

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



Twenty-fourth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 20, 21 and 23-26 July 2018

Strategic matters

Non-detriment findings

GUIDANCE ON MAKING NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS FOR PLANTS

1. This document has been submitted by the Scientific Authority of Germany*.
2. At the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee Germany, supported by TRAFFIC, presented the progress in improving the “CITES Non-detriment Findings Guidance for Perennial Plants - A nine-step process to support CITES Scientific Authorities making science-based non-detriment findings (NDFs) for species listed in CITES Appendix II” (hereafter called 9-Steps-NDF-Guidance)¹ and on progress in developing an NDF-guidance for tree species.
3. The Plants Committee invited Germany to report to the Plants Committee at its 24th meeting on progress with its 9-Steps NDF Guidance for plants².
4. The 9-Steps NDF Guidance for Perennial Plants has recently been translated into Italian³ and Korean and is now available in seven languages.
5. The Secretariat has included the English, French, Spanish, Chinese and Georgian versions (guidance and worksheets) on the “Capacity building material” section of its website on NDF⁴. The Guidance is also available on the website of the Scientific Authority of Germany⁵.

Adapting the 9-Steps-NDF-Guidance to trees

6. The first version of the adapted guidance was used for an ACTO workshop on NDFs for Trees held in Lima, Peru, in May 2017. Building on the feedback of participants revisions were made and “CITES Non-detriment Findings for Timber vs 2.0” was produced.
7. Version 2.0 was discussed with international CITES and timber experts at a workshop on the Isle of Vilm, Germany in November 2017.

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¹ <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/pc/22/E-PC22-09-01.pdf>

² <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/pc/23/Exsum/E-PC23-SR.pdf>

³ <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/pc/23/inf/AC29-Inf-12-PC23-Inf-04.pdf>

⁴ https://cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/capacity_building_materials

⁵ <https://www.bfn.de/en/activities/species-conservation/species-conservation-legislation-and-conventions/cites/non-detriment-findings.html>

8. The participants of that workshop confirmed the usefulness of the guidance for making NDF for tree species and made recommendations on how to improve the tool. A revision of the guidance based of these recommendations is currently under way and will be published shortly.

Additional workshops and e-learning tools

10. For the period 2018-2020, the Scientific Authority of Germany has secured funding for two additional workshops to further apply the guidance for timber species. Interested parties are invited to contact the German Scientific Authority (daniel.wolf@bfn.de).
11. It is also envisaged that e-learning tools will be produced in order to better facilitate the application of the guidance.
12. Germany and TRAFFIC want to thank all those, who have contributed to the success and the improvement of the 9-Steps-NDF-Guidance including parties and participants at the above mentioned workshops and others, that have provided constructive feedback. Parties to the convention are invited to further try out the guidance and feed back to Germany (daniel.wolf@bfn.de).

Recommendations

13. The Parties are invited to consider the 9-Steps-NDF-Guidance as a reference for making Non-detriment Findings for perennial plants and for tree species.