsis elata* range States, a considerable portion of the exports is in secondary processed wood products (SPWP) and wood furniture that fall outside the scope of annotations #5 (logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets) and #6 (logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets and plywood). The study also noted that, for most of the range States, the exports of wood products containing CITES-listed species are likely to account for a very small share of the total forest product trade.

Due to the preliminary nature of the results, speakers agreed that it was premature to consider making a recommendation to the Standing Committee working group on annotations on proposals to amend annotations #5 and #6 and to expand their scope to include SPWP. A speaker noted that a significant increase in SPWP and furniture does not necessarily lead to an increase of trade in CITES-listed species. Greater taxonomic clarity to avoid problem with look-alikes, harmonized system codes and greater traceability of processed products were highlighted as necessary improvements to help with the implementation of annotations #5 and #6.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to seek continuation of the work undertaken under Decisions 15.35, 14.148 (Rev. CoP16) and 16.162 in order to consider the final results of the timber trade study at its 23rd meeting.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera on behalf of Peru), and North America (Mr. Benítez); by Canada, China and Guatemala and by Environmental Investigation Agency, the International Tropical Timber Organization, TRAFFIC and the World Wildlife Fund.

## 6.2 Report of the interim Standing Committee working group

The United States of America, as Chair of the Standing Committee working group on annotations presented the progress made by the working group. During the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a number of decisions related to annotations were adopted. Faced with an extensive list of tasks, the working group decided to focus on a limited number of elements for the intersessional period: determining where definition of terms in annotations should be permanently included, guidance on interpretation, and reviewing agarwood annotations. The results of this work will be submitted to the Standing Committee at its 66th meeting.

The Committee thanked the Chair of the Standing Committee's working group on annotations, the United States of America, for her oral update on the work of the working group.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

## 7. Cooperation with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

### 7.1 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IPBES) (Decision 16.15)\*

The Chair of the Standing Committee working group on IPBES (Mr. Benítez) introduced document PC22 Doc. 7.1 (Rev. 1) reporting on the implementation of the set of decisions on IPBES adopted at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Decision 16.13-16.16). Mr. Benítez explained that the working group has focused on the adoption and development of the "Thematic assessment on sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and strengthening capacities and tools" and encouraged Parties to consider whether and how the Chairs of CITES scientific advisory bodies could further participate. Noting their roles as observers in the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP), he lamented that no Chairs of the CITES scientific committees had attended any meetings to date.

The Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) then took the floor to summarize her participation in the last MEP meeting held in October 2015, focusing particularly on the scoping and assessment of sustainable use. She underscored that as IPBES' scope is larger than CITES, it could provide valuable insights on the sustainable use and management of species, and said the scoping document would be tabled at IPBES-4, to be held in February 2016, for approval. A speaker called the attention of the Committee and the Parties to information document PC22 Inf. 4 that contains a calendar of IPBES activities, including a call for nomination experts. The decision to nominate experts would lie with national focal points in each country. At this stage of the process, speakers noted that CITES and the Scientific Committees had a lot to contribute on the science side and that the Secretariat planned to be present at 4th IPBES plenary.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 7.1 (Rev. 1).

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

The Committee encouraged Parties to contact their national IPBES focal points and provide their views regarding the draft scoping of an “Assessment of Sustainable Harvest and Trade of Wild Resources”, which will be considered at the next meeting of the IPBES plenary in February 2016.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera on behalf of Peru) and North America (Mr. Benítez); and by the Chairs of the Animals and Standing Committees (Ms. Caceres and Mr. Storkersen).

## 7.2 Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Resolution Conf. 16.5)

The representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) as Chair of the intersessional working group on ‘Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation [GSPC] of the Convention on Biological Diversity [CBD] (Resolution Conf. 16.5)’ presented document PC22 Doc. 7.2 (Rev. 2), highlighting a qualitative evaluation of CITES’ contribution to the implementation of GSPC 2011-2020. The contribution of CITES was assessed as good and perfectible depending on the objective. A speaker mentioned that the Global Environment Facility had changed its funding modalities, and that there was now a wider scope of Conventions and topics that could access funds. This could contribute to further research and improved analysis for NDFs. Another speaker highlighted that the summary of Periodic Review proposals submitted to CoPs for amendments to Appendices I and II (Article XV of the Convention), taxa selected for Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)] and Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12 (Rev. CoP13)] since the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to date presented in Annex 4 was a useful exercise

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 7.2 (Rev. 2).

The Committee requested the Secretariat to upload on its website the “Summary of Periodic Review proposals submitted to CoPs for amendments to Appendices I and II (Article XV of the Convention), taxa selected for Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)] and Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12 (Rev. CoP13)] since CoP13 to date” presented in Annex 4 of the document.

The Committee encouraged Parties to fill in the questionnaire on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* presented in Annex 2 of document PC22 Doc. 7.2. (Rev. 2).

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera on behalf of Peru) and of North America (Mr. Benítez); and by Austria.

## 8. Capacity-building

### 8.1 Report of the Secretariat – overview\*

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 8.1, highlighting the different capacity-building activities it has supported and presenting recommendations on how best the working group on capacity-building and the working group on the review of identification and guidance materials may communicate, collaborate and align their work with each other.

Speakers highlighted the need for greater coordination across all capacity-building activities, something that has been difficult in the past because of the different memberships of the working group on capacity building and of the working group on the review of identification and guidance materials. Among other issues, the issue of access to scientific research (journals, reviews, databases, etc.) was raised. The Secretariat noted that it was seeking a mandate at the next Conference of Parties to do a gap analysis of the materials available to Scientific Authorities in all countries, one of the gaps being the lack of access to solid scientific literature. A speaker noted that data and guidance for NDFs under the ITTO-CITES

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

programme on tree species were not accessible for CITES Parties that are not ITTO members, with the Secretariat responding that this provision may be eliminated in future work.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 8.1.

The Committee recommended that the joint intersessional working groups established by the Animals and Plants Committee on capacity-building (pursuant to Decision 16.29) and on identification and guidance material (pursuant to Decision 16.59) work jointly in the future.

