

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



Twenty-third meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 22 and 24-27 July 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

6. Plants Committee strategic planning for 2017-2019 (CoP17-CoP18)

6.1 Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Plants Committee..... PC23 Doc. 6.1

The Committee noted document PC23 Doc. 6.1.

6.2 Plants Committee workplan..... PC23 Doc. 6.2

The Committee agreed that the members present would finalize the Annex to document PC23 Doc. 6.2 and present it later in the meeting.

15. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

15.1 Overview of the Review of Significant Trade PC23 Doc. 15.1

The Committee noted document PC23 Doc. 15.1 and the update on the Review of Significant Trade tracking and management database.

15.2 Species selected following CoP16 PC23 Doc. 15.2

and

15.3 Species selected following CoP17 PC23 Doc. 15.3

The Committee established a working group on the Review of Significant Trade (agenda items 15.2 and 15.3) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 15.2:

For the 11 species/country combinations retained in the review after the 22nd meeting of the Plants Committee, in accordance with paragraph 1 g) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17), the working group shall:

- a) review the report in Annex 1 to document PC23 Doc. 15.2 and the responses received from the range States concerned contained in Annex 2 (and any additional information), recategorize the species/country combination of *Hoodia gordonii*/Namibia, which is indicated as 'unknown status', as either 'action is needed' or 'less concern' and provide a justification for such recategorization; and, if appropriate, revise the preliminary categorization proposed for species/country combinations of those where 'action is needed' or those of 'less concern' and provide a justification for the revision;
- b) formulate time-bound, feasible, measurable, proportionate, and transparent recommendations directed to the range States retained in the review process, using the principles outlined in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17) and the guidance on the formulation of recommendations contained in Annex 5 to document CoP17 Doc. 33; and

- c) formulate separate recommendations directed to the Standing Committee regarding problems that are not directly related to the implementation of Article IV paragraph 2(a), 3 or 6(a).

Concerning agenda item 15.3:

In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP17):

Review the information contained in the Annexes to document PC23 Doc. 15.3, as well as information available to the Plants Committee, the Secretariat, Parties or other relevant experts, and on the basis of that information, recommend a limited number of species/country combinations of greatest concern for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane and Ms. Koumba Pambo), of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón Chacón), and Oceania (Mr. Leach);

Parties: Argentina, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), American Herbal Products Association, Center for International Environmental Law, Chambre Syndicale de la Façonne Instrumentale (CSFI), Confederation of European Music Industries, Environmental Investigation Agency, Forest Based Solutions, LLC, Global Eye, International Society of Violins and Bow Makers, International Wood Products Association, IWMC World Conservation Trust, Society for Wildlife And Nature International (SWAN), Species Survival Network, Taylor Guitars, and TRAFFIC.

18. Timber identification

18.1 Implementation of Decisions 17.166 to 17.169..... PC23 Doc. 18.1

and

18.2 Adaptation of the macroscopical timber identification tool
CITESwoodID to CoP17 timber listings'..... PC23 Doc. 18.2

The Committee established an intersessional working group on timber identification (agenda item 18) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 18.1:

In order to implement Decision 17.167, develop and implement a realistic work plan of activities, including timelines and the identification and involvement of experts, institutions and networks, to fulfil work intersessionally. In doing so, use available information sources and existing networks.

Concerning agenda item 18.2:

Propose recommendations for consideration by the Plants Committee regarding the use of CITESwoodID as a tool for enforcement officers and use in training workshops.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane and Ms. Koumba Pambo);

Parties: Austria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, Chambre Syndicale de la Façure Instrumentale (CSFI), Forest Based Solutions, International Wood Products Association, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and World Resources Institute.

24. African tree species PC23 Doc. 24

The Committee established an intersessional working group on African tree species (agenda item 24) with the following mandate:

1. Draft a realistic work plan, including timeline and prioritization of tasks, to carry out the mandate under Decision 17.302 intersessionally that would identify specific actions and allow for a manageable workload within available resources;
2. With respect to part c) of Decision 17.302, seek ways to interact with the AC/PC working group on capacity building (Decision 17.32) so as not to duplicate work.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: the representative of Africa (Ms. Koumba Pambo) and the alternate representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane) and Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Parties: Belgium, Cameroon, Chile, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Netherlands, Paraguay, Portugal, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC; International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), IUCN; Center for International Environmental Law, Environmental Investigation Agency, EUROMED, Forest Based Solutions, Forest Research and Management Institute, FTS Botanics, International Wood Products Association, INDENA, Special Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Resources Institute, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

25. Neotropical tree species PC23 Doc. 25

The Committee established an intersessional working group on neotropical tree species (agenda item 25) with the following mandate:

- a) The group shall work under the auspices of the Plants Committee;
- b) 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. External funding would be needed should the working group decide that additional means are required for it to carry out its mandate;
- c) The group shall act as a hub to circulate and exchange experiences on the sustainable use and management of these species;
- d) The group shall contribute to the strengthening of capacities in range States;
- e) Where necessary, the group shall facilitate full and effective application of the review of significant trade and review of the appendices for the species concerned;

- f) The group shall draft reports on progress made in the management, conservation of, and trade in the species dealt with by this group, as well as on lessons learnt, for submission at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee, which shall agree on how to submit these at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18);
- g) The group shall include, as part of its activities, an analysis of the data received from range States and importing Parties;
- h) The group shall facilitate and foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences relating to the scientific and technical aspects of the inclusion of *Cedrela odorata*, *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi*, among others, and species of the genus *Dalbergia*, and likewise any other New World tree species listed in the CITES appendices; and
- i) The Chair of the working group shall submit a written report, on the tasks defined in the previous paragraphs, for consideration at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee, which report shall be submitted to the Secretariat 60 days in advance of the meeting.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón Chacón);

Vice-Chair: Ms. Nuñez (Peru);

Members: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin);

Parties (all range: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, European Union, France, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD), and ITTO; Center of International Environmental Law, Confederation of European Music Industries, Forest Based Solutions, International Wood Products Association, Martin Guitar, Species Survival Network, and World Resources Institute.

Additionally, the Plants Committee agreed to select as members of the working group on neotropical tree species up to:

- i) Two scientific experts with significant experience in Neotropical tree species;
- ii) Two experts from two non-governmental organizations with experience in the activities mentioned in Decision 16.159 (Rev. CoP17);
- iii) Two representatives from organizations of exporters from the two major exporting countries of the relevant products of these species that are regulated by CITES; and
- iv) Two representatives from organizations of importers from the two major importing countries of the relevant products of these species that are regulated by CITES;

29. Periodic Review of the Appendices

29.1 Overview of species under review..... PC23 Doc. 29.1

The Committee noted document PC23 Doc. 29.1, the corrections to be made to the Annex of document PC23 Doc. 29.1 for *Sclerocactus* spp. and the support of the Plants Committee for the establishment of a Periodic Review database.

29.2 Selection of species for the Periodic Review PC23 Doc. 29.2

and

29.3 Periodic Review of *Hedychium philippinense* PC23 Doc. 29.3

The Committee established a working group on the Periodic Review (agenda items 29.2 and 29.3) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 29.2:

In accordance with paragraph 2 b) of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17):

- a) identify a list of plant taxa to review during the next two intersessional periods between the 17th meeting [CoP17 (2016)] and the 19th meeting [CoP19 (2022)] of the Conference of the Parties, based on outputs indicated in paragraphs 7 to 10 of document PC23 Doc. 29.2.
- b) taking into account paragraphs 4 and 5 of document AC29 Com. 7, consider possible funding necessary to continue with the Periodic Review; and
- c) agree on ways to facilitate the periodic reviews, as suggested in paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP17).

Concerning agenda item 29.3:

Review the information presented in document PC23 Doc. 29.3, and make recommendations to the Committee regarding the listing in the Appendices of *Hedychium philippinense*, clearly specifying the reference to the criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17).

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the acting representative of North America (Ms. Camarena Osorno);

Parties: Canada, Estonia, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, American Herbal Products Association, IWMC World Conservation Trust and TRAFFIC.

22. Rosewood timber species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

22.1 Implementation of Decision 17.234 PC23 Doc. 22.1

and

22.2 International trade in rosewood timber species PC23 Doc. 22.2

The Committee established a working group on annotation #15 of the rosewood listings (agenda item 22) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 22.1 (Recommendation 10 a):

Identify the key issues of concern with regard to CITES implementation for rosewood species.

Concerning agenda item 22.2:

1. Provide views and guidance on the interpretation of annotation #15 as suggested under paragraph 5 of document PC23 Doc. 22.2; and
2. Provide views and guidance on the suggestions for amending annotation #15, as provided in paragraph 7 of document PC23 Doc. 22.2.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the PC Chair (Ms. Sinclair);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Ms. Koumba Pambo), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón Chacón) and Europe (Mr. Carmo); and the acting representative of Asia (Ms. Setijo Rahajoe);

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, American Herbal Products Association, Center for International Environmental Law, Chambre Syndicale de la Façture Instrumentale (CSFI), Confederation of European Music Industries, Environmental Investigation Agency, Forest Based Solutions, Global Eye, International Society of Violins and Bow Makers, International Wood Products Association, IWMC World Conservation Trust, League of American Orchestras, Martin Guitar, Overseas Traders, SWAN International, Species Survival Network, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and World Resources Institute.

The Committee established a working group on non-CITES listed rosewood species (agenda item 22.1) with the following mandate:

1. Identify the key issues of concern with regard to CITES implementation for rosewood species;
2. Give special consideration to non-CITES listed species of the genus *Pterocarpus* and *Guibourtia*, which occur in international trade and yet are currently not regulated;
3. Based on experience with trade in rosewood species, review document CoP17 Doc. 62 (Rev. 1) and the draft decisions contained in its annexes, and formulate recommendations concerning rosewood species, which may include drafting additional decisions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: the acting representative of North America (Ms. Camarena Osorno) and the representative of Europe (Mr. Carmo);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahame) and of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin);

Parties: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: American Herbal Products Association, Center for International Environmental Law, Chambre Syndicale de la Façture Instrumentale (CSFI), Confederation of European Music Industries, Environmental Investigation Agency, Forest Based Solutions, LLC, Global Eye, International Society of Violins and Bow Makers, International Wood Products Association, League of American Orchestras, Martin Guitar, Overseas Traders, Species Survival Network, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and World Resources Institute.

31. Standard nomenclature

31.1 Report of the specialist on botanical nomenclature PC23 Doc. 31.1

and

31.2 Change of taxonomic nomenclature of *Caesalpinia echinata* and its potential implications for trade data and control PC23 Doc. 31.2

The Committee established a working group on nomenclature (agenda item 31) with the following mandate:

Concerning agenda item 31.1:

1. Consider the need for Parties to provide feedback on the use of newly adopted checklists and on databases that they find useful as resources to assist them in their work;
2. Make recommendations with regard to options to provide financial support for preparation of online updates of the CITES orchid checklists;
3. Review options with regard to the update of the standard reference for the generic names of all plants listed in the Appendices – and not covered by specific standard references;
4. Support the Nomenclature Specialist in working with experts/range States in any outstanding issues from the Periodic Review;
5. Note that *Pachypodium enigmaticum* be treated as an accepted species name but should be fully reviewed when the *Pachypodium* checklist is updated;
6. Prioritise species (including tree species) for the preparation and production of new standard checklists and consider possible sources of funding – taking into account all relevant Decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
7. Review any feedback on the application and use of the CITES Cactaceae Checklist (3rd edition)
8. Recommend actions that can be taken to ensure that that the revision of the name of *Caesalpinia echinata* to *Paubrasilia echinata* is widely promulgated within the CITES and enforcement community;
9. Consider options by which the role of nomenclature specialist be given some financial support after the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and,
10. Consider any other relevant issues raised at the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee and where possible make recommendations on these to the Committee.

Concerning agenda item 31.2:

Consider the feasibility of adopting a mechanism to update the nomenclature of species when revised during intersessional periods and not yet proposed nor approved by the Conference of the Parties.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahame), Asia (Mr. Lee), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin), and Oceania (Mr. Leach);

Parties: Austria, Estonia, Germany, Malta, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC.

32. Annotations for Appendix II orchids PC23 Doc. 32

The Committee established an intersessional working group on orchids (agenda item 32) with the following mandate:

1. Discuss the work carried out so far (in-depth case studies and overviews), including identification of knowledge gaps and conclusions thus far;
2. Develop a work plan, including liaison with the Standing Committee working group on annotations;
3. Draft the questionnaire; and
4. Identify possible funding sources for further in-depth studies.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the acting representative of Europe (Ms. Moser);

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

IGOs and NGOs: International Trade Centre (ITC), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, American Herbal Products Association, FTS Botanics, Species Survival Network, and TRAFFIC.

27. East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) PC23 Doc. 27

The Committee established an intersessional working group on East African sandalwood (agenda item 27) with the following mandate:

Draft a realistic work plan with appropriate milestones designed to carry out the mandate under Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) intersessionally, including a process for gathering further information under part a) and for assessing data required under part b) of Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17); and to provide advice to the Secretariat on the consultative meeting described in part b) of Decision 16.154 (Rev. CoP17).

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: the representative of Africa (Ms. Koumba Pambo) and the alternate representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota);

Parties: Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: American Herbal Products Association and TRAFFIC.

19. Definition of the term 'artificially propagated'

19.1 Report of the Secretariat PC23 Doc. 19.1

and

19.2 Report on production systems for tree species, plantations and definition of the term 'artificially propagated' PC23 Doc. 19.2

The Committee established an intersessional working group on the definition of the term 'artificially propagated' (agenda item 19) with the following mandate:

Develop and implement a realistic workplan that will:

- a) give an overview of the evolution of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17) and perspective on the original intent of the Resolution guiding the definition of artificial propagation in order to inform debate regarding possible amendment of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17);

- b) provide an overview of the relevant work completed and conclusions thus far in the Plants Committee and the Conference of Parties regarding production systems;
- c) enable consideration of the current production systems of tree species, including mixed and monospecific plantations; and assess the applicability of the definition of 'artificial propagation' in Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) and Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17);
- d) review current production systems for artificial propagation and cultivation of non-tree plant taxa listed in the Appendices and assess the applicability and utility of the definitions of 'artificial propagation' and 'under controlled conditions' in Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17); and
- e) report back to the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee, including recommendations as appropriate.

The membership was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: the representative of Oceania (Mr. Leach) and the acting representative of Asia (Ms. Setijo Rahajoe);

Members: the representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón Chacón), and Europe (Mr. Carmo), and the nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough); and the alternate representative of Asia (Ms. Al-Salem);

Parties: Belgium, Canada, China, European Union, France, Georgia, Germany, Indonesia, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, American Herbal Products Association, Center for International Environmental Law, Species Survival Network and TRAFFIC.