

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Online, 2-4, 21 and 23 June 2021

Strategic matters

Cooperation with organizations and Multilateral Environmental Agreements

ADDENDUM TO COOPERATION WITH THE GLOBAL STRATEGY
FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

1. This addendum has been prepared by the Secretariat in collaboration with the regional representative of Oceania (Mr. Damian Wrigley), as the Plants Committee's co-lead for Decision 18.50 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* (see [PC25 Doc. 7.2](#)).

Progress since May 2020 (PC25 Comp.)

2. Following the postponement – due to the COVID-19 pandemic – of the 25th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC25), scheduled to take place from 17 to 23 July 2020, the Committee took several intersessional decisions (see [Notification no. 2020/056](#) of 21 September 2020), including the approval of its workplan for 2020-2022 as outlined in document PC25 Doc. 7.2. Through its workplan, the Plants Committee agreed on the leads for the implementation of Decision 18.50, as follows: Damian Wrigley, representative of Oceania; Fabiola Rocío Núñez Neyra, representative Central South America and the Caribbean; and Yan Zeng, Alternate representative of Asia.
3. On 15 January 2021, the Secretariat published information document PC25 Inf. 13 on [Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation – supporting information](#). This reflects an update on CITES processes and decisions that contribute to the implementation of the GSPC.
4. Furthermore, following an online briefing of the Plants Committee held on 23 November 2020, it was agreed that the Secretariat will collaborate with Mr. Wrigley to further consider with the Plants Committee the implementation of Decision 18.50 in preparation for PC25. This included reaching out to representatives of the *Global Partnership for Plant Conservation* (GPPC) and *Botanic Gardens Conservation International* (BGCI), and considering relevant outcomes of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), such as the deliberations of the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), specifically:
 - a) SBSTTA 23 Inf. 12 [Plant Conservation Report summary document: A report on progress towards the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020](#);
 - b) SBSTTA 24 Inf. 20 on [The development of a post-2020 global strategy for plant conservation as a component of the global biodiversity framework](#); and
 - c) SBSTTA 24.03 Add. 2 on [Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework: scientific and technical information to support the review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines - Scientific and technical information to support the review of the proposed goals and targets in the updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework](#).

5. The negotiations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) over a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework have also been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A first full draft of the new framework is expected to be released prior to the 3rd meeting of the CBD Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which is scheduled to take place in the coming months in 2021. A second draft is then expected to be published prior to CBD's fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15), which is due to be held from 11 to 24 October 2021 in Kunming (China).
6. Therefore, the uncertainty on the future of the GSPC under the CBD puts on hold the Plants Committee's ability to implement Decision 18.50 and consider the future of Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity*. The Plants Committee leads on Decision 18.50 remain committed to continuing progress throughout the intersessional period as soon as a decision on the future of the GSPC is taken by CBD's COP15.

Revised recommendations

7. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) take note of document PC25 Comp. and its addendum (PC25 Doc. 13 Addendum);
 - b) postpone further considerations on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) and Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* until there is clarity of CBD's decisions on the future of the GSPC; and
 - c) propose to the Conference of the Parties the deletion of Decisions 18.49 to 18.51 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* to be replaced by the following draft decision:

19.AA Directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat

The Plants Committee shall, in collaboration with the Secretariat:

- a) taking into account the relevant outcomes under CBD regarding the post-2020 future of the GSPC, consider the need to revise Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*;
- b) if considered appropriate, draft a revision to Resolution Conf. 16.5 with a view to ensure that a two-way collaboration between both Conventions is reflected; and
- c) present its recommendations to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.