The Committee further recommended that such a capacity-building and identification and guidance material working group should give equal attention to plants and animals in its work.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) and by Uganda.

## 8.2 Report of the joint working group on capacity building (Decision 16.29)\*

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 8.2 on behalf of the co-Chairs of the joint Animals and Plants Committee working group on capacity-building, reporting that the working group has virtually discussed its mandated tasks and agreed to a number of activities it intends to undertake for the period up to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The document proposed a workplan that provides a roadmap to guide the working group on relevant priority actions with an indicative timetable.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 8.2.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

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

### 9.1 Guidance on making NDFs for perennial plants

Germany introduced document PC22 Doc. 9.1 on the nine-step process to support CITES scientific authorities making NDFs for species listed in Appendix II. Updated versions of the guidance are now available following workshops held in Peru and Georgia and a new version will be published and launched at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Noting that NDFs are at the very heart of CITES' work, many speakers thanked Germany for its work and for its funding for the organization of the NDF workshops. A speaker suggested a trial on *Pericopsis elata* (Afromosia) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Acknowledging that it would be useful for the NDF guidance to be available in French, Belgium, Canada and France informed the Committee that they would look into funding opportunities for the translation.

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.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Asia (Ms. Zhou) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera speaking on behalf of Peru), and by Belgium, Canada, the European Union, France, Germany, Georgia, and the United States of America.

### 9.2 Guidance on making NDFs for tree species

Guatemala introduced document PC22 Doc. 9.2 (Rev. 1) and explained that the expert working group on NDFs for CITES-listed tree species met in Guatemala in September 2015 to produce a manual with a flexible methodological framework that allows Parties to find the right methodology based on the information they have available. Some speakers argued that there was not enough time to address the

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issue and suggested an intersessional working group be established to continue deliberations once Parties have reviewed the guidance and to suggest this document would best fit with other guidance like the one presented in document PC22 Doc. 9.1.

The Committee established a working group on NDF guidance (agenda item 9.2) with the following mandate:

Consider, discuss and provide recommendations to improve the Annex of document PC22 Doc. 9.2 (Rev. 1).

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Canada (Mr. Farr);

PC members: Representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), and Alternate Representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Parties: Belgium, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Latvia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, ITTO, IUCN, Center for International Environmental Law, FTS Botanics, Global Eye, Species Survival Network, and TRAFFIC.

Canada reported on the deliberations of the working group that focused *inter alia* on challenges associated with the overall structure of the document; plans for a CD-ROM with a revised structure for the guidance; the need to reflect the diversity of management situations related to land conversion and how origin overlaps with traceability; potential linkages to the nine-step process developed for making NDFs for perennial plants; and whether a resolution was premature at this stage of development. Following some discussion, the proponents of the guidance withdrew the document, but agreed to work independently on further elaboration of the guidance in collaboration with the International Tropical Timber Organization, taking into account the nine-step guidance for NDFs on perennial plants

The Committee noted that document PC22 Doc. 9.2 (Rev. 1) was withdrawn by the authors of the document: César Beltetón, CONAP, Guatemala, and Margarita África Clemente Muñoz, University of Cordoba, Spain.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 5 with the following amendments:

- In paragraph 1, replace “transparency” by “technical clarity”;
- In paragraph 2, delete in the first bullet point “in the context of protected areas”;
- Delete paragraphs 4, 6 and 7;
- Insert a new last paragraph as follows: “That the Plants Committee take note of the work done to date and encourage its further elaboration. The authors are welcome to resubmit the next draft of the Annex to the Plants Committee for information.”

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeve), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera, also speaking on behalf of Peru) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo), by the Chair of the Plants Committee (Ms. Caceres) and by Belgium, France, Germany, and Guatemala, and by the Species Survival Network.

10. Extinct or possibly extinct species (Decision 16.164)\*

The representative of Africa (Mr. Luke) presented document PC22. Doc. 10, noting that the Animals Committee had decided to use the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition of “extinct”. However, the Animal Committee had left open what to do with the annotation where some species already on Appendices are termed “extinct”. Parties supported the Animals Committee’s proposal, but noted that the inclusion of the term “extinct” in the Appendices could be confusing. It was however considered useful to include the term “extinct” in Species+ and the CITES Checklist, if not in the Appendices.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 1 (Rev. by the Secretariat) with the following amendments:

- deletion of the possible text to use in any annotation placed in brackets (in section D of Annex 4).

The Committee asked the Secretariat to request UNEP-WCMC to ensure that extinct species listed in the Appendices are appropriately flagged in the Species+ database and the Checklist of CITES Species.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) and by Canada, Mexico and the United States of America, and by the World Wildlife Fund.

11. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]

11.1 Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)]\*

The Nomenclature specialist introduced document PC22 Doc. 11.1 noting that, while the Review Significant Trade (RST) is one of the more important processes within CITES, the Resolution on RST is quite dated. The Animals and Plants Committees had thus agreed to review the process in order to assess its effectiveness and revise the process to make it more streamlined. This resulted in a revised draft Resolution that was discussed at the 28th meeting of the Animals Committee. The Chair of the Animals Committee provided further details on the thought process that led to the recommendations by the Animals Committee. Regional representatives and Parties provided positive feedback on the proposed revised Resolution and suggested some minor changes to clarify the process.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 4 (Rev. by the Secretariat) with the following amendment to the preamble of the draft resolution in Annex 3. The last line of the preambular paragraph starting with EXPECTING should read “and improving coordination and communication between Scientific and Management authorities on the issuance of export permits”.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the regional representative of North America (Mr. Benítez), by the Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough), by the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres) and by Mexico.

11.2 Overview of the species-based Review of Significant Trade

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 11.2 in compliance with Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) and its Annex indicating the reference documents for species selected after the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 11.2.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

11.3 Species selected following CoP16

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 11.3, focusing on the 13 species selected by the Plants Committee for review. The Annex presents the status of the responses received. Mexico noted that it had answered the letter sent by the Secretariat, noting that *Carnegiea gigantea* was protected under

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.



relevant national legislation and requesting its elimination from the Review of Significant Trade. Paraguay presented progress on its NDF for *Bulnesia sarmientoi*.

The Committee established a working group on the Review of Significant Trade (agenda item 11.3) with the following mandate:

Concerning item PC22 Doc. 11.3

1. In accordance with paragraph f) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), review the available information to determine whether it is satisfied that Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, are being implemented; and
2. Propose which species should be eliminated from the review with respect to the range State concerned, and which should be kept in the review.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: The specialist on botanical nomenclature of the Plant Committee (Mr. McGough);

PC members: Representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Oceania (Mr. Leach); and Alternate representatives of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem) and Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Parties: Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: ITC, UNEP-WCMC, ITTO, IUCN, Center for International Environmental Law, Environmental Investigation Agency, FTS Botanics, INDENA, *Società Botanica Italiana*, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, the World Wildlife Fund International.

The Chair of the working group introduced its report in document PC22 Com. 3 and Parties expressed their appreciation for the spirit of cooperation shown by the countries involved in the Review.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 3 with the following amendment:

- Inclusion of the Representative of Africa (Mr. Luke) and of the Alternate Representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo) as members of the working group.

The Committee recommended the inclusion of paragraphs 2a) and b) of document PC22 Com. 3 in the report of the Chair of the Plants Committee to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), North America (Mr. Benítez) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo), by Mexico, Paraguay and the United States of America, by UNEP-WCMC and by the Species Survival Network.

## 12. Non-detriment findings

### 12.1 Report on Non-detriment finding for *Pericopsis elata* from the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) introduced document PC22 Doc. 12.1 and its annexes, noting that only trees from nine concessions will be exported as part of its 2015 quota. Quotas are to be valid for four years. The methodology adopted by the DRC was detailed in the document. The DRC asked the Plants Committee to approve its evaluation methodology.

## 12.2 Report on Non-detriment finding for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* from Paraguay

Paraguay introduced document PC22 Doc. 12.2 on its preliminary non-detriment finding for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* that will be finalized in December 2015. It highlighted progress on the inventory and the sustainable management of the species.

and

## 13. Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana*

The European Union introduced document PC22 Doc. 13 on the sustainability of trade in *Prunus africana* highlighting that, within the broader framework of the Review of Significant Trade (RST), a number of requirements should be met, notably for the sampling design for inventories, the inventory dataset and equation set, harvesting technique used to collect bark and rotation time; regular controls and monitoring and tracking system for traceability from the harvesting site to the port of export. They highlighted the need to take stock of the management of this species, for instance with the organization of a workshop bringing together exporting and importing countries. Speakers supported the work undertaken so far by the European Union and the call for the organization of an international workshop that should be complementary with the RST process for this species.

During discussion of these items, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Kayota and Mr. Luke), Europe (Mr. Sajeva) and North America (Mr. Benítez); by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo), by Belgium, Chile, the European Union and France, and by the International Tropical Timber Organization.

The Committee established a working group on non-detriment findings / species management reports on (agenda items 12.1, 12.2 and 13) with the following mandate:

Review and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the non-detriment findings / species management reports as presented in documents PC22 Doc. 12.1, PC22 Doc. 12.2 and PC22 Doc. 13.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: Guatemala (Mr. Beltetón) and European Union (Ms. Perrier);

PC members: Representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Europe (Mr. Sajeva) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), and Alternate Representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Parties: Belgium, Canada, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar, Malaysia, Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: ITC, UNEP-WCMC, ITTO, IUCN, Center for International Environmental Law, Environmental Investigation Agency, FTS Botanics, INDENA, *Società Botanica Italiana*, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, the World Wildlife Fund International.

The co-chairs of the working group presented the results of its work in document PC22 Com. 4. Speakers noted that the document reflected adequately the issues raised and proposed a number of edits and changes as recorded below.

During discussion of these items, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeva) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera), by the Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough); by Belgium, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Paraguay, and the United States of America, and by the Species Survival Network.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 4 with the following amendments:

- Translation in French of “management” should be “aménagement” and not “gestion”;
- Translation in Spanish of “commends” should be “felicita”;

- Inclusion of the Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera) as a member of the working group;
- Under “Report on NDF for *Pericopsis elata* in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (PC22 Doc. 12.1)”, paragraph c) should read as follows:
 

Also encourages DRC to provide clarifications with regard to the use of recovery rates in their Non-Detriment Finding, noting that concerns were raised regarding the use of this parameter to demonstrate the sustainability of logging;
- Under “Report on NDF for *Pericopsis elata* in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (PC22 Doc. 12.1)”, insert in paragraph e) the word “Plants” at the end of the fifth line between “Chair of the” and “Committee”;
- Under “Report on NDF for *Pericopsis elata* in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (PC22 Doc. 12.1)”, paragraph f) should read as follows:
 

Invites the Secretariat to consider whether the two following issues would require changes to relevant Resolutions, possibly through the preparation of draft amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on Implementation of the Convention for timber species and Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15) on Management of nationally established export quotas:
- Under “Report on NDF for *Pericopsis elata* in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (PC22 Doc. 12.1)”, replace the last bullet point at the end of paragraph f) with the following:
 

the appropriate management of export quotas for timber species could preferably be based on the use of adequate conversion factors allowing for the calculation of the round wood equivalent volume of specimens to be exported, which would allow for a better monitoring of export quotas.
- Under “Report on NDF for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in Paraguay (PC22 Doc. 12.2)”, paragraph b) should read:
 

encourages ~~the~~ Parties and ~~the~~ relevant organizations, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization , to provide financial support and technical assistance to Paraguay regarding the implementation of the necessary measures to complete the analysis to improve their Non-Detriment Finding;
- Under “Report on NDF for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in Paraguay (PC22 Doc. 12.2)”, paragraph c) should read:
 

encourages Paraguay to apply the recommendations included in document PC22 Doc. 12.2, in particular regarding the completion of population studies and analysis of existing forest inventories, as well as the development of forest~~all~~ management plans conducted on the properties where the use of *Bulnesia sarmientoi* is made, and the development of a national management plan for the species;
- Under “Report on NDF for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in Paraguay (PC22 Doc. 12.2)”, paragraph d) should read:
 

recommends that the Secretariat and Paraguay address the question of export quotas for *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in order to resolve the technical ~~arrangements~~ issues mentioned during the meeting.
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, insert in line 2 of paragraph b) “, as appropriate,” before “an assessment of the management of the species”;
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, the Spanish translation of “against the principles” in paragraph b) should read “en línea” and not “en contra”;
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, replace the word “rules” by “guidelines” in line 2 of paragraph c);

- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, replace the word “mean” by “means” in line 2 of paragraph d);
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, insert in line 4 of paragraph e) “standardized” before “monitoring of the impact”;
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, use a lower-case “d” for the word “Decisions”;
- Under “Harvesting of and trade in *Prunus africana* (PC22 Doc. 13)”, add the following sentence at the end of paragraph i): “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.”

Discussion of these agenda items also led to discussion on the establishment of an intersessional working group on African tree species with the creation of a small drafting group composed of the representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota), the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and the United States of America and charged with the drafting of terms of reference of that working group.

The preliminary membership of the intersessional working group on African tree species of the Plants Committee was decided as follows:

Chair: Representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota);

PC members: Representative of Africa (Mr. Luke) and Alternate Representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Parties: Belgium, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Madagascar, Netherlands, Paraguay, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, the Center for International Environmental Law, Environmental Investigation Agency, Special Survival Network, TRAFFIC, the World Wildlife Fund and FTS Botanics.

The Committee adopted the following terms of reference of the intersessional working group on African tree species of the Plants Committee:

- a) The working group will function under the authority of the Plants Committee;
- b) The working group will work primarily via electronic means;
- c) The working group will seek to facilitate the circulation and exchange of experiences among the range States, importing countries and other stakeholders on the sustainable use and management of CITES-listed African tree species;
- d) The working group will seek to identify gaps and weaknesses in the capacity of range States of African tree species to effectively implement CITES for these species;
- e) The working group will examine how the processes currently used by countries to develop annual export quotas compare with the processes recommended under CITES and develop recommendations for reconciling them;
- f) The working group will explore the conversion factors used for different commodities (e.g., logs, sawn wood, bark) and develop recommendations for improving such processes;
- g) The working group will seek to identify other African tree species that may benefit from inclusion in the CITES Appendices;
- h) The group will conclude its deliberations on these issues by 31 March 2016 in order to have sufficient time to prepare a report on its progress for consideration at CoP17; and
- i) In its report to CoP17, the working group will invite the Parties to review the outcomes of the work undertaken by the working group and evaluate the need for continuing such a working group. Any

decision adopted concerning the continuation of this working group will call on it to report its findings to the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Plants Committee (PC23 and PC24) as appropriate.

#### 14. Timber identification

##### 14.1 Development of a timber identification directory for CITES-listed species

The European Union presented document PC22 Doc. 14.1 focusing on the development of a timber identification directory for enforcement purposes.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 14.1.

The Committee welcomed the cooperation of the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN) in the development of the timber identification directory for CITES-listed species.

The Committee recommended the inclusion of relevant information from range States in the directory.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

##### 14.2 Development of a timber identification manual

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime presented document PC22 Doc. 14.2 focusing on the use of forensics for timber identification, especially in the field. During the development of a field guide to be published in March 2016 on the collection, analysis and interpretation of forensics for timber identification, a number of implementation challenges were identified, including taxonomic issues, the transition from research to forensics tools, and access to reference collection. They noted that the lack of biological reference material was a major problem for timber identification.

Speakers welcomed the initiative by UNODC as useful for enforcement authorities, but also for the private sector. They also noted that the proposed decisions should better take into account existing CITES processes and that enforcement was under the purview of the Standing Committee.

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.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Asia (Ms. Zhou), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera on behalf of Peru) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the Nomenclature specialist (Mr. Mc Gough); by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America; by UNODC; and by the Species Survival Network and the World Resources Institute.

#### 15. Review of identification and guidance material (Decision 16.59)\*

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 15 and reported on the implementation of Decision 16.59.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 15.

No intervention was made during discussion of this item.

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

16. Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species (Decision 15.53)\*

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 16. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) then presented the guidance on CITES source codes, contained in Annexes 1, 2 and 3 of that document. It highlighted inconsistent or conflicting directions between existing Resolutions about source codes. The Chair of the Animals Committee drew the attention of the Plants Committee to document AC28 Com 7 where the Animals Committee recommended that a new version of this guide be commissioned, considering that the scientific committees were not the proper venue to resolve these contradictions and that it would also encroach on the issue under the purview of the Standing Committee. The Animals Committee had noted, *inter alia*, this document should not provide guidance towards making a non-detriment finding or an export decision. As such, language regarding the appropriateness of an export should be removed.

Speakers supported the approach adopted by the Animals Committee and argued that there was no need to seek a change in the number of source codes or to modify the definition of source codes. They supported the idea of a guidance manual on the interpretation of source codes, but noted that Parties needed to provide additional comments.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document AC28 Com. 7 (Rev. by Secretariat) with the following additional feedback specific to plants:

- With respect to guidance on source codes for plant trade, the Plants Committee noted in particular that the decision path for Source Code D needs revision to take into consideration Resolution Conf. 9.19 (Rev. CoP15), which recognizes that nurseries that are not registered may still continue exporting artificially propagated specimens of Appendix-I species grown for commercial purpose, with appropriate CITES export permits.
- It was also noted that the guidance did not address the definitions for “artificially propagated” agarwood (Resolution Conf. 16.10), grafts [Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15)] or trees grown in monospecific plantations [Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15)].
- Where references are made to ‘cultivated parental stock,’ this should be in accordance with the definition in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15), *Regarding the definition of ‘artificially propagated’, paragraph b).*
- There may be a nuance missing regarding exempt materials as described in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15) (i.e., seeds, cuttings, divisions, callus tissue or other plant tissues, spores or other propagules as noted under the heading, “DETERMINES that the term ‘artificially propagated’ shall be interpreted to refer to plant specimens”), including the coding of specimens to be exported that were grown from exempt callus tissue or other plant tissues.
- Some questions might be confusing, such as “Was the cutting or division taken from a wild plant that is NOT considered cultivated parental stock?”.
- It would be useful to have the opportunity for CITES Authorities to ground test this guidance more fully.

The Plants Committee commended this undertaking to provide discrete guidance for determining source codes and recognized that there is inconsistent advice within the relevant resolutions associated with source codes, which merits further attention by the Standing Committee and Parties. For example, ambiguity on the application of source code A and source code D.

The Plants Committee recommended that the Secretariat seek further feedback from the Standing Committee and Parties, and prepare a new version of this guidance taking into account the feedback received.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of North America (Mr. Benítez), by the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair); by the Chair of the Animals Committee (Ms. Caceres); by Germany and the United States of America, and by IUCN.

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

## 17. Trees

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

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.1 focusing on the progress made by the ITTO-CITES programme under Phases I and II. The programme aims to improve forest management and regulation of trade in CITES-listed tree species. Speakers provided updates on the implementation of the ITTO-CITES programme in various countries and supported the extension of the programme with Phase III, noting that it should focus on the implementation of core CITES requirements, such as non-detriment findings, traceability, or legal acquisition findings.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.1.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the European Union, Guatemala and Indonesia and by the International Tropical Timber Organization.

### 17.2 Report of the working group on Neotropical tree species (Decision 16.159)

Guatemala, as president of working group, introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.2 based on the information provided by range States for *Dalbergia* spp. in the Americas, thus providing an update on the status of that genus in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. Speakers congratulated the working group and shared information about seizures of *Dalbergia* spp. They supported an extension of the mandate of the working group after the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, noting that it should work under the auspices of the Plants Committee.

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 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.*

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeve), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera also speaking on behalf of Peru) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by China and the United States of America and by the Species Survival Network.

### 17.3 Malagasy ebonies (*Diospyros* spp.) and Malagasy rosewoods (*Dalbergia* spp.) (Decision 16.152)

#### 17.3.1 Report of the Secretariat

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.3.1 presenting progress made by the Secretariat on the five action points addressed to it in the Action Plan for *Diospyros* spp. and *Dalbergia* spp. and summarizing the political and technical exchanges between Madagascar and the CITES Secretariat. The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) informed the Plants Committee that it was starting a project to help with the identification of many CITES-listed species of Madagascar and other *Dalbergia* from around the world. It however noted

that it encountered difficulties when it tried to work with countries that are not Party to ITTO, like Madagascar.

and

17.3.2 Report of Madagascar on progress in implementing the “Action Plan for *Diospyros* spp. and *Dalbergia* spp.”

Madagascar informed the Plants Committee that it will send its report to the Secretariat within two weeks and presented a quick summary of the progress made on the Action plan by the CITES Flora Scientific Authority, notably progress on timber identification. It noted that the implementation of the Action Plan required goodwill, capacity-building and financial means.

The Committee noted documents PC22 Doc. 17.3.1 and 17.3.2.

The Committee established a working group on Madagascar (agenda items 17.3.1 and 17.3.2) with the following mandate:

1. Advise on an appropriate format and provide guidance to enable Madagascar to report on progress at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17); and
2. Review Madagascar’s report on the implementation of the action plan and provide it with relevant advice.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: Madagascar (Mr. Ramarosandratana) and Representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota);

PC members: Alternate Representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo) and Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Parties: Belgium, European Union, France, Germany, Guatemala, Netherlands, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: ITC, ITTO, IUCN, Environmental Investigation Agency, *Società Botanica Italiana*, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, the World Wildlife Fund International

Madagascar introduced document PC22 Com. 6. Speakers welcomed the document and proposed minor editorial changes as outlined below.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 6 with the following amendments:

- Inclusion of Ireland as a member of the working group;
- Deletion of “should” in paragraph 2c)
- In paragraph 2f), insert “IUCN” before “Specialist Group of Malagasy Plants”;
- Deletion of paragraphs 2n) and 2o) to be replaced by the following text: “encourages Madagascar to follow the recommendations made by the Secretariat in document PC22 Doc. 17.3.1.”

During discussion of these items, interventions were made by Ireland, by IUCN and by the International Tropical Timber Organization, Species Survival Network, the World Resources Institute and the World Wildlife Fund.



#### 17.4 East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) (Decisions 16.153 and 16.154)

The representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota) introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.4 highlighting the need to convene an East African sandalwood range States consultative meeting to review progress to date and develop an action plan for the implementation of Decision 16.153 with possibly back-to-back meetings on *Osyris lanceolata* and *Prunus africana*. Speakers agreed that it was important to continue the work requested in Decision 16.153 and noted that the renewal of the Decision could be proposed at the next Conference of the Parties by any Party.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.4.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Leach) and the Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough), by France and Uganda and by TRAFFIC.

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

##### 17.5.1 Report of the Secretariat [Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16)]

The Secretariat presented document PC22 Doc. 17.5.1 transmitting the results of the Asian regional workshop on the management of wild and planted agarwood taxa, held in January 2015 in Guwahati, Assam, India. The Secretariat presented seven draft decisions directed to agarwood range States, the Secretariat, and consumer and trading Parties. Speakers supported the draft decisions that arose from the workshop and those drafted by the Secretariat, noting that any future workshop should also be open to consumer countries. Questions were raised about the second draft decision addressed to the Secretariat.

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 dDevelop policies to encourage the sustainable use of and trade in ef 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 's regional representative for Asia, shall organize a regional workshop to: continue the work referred to in Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16)<sup>2</sup>, 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.~~

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<sup>2</sup> The Secretariat notes that, the following day (23/10/2015), the Plants Committee agreed to delete Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16).

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.*

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), by the European Union, Indonesia and the United States of America, and by the International Tropical Timber Organization and TRAFFIC.

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

Guatemala, as co-chair of the working group, introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.5.2, noting that only a limited number of Parties had responded to the questionnaire to gather information regarding production systems for CITES-listed tree species, including monospecific and mixed plantations. Speakers agreed that the mandate of the working group should be renewed and called for Parties to submit responses to the questionnaire.

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.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeve), North America (Mr. Benítez) and by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo).

