

List of intersessional working groups established at PC23 and of joint intersessional working groups established at AC29 and PC23

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Timber identification

Membership:

- Co-chairs: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin) and Canada;
- Members: the representatives of Africa (Ms. Koumba Pambo and Mr. Mahamane) and the acting representative of Europe (Ms. Moser);
- Parties: Austria, 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, LLC, International Wood Products Association, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and the World Resources Institute.

Mandate:

- a) The working group continue intersessionally and that a Chair and Co-chair be elected;
- b) The Secretariat liaise with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN) about existing tools and capacity applicable to CITES-listed tree species in trade;
- c) The Secretariat share information and resources via the tree species webpage set up by the Secretariat;
- d) Parties make available reference samples, in line with Decision 17.166. The working group further encourages Parties that are considering a tree listing proposal to have relevant and appropriate reference samples available to support the listing.
- e) All listings have relevant and appropriate reference samples available to support the listing, possibly in line with Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15).;
- f) Parties analyse and report existing gaps within available reference material, particularly in regard to highly traded species;
- g) The Plants Committee encourage the nomenclature specialist to review CITES-listed tree species that require new checklists and that other nomenclature issues be referred to the Plants Committee for consideration; and
- h) Parties identify ways in which Parties with timber identification capacity, in close cooperation with other stakeholders, can assist other Parties that lack such capacities.

African tree species

Membership:

Co-chairs: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane and 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, Estonia, 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

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

Mandate:

Having considered the mandate, the working group recommends that the Plants Committee:

1. Note that the working group has established the need to identify a limited number of key topics related to the implementation and enforcement of CITES listings for African tree species, which it will bring to the attention of the next meeting of the Plants Committee;
2. Note that to achieve recommendation 1, the African tree species working group has established a drafting group which consists of the representatives for Africa, Cameroon, Belgium, China, the European Union, Portugal, the United States of America, and the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), in order to:
 - a) draft a questionnaire by 30 September 2017 to collect input from CITES Parties on parts b) to, and including, f) of Decision 17.302. This questionnaire will seek information addressing the topics identified in paragraphs b to f) of Decision 17.302;
 - b) review, and request comments and approval of the draft by the African tree species intersessional working group;
 - c) finalise the questionnaire by 31 October 2017 and send the final version of the questionnaire to the CITES Secretariat for circulation *via* a Notification to the Parties; and
 - d) with assistance from the CITES Secretariat, analyse the inputs provided to the questionnaire and produce a report for the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee by April 2018 for the attention of the Plants Committee;
3. Note that the results of the questionnaire can be particularly useful for initiatives such as regional workshops supporting Parties and relevant stakeholders to identify other African tree species that may benefit from inclusion in the CITES Appendices;
4. Invite the Plants Committee at its 24th meeting to consider the key topics related to the implementation and enforcement of CITES listings for African tree species, based on the questionnaire's results and report by this working group;
5. Encourage Parties to provide feedback to the representative of Africa on relevant regional initiatives, e.g. the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (COMIFAC), or the Southern African Development Community (SADC), centres of expertise and available datasets on timber species in trade; and

6. Encourage the Animals Committee / Plants Committee (AC/PC) joint intersessional working group on capacity building to take note of the deliberations of this African tree species working group and that the results of the questionnaire will be shared with the AC/PC intersessional working group on capacity building.

Neotropical tree species

Membership:

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 States; 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;

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.

Annotations for Appendix II orchids

Membership:

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.

Mandate:

1. The intersessional working group shall draft a questionnaire outlining the knowledge gaps discussed in the meeting and finalise it by 31st October 2017;
2. The Secretariat shall issue a notification attaching the questionnaire asking for responses by 31 December 2017;
3. The Chair of the Plants Committee shall deliver an oral update to the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee encouraging liaison between this working group and the Standing Committee working group on annotations should it be re-established;
4. The Chair of the working group shall condense responses and produce a draft document with support from the working group members for review by the working group;
5. Additional case studies on key orchid species could be undertaken as necessary based on the review of the responses to the questionnaire and Parties and donors are invited to provide financial support; and
6. A report shall be submitted for the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee by 1 May 2018.

East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*)

Membership:

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.

Mandate:

The working group:

1. agreed that an intersessional working group should be established by the Plants Committee;
2. proposed that the Secretariat send a Notification to the Parties inviting interested Parties and NGOs and IGOs to join this intersessional working group;
3. proposed, according to the mandate, a draft workplan for the implementation of Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) on *East African Sandalwood* *Osyris lanceolata*, that was proposed by the alternate representative of Africa (provided electronically), which lays out a process for accomplishing the activities called for in this Decision if funds can be secured for organizing the consultative meeting called for in Decision 16.154 (Rev. CoP17);
4. recommended, in the event that financial resources are not available, to explore other options and initiatives, including but not limited to the use of existing tools to address this issue, for instance practical guidance on non-detriment findings for CITES-listed tree species, or organization of side-meetings during meetings on law enforcement capacity building, regional stakeholder meetings such as the East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum, or regional meetings on illegal trade in CITES-listed species;
5. recommended the creation of a network of focal points from the species' range States (particularly the six range States subject to the CITES listing of this species) and to establish collaborative networks with importing countries and companies; and
6. requested that the Secretariat encourage Parties to submit by 31 October 2017 the annual illegal trade report called for in Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP17) on *National reports* following the guidance included in the Notification 2016/007 in order to get a better sense of the scope of the illegal trade in this species, and obtain important seizure data.

