CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA
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Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Online, 2-4, 21 and 23 June 2021

Interpretation and implementation matters

Regulation of trade

NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS

1. This document has been submitted by Germany in relation to agenda item 17 on *Non-detriment findings*.[*]

2. Germany and TRAFFIC have been working together on the development of guidances for making science based NDFs for plants since 2012 and continuously informed the PC on the progress.

3. The principal idea of the guidances is to divide the rather complex question of determining non-detriment into thematic units and bring it all back into one picture at the end (9-Step process). The guidances build on the outcomes of the First International Export Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings held in Cancun in 2008 and also follows Res. Conf 16.7 (Rev. CoP17).

4. Two guidances have been produced on Perennial Plants and Timber. Please find the list and sources in Annex 1.

5. They consist of a document and an accompanying worksheet that allows the user to record the NDF information at each step, thus compiling an NDF report as they work through each step.

6. The guidances have been refined over the years based on expert input as well as through their application and feedback during numerous training workshops:

    •   Viet Nam (single country participation)
    •   Peru (two workshops with multiple country engagement)
    •   China (single country participation)
    •   Georgia (single country participation)
    •   Gabon (multiple country engagement)
    •   Mozambique (multiple country engagement).

7. Significant demand for further training workshops has been expressed in the past. To better facilitate this demand and become independent from physical workshops (which nevertheless are still believed to be very useful) e-learning courses have been developed so that anyone can learn to apply the 9 Step guidances at their own convenience. Two courses are now available; timber and perennials. The courses are interactive, with tests of understanding of the information being conveyed after each step. There is also a fictional case study used through both courses, allowing the student to apply example data to each step working through

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[*] *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.*

a complete 9 step NDF whilst taking the course. A decision tree has been developed as an alternative to the excel worksheets to record the NDF information, with a downloadable pdf compiling the information at each stage. This can be used for the fictional case study whilst taking the course, but equally can be used for recording information using real data for recording one's own NDF.

8. **The e-courses can be accessed through a dedicated website https://www.9steps-cites-ndf.org/ along with the guidance documents.**

9. This work has been possible through funding from BfN with money from the German Environment Ministry. Additional and equally helpful and welcome funding for workshops and translations came from the German cooperation with ACTO through KfW and the CITES Program on Tree Species.

10. We also thank the numerous people that have contributed to the development of these guidances over the years, through expert meetings dedicated to developing guidance, to reviewers and participants in training workshop, to those that contributed to translations and those that have assisted with the development of the e-courses and decisions trees. Final thanks goes to Uwe Schippmann who inspired by the outcomes of the Cancun workshop, initiated this work.

11. Feedback on and suggestions for further development of the 9-step process, the related guidances and the e-tools are extremely welcome. Please contact Thomasina Oldfield (Thomasina.oldfield@traffic.org) or Daniel Wolf (Daniel.wolf@bfn).

Citations and links to guidance documents

Version 3.0 consists of the Guidance text and worksheets in MS-Excel format.

<u>Perennial Plants</u>

Wolf, D., Oldfield, T.E.E., Schippmann, U., McGough, N. & Leaman, D.J. (2016): 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. Version 3.0. BfN-Skripten 440. Bundesamt für Naturschutz, Bonn.

Both, the Guidance text and the worksheets are presently available in the following languages:
English:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Chinese:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
French:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Georgian:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Italian:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Korean:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Spanish:	[Guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[worksheets (xlsx)](#)

<u>Timber</u>

Wolf, D., Oldfield, T.E.E. & McGough, N. (2018): CITES Non-detriment Findings for Timber. A nine-step process to support CITES Scientific Authorities making science-based non-detriment findings (NDFs) for timber/tree species listed in CITES Appendix II. Versión 3.0. BfN-Skripten 504. Bundesamt für Naturschutz, Bonn.

Both, the Guidance text and the worksheets are presently available in the following languages:
English:	[Timber guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[timber worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Dutch:	[Timber guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[timber worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Korean:	[Timber guidance text (e-book)](#)/	[timber worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Portuguese:	[Timber guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[timber worksheets (xlsx)](#)
Spanish:	[Timber guidance text (pdf)](#)/	[timber worksheets (xlsx)](#)