17.5.3 Assessment of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.9 (Decision 16.157)

The alternate representative of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem), as co-chair of the working group on timber species, medicinal plants and agarwood-producing species, introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.5.3 transmitting the revised *Glossary of Agarwood Products*. Speakers welcomed the revised Glossary and encouraged Parties to use it as an identification manual, noting however that it was not exhaustive and that more Parties should submit their input since some information seems to be missing.

The Committee noted the revised *Glossary of Agarwood Products* in the Annex of document PC22 Doc. 17.5.3 and asked the Secretariat to publish a Notification inviting Parties to provide more information and comments to improve this glossary, if necessary.

The Committee recommended the deletion of Decisions 15.95 (Rev. CoP16) and 16.155 by the Conference of the Parties.

The Committee agreed to submit the following draft decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting in order to continue the work of the Plants Committee on agarwood-producing taxa:

***Directed to the Plants Committee***

16.157  
(Rev. CoP17) *The Plants Committee shall monitor the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.10 (Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa) to assess any potential conservation impacts to the long-term survival of agarwood-producing species and possible problems arising from the implementation, and shall report on these issues at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

The Committee agreed to submit the following draft decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 17th meeting:

***Directed to the range, transit, consumer and producer Parties of agarwood products***

17.XX *Range, transit, consumer, and producer Parties of agarwood products are invited to compile and publish identification manuals on agarwood products, taking into consideration the updated version of the Glossary provided in the Annex to document PC22 Doc.17.5.3, and any further updated version, if appropriate. They are encouraged to distribute these identification manuals as training material to management and enforcement officials.*

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou), North America (Mr. Benítez) and Oceania (Mr. Leach), by the alternate representative of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem) and by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

17.6 Implementation of the Convention for *Dalbergia* spp.

The alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo) introduced document PC22 Doc. 17.6 summarizing Europe's concerns with the implementation of the Convention for *Dalbergia* spp. The main concerns raised related to taxonomy, identification, annotations, non-detriment findings and enforcement, noting more specifically that a global monograph of the species still had to be completed. The problem of trade names was mentioned by different Parties, with enforcement, tracking and reporting in trade being hampered by the use of different trade names, such as rosewood. Speakers welcomed the document and shared the concerns raised, notably the issue of identification of specific species in trade, the lack of information to make an NDF and the use of the annotation.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 17.6.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeva), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by China, France, Guatemala, Mexico, Senegal, Thailand and the United States of America.

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

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document PC22 Doc. 18, proposing language to be included in Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on *Implementation of the Convention for timber species* on exports and imports of specimens of timber species under a court order. Speakers recognized the importance of the issue raised in that document and supported the revision proposal with some changes, noting that the issue

was also pertinent for all species, not only timber, and that it should be brought to the attention of the Standing Committee's working group on confiscated specimens and of the Standing Committee as a whole.

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.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera on behalf of Peru), Europe (Mr. Sajevo) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the European Union, France, Peru, Portugal and the United States of America, and by the Center for International Environmental Law and the Species Survival Network.

19. Trade in artificially propagated plants [Decision 14.40 (Rev. CoP16)]

The alternate representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair), as co-chair of the working group on reporting trade in artificially propagated plants, introduced document PC22 Doc. 19, recommending that Parties continue to report trade in artificially propagated Appendix II plants at the species level consistent with the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* when possible, taking into account data entry capacity and in consideration of conservation priorities such as the value in species level reporting for new species in trade. Speakers supported the recommendation put forward in the document.

The Committee recommended that Parties continue to report trade in artificially propagated Appendix-II plants at the species level consistent with the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* when possible, taking into account data entry capacity and in consideration of conservation priorities such as the value in species level reporting for new species in trade.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to incorporate the above recommendation into the *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* (provided in Notification to the Parties No. 2011/019).

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) and by the United States of America.

20. Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)]

20.1 Overview of species under review

The Secretariat introduced document PC22 Doc. 20.1 presenting a record of the species reviewed. Mexico requested a modification for *Tillandsia mauryana*.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 20.1, and agreed that the following modification needed to be reflected in the table in Annex 1: for *Tillandsia mauryana*, the review has been completed after Mexico submitted document PC21 Doc. 19.3.2.

During discussion of this item, an intervention was made by Mexico.

## 20.2 Report of the intersessional working group\*

The representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) introduced document PC22 Doc. 20.2 containing elements to discuss the rationale behind the Periodic Review, notably how species are selected for the Periodic Review. The Chair of the Animals Committee provided an update on the decisions taken by the Animals Committee at its 28th meeting leading to a proposed revision of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16) on *Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II*, notably the addition of new subparagraph f) in the Resolution.

The Committee adopted the revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16) proposed in document AC28 Com. 3 (Rev. by the Secretariat).

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

## 20.3 Species review

### 20.3.1 Periodic review of Didieraceae, *Aloe* spp. and *Euphorbia* spp

Madagascar introduced document PC22 Doc. 20.3.1. While noting that Didieraceae was not endemic to Madagascar, speakers supported the conclusion reached by Madagascar, proposing no change to the current listing of these species.

### 20.3.2 Periodic review of *Pachypodium brevicaule*

Madagascar introduced document PC22 Doc. 20.3.2 (Rev. 1) noting that the species had disappeared in certain zones and that the three *Pachypodium* species were often traded under the same name.

and

### 20.3.3 Periodic review of *Sclerocactus* spp.

The United States of America introduced document PC22 Doc. 20.3.3 (Rev. 1) noting that *Sclerocactus* spp. was adequately listed in Appendix II, but that some nomenclature changes were needed.

The Committee established a working group on the Periodic Review (agenda items 20.1 and 20.3) with the following mandate:

In accordance with paragraphs j) and k) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16), determine where it would be appropriate to transfer a taxon from one Appendix to another, or to delete a taxon from the Appendices and in cases where this is not the case, draft a decision with reference to the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Representative of North America (Mr. Benítez);

PC members: Representative of Europe (Mr. Sajevo);

Parties: Czech Republic, Madagascar, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, South Africa and United States of America;

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\* This agenda item is addressed to the Animals and Plants Committees.

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, *Società Botanica Italiana*, Species Survival Network and TRAFFIC.

The representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) introduced document PC22 Com. 2. Speakers noted minor errors in the document.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 2 with the following amendments:

- Correction of the name of the following species: *Dioscorea deltoidea* (and not *Discorea deltoidea*), *Hedychium philippinense* (and not *Hedychium philipinense*), and *Tillandsia kammii* (and not *Tillandsia kammii*).
- Inclusion of the following sentence in paragraph 1.1.b after “Ms. Rivera”: “and considering that the species has been under the periodic review process for more than two intersessional periods between CoPs (since 2005), and in compliance with para. e) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16).”
- In paragraph 5.2, correct the grammatical error in the last line to read: “which should be transferred”.

The Committee recommended the inclusion of paragraph 4 of document PC22 Com. 2 in the report of the Chair of the Plants Committee to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Europe (Mr. Sajeva), and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo), by Mexico, and by *Società Botanica Italiana* and the Species Survival Network.

20. Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP16)]

20.3 Species review

20.3.3 Periodic review of *Sclerocactus* spp.

and

21. Standard nomenclature [Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP16)]

21.1 Report of the specialist on botanical nomenclature

The Nomenclature specialist introduced document PC22 Doc. 21.1 focusing on the orchid checklist, the cactus checklist and on the genera *Dalbergia* and *Diospyros*.

21.2 Taxonomic problems with *Nardostachys* and its potential implications for trade data and control

Austria introduced document PC22 Doc. 21.2 highlighting the taxonomic problems with *Nardostachys*. Speakers supported the proposal of Austria and asked the Plants Committee to look into the status *Nardostachys chinensis*.

21.3 Revised nomenclature for *Aloe* spp.

South Africa introduced document PC22 Doc. 21.3 proposing a simplified nomenclature. The representative of Europe supported the proposal.

21.4 Revised nomenclature for two species of Malagasy palms (Arecaceae)

The United States of America introduced document PC22 Doc. 21.4 noting that although the names of these two species are included as synonyms in the Checklist of CITES Species and in Species+, synonyms are not included in the CITES Appendices such that these species may not appear to be listed in the CITES Appendices.

The Committee established a working group on nomenclature (agenda items 20.3.3, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3 and 21.4) with the following mandate:

Concerning item 20.3.3:

1. Consider the amendments proposed for the CITES species database, as well as the 3rd edition of the CITES Cactaceae Checklist, as reported in Table 2 of document 20.3.3.
2. Review the taxonomic and nomenclatural issue raised in paragraph 20 of this document, regarding *Sclerocactus erectocentrus* and *S. johansonii*.

Concerning item 21.1:

1. Consider the best means to ensure that the Parties have scientifically valid, accessible, up to date and practical standard references for species of orchids in trade.
2. Review progress on the revision of the Cactus Checklist, recommend experts from range States to liaise with the editor, and advise on the best means to ensure that a revised list be adopted with range States support by a meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
3. Note that the revised draft Cycad list has been prepared, circulated in hard copy, made accessible on the web, and make recommendations to ensure that Parties actively comment on the list.
4. Note progress being made on the checklist for *Dalbergia* and suggest means by which the production of a substantive checklist for *Diospyros* might be facilitated.
5. Consider the document prepared by South Africa on *Aloe* and recommend the best way forward to resolve the issues identified in a practical fashion.
6. Note and review the update on the taxonomic status of *Platymiscium pleiostachyum*.
7. Consider any other relevant issues raised by Parties and make recommendations on these to the Committee.

Concerning item 21.2:

Consider the inclusion of the synonym "*Nardostachys jatamansi* (D. Don) DC." and recommend appropriate action to the Committee so that the checklists be updated accordingly in order to ensure that management authorities are able to accurately regulate all specimens in international trade.

Concerning item 21.3:

Consider actions in paragraph 4 and 6 of this report and recommend appropriate action to the Committee.

Concerning item 21.4:

1. Evaluate the nomenclature changes requested by this document and provide guidance on further action needed.
2. Start preparing the Nomenclature specialist's report to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The membership was decided as follows:

- Chair: The specialist on botanical nomenclature of the Plants Committee (Mr. McGough);
- PC members: Representatives of Africa (Mr. Luke), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera), Europe (Mr. Sajeve) and Oceania (Mr. Leach);
- Parties: Austria, China, Germany, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN and *Società Botanica Italiana*.

The Nomenclature specialist introduced document PC22 Com. 7.

The Committee adopted the recommendations in document PC22 Com. 7 with the following amendments:

- Under paragraph 3a), correction of the name of *Nardostachys jatamansi* (and not *Nardostachys jatamsai*);
- Inclusion of Portugal as a member of the working group.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajeva) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera), by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo) and by China.

## 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

Switzerland introduced document PC22 Doc. 22.1, noting that the issue should be addressed in coordination with the Standing Committee working group on annotations. Speakers thanked Switzerland for raising this issue, noting that it was a very sensitive question for range States that should be consulted. Speakers noted that orchids had thousands of species with a taxonomy that was not well-known and that the precautionary principle should be applied. While it was considered premature to present an amendment proposal to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, speakers agreed that more discussion would be welcome before the issue is referred to the Standing Committee working group on annotation.

The Committee established a working group on annotations for Appendix-II orchids (agenda item 22.1) with the following mandate:

To draft the terms of reference for an intersessional working group of the Plants Committee on annotations for Appendix-II orchids addressing, *inter alia*, the relationship between the Plants Committee's intersessional working group on annotations for Appendix-II orchids and the Standing Committee's working group on annotations.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: Representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) and Switzerland (Ms. Moser);

PC members: Representative of Asia (Ms. Zhou);

Parties: Canada, China, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America;

IGOs and NGOs: ITC, UNCTAD, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, FTS Botanics, Species Survival Network, and TRAFFIC.

The co-chairs of the working group introduced document PC22 Com. 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, the World Wildlife Fund and FTS Botanics.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou), by the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair), by the Nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough), by Germany, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and by the United States of America, and by TRAFFIC and IUCN.

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

Mexico introduced document PC22 Doc. 22.2, noting that habitat loss as a result of human activity and illegal harvesting of wild plants for ornamental purposes would justify including *Beaucarnea recurvata* in Appendix II. Mexico consulted with range States and marketing countries. It noted the high demand for *Beaucarnea recurvata* in international trade, with the majority of specimens in trade of wild, and possibly illegal, origin. Speakers welcomed Mexico’s proposal and highlighted two issues that the proposal could address: the issue of look-alike species that were not included in the proposal and the issue of annotations, noting that if the proposal focused on wild-collected specimens, it would then automatically exclude artificially propagated plants.

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

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Europe (Mr. Sajevo) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Sinclair), by Mexico and Switzerland, and by the Species Survival Network.

#### 22.3 Amendment of the annotation to the listing of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* included in Appendix II

Thailand introduced document PC22 Doc. 22.3 proposing a change from annotation #5 to annotation #4 for *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and noting that annotation #5 did not cover all products of the species *D. cochinchinensis* in trade resulting in the unsustainable and illegal trade in this species. Speakers welcomed the efforts made by Thailand and offered to provide data to support the proposal. While some speakers agreed with Thailand’s conclusion that there were active efforts to bypass annotation #5, others suggested that more data was necessary to support this change in annotation.

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

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Asia (Ms. Zhou) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by Canada, China, the European Union, France, Germany, and by Environmental Investigation Agency, Global Eye and the World Wildlife Fund.

#### 22.4 Risk assessment for the tree species of the genus *Dalbergia* in Mexico

Mexico introduced document PC22 Doc. 22.4 noting the absence of a reliable method to identify at an intra-species level the wood from specimens of *Dalbergia*. Mexico announced it was considering the appropriateness of listing the thirteen remaining Mexican timber species and other timber species of *Dalbergia* in Appendix II. Speakers welcomed the document and supported Mexico’s idea of listing all remaining *Dalbergia* in Appendix II.

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

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the European Union and the Species Survival Network.

#### 22.5 Amendment proposal for *Sclerocactus* spp.

The United States of America introduced document PC22 Doc. 22.5 recommending the transfer of seven endemic *Sclerocactus* taxa from Appendix II to Appendix I in accordance with the Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16). They further noted that, since submitting the document, they had consulted with range States. Speakers welcomed the proposal and noted a nomenclature change since the original listing and publication of the Cactaceae checklist.

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

During discussion of this item, an intervention was made by the representative of North America (Mr. Benítez).

### 23. Regional reports

#### 23.1 Africa

The representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.1, highlighting the problems she had encountered with receiving responses. South Africa and Uganda provided an oral update on their activities on DNA analysis and barcoding of taxa, and traceability and non-detriment findings respectively.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.1.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by South Africa and Uganda.

#### 23.2 Asia

The representative of Asia (Ms. Zhou) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.2, highlighting key issues such participation in CITES meetings, the Asian regional workshop on agarwood and the workshop of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime. Indonesia provided an update on its activities.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.2.

During discussion of this item, an intervention was made by Indonesia.

#### 23.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean

The representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.3, noting the particular importance of timber identification for the region. She drew attention to the annex of the document containing a regional directory of botanists specializing in CITES-listed plants.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.3.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

#### 23.4 Europe

The alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.4 (Rev. 1), highlighting several issues of concern, such as the revision of the Cactaceae checklist, the sharing of enforcement information between the European Union (EU) and non-EU Parties and annotations.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.4 (Rev. 1).

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

### 23.5 North America

The representative of North America (Mr. Benítez) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.5. The United States of America thanked the outgoing representative of North America for his work throughout the years and for his dedication.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.5.

During discussion of this item, an intervention was made by the United States of America.

### 23.6 Oceania

The representative of Oceania (Mr. Leach) introduced document PC22 Doc. 23.6, highlighting the capacity-building efforts in the region.

The Committee noted document PC22 Doc. 23.6.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

## 24. Any other business

### 24.1 Listing of tree species in Appendix III

Senegal drew the Plants Committee's attention to information document PC22 Inf. 13 presenting an analysis of the international trade in *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and its consequences in West Africa. They announced they were considering proposing the listing of this species in Appendix II at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Brazil announced that it intended to include *Cedrela fissilis* and *Cedrela lilloi* in Appendix III. Speakers congratulated Senegal on its proposal, confirming with Senegal that the other range States of the species had been consulted. Speakers welcomed Brazil's initiative, noting that this was a concern for the region of Central and South America and the Caribbean as a whole. Brazil noted it was considering a possible Appendix-II listing for these two species in the future.

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.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota and Mr. Luke), Asia (Ms. Zhou), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rivera) and North America (Mr. Benítez), by the alternate representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo), by the European Union, France, Paraguay and the United States of America, and by the Species Survival Network.

### 24.2 Possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. Cop15) on Implementation of the Convention on timber species

The Secretariat put forth nine suggestions to update Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15), as follows: changing the title of the Resolution to *Implementation of the Convention on tree species*; the addition of more HS codes for types of timber or tree specimens; the addition of a section on identification and forensics for tree species; the addition of a section on marking and traceability; the inclusion of a section on exports and imports; some language on the reasons why some timber cannot be logged and exported in same calendar year; an encouragement to Parties to set voluntary export quotas for each species; concerns about non-detriment findings at species level; the need to use conversion factors when setting export quotas for timber or tree species; and options on what to do with remains of timber that result in clear cut or changes in use of the land.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to submit a document on possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on *Implementation of the Convention on timber species* to the Plants Committee at its 23rd meeting.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the representative of Oceania (Mr. Leach) and by France.

25. Time and venue of the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee

Paraguay and Madagascar both offered to host future meetings of the Plants Committee.

The Committee welcomed the offers of Paraguay and Madagascar to host respectively its 23rd and 24th meetings in 2017 and 2018.

No other intervention was made during discussion of this item.

26. Closing remarks

The Committee thanked its outgoing Chair. The Chair thanked the Committee members, and in particular the vice-Chair of the Plants Committee and the Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean who will be leaving the Committee, Party observers, IGO and NGO observers, the interpreters, Georgia and the Secretariat, and closed the meeting.