Definition of the term ‘artificially propagated’

Membership:

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

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane), 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.

Mandate:

1. The United States of America will share the document they have prepared before the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17) with the overview of the evolution of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP17) and original intention of the Resolution.
2. Canada will continue developing the notes on past considerations by the Plants Committee on production systems arising from the discussion between the Chair of the Plants Committee and the Co-chairs of this working group and circulate to the working group members.
3. Case studies were offered from some countries within the working group (China, Georgia, Indonesia, South Africa, Thailand, and the United States of America.). The case studies should consist of a short summary of the current production system, source of material, any observed impact on wild populations, how the system is currently managed, which source code is used now and what the Parties expect from this process that will resolve their concerns. This information should be submitted to the co-chairs by the end of October 2017.
4. The working group agreed that revising and recirculating the questionnaire on tree production systems was not necessary.
5. The Secretariat is requested to circulate a Notification seeking Parties that could submit additional case-studies describing plant production systems.
6. South Africa and the United States of America will draft a document that explores a possible new source code, keeping in mind non-detriment findings and legal acquisition requirements, that covers cultivation systems that fall between strict artificial propagation and wild harvest. The document will include a definition and criteria for this code. This work should be done by mid-January 2018.
7. The working group should comment on the document prepared by United States of America and South Africa by mid-February 2018.
8. The Co-Chairs of this working group will review the document and working group comments to prepare a consolidated paper by May to be submitted to the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee.

Review of the terms of reference of AC and PC

Membership:

Co-Chairs: AC Chair (Mr. Lörtscher) and PC Chair (Ms. Sinclair);

Members: AC representatives of Asia (Mr. Ishii), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Calvar Agrelo), Europe (Mr. Fleming), North America (Ms. Gnam), and the AC nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk); the PC representative of Oceania (Mr. Leach) and the PC nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Parties: Canada, China, European Union, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: Humane Society International.

Mandate:

1. Review Annex 2 of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17), and other aspects relevant to the functioning of the Animals and Plants Committees contained in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP17);
2. Take into account previous deliberations, and documents CoP17 Doc. 10.2.1 and AC29 Doc. 6/PC23 Doc. 7, as well as Resolutions and Decisions directed to the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee; and
3. Report to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee.

Appendix-III listings

Membership:

Co-Chairs: PC Chair (Ms. Sinclair), AC representatives of North America (Ms. Gnam) and Oceania (Mr. Robertson), the AC alternate representative of Oceania (Mr. Makan) and the AC nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk);

Parties: Canada, China, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Switzerland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: Association of Midwest Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Association of Southeastern Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Born Free Foundation, German Society of Herpetology (DGHT), Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, and WWF.

Mandate:

1. Taking account of document AC29 Doc. 34/PC23 Doc. 30, and discussions in plenary, explore ways to best advise the Standing Committee on characteristics of species for possible inclusion in Appendix III by:
 - a) identifying particular biological or trade characteristic for the species concerned, and
 - b) making suggestions for amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP17) concerning guidance for range States on characteristics of species that may benefit from inclusion in Appendix III; and
2. Report to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee.

Country-wide significant trade reviews

Membership:

Co-Chairs: AC representatives of Europe (Mr. Fleming) and North America (Ms. Gnam), PC Chair (Ms. Sinclair) and PC nomenclature specialist (Mr. McGough);

Members: AC representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson);

Parties: Canada, European Union, Madagascar, Norway, Peru, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America, and Zimbabwe; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Center for International Environmental Law, Defenders of Wildlife, German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, and WWF.

Mandate:

1. Explore potential benefits and disadvantages of country-wide significant trade reviews drawing upon the lessons learned and existing information on outcomes and impacts and, if possible, the outcomes of the consultancy proposed in paragraph 6 of document AC29 Doc. 13.4/PC23 Doc. 15.4;
2. Taking into account discussions in the joint session, consider the issues mentioned in paragraph 7 of document AC29 Doc. 13.4/PC23 Doc. 15.4; and
3. Report to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee.

Capacity building and identification materials

Membership:

Co-Chairs: AC representative of Oceania (Mr. Robertson) and PC representative of Asia (Mr. Lee);

Members: AC representatives of Africa (Mr. Kasoma), North America (Ms. Gnam), and Oceania (Mr. Robertson); acting AC representatives of Asia (Mr. Ishii) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Lemus), AC nomenclature specialist (Mr. van Dijk); and PC representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane), Asia (Mr. Fernando), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin), Europe (Ms. Moser), and North America (Ms. Camarena Osorno), and PC alternate representatives of Africa (Ms. Khayota) and Asia (Ms. Al Salem) ;

Parties: Australia, Canada, Kenya, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, Born Free USA, German Society of Herpetology, Humane Society International, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, and WWF.

Mandate:

1. Taking into consideration inputs and recommendations made in plenary, consider the work plan and activities outlined in paragraphs 7 to 33 of document AC29 Doc. 9/PC23;
2. Finalize and implement a workplan with timelines, in consultation with the Secretariat, that will result in a determination of the availability of materials and the enhancement of their accessibility, revision or guidance to revise select material, a review of the project proposals as described in part e) of Decision 17.32, and the review of Resolution Conf. 3.4 and Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) and recommendations to promote accuracy and availability of materials; and
3. Report to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee.