

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 17 and 20-23 July 2020

Species specific matters

Maintenance of the Appendices

REPORT OF THE NOMENCLATURE SPECIALIST

1. This document has been submitted by the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee (Ms. Ronell R Klopper).*
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva), the Conference of the Parties confirmed my appointment as the new Nomenclature Specialist on the Plants Committee, and thanked the outgoing Nomenclature Specialist (Mr. Noel McGough) for his contribution to the work of CITES [[CoP18 Plen. Rec. 2 \(Rev. 2\)](#)].
3. This document highlights updates from CoP18 agreements on: standard nomenclature references; Decisions in force relevant to nomenclature for flora; and the work plan of the Plants Committee in matters related to nomenclature.

Revisions adopted to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) for flora references

4. On the basis of the recommendations contained in document [CoP18 Doc. 99](#), the Conference of the Parties adopted three new references for the following flora taxa, as now reflected in the Annex to [Resolution Conf. 12.11 \(Rev. CoP18\)](#):
 - *Paubrasilia echinata* (formerly listed as *Caesalpinia echinata*) (Gagnon *et al.* 2016);
 - *Platymiscium pleiostachyum* (Klitgaard 2015); and
 - Appendix I orchids (Govaerts *et al.* 2019).
5. Regarding Cactaceae, the Conference of the Parties adopted the amendments and updates outlined in Hunt (2018) as a supplement to the “CITES Cactaceae Checklist Third Edition 2016”.
6. Regarding *Dalbergia* spp. and *Diospyros* spp. (populations of Madagascar), an explanatory note to the standard references was added, stating that updates on new names will be regularly made available on the online database “Catalogue of the Vascular Plants of Madagascar” (<http://www.tropicos.org/Project/Madagascar>).

* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

Decisions in effect relevant to nomenclature for flora

7. At CoP18, the Conference of the Parties adopted three sets of Decisions that are relevant to flora species listed in the Appendices, as follows:

Nomenclature (Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement)

18.304 Directed to Parties

Parties shall inform the Secretariat on their experience in using the *CITES Cactaceae Checklist* (3rd edition) and its *Supplement* (2018) and any issues that may arise as they apply these lists, including feedback to improve it in the light of relevant updates of cacti taxonomy.

18.305 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) liaise with the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to obtain feedback on the utility of the *CITES Cactaceae Checklist* (3rd edition) and its *Supplement* (2018) and any queries that arise as they update relevant databases, taking into account feedback provided by Parties as per Decision 18.304; and
- b) report to the Plants Committee of this feedback and any comments it receives from the Parties in order for the Committee to review this at its regular meetings.

18.306 Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall review any report from the Secretariat related to the implementation of Decision 18.305 and, as appropriate, make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.

Production of a CITES Checklist for *Dalbergia* spp.

18.307 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee:

- a) subject to availability of external resources, undertake the development of an annotated CITES Checklist of *Dalbergia* spp., taking into consideration:
 - i) relevant elements of paragraph 7 of document CoP18 Doc. 99, as well as the pertinence of including a distinction between timber and non-timber species of *Dalbergia* spp.;
 - ii) the required research and other work needed for the production of such a Checklist; and
 - iii) aspects related to its publication; and
- b) report on progress or results of this process to the Plants Committee at its regular meetings and seek its advice and input.

18.308 Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) consider progress and results reported by the Secretariat as per Decision 18.307; and
- b) make recommendations to the Secretariat and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

These recommendations could include timelines for completion of the Checklist, or the adoption of a standard nomenclature reference for *Dalbergia* spp., amongst others.

Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings

18.313 Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees

The Animals and Plants Committees shall, taking into consideration the current guidance in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Standard nomenclature*, paragraph 2 g), evaluate how nomenclature changes affect Appendix-III listings and propose further guidance and recommendations as necessary, for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting that address how such nomenclature changes are to be handled.

18.314 Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, shall at its 73rd meeting take into account the guidance and recommendations from the Animals and Plants Committees and make recommendations to address nomenclature changes that affect an Appendix-III listing, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) or Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) on *Inclusion of species in Appendix III*, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

8. For Decisions 18.304 to 18.306 on the *Nomenclature (Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement)* Parties require time to get acquainted with the implementation of the updated nomenclature references for cacti, and therefore the Secretariat will report on progress regarding their implementation to the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting (PC26).
9. Updates on the implementation of Decisions 18.307 and 18.308 on *Production of a CITES Checklist for Dalbergia spp.*, and Decisions 18.313 to 18.314 on *Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings* are respectively available in documents PC25 Doc. 34 and AC31 Doc. 39 / PC25 Doc. 33.

Work plan of the Plants Committee in matters related to nomenclature

10. At CoP18, the Conference of the Parties took note of the proposed work plan on nomenclature as contained in document CoP18 Doc. 99, paragraphs 16 to 18. For ease of reference, the table below summarizes those aspects that have not yet been covered either by Decisions in effect, nor by the revisions adopted to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18):

Taxa	Activity
a) <i>Aloe</i> and <i>Pachypodium</i>	Developing an updated checklist for these taxa might be pertinent. Justification: Paragraph 12 of document CoP18 Doc. 99.
b) Cactaceae	On the basis of the progress in the implementation of Decisions 18.304 to 18.306, consider timelines of the possible production of a fourth edition of the Cactus Checklist.
c) <i>Diospyros</i> spp. and <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (populations of Madagascar)	Update the standard references for both these taxa. In the case of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (populations of Madagascar), this can be covered through the implementation of Decisions 18.307 and 18.308. Justification: Paragraph 7 of document CoP18 Doc. 99.
d) Orchidaceae	The reference for Appendix-I listed orchids was updated at CoP18 (see paragraph 4 of the present document), and as a following step, the development of new standard reference for Appendix-II listings of orchids should be prioritized. Justification: Paragraph 17 of document CoP18 Doc. 99.
e) <i>Taxus</i> spp.	Review the standard reference with the view to determine whether this list remains valid or if a replacement is required.

11. Additionally, in my role as new nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee, I have identified the following aspect that could be added to the work plan outlined in paragraph *supra*. This is the nomenclature of *Guibourtia pellegrina* J.Léonard (= *Copaifera coleosperma* sensu Pellegrin, non Benth.) and *G. coleosperma* (Benth.) J.Léonard (= *Copaifera coleosperma* Benth.) in the relevant CITES checklist needs to be updated. This might require input from a Fabaceae expert, to confirm the segregate status of these two taxa.

Recommendations

12. The plants Committee is invited to take note of